



Immunization

The Global Health Advocacy Incubator (GHAi) supports civil society organizations (CSOs) to secure domestic financing for immunization and primary health care, focusing on increasing vaccine coverage and reducing “zero-dose children” — those who have never received vaccines.



Where we work: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Laos, Liberia, Madagascar, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Zambia



Immunization prevents
3.5-5 million deaths
annually.



Every year, more than
12 million children
in lower income countries do not
receive a single vaccine shot.

Activities

- Through grant-making and extensive technical assistance, GHAi supports CSOs through all phases of budget advocacy, including accountability, budget utilization and sustainability.
- GHAi works with CSOs to run campaigns, engaging political decision-makers and the media to build political will and create public demand for increased investments in immunization funding.



Two thirds
of these zero-dose children live
below the international poverty line.

Program Profile

Our Impact

GHAI's advocacy efforts have significantly advanced government commitment to immunization financing and Gavi co-financing payments. Milestones include:

- **Nigeria's** immunization budget increased 233% to ₦231,737,478,756 (US\$150.4 million) in 2025 — a threefold increase over three years.
- **Madagascar** mobilized US\$6 million in 2024, a 70% increase in their Gavi co-financing.
- **Ghana** increased its immunization budget by 46% and achieved 100% payment of its 2025 Gavi commitment (US\$24.5 million).
- **Kenya** secured US\$9.7 million in June 2024, reversing vaccine procurement cuts, and paid KSh 1.62 billion (about US\$12.5 million) total co-financing for 2024/2025.
- **Zambia** fully paid its 2025 Gavi commitment (US\$5.3 million total) and domestic immunization financing increased by 10% from 2024 to 2025.
- GHAI's 2025 Istanbul Forum united 21 MPs from 10 countries who adopted the groundbreaking **Istanbul Call to Action**, committing lawmakers to mobilize domestic resources and establish sustainable financing mechanisms.

Case Study

The Challenge:

In early 2025, Kenya faced a devastating vaccine crisis with stockouts of BCG (against tuberculosis), polio and rotavirus vaccines across 12 counties. The country's failure to pay its US\$12.5 million Gavi co-financing obligation left thousands of children unvaccinated.

GHAI's Role:

The CSO HENNET mobilized parliamentarians, activated media, conducted facility assessments and facilitated engagement between civil society, parliament and treasury officials, which technical and grantmaking support from GHAI.

Result:

The Kenyan government released US\$7 million in May 2025, followed by full payment of the US\$12.5 million Gavi obligation. Vaccines arrived by June 15, ending the crisis. Kenya secured KSh 10 billion for future procurement, National Treasury now prioritizes immunization disbursements and parliamentary oversight on immunization has been institutionalized.

“GHAI has provided us with the tools and connections we need to become true champions for our children's health back home.”

– Hon. James Nyikal, Member of Parliament and Health Committee Member, Kenya

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The Global Health Advocacy Incubator (GHAI) uses the power of advocacy to reduce preventable deaths and to improve health at scale by changing policies and strengthening systems. GHAI is an initiative of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids.