
Investment Round Update

Member State Information Session

Dr. Catharina Boehme

Assistant Director-General, External Relations
& Governance

27 September 2024

Agenda

1. What is the Investment Round?
2. Investment Round Updates

Recap | What is the Investment Round?

Current State of WHO Funding: overreliance, unpredictability & inflexibility

Assessed Contributions
have declined in real
terms and account for
only 16% of the total
Budget

Growth of Voluntary
Contributions from
small set of
donors; mostly short-
term and earmarked

Operational
inefficiencies and
underfunded health
priorities

Base budget mostly covered by voluntary
contributions

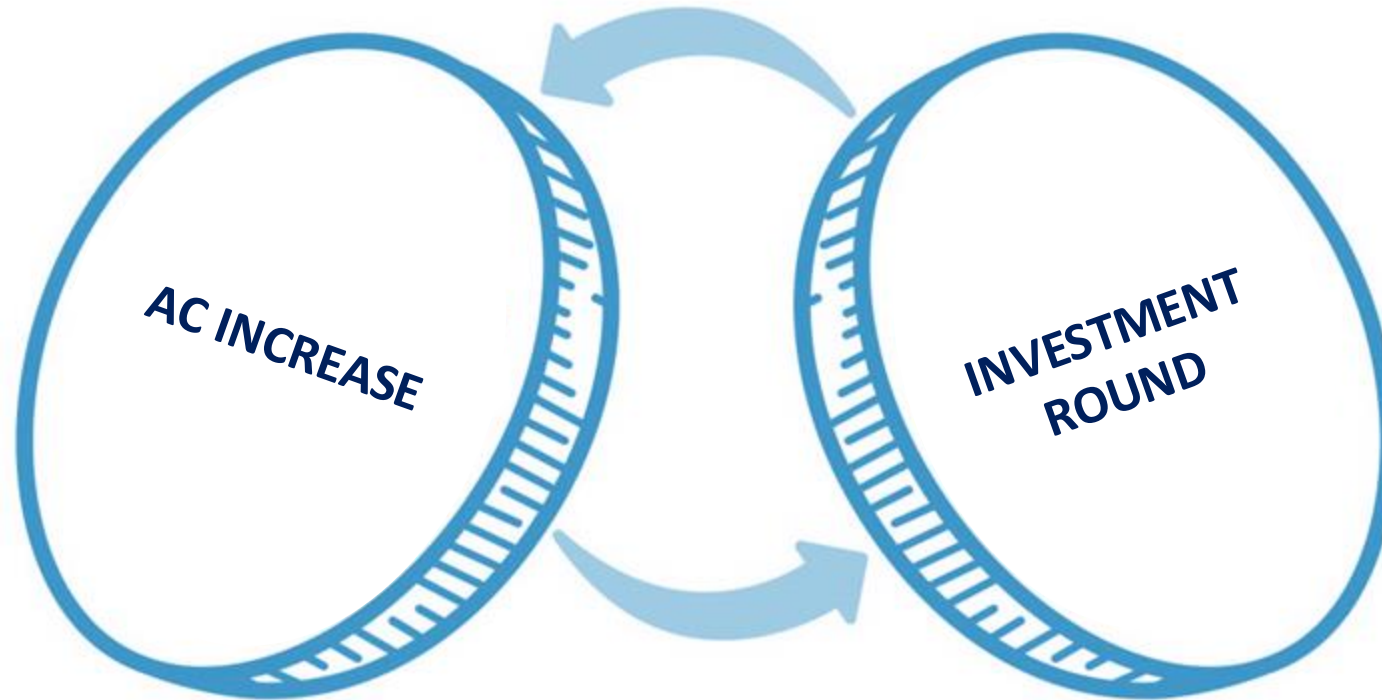
Top-10 contributors to WHO's programme
budget account for **70% of the total**

Unstable workforce (60% short term
contracts) & inefficient implementation

3000 donor reports per year & inefficient
grant cycle

Assessed and Voluntary Contributions are **both** important

with decision to cover
**50% of base of initial
PB 2022-23 by 2030-
2031**



with aspiration to
obtain political
commitment to **fund
GPW 14 with more
predictable and
flexible VC**

Proposed increase in Assessed Contributions

Assessed contributions increase between 2022 and 2031

As introduced in report on sustainable financing (A75/9) submitted
to the Seventy-fifth Health Assembly

Biennium	Total assessed contributions (US\$ million)	Increase over current level of assessment (%)	Increase per biennium (US\$ million)	% of base budget 2022–2023
2022–2023	956.9	–	–	22
2024–2025	1 148.3	20	191.4	26
2026–2027	1 377.9	20	229.6	32
2028–2029	1 722.4	25	344.5	39
2030–2031	2 182.0	27	459.6	50

Initial assumptions:

(a) use of resolution WHA75.8 (2023) approved scale of assessment for 2024–2025;

(b) target assessed contribution increase is set at 50% of the 2022–2023 approved budget for the base segment, at US\$ 2182 million, to be reached by 2030–2031;

(c) Amount of US\$ 2182 million should not change, even if future programme budgets increase more than the approved Programme budget 2022–2023; and

(d) the increase in assessed contributions is phased, starting from 2024–2025

The first increase in assessed contributions **took place** for 2024–2025 (US\$191.4 million)

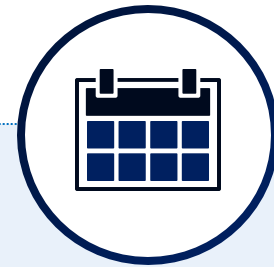
The Investment Round - a unique opportunity to rally all stakeholders around Global Health



Safeguard political support
keeping global health on the
world agenda post Covid



**Fully fund the WHO Global Health
Strategy 2025-28 (GPW14)**
base budget by broadening the donor
base



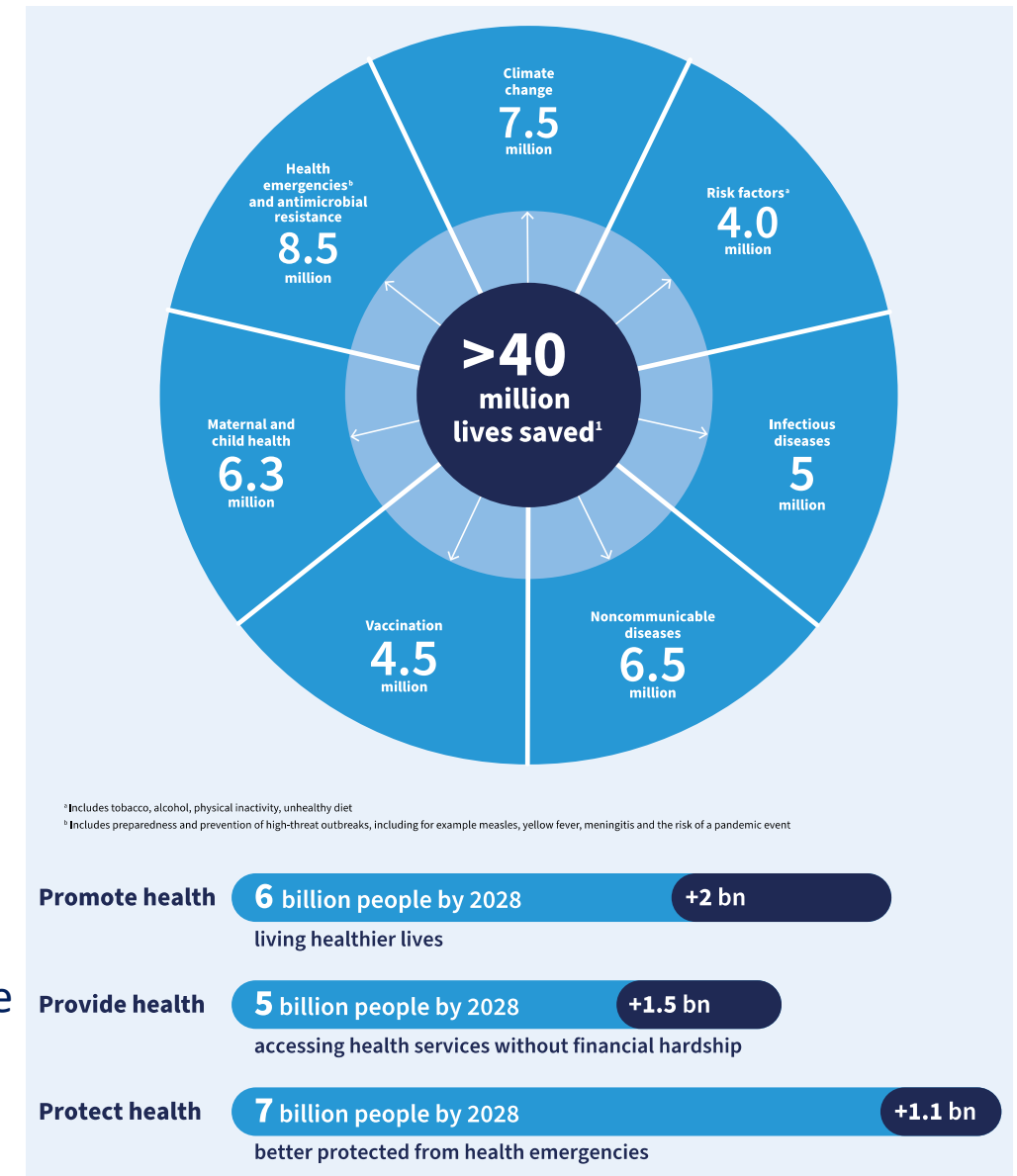
**Secure predictable and more
flexible funding** for the 4
years, enabling maximum
effectiveness

WHO is not asking for additional funds compared to last biennium

➤ **Funding gap of US\$ 7.1 billion** which needs to be filled through voluntary contributions

Investment Case: All for Health, Health for All

- Key Fundraising document; translated in all official languages
- Pull-outs & regional deep-dives to come
- Core Messages:
 - A fully funded WHO will contribute to saving over **40 million lives over the next 4 years**
 - Healthy return of **\$35 for every \$1 invested**
 - **Now, more than ever, is not the time to take progress in Global Health for granted**, with strong headwinds and stalling improvements in global mortality
 - **WHO works with and alongside partners**, leveraging its unique role in the Global Health ecosystem to catalyse progress



Ask | WHO Investment Round is key to resourcing 2025 – 2028 WHO Global Health Strategy

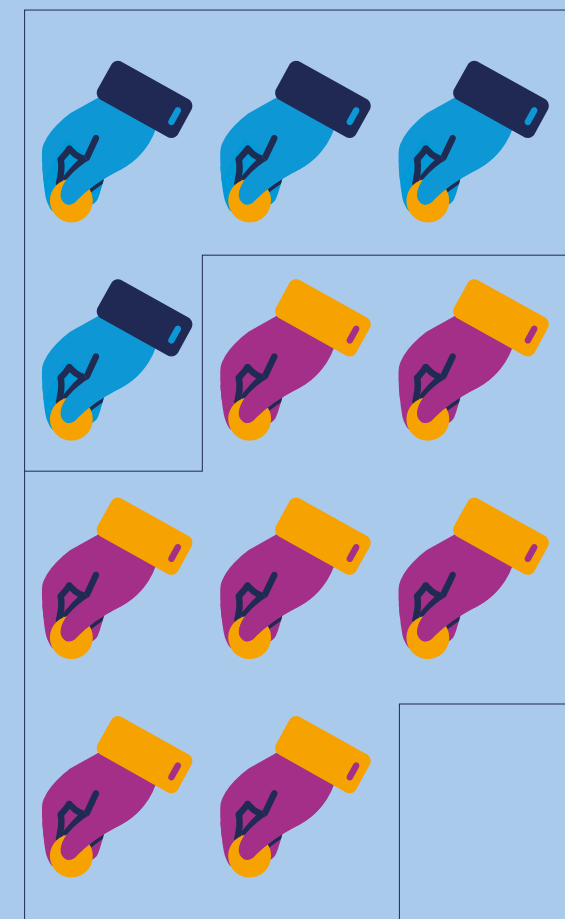
- Member State approved initiative to increase the **predictability**, **flexibility** and **resilience** of WHO base budget
- Member States, Partners, Philanthropies and Private Sector are encouraged **to make pledges** towards the Investment Round **at key events** throughout the year

GPW 14
2025-2028
base budget¹⁰

US\$ 11.1 bn

Projected assessed contributions
(with increase) + programme
support costs

US\$ 4.1 bn



US\$ 7.1 bn

Funding gap



US\$ 1bn

Investment Round Updates

Member State Steering Committee

Brazil

France

Germany

Indonesia

Kingdom of
Saudi Arabia

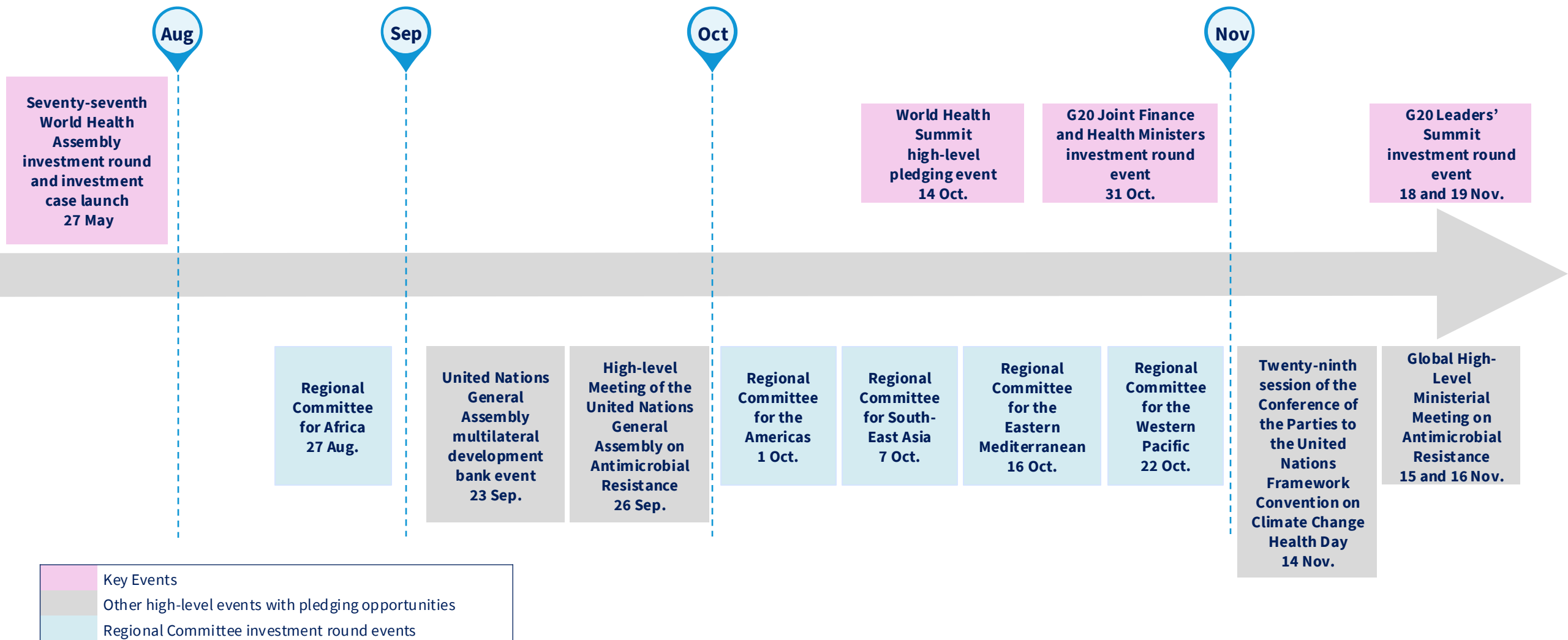
Mauritania on
behalf of the
African Union)

Norway

South Africa



Investment Round Roadmap



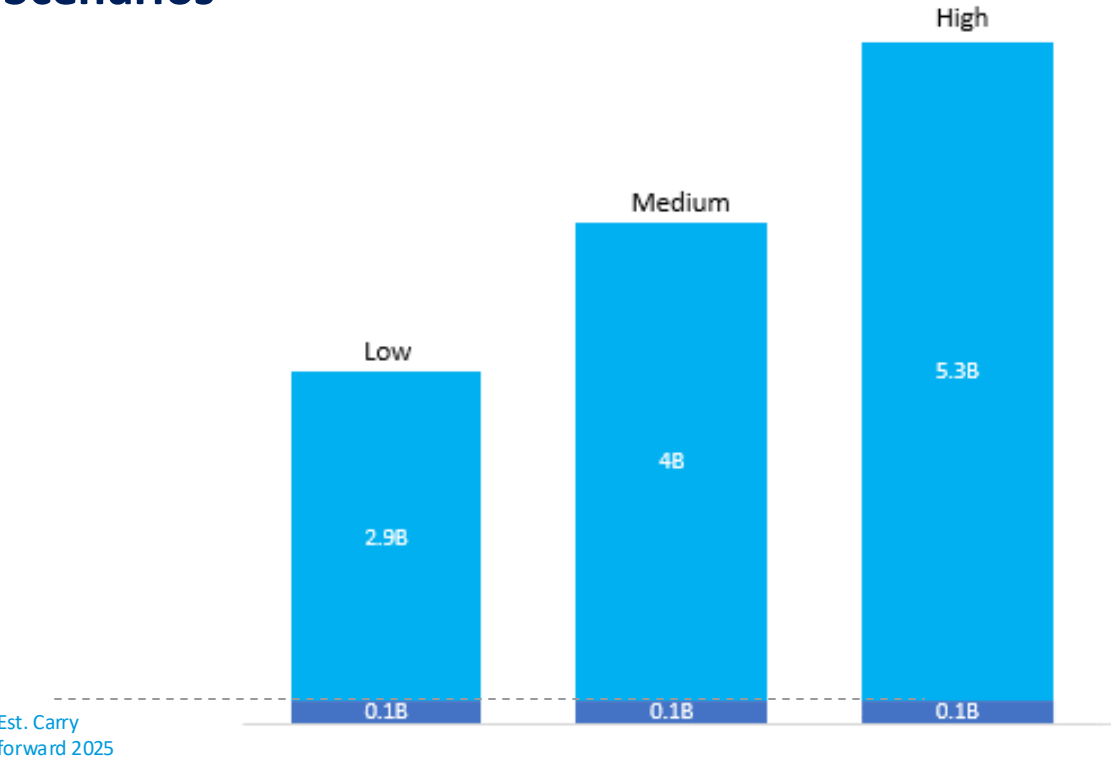
Generating Momentum

- **AFRO Committee Special Event**
 - 17 African countries including those **who have not provided VC before** + partners
 - Total Pledged: **\$US 46 Million**
- **UNGA: Innovative Approaches to Global Health Financing Event**
 - Jointly organized with EIB and other HIIP partners
- Multiple Briefings (G20 Health & Health-Finance, WR Townhall)
- Multiple strategic donor dialogues e.g. KSA, ROK, BMGF, Wellcome Trust
- IR Comms Package
 - Investment Case
 - Updated website + social media toolkit
 - Op-Ed from Heads of State of Steering Committee
 - Investment Case Deep Dives:
 - AMR (complete)
 - Climate Change (finalising)
 - Migration (finalising)



Financial Overview | Scenarios & Tracker

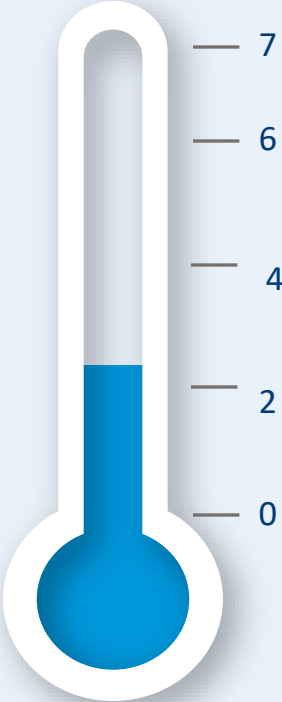
Scenarios



As of 25 Sept:

Funding Tracker:

Approximately: \$2.2bn



Increasing attractiveness of Flexible Funding

1. Expanded definition of thematic funds now live
 - Information note distributed to all staff
 - Donors can contribute flexibly to country offices
2. Better Reporting
 - More focus on outcomes and outputs regularly updated on website, including commitments made in Investment Case
 - Improved flexible funds report
3. More recognition for flexible donors (e.g. in Investment Case)



Rallying Non-State Actor support for the Investment Round

- **Pledges made to date - \$54.2 million** from the Africa Development Bank, Children's Investment Fund Foundation, European Investment Bank, Helmsley Charitable Trust, Institute of Philanthropy, Roche Africa, Temasek Foundation, World Diabetes Foundation
- **Philanthropic Partners - \$137 million** in signed agreements for the GPW14 period, additional **\$80 million** in the pipeline. Targeted outreach underway to secure increased support.
- **Private Sector Partners - \$50 million** to be raised by WHO Foundation for the Investment Round



Head of State and Government Letters from Director-General

- Letters sent through the Missions
- Encouragement for all countries to pledge towards the Investment Round
- Identification of key opportunities to pledge
- Request to make a short video statement of support including pledge (instructions available)
- Health Minister can reiterate pledge at their WHO Regional Committee

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to thank you for your engagement with the World Health Organization (WHO) and for the support of your Government for our new strategy for advancing global health, the Fourteenth General Programme of Work, 2025-2028. Your role in the implementation of this strategy is crucial, and together, we can make decisive progress towards the health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Sustainable financing is critical to achieving our ambitious health-related SDGs targets; for this reason, the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly urged Member States to actively participate in the WHO Investment Round this year. Championed by a growing number of Member States, the Investment Round aims to increase the predictability, flexibility and resilience of WHO funding.

His Excellency Mr Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, will announce progress at an Investment Round session at the G20 Leaders' Summit, which is scheduled to take place on 18 and 19 November 2024. I am grateful for the pledges already received, including those from Member States from the WHO African Region, who made their pledges on the occasion of the Seventy-fourth session of the Regional Committee for Africa, which was held in Brazzaville, Congo.

I am writing to encourage Member States to contribute to the Investment Round by announcing financial contributions for the implementation of the Fourteenth General Programme of Work, 2025-2028. I would be grateful if you could make a short video statement of your support including your pledge for use on our Investment Round website and to give visibility to our great partnership. I would also be grateful if your health minister could reiterate the pledge at their WHO regional committee. We are open to exploring additional opportunities for you to pledge at a time of your choosing.

Regional Pledging Moments

Regional Committee Investment Round Events

- Opportunities for **all countries** to pledge towards the Investment Round
- **Build momentum** towards the culmination at G20 in November
- Opportunity to showcase the value of WHO as well as the **need for AC increase** and sustainable funding

World Health Summit high-level Pledging Event

14 October, 18:00 – 19:30

- Hosted by **German Chancellor Scholz** alongside **France** and **Norway**
- Serves as the **EURO region pledging moment**
- **Major philanthropies** will also attend and pledge



Investment Round Events on the margins of the G20

Joint Finance-Health Ministerial Meeting (JFHMM)

31 October, 11:30 – 12:30

- 60 Minute side event
- WHO will set the scene on the context of Global Health
- Statements of support from Ministers including co-host Member States

G20 Leaders' Summit

18 / 19 November

1. Opportunity for Heads of State and Government to affirm their commitments and support in the plenary, during agenda item on International Governance
2. Culmination event where President Lula will announce the total of all pledges made to the Investment Round alongside WHO Director-General. Culmination event to be live-streamed with media presence

