Saving children’s lives and protecting people’s health by increasing equitable use of vaccines in lower-income countries

#vaccineswork
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IMMUNISATION CHAMPIONS EQUITY AND HAS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN ACHIEVING AGENDA 2030

1. **NO POVERTY**
   - **HEALTHY CHILDREN = INCREASED PROSPERITY**
   - Immunisation has a direct impact on reducing poverty. Vaccinated, healthy children can go to school and grow up to become productive adults, and parents can work instead of caring for sick children. In Gavi-supported countries, for every US$ 1 spent on immunisation, US$ 18 are saved in healthcare costs, lost wages and lost productivity due to illness. When considering the broader value of people living longer, healthier lives, the return on investment rises to US$ 48 per US$ 1 spent.

2. **ZERO HUNGER**
   - **IMMUNISATION + NUTRITION = HEALTHIER FAMILIES**
   - Immunisation and good nutrition go hand in hand. Vaccine-preventable diseases often tip marginally nourished children into a malnourished state. Malnourished children are more likely to die from infectious diseases such as diarrhoea, measles and pneumonia, many of which can be prevented by vaccines.

3. **GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**
   - **IMMUNISATION = LONGER, HEALTHIER LIVES**
   - Immunisation is one of the most cost-effective ways to ensure long and healthy lives. Every year, vaccines save 2-3 million lives, and millions more are protected from disease and disability. Since 2000, Vaccine Alliance partners have helped countries to immunise almost 640 million children, saving over 9 million lives in the long term.

4. **QUALITY EDUCATION**
   - **VACCINES = IMPROVED LEARNING**
   - Vaccines protect child health and support cognitive development, enabling children to learn more and have more opportunities. Research shows that vaccinated children get better marks and test scores at school. The benefits flow both ways: educated parents are more likely to have healthy, vaccinated children.

5. **GENDER EQUALITY**
   - **IMMUNISATION = EMPOWERED WOMEN AND GIRLS**
   - Immunisation have an important role in empowering girls and women through better health. We work to ensure that both boys and girls have equal access to vaccines. Our support for human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination for adolescent girls can prevent up to 90% of cervical cancer cases. Rubella vaccines protect pregnant women from having their babies develop congenital rubella syndrome – one of the main causes of birth defects.

6. **CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**
   - **CLEAN WATER + VACCINES = LESS DISEASE**
   - Immunisation, along with better sanitation and hygiene, can prevent some of the leading causes of child death in developing countries, such as diarrhoea, cholera and other infectious diseases. Collectively, these three interventions play a fundamental role in ensuring children can thrive and survive, no matter where they live.
Vaccines need to be properly stored and transported to stay safe and effective, but up to 90% of health facilities in developing countries lack proper equipment. Gavi’s cold chain equipment optimisation platform gives countries access to solar direct drive and energy efficient freezers. These are not only more reliable and cost-effective but also more environmentally friendly. Our support includes monitoring devices that ensure optimum energy usage and reduce wastage.

Vaccinated, healthy children free up parents’ time so they are able to work. In the long term, healthy children grow into a productive workforce and become strong contributors to the economy. In Gavi-supported countries, every US$ 1 spent on immunisation generates US$ 18 in savings on healthcare costs, lost wages and lost productivity. When considering the broader benefits of people living longer, healthier lives, the return rises to US$ 48.

By 2030, nearly 60% of the global population will be living in cities. Immunisation is a cost-effective way to protect people living in densely populated urban areas against disease outbreaks. Improved vaccination coverage can reduce or stop the rising risk of epidemics and foster the growth of sustainable cities.

Over the last two decades, the Vaccine Alliance’s innovative public-private partnership has transformed immunisation progress. Immunisation rates today are higher than ever. New vaccines are reaching developing countries at almost the same time as rich countries, often at a fraction of the price. None of this would have been possible without collaboration and innovation across the private and public sectors.