



January 2022

LETTER FROM SDG3 GAP PRINCIPALS TO COUNTRY-FACING TEAMS

Dear Country Representatives and Portfolio Managers, dear UN Resident / Humanitarian Coordinators,

As Principals of the signatory agencies to the Global Action Plan for Healthy Lives and Well-being for All (SDG3 GAP), we would like to convey our best wishes for the year 2022 to you and your teams. We thank you for the tremendous efforts you have made throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to support countries' response efforts and protect the gains made towards the health-related SDG targets.

The pandemic has thrown countries even further off track to reaching the SDGs and has widened inequities. The goal of the SDG3 GAP – to help countries accelerate progress towards the health-related SDGs, leaving no one behind – is therefore more important than ever.

We have seen unprecedented levels of collaboration among our agencies to support the COVID-19 response. This momentum in the multilateral system is as urgent and critical for the recovery and we need to leverage it, together, to support progress on the SDGs.

The SDG3 GAP provides a strong, integrated platform for the multilateral system to help countries in their recovery towards the health-related SDGs, including to ensure that no one is left behind and that countries are better prepared for future pandemics.

We are writing to you to share with you our [joint strategy](#) on how to strengthen our collaboration in support of an equitable and resilient recovery towards the health-related SDG targets in countries.

Our ask to you is to further deepen and scale collaboration at country level through:

1. Joint planning: Intensify joint work across the agencies and accelerators in support of sustainably financed Primary Health Care (PHC) in all its dimensions in line with country priorities and plans through differentiated approaches and tailored strategies, including at the sub-national levels;





2. Joint monitoring: Apply a delivery approach by rigorously focusing on execution of our joint commitments, and supporting evidence generation, review and action;
3. Joint promotion of equity: Focus on tracer indicators such as zero dose children as a marker on reaching missed communities, strengthen equitable access to Covid-19 vaccinations to reach those furthest behind, focus on gender equality in all engagements, and adapt to and re-double efforts in fragile and conflict-affected settings;
4. Joint alignment with other processes: Leverage ongoing programmes and integrate joint work under the Every Women, Every Child (EWEC) initiative / H6, and beyond the health sector, such as UN planning.

We will support you through:

1. Communities of practice in the seven accelerator areas (primary health care, sustainable finance, fragile settings, determinants of health, community / CSO engagement, innovation, data and digital) and on gender equality;
2. Rolling-out the SDG3 GAP monitoring framework, which will assess our collective progress by collecting country feedback on the level of collaboration in country and on ways to improve the incentives which help drive strong collaboration.
3. Assessing how we can provide catalytic resources, building on a WHO-internal pilot, to enable joint work at the country level.

We will organize a webinar to allow you to ask questions and to share lessons and good practices. Please watch our [joint video](#) on achievements to date and plans going forward, read our [2021 progress report](#) and contact the SDG3 GAP Secretariat (SDG3_Secretariat@who.int) to share your ideas, needs and concerns.





On behalf of our organizations, we thank you for all your efforts to foster stronger collaboration for better health.

Yours sincerely,

Seth Berkley, CEO
Gavi - the Vaccine Alliance

Guy Ryder, Director-General
International Labour Organization

Winnie Byanyima, Executive Director
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

Natalia Kanem, Executive Director
United Nations Population Fund

Philippe Duneton, Executive Director
Unitaid

Mamta Murthi, Vice President for Human Development
World Bank Group

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General
World Health Organization

Juan Pablo Uribe, Director
Global Financing Facility

Peter Sands, Executive Director
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Achim Steiner, Administrator
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