



# Saving lives faster.

Unitaid saves lives by making new health products available and affordable for people in low- and middle-income countries. We identify innovative treatments, tests and tools, help tackle the market barriers that are holding them back, and get them to the people who need them most – fast.

In the 20 years since our creation, we have played a leading role in bringing more than 100 groundbreaking health products to the global health response – from the latest HIV treatments to the first-ever medicines for children with HIV and tuberculosis (TB) to next-generation mosquito nets to protect families from malaria. Every year, more than 300 million people in low- and middle-income countries benefit from the treatments, tests and tools we've helped roll out.

## Addressing today's health challenges

The global health landscape is being reshaped in unprecedented ways. Funding is tightening; health systems in low- and middle-income countries are under growing strain; and people are at risk of not having access to the health products they need.

Meanwhile, countries are facing mounting health challenges. Hotter temperatures and changing rainfall patterns caused by climate change are pushing diseases like malaria into new communities. TB, HIV and malaria still kill nearly 2.5 million people each year and are becoming increasingly drug-resistant, making them harder to treat.



**320 million** people use Unitaid-supported health products every year



**100+** groundbreaking products introduced since 2006



**Our approach helps reach global health targets three years faster**



**US\$10 billion** in savings by 2030

Rising inequalities are blocking access to lifesaving health products for the world's most vulnerable people, meaning millions continue to suffer and die from preventable, treatable illnesses.

Unitaid plays a critical role in solving these complex challenges. We work in partnership with countries, communities and global health organizations to make the entire global health system function more efficiently and effectively. We figure out optimal ways to implement health innovations, breaking down siloed approaches and enabling partners to roll out tools with minimal risk. We work with country partners to identify priorities and advance sustainable solutions.

## Why Unitaid?

New advanced products are often expensive, putting them out of reach for most low- and middle-income countries. Medical advances also rarely prioritize the health needs of the poorest and most marginalized, who already lack access to many existing treatments.

We know that innovation accelerates progress. Modelling from the Global Fund shows that health innovations – like those supported by Unitaid – can fast-track responses by up to three years. But new advanced products are often expensive, putting them out of reach for most low- and middle-income countries. Medical advances also rarely prioritize the health needs of the poorest and most marginalized, who already lack access to many existing treatments. And in other cases, fragmented systems, poor quality products or unstable supplies can keep vital medicines, tests and other tools inaccessible.

Without targeted support, these innovations often remain out of reach: too complex, too expensive, or too slow to scale. That's where Unitaid comes in. Our model – based on the principles of efficiency, integration, and sustainability – brings together partners across the value chain to address access barriers from every angle: availability, quality, affordability, demand and adoption, supply and delivery.

## How we work

We focus on addressing some of the world's biggest health challenges: HIV, TB and malaria; women's and children's health; and global health emergencies. We also invest in cross-cutting areas that strengthen health systems, including improving access to medical oxygen, increasing regional and domestic manufacturing of health products, addressing the health impacts of climate change, and contributing to the global target of universal health coverage.

We work with a broad range of partners, starting with the countries and affected communities who identify challenges and potential solutions, and the researchers and companies creating innovative new products. Through innovative financing solutions like volume guarantees, we lower prices for those products and help get them to market and to those who need them most. Together with implementing partners, we introduce these health products in low- and middle-income countries while overcoming the various barriers that people may face in being able to access them. Then we collaborate with governments and leading scale-up partners like the Global Fund to take those products and best practices to scale. Reduced prices and greater efficiencies that come with the products we deliver are projected to generate more than US\$10 billion in savings by 2030 – much-needed funding that can be reinvested elsewhere.



**Unitaid supports countries to scale up innovations that save lives. By working to make sure innovations do not get stuck on their path to scale-up, the entire global health system benefits from Unitaid's model.**

**Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**  
Director General, World Health Organization



### Identify health challenges

We work with countries, communities and health agencies to identify challenges that are slowing progress towards global health goals.



### Scale up

We partner with donors, countries, communities and health agencies to take the products to scale so people everywhere can benefit.



### Find potential solutions

We work with partners to find promising new health products and solutions.

# How we work



### Use evidence for policy change

The WHO uses evidence from our investments to create policy and guidance so that the product can be used more widely.



### Invest in innovative products

We work with implementing partners to address market barriers to get the new product to the people who need it.



### Test effectiveness

We work with countries, implementing partners and communities to make sure the product works for people in the real world.

Founded in 2006 by Brazil, Chile, France, Norway and the United Kingdom and hosted by the World Health Organization, our donors for the current strategic period have grown to include Canada, the European Union, the Gates Foundation, Japan, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Spain, Wellcome and the WHO Foundation.

## Groundbreaking solutions

We accelerate access to the innovative health solutions of the future. From lenacapavir, a revolutionary new long-acting HIV prevention injectable, to calibrated drapes, which make it easy to identify dangerous levels of blood loss after birth and link women to life-saving treatment. From spatial emanators, which passively emit insecticides that ward off mosquitoes and the diseases they spread, to faster, simpler diagnostic technologies to test for TB. Unitaid is working to bring down costs, increase supply, develop stress-tested models for implementation, and help countries with adoption of critical tools.

This builds on our 20 years of experience, in which we have helped bring to market more than 100 groundbreaking health products, then worked with partners to bring them to scale worldwide, including:

- **All first-line medicines for HIV, including dolutegravir, the most effective and affordable treatment to date**
- **Diagnostic testing machines for TB, which can be adapted to test for other pathogens and strengthen our collective capacity to respond to new disease outbreaks**
- **HIV self-tests, a critical tool to increase diagnosis and treatment of people with HIV**
- **Easy-to-use thermal ablation devices to treat pre-cancerous cells and prevent cervical cancer**
- **Seasonal malaria chemoprevention, a preventative treatment that now protects 54 million children a year**

Without our interventions, millions more people would be at risk of illness or death from preventable and treatable diseases.

## Looking ahead

But more needs to be done. As development aid keeps evolving, Unitaid will continue to support countries and communities in navigating this shift – strengthening primary health systems, advancing joint approaches for health equity, and accelerating the path towards sustainable, domestically funded health services. Our work on product access is in direct service of those goals – and is critical in ensuring that health systems get more value from every health dollar.