

GAVI Alliance

Progress and Achievements

The need

Immunization prevents millions of deaths every year and reduces the costs of treatment and of disability caused by infectious diseases. Immunization also has the potential to significantly boost economic growth¹. By improving the health of a population immunization also improves their education and work prospects.

Yet in many countries, efforts to increase immunization coverage are hampered by weak health systems, conflict, and the high cost of some vaccines. As a result (the most recent available data²):

- More than 27 million children missed out on immunization during their first year of life — leaving them vulnerable to infectious diseases both in childhood and during the productive adult years (2004 data).
- 1.4 million children under five died from vaccine-preventable diseases for which vaccination is already included in most immunization schedules (2002 data).
- More than 1 million children died from pneumococcal disease, meningococcal disease, and rotavirus diarrhoea — diseases for which vaccines are likely to become available in the near future (2002 data).

The response

In 2000, the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) was launched to radically improve access to both established and underused vaccines and to accelerate the development and introduction of priority new vaccines in low-income countries. Partners in the Alliance created The Vaccine Fund to build and maintain a source of financial support for GAVI.

A total of almost US\$ 3.3 billion has since been raised in traditional funding from government and private sources, including US\$ 1.7 billion actually received. Of this amount, US\$ 1.5 billion has been committed to directly support countries, with US\$ 603 million disbursed (as of December 2005) In addition, commitments by France, Italy, Spain, the UK and Norway have been secured through the new International Finance Facility for Immunization (IFFIm), which will yield more than US\$ 4 billion in additional disbursements before 2015 and additional funds after 2015 as the debt is paid off.

To date, 75 countries (with a per capita GNI of less than US\$ 1000 per year) have been eligible to receive support from GAVI and 70 have received support. The resources that have been received have been used in order to help:

- strengthen healthcare delivery systems;
- boost coverage with established vaccines (against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, tuberculosis, measles and polio);
- introduce underused vaccines where needed (hepatitis B, Hib and yellow fever);
- ensure immunization safety;
- accelerate the development of, and affordable access to, priority new vaccines for developing countries (e.g. against rotavirus, pneumococcal disease and meningitis types A and C);

Funds disbursed

As of December 2005:

- Total funds committed by GAVI over five years. more than US\$ 1.6 billion
- GAVI has disbursed US\$ 672 million (as of 30 September 2005) as follows:³ (in US\$)
 - Vaccines/supplies 419 million
 - Accelerated development of priority new vaccines (ADIPs) 32 million
 - Yellow fever vaccine stockpile 11 million
 - Immunization safety 83 million
 - Immunization services support 120 million
 - Introduction of new vaccines 7 million

GAVI achievements

More than 1.7 million future deaths averted through GAVI support⁴

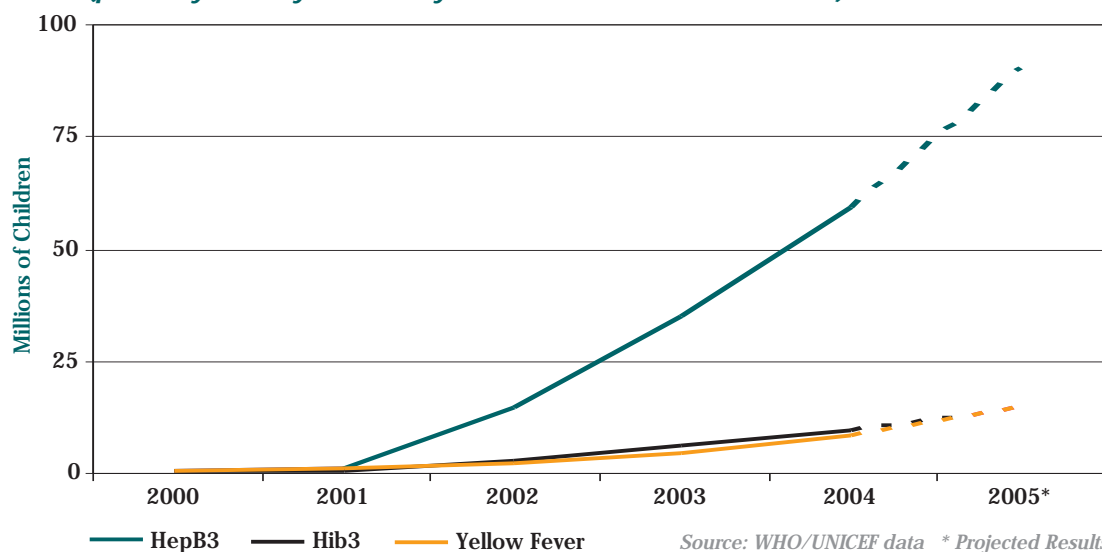
- It is projected that by end-2005, nearly 1.7 million future deaths from Hib disease, pertussis and hepatitis B will have been averted through GAVI support.

Increasing routine immunization coverage

In the countries receiving funding to help strengthen immunization services:

- An additional 8.3 million children were immunized with DTP3 by December 2004⁵. It is projected that approximately 13 million additional children will have been immunized with DTP3 by the end of 2005.

**Cumulative Number of Children Reached
(partially or fully funded by The GAVI Alliance/GAVI Fund)**



Support for underused vaccines

As of December 2005, it is projected that the number of children immunized through the introduction of underused vaccines in GAVI -supported countries will include⁶:

- hepatitis B vaccine approximately 90 million
- Hib vaccine approximately 14 million
- yellow fever vaccine more approximately 14 million

Making a difference: hepatitis B vaccine

With support from the GAVI Alliance:

- More than more than 1 million future deaths (from HepB, Pertussis and Hib) have been averted through GAVI support as of December 2004. It is projected that this number will reach 3.6 million by the end of 2008.
- 56 of the more than 70 eligible countries have been approved for funding for hepatitis B vaccine so far – up from only 7 before the launch of GAVI.
- 32 (57%) of the countries approved for funding for hepatitis B vaccine have opted to use combination vaccines – thereby avoiding an increase in the number of immunization injections needed during the first year of life.

Safe injections

- More than 1 billion single-use auto-disable syringes have been supplied for immunization (as of December 2005)

Sustainability

- All the 15 countries where GAVI support for injection safety has now ended have already secured funding for continued injection safety support.

- Of the countries receiving GAVI support for new vaccines, 11 are already co-financing their vaccine supply.

Accountability

- To date, 30 countries have successfully undergone an external data quality audit (DQA) to verify the accuracy and completeness of their administrative reporting system.
- Of the 48 countries eligible for rewards for increased DTP3 coverage (as of December 2004), 27 have received at least one reward. A further 21 have not yet received rewards (11 because they failed a DQA and 10 due to weak performance).

Status of country support:

(as of December 2005)

- Number of countries currently eligible for GAVI support 75
- Number of countries that have applied 73
- Number of countries that have had at least one type of support approved 73

Number of countries supported for:

- DTP-HepB combination 14
- DTP-Hib combination 1
- DTP-HepB-Hib combination 16
- monovalent hepatitis B 23
- yellow fever 15
- immunization services support 53
- immunization safety 69