The Lancet Commission states that climate change “has already produced considerable shifts” in the social and environmental determinants of health, threatening to reverse falling global burden of infectious disease transmission. For the WHO, “the climate crisis is a health crisis”.

Climate change is creating the conditions for disease to spread, outbreaks to increase, and weather-related emergencies to damage infrastructure and increase disruption to health services. Climate change also increases the risk of another pandemic, which will disproportionately impact the most vulnerable and marginalized groups.

Gavi works with countries and financing partners to save lives by boosting investment in immunisation and pandemic preparedness and response. It has developed an advanced innovative financing toolkit, mobilizing many billions of dollars through vaccine bonds, surge financing and advance market commitments, including as host of COVAX, the international vaccine response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

We will discuss the lessons learned from 23 years of supporting immunization, including during the Covid-19 pandemic. What role could a new set of innovative financing tools play in responding to the twin challenges of climate change and global health?
Moderator: Dr. Lisbet Steer, Chair of education commission, former advisor to Mr. Gordon Brown, President of the Education Development Center and creator of IFFEd (International Finance Facility for Education).

Dr. Philippe Douste-Blazy, Chair of the United Nations Fund UNITLIFE (UNCDF), Former French Foreign Minister and Minister of Health, Solidarities and Family, Former Under-Secretary general of the UN in charge of innovative financing for development, Founder of UNITAID.

Mr. Guillaume Grosso, Director, Sovereign & Private Sector Engagement, Donor Relations & Campaigns, Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance.

Ms. Maria Shaw-Barragan, Director of Lending in Africa, Caribbean, Pacific, Asia and Latin America, European Investment Bank.

Mr. Rodrigo Salvado, Director General, Operational Partnerships, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

Ms. Najat Vallaud-Belkacem, Director of ONE France, former French Minister for education, Minister for women’s rights, and Government Spokesperson.

Ms. Eloise Todd, Executive Director and Co-Founder, Pandemic Action Network.

Mr. Patrick Bertrand, Founder and Director; Global Health Advocates.

Ms. Rosalind McKenna, Special Adviser; Open Society Foundation.

Free entrance, refreshments and light food will be served - kindly confirm your presence by email to ajousset@gavi.org.

Dr. Lisbet Steer brings 20 years of experience in international development, education reform, and financing to EDC, having served with the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Asia Foundation, the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), and The Brookings Institution. She was appointed president and CEO of the Education Development Center in March 2023.

Guillaume Grosso is the Director of Sovereign & Private Sector Engagement, Donor Relations, and Campaigns, at Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Owing to his 20 years of experience, Guillaume helped mobilize more than $20 billion from governments, foundations, and the private sector, enabling vaccination of millions of children and contributing to build consensus in support of the global response against COVID19.

Rodrigo Salvado is the Director General of AIIB’s Operational Partnership Department, which administers special funds resources. He also manages AIIB’s engagement with global and regional coordination mechanisms and partners to build relationships and mobilize additional resources for the Bank’s investment operations.

Rosalind McKenna is a special advisor to the Open Society Foundations (OSF), and a founding member of the Global Alliance of Foundations. OSF, founded by George Soros, is the world’s largest private funder of independent groups working for justice, democratic governance, and human rights.

Dr. Philippe Douste-Blazy is Chair of the United Nations Fund UNITLIFE (UNCDF), He served as Minister of Foreign Affair of France (2005-2007), Minister of Health, Solidarities and Family of France (2004-2005), Under-Secretary general of the United Nations in charge of innovative financing for development (2008-2017). He is the founder of the international health agency UNITAID.

Maria Shaw-Barragan is the Director of Lending in Africa, Caribbean, Pacific, Asia and Latin America at EIB Global (part of the European Investment Bank), where she focuses on development to enable economic growth and opportunities.


Eloise Todd is the Executive Director and a Co-Founder of Pandemic Action Network (PAN). She is an advocacy, policy, campaigns, and strategy specialist with 20 years’ experience working to change policies, legislation and budgets to improve lives. She has worked primarily in international development, including as a political adviser within EU institutions.

Patrick Bertrand is the Director and Founder of Global Health Advocates, with a mission to carry out political advocacy in France and with the EU institutions to ensure policies and resources are effectively addressing health inequalities.