

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019



## Editorial from Patrick Bertrand, Executive Director

2019 was the year of the largest ever Global Fund replenishment, and the first one in Lyon, France. US \$14 billion was raised globally to help with the fight against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and save lives. This reminds me that twenty years ago, the roots of Global Health Advocates started to grow precisely for this purpose. Back then, it was only a global health advocate's dream. A dream born from a group of advocates, led by the vision of the late Kraig Klaudt.

In 2000, in Okinawa, Japan, the G8 governments (at the time, still including Russia) pledged to halve the number of deaths from TB and malaria, and to reduce by 25% the number of young people infected with HIV/AIDS, by 2010. In 2001, with health advocates from around the world, we created the Massive Effort Campaign. The international community, with the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals, was finally putting global health at the top of its political agenda. Civil society's ambition was to raise millions for global health worldwide, through a pool-funding mechanism. In 2005, the Massive Effort Campaign changed its name to Global Health Advocates (GHA). In 2008, it established its presence in Paris, France. At the same time, the international advocacy network ACTION wanted to establish itself in France and made GHA its partner. ACTION brought an Anglo-Saxon perspective different from that of the French organizations, with experiences in running parliamentary study trips to raise awareness on global health issues and show results of international support.

In 2019, I am proud to head a team of twelve bright Global Health Advocates working from Paris and Brussels who, with their networks and activities, helped leverage the largest ever contribution to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria. Under the sponsorship of the French government, over US \$14 billion was raised for the years 2020-2022. It showed us that with determination, but most importantly passion for the causes we defend, we can achieve incremental changes for the lives of many. With partners in governments, parliaments, and civil society, we will continue to increase and improve health resources for diseases of poverty.

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## 2019 EUROPEAN ELECTIONS: ENSURING THE NEXT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND COMMISSION PRIORITIZE HEALTH AND R&D

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In 2019, GHA continued its engagement with the broader cross-cutting civil society campaign “[Europe We Want](#)” around the EU elections (23-26 May 2019), to ensure the new legislature implements policy changes that GHA is advocating for: putting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the core of EU policies; ensuring pro-poor EU development aid policies; reaffirming EU's key role in promoting equitable access to health both within the EU and globally. GHA helped coordinate the work of the “Europe We Want” campaign, which resulted among other in a [Job Ad](#) outlining the ideal profile of new commissioners to ensure future EU Commissioners deliver for people. As part of GHA's broader work around the SDGs, GHA also coordinated a civil society reaction to the European Commission SDG Reflection Paper and the implementation of SDG3: a [reaction statement](#) to the European Commission SDG Reflection Paper expressing concern at the complacency towards the hepatitis, HIV and tuberculosis epidemic; a [civil society reaction statement](#) to the European Commission SDG Reflection Paper calling for a bold, robust, ambitious and urgent political response to the social dimensions of sustainable development.

To ensure that health remains a strategic priority in the EU in the pre- and post-election processes, leading to health prioritisation in the new European Parliament and the Commission, GHA coordinated a new cross-cutting civil society campaign that brought together NGOs working in different fields, relevant for health, such as environment, agriculture, corporate capture, food, transport, development, etc. GHA coordinated the launch of an [MEP guide for a Healthy Europe](#) on how newly elected Members of the European Parliament can improve people's health in Europe and beyond by ensuring the implementation of a Health in All Policies approach.

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## FIGHTING PANDEMICS

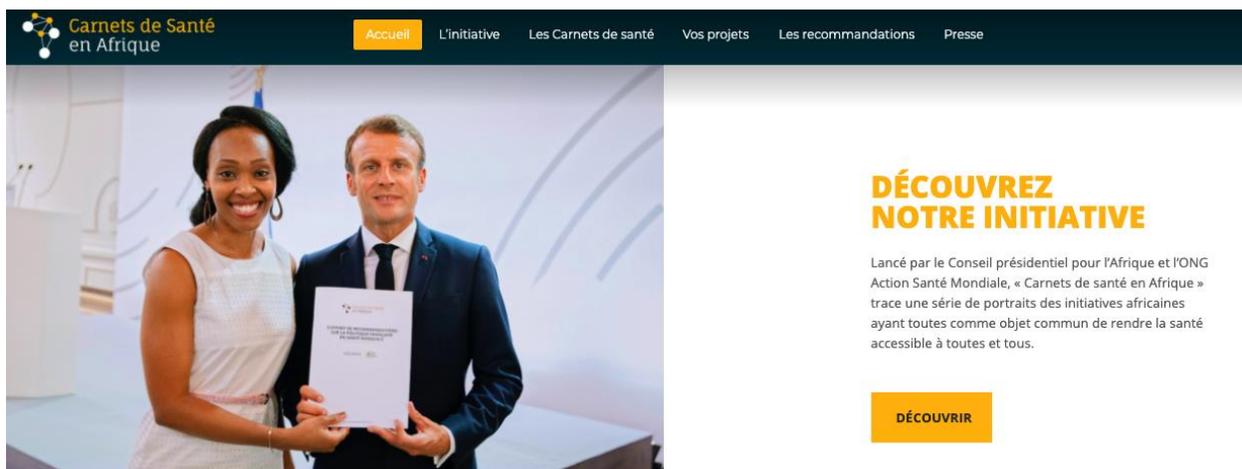
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Following civil society's mobilisation in 2018, France hosted the Sixth Replenishment Conference of the Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) in October 2019. Throughout the year, GHA carried out advocacy to ensure that France would ensure a political and financial success of the GFATM replenishment and the reaching of the \$14 billion target for the 2020-2022 cycle, and that both France and the EU would take ambitious financial pledges.

At the EU level, GHA participated in an ad hoc CSO group in order to align advocacy and show a united civil society voice to the European Commission and Parliament. As a result of this joint-effort (which were coordinated through Brussels but also extended to our offices in France and our wider CSO network), French President Emmanuel Macron wrote a letter to the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker announcing France's determination to see an ambitious and early pledge from the EU

towards the Global Fund. In this letter, President Macron announced the figure of at least €550 million for the next cycle. At the French level, in order to sensitise French parliamentarians on the role of the Global Fund in the fight against the three pandemics, GHA organised a delegation to India ahead of the Global Fund Replenishment Preparatory Meeting in New Delhi.

In order to mobilise France at the highest level and build momentum in the media, GHA also launched the “Health Journal in Africa” project in partnership with the French Presidential Council of Africa. GHA organized three delegations 1) in Ethiopia and Rwanda; 2) in Senegal and Guinea; 3) in South Africa and Botswana, which aimed at highlighting African initiatives and promoting equal access to health through field visits and institutional meetings. The project was officially launched in September with the release of a [website](#) dedicated to the three delegations, and the handover of [recommendations](#) to President Emmanuel Macron. Our key recommendations included three main fields and invited the French government to support current reforms in African countries regarding global health issues. The project was highly reflected through press and social media ([RFI](#) ; [Le Figaro](#) ; [Horizons publics](#) ; [Les Inrockuptibles](#) ; [TV5 Monde](#) ; [Grazia](#) ; [L’Opinion](#)) and quoted by Emmanuel Macron during the [opening speech](#) at the Global Fund’s sixth replenishment conference.



Furthermore, in collaboration with the ACTION partnership and GFAN, GHA organized a side- event in the margins of the Replenishment Conference in Lyon on the importance of domestic resource mobilisation for health in accelerating progress towards Universal Health Coverage and towards a world free of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. It aimed at creating a space for dialogue between health experts and high-level panellists in order to foster an international response to the three pandemics and UHC, through strengthened DRM strategies.



# PROGRAMME



## Ending the pandemics: who is stepping up for sustainability?

In the margins of the Sixth Replenishment Conference of the Global Fund, the ACTION partnership, GFAN and Global Health Advocates France are happy to invite you to a breakfast dedicated to the importance of domestic resource mobilization in accelerating progress towards Universal Health Coverage and towards a world free of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

The opening remarks will be made by :

- **Ms. Kusum** (President, All India Network of Sex Worker)

The conference will welcome high-level panelists :

- **Michèle Boccoz** (Director-General Envoy for Multilateral Affairs, WHO)
- **Joanne Carter** (Executive Director, RESULTS Educational Fund / Chair of the GFAN Steering Committee)
- **Kieran Daly** (Deputy director: Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB & Malaria Strategy Team, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation)
- **Rosemary Mburu** (Executive Director, WACI Health)
- **Yvonne Mburu** (Member of Presidential Council for Africa)
- **Dr. Léonie Claudine Sorgho/Lougué** (Minister of Health, Burkina Faso)

The discussion will be moderated by:

- **Bruno Rivalan** (Deputy Executive Director, Global Health Advocates France)

**ACTION** GLOBAL HEALTH  
ADVOCACY PARTNERSHIP

**gfan** global  
fund  
advocates  
network

**GLOBAL  
HEALTH  
ADVOCATES**

Wednesday, October 9, 2019  
8 am to 9:20 am  
50 Quai Charles De Gaulle, Lyon  
Congress center, Forum 5

GHA's advocacy paid off as donors pledged US\$14.02 billion for the next three years at the Global Fund's Sixth Replenishment Conference – the largest amount ever raised for a multilateral health organisation. GHA will now work to ensure that France and the EU deliver on their respective pledges. France increased its contribution by 20% and needs to disburse €1.296bn. The EU pledged €550 million, a 16% increase compared to its last contribution.

In 2019, GHA continued to monitor the discussions and policy processes around the European Commission's proposal on the European Social Funds Plus (ESF+). The so-far standalone EU health policy

will be integrated into Social Funds in the EU's next multiannual budget. Advocacy activities around the ESF+ were carried out in collaboration with two civil society coalitions:

- [EU4Health campaign](#), a group of European health and patient NGOs advocating for better health policies in Europe prior to, and after, the EU institutional renewals;
- As a member of the Coordination Team of the [Civil Society Forum \(CSF\) on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and viral hepatitis](#), GHA organised, and intervened in, face-to-face meetings of CSF on HIV, TB, and hepatitis in Luxembourg in June 2019, right before the European Commission unilaterally decided to dissolve the CSF and the Member States think tank attached to it.

GHA's advocacy activities around the ESF+ included:

- A [reaction statement](#) to the European Parliament report on ESF+, welcoming the Parliament's suggestion to increase the budget for the Health Strand and adopt ambitious political leadership for a sustainable regional response to the fight against HIV/AIDS, TB and hepatitis in Europe;
- A [statement](#) addressed to EU Member States to ask for a more ambitious EU health budget in the next Multiannual Financial Framework/ESF+;
- A [Civil society statement](#) calling for an increased and maintained action on health and reducing health inequalities in the Council Conclusions;
- A [letter to ENVI committee chairs and coordinators](#) on addressing the need for EU's strategic leadership in eliminating HIV, tuberculosis and viral hepatitis during the hearing of Health Commissioner-designate (October 2019).

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## WOMEN & CHILD'S HEALTH

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The French government hosted the 2019 G7 summit, choosing the fight against inequalities as the overall priority of the summit. Throughout 2019, GHA participated in regular appointments with high-level stakeholders in the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Elysée in order to ensure that health and development would be highly featured in the French G7 priorities. GHA co-chaired the Health Working Group of the G7 Global Task Force through which international CSOs recommended G7 countries take political and financial commitments over the next 3 years to ensure that we would be back on the right track to achieve health-related SDG targets by 2022 - halfway to 2030, through the elaboration of a G7 SDG3 acceleration initiative. GHA was also the Board representative of Coordination SUD's G7 steering committee which aimed at raising a common advocacy to ensure concrete actions would be undertaken by G7 countries to fight worldwide inequalities. GHA also facilitated the official handing of the [C7 organisations' recommendations](#) to the Secretary of State to the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne. This report presents international civil society recommendations for each of the objectives fixed by the French G7 presidency, including our recommendations related to global health. Among others, we asked G7 member States to elaborate and adopt an acceleration initiative in favor of the reaching of SDG3, to provide in the next three years ambitious financial resources for global health, to target these resources towards the most vulnerable and marginalized populations by strengthening primary health care and community health in order to reach UHC, to reaffirm the access to qualitative sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) services as a priority, to support low income countries (LIC) in their domestic resource mobilization strategy, and to be accountable on all these commitments.

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## FUNDING & QUALITY OF AID

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During his presidential campaign, President Emmanuel Macron committed to renew the French policy on development by updating the French law and international strategy on development adopted in 2014. French NGOs have actively contributed to the discussions on the revision of this law, especially via a working group set up by Coordination SUD, and via the French National Council for Development and International Solidarity (CNDSI). One of the main worries expressed by French civil society organisations is the necessity to make this law a programming bill and to include the governmental obligation to increase the amount of official development assistance to 0.55% by 2022. Another concern of the organisations working on health issues was to ensure the law would include a strong narrative on health matters. Unfortunately, the Government announced in September 2019, that the parliamentary debate around the bill would be postponed to 2020.

During the second semester, GHA closely followed the 2020 French budget bill debates. The government stated that the commitment of President Macron to allocate 0.55% of GNI to ODA by 2022 would be met. The first draft of the bill included a small increase in the ODA budgetary mission, no changes regarding innovative financing, and stated that a significant part of the 0.55% target would be allocated to debt cancellation and refugee assistance. After several weeks of advocacy meetings and dissemination of budgetary documents' analysis, GHA and its French CSO partners from Coordination SUD managed to gather support from many parliamentarians - including leaders in the majority party - in favour of a higher allocation of FTT revenues to ODA. GHA France was also invited by French MP Hubert Julien-Laferrière, rapporteur on the ODA budget of the finance bill, to participate in a hearing at the National Assembly on global health: an additional opportunity for GHA to raise awareness of its recommendations among MPs and the French government. Due to the government's opposition, and despite a strong mobilisation of French MPs during the debates at the French National Assembly, the 2020 Budget bill was adopted without changing the FTT rate and its allocation. Nevertheless, an additional €207 million envelope was allocated to the ODA budgetary mission.

Throughout 2019, GHA continued to participate advocacy around the EU seven year budget: the EU Multiannual Financial Framework for 2021-2027 (MFF). GHA participated in advocacy meetings with representatives from the Member States, the European Commission and the European Parliament, as well as joint-advocacy events, such as breakfasts with journalists or parliamentary political advisors. GHA called on Member States to reject the proposal of incorporating a 10% migration target into the new EU Development Instrument (NDICI), as this would divert money from proven pro-poor programming, the EU's international commitments under the Agenda 2030 and the Paris Climate Agreement. GHA also co-wrote a message to EU delegations, which was sent to all in-country EU representatives, about the need to allocate at least 20% of EU Official Development Assistance (ODA) to human development and social inclusion. As a result of high-level political considerations at the Council level, such as Brexit and vast differences in priorities between member states, no major breakthroughs were made in 2019.

As part of our efforts to ensure quality development programming, GHA completed an ambitious project on [new development trends](#), where we explored the design and implementation of several new mechanisms (the Sahel Alliance, the European External Investment Plan, the EU's Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, the Global Financing Facility for Women, Children and Adolescents and the Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility), in three case study countries (Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone and Uganda). In this project, we did extensive literature reviews, followed by in-country study missions where we interviewed a variety of stakeholders, including donors, development agencies, local authorities, and both local and international civil society organisations. As a result of this study, GHA published four policy briefs, each featuring a different aspect of our key findings, which we launched at the ACP-EU Joint-Parliamentary Assembly on November 15th in Kigali, Rwanda. The briefs touched on (1) [the changing narratives around](#)

[development financing](#), (2) [the shift towards including the private sector in development efforts](#), (3) [the new focus on preventing irregular migration through development programmes that address the “root causes” of migration](#); and (4) [the real or perceived added-value of these new mechanisms, and how they are often scaled up before being adequately evaluated](#).

In 2019, GHA continued to be engaged in the TB Europe Coalition ([TBEC](#)) particularly on the issues of governance, finance, and programmatic processes through membership in the TBEC Board and its Oversight Advisory Committee. TBEC continues its capacity building activities in the WHO Europe region and political advocacy for better TB response in the region.

Throughout the year, GHA continued to support the development of [ASAPSU’s](#) advocacy capacities and strategies on health financing. We supported them specifically around the National Dialogue on Health Financing, which was held in April in Abidjan, and to which ASAPSU was convened to represent the voice and recommendations of civil society. In 2019, ASAPSU received the official invitation to join the [ACTION Global Health Partnership](#) which will allow them to receive more support.

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## RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

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Health research priorities should be set according to public health priorities, in areas of unmet medical need, where there are limited market incentives to invest, such as poverty-related and neglected diseases like TB and HIV/AIDs, which still kill millions of people worldwide including in the EU. EU’s public-private partnerships (PPPs) in health are dominated by private interests, and the next big PPP must be made to work in the public interest. The role of independent scientific advice must be strengthened, and a real balance of stakeholders, including civil society, is needed. This is especially important if sensitive topics will be included, like how health data is regulated, or how innovation is paid for. Better transparency is essential, along with much stricter rules on financial contributions from industry, and limits on ‘opt outs’ from open access requirements for commercial reasons. Sky-rocketing prices of new medicines, many of which don’t improve on older medicines, are putting massive strain on EU health budgets. If EU funding is to have real impact, it must address affordable access to new health innovations by applying equitable access conditions to the results of EU health research. Throughout 2019, in collaboration with Corporate Europe Observatory, GHA worked on [two major reports on EU PPPs in Research and Innovation: Innovative Medicines Initiatives and Bio-Based Industries](#). Taken together, these two PPPs have received more than €2.5 billion of public EU funding for the period 2014-2020. However, CSOs confronted a lack of information and transparency on how the priorities are set and what’s the impact of the projects funded through these PPPs, limiting the civil society’s ability to assess IMI’s societal impact for needs-driven EU R&I policies.

A €350,000 pilot project, originally drafted by GHA and pitched for funding by MEP (Cabezón Ruiz), was approved by the European Parliament in 2018. This pilot project will be funded by the European Commission, so that experts can draft and develop societal impact Key Performance Indicators for EU R&D funding. GHA will follow this process, participate in the study and ensure the results will be used for advocacy.

GHA leveraged the May WHO resolution on R&D transparency, calling for an increase in transparency of prices and negotiating mechanisms, to push the French government to promote transparency of markets for drugs and vaccines. In particular, GHA has co-signed an [op-ed](#) in collaboration with 70 other CSOs and 49 scholars.

During the second semester, GHA worked on the 2020 French Social Security bill to ensure it includes provisions for greater transparency of public R&D investment and fairer pricing of innovative medicines. In support of its advocacy, GHA developed [case studies](#) on 4 health products benefiting from public money but which are subsequently too expensive, to illustrate the need for greater transparency of the pharmaceutical market and better price regulation of innovative medicines.

Thanks to a strong mobilization of the French MPs, the French National Assembly adopted an amended version of one of GHA's proposals, with the support of the French government: the 2020 Social Security Bill thus requires, for the first time, pharmaceutical companies to disclose the amount of public R&D funding they have received. Unfortunately, this provision was found to be unconstitutional a few weeks later.

[www.ghadvocates.eu](http://www.ghadvocates.eu) @GHAFrance @GHABrussels