

# Transforming the paediatric medicines ecosystem

strategic roadmap 2025-2030

## Why GAP-f

For too long, children have been left behind. Despite major advances in health innovation over the past decades, children – especially in low- and middle-income countries – continue to face major gaps in access to safe, effective and appropriate medicines. Even when treatments exist, they are often not formulated for children, not approved for their use, and not available where they are needed most.

These failures across the paediatric medicine landscape affect children globally in areas as diverse as HIV and childhood cancers, sickle cell disease to epilepsy. Such failures do not arise from one source but throughout the entire development process: from decisions about which medicines should be prioritized for development; through evidence generation in clinical trials and regulatory pathways; to technical issues associated with formulation; and in the policies and practices that ensure approved medicines reach children.

Because the failure is systemic, the remedy must be systemic too. And it is this change that GAP-f was designed to catalyse.





## **Our Vision**

All children have equitable access to the medicines they need.



## **Our Mission**

Contribute to universal health coverage by fostering collaboration among stakeholders to identify gaps, set priorities, and accelerate the research, development, and delivery of high quality, affordable and accessible medicines for children.

Our goal by 2030:

30 '30

is GAP-f's bold, focused commitment to ensuring that children everywhere have access to paediatric medicinesbecause no child should miss out on lifesaving care:



Diseases assessed

Priority formulation needs identified focusing the global community on areas of greatest need, impact and feasibility



10 Medicines accelerated

Enabled and supported through the product lifecycle for faster, more efficient market access



Countries strengthened

Paediatric medicine ecosystems developed to improve adoption and delivery to children

#### How we work

GAP-f applies a comprehensive lifecycle approach to paediatric drug development more broadly, following four key principles:



Working across the product lifecycle

to ensure all aspects of paediatric medicines development are addressed - from portfolio prioritization and alignment through clinical research and product development, to access and delivery.



Setting and focusing on priorities

by following a structured, evidencebased process that engages experts focused on the areas of unmet need with the biggest opportunities for rapid, transformative impact.



Serving as an enabler and accelerator

leveraging the shared expertise of the paediatric medicines community to facilitate timely action, promote innovation, and drive increased efficiencies and impact at scale.



Fostering an ecosystem approach

that collaborates closely with industry, regulators, civil society and countries, and leverages WHO convening power to mobilize and harness partners to identify scalable, feasible solutions.

To coordinate effectively, GAP-f has two axes **of work** that reflect the network's growing role as a global enabler and coordination platform, supporting stakeholder efforts across the entire paediatric medicines lifecycle.

**Portfolio** Clinical wable and collaborate Align and coordinate Access and Product Development and Regulatory

We will do this through an ecosystem approach working with the private sector, regulators, funders, civil society and communities, countries, and health care professionals to align efforts across the product lifecycle and ensure timely, equitable access to optimal paediatric medicines.

# Funds and how to get involved

By leveraging partnerships, aligning regulatory and procurement pathways and minimizing duplication across the ecosystem, GAP-f ensures efficiency, transparency, mutual accountability and agility. The network ensures that every donor dollar has amplified impact for children's health.

The total funding requirement for GAP-f partners for the period 2025-2030 is **USD\$40m**, with 80% allocated to build and implement collaborative activities led by GAP-f partners, and 20% directed to support alignment and coordination.

# Axis 1: Aligning and coordinating:

This axis ensures global efforts are unified around shared priorities and supported by streamlined coordination across the product lifecycle. It provides alignment, structure and coordination.



#### Axis 2: Enabling and collaborating:

This axis focuses on translating aligned priorities into impact through active partnerships, catalysing innovation and supporting access. It facilitates collaboration and delivery.

**JOIN US** in building a healthier future for the children of today and tomorrow.



#### **GAP-f: TOGETHER STRONGER FOR KIDS**

www.who.int/initiatives/gap-f ☐ gap-f@who.int #BetterMeds4Kids

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