What will success look like?

The principal measure of success under the Global Action Plan is the achievement of the health-related SDG targets. By 2023, the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Plan will have brought about the three major changes:

- **Better coordination** among the agencies in their global, regional and in-country support to countries
- **A reduced burden on countries** as a result of better aligned operational and financial policies and approaches;
- **A purpose-driven collaboration** that is integrated into the agencies’ organizational cultures, encompassing leadership at global, regional and country levels.

What we will do:

- **Engage** with countries better to identify priorities and plan and implement together;
- **Accelerate** progress in countries through joint actions under specific accelerator themes and in a gender and global public goods framework;
- **Align**, by harmonizing our operational and financial strategies, policies and approaches in support of countries; and
- **Account**, by reviewing progress and learning together to enhance shared accountability.

**Country progress towards the health-related SDG targets**

- **Current situation:** Despite remarkable gains, the world is not on track to achieve the health-related Sustainable Development Goal targets by 2030. While some targets are within reach, achieving others by 2030 will require significantly increased effort.
- **Response:** 12 global health, development and humanitarian agencies have united under the Global Action Plan to support countries to accelerate progress towards the health-related Sustainable Development Goal targets by harmonizing and aligning their operational and financial policies and approaches, investing in global public goods, and convening actors to advance implementation.

More information:

- Email: SDG3_Secretariat@who.int
- Web: www.who.int/sdg/global-action-plan

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What is the Global Action Plan?

The Global Action Plan (GAP) is a strategy to accelerate progress towards the health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The GAP is a set of specific actions at the country and global/regional levels that will be more purposeful, systematic, transparent, and accountable and will leverage the agencies’ collective strengths more effectively.

Global Action Plan: Engage, Accelerate, Align, Account

Engage with countries better to identify priorities and plan and implement together. Implementation will be driven by the agencies’ commitment to engage with countries and provide support in a more coordinated way, recognizing that country governments play the leading role in setting priorities, developing implementation plans and delivering on the health-related SDG targets. In addition to governments, the agencies will promote engagement with communities, civil society, the private sector and other development partners.

Accelerate progress in countries through joint actions under seven programmatic themes, as well as on gender equality and the delivery of global public goods. The Plan proposes specific actions at country and global/regional levels under seven linked and mutually reinforcing accelerator themes. Support provided by the agencies will be based on country priorities and bring together those agencies that can add the most value in the areas identified. The agencies will consistently promote gender equality and attention to the needs of marginalized and vulnerable people.

Align in support of countries by harmonizing operational and financial strategies, policies and approaches. The agencies will better align and harmonize their operational and financial strategies, policies and approaches to increase their collective efficiency and effectiveness and reduce the administrative burden on countries.

The 7 Accelerator Themes

1. Primary health care

Effective and sustainable primary health care is a cornerstone for achieving the health-related SDG targets and progress on the other accelerator themes. It provides a platform for accessible, affordable, equitable, integrated, quality primary care and public health services for all, near where people live and work, linked to higher levels of care. It supports multilateral action on health and engages people and communities in their own health and well-being.

2. Sustainable financing for health

Sustainable financing ensures countries to reduce unmet need for services and financial hardship arising from out-of-pocket payments by establishing and progressively strengthening financing systems to mobilize adequate resources for health and to spend them better to deliver more health for the money. For low-income countries where development assistance is significant, it can help ensure alignment and the support that they need to be meaningfully engaged enables them to bring their lived experience, perspectives and expertise to knowledge-generation, policy-making and health responses that are rights-based, accountable and ensure that no one is left behind.

3. Community and civil society engagement

Ensuring that communities and civil society receive the support that they need to be meaningfully engaged enables them to bring their lived experience, perspectives and expertise to knowledge-generation, policy-making and health responses that are rights-based, accountable and ensure that no one is left behind.

4. Determinants of health

Multisectoral action on health and engages people and communities in their own health and well-being. Technologies can transform the way health data are collected and used and contribute to more equitable, rights-based health policies and primary health care services.

5. Innovative programming in fragile and vulnerable settings and for disease outbreak responses

Ensuring that health and humanitarian services are available in fragile and vulnerable settings and responding effectively to disease outbreaks require multidisciplinary, long-term planning and financing, information sharing and strengthening of health system governance and workforce capacity. Action across the accelerator themes is needed to strengthen health services in these settings.

6. Research and Development, Innovation and Access

Research and innovation are critical to improving the quality and efficiency of health products and services, while sustainable and equitable access ensures better availability of health interventions to those who need them most.

7. Data and digital health

Quality and access to health data are key to understanding health needs, designing programmes and policies, guiding investment and public health decisions and measuring progress. Digital technologies can transform the way health data are collected and used and contribute to more equitable, rights-based health policies and primary health care services.

Collaboration and support provided to countries will be more purposeful, systematic, transparent, and accountable and will leverage the agencies’ collective strengths more effectively.

The Theories of Change

Implementation of the Global Action Plan will be based on four commitments by the agencies to: Engage, Accelerate, Align and Account.

Engage by reviewing progress and learning together to enhance shared accountability. Continuous learning within and among the agencies is key to the Global Action Plan’s success. The agencies will regularly convene to receive progress, share lessons and respond to implementation challenges and jointly report on results.

Accelerate through seven programmatic themes, as well as on gender equality and the delivery of global public goods. The agencies will promote engagement with communities, civil society, the private sector and other development partners.

Align through four commitments by the agencies to: Engage, Accelerate, Align and Account.

Account by reviewing progress and learning together to enhance shared accountability. Continuous learning within and among the agencies is key to the Global Action Plan’s success. The agencies will regularly convene to receive progress, share lessons and respond to implementation challenges and jointly report on results.

Support provided by the agencies will be based on country priorities and bring together those agencies that can add the most value in the areas identified. The agencies will consistently promote gender equality and attention to the needs of marginalized and vulnerable people.

Align in support of countries by harmonizing operational and financial strategies, policies and approaches. The agencies will better align and harmonize their operational and financial strategies, policies and approaches to increase their collective efficiency and effectiveness and reduce the administrative burden on countries.

Engage with countries better to identify priorities and plan and implement together. Implementation will be driven by the agencies’ commitment to engage with countries and provide support in a more coordinated way, recognizing that country governments play the leading role in setting priorities, developing implementation plans and delivering on the health-related SDG targets. In addition to governments, the agencies will promote engagement with communities, civil society, the private sector and other development partners.

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Implement action in support of countries by aligning operational and financial strategies, policies and approaches. The agencies will better align and harmonize their operational and financial strategies, policies and approaches to increase their collective efficiency and effectiveness and reduce the administrative burden on countries.

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Engage by reviewing progress and learning together to enhance shared accountability. Continuous learning within and among the agencies is key to the Global Action Plan’s success. The agencies will regularly convene to receive progress, share lessons and respond to implementation challenges and jointly report on results.

The Global Action Plan for Healthy Lives and Well-being for all brings together 12 multifaceted health, development and humanitarian agencies to better support countries to accelerate progress towards the health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The 12 agencies are: The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; the Global Fund; the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); United Nations Development Fund (UNDP); United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF); United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women); the World Bank Group; World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Although each agency has a specific mandate, they work as a group complement each other. Together, the agencies work to achieve all the SDG 3 targets and progress on the other accelerator themes. It provides a platform for accessible, affordable, equitable, integrated, quality primary care and public health services for all, near where people live and work, linked to higher levels of care. It supports multilateral action on health and engages people and communities in their own health and well-being.

Multisectoral action on health and engages people and communities in their own health and well-being. Technologies can transform the way health data are collected and used and contribute to more equitable, rights-based health policies and primary health care services.

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Engage by reviewing progress and learning together to enhance shared accountability. Continuous learning within and among the agencies is key to the Global Action Plan’s success. The agencies will regularly convene to receive progress, share lessons and respond to implementation challenges and jointly report on results.

The global health community is not on track to achieve the health-related SDGs, and people are being left behind. Despite remarkable gains in health over the past few decades, the world is not on track to achieve the health-related SDGs, and people are being left behind. Despite remarkable gains in health over the past few decades, the world is not on track to achieve the health-related SDGs, and people are being left behind.