



GOUVERNEMENT

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Égalité
Fraternité*



France global health strategy 2023–2027



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Catherine Colonna

Minister for Europe
and Foreign Affairs

Together, we have faced the greatest health challenge of our time. The COVID-19 pandemic has turned our lives upside down and weakened ties between international partners on a global scale.

France played its full part in the global response to this pandemic: in particular when the crisis was at its peak, with the launch of the ACT-A response mechanism and the provision of over 120 million doses of vaccines. This is still the case today, through our commitment to the ongoing negotiations for a new global health architecture, with the future international agreement on pandemics and the revision of the International Health Regulations. Our bilateral efforts to strengthen health systems complement our investments in multilateral financial instruments, which total over 2 billion for the period 2023-2025, and mobilize all players: government operators, players in research and the health sector, civil society organizations and the private sector.

France thus remains faithful to a long tradition of commitment to global health, a tradition renewed and enshrined in this new global health strategy for the period 2023-2027, which promotes the values and principles we hold dear: the promotion of human rights, universality, accessibility, solidarity, gender equality, equity, and non-discrimination.

This strategy aims to contribute to a collective response to the many challenges facing global health, which call for international action that is better coordinated, based on solidarity, cooperation, transparency and science. We need to build a new architecture for global health, with the World Health Organization, of which we celebrate this year the 75th anniversary, at the centre, and with a renewed partnerships policy. The "Paris Agenda for People and Planet", launched by the French President at the June 2023 Summit, aims to strengthen the bonds of global solidarity and facilitate access by vulnerable countries to the financing they need in order to cope with the consequences of crises and shocks.

Climate change and its impact on health, and the links between human health, animal health and ecosystem health must be taken into account. This is the aim of the "One Health" approach which France is strongly advocating.

Strengthening human resources for health is another major challenge. These resources are the cornerstone of any healthcare system. That is why France has made their training a priority, reflected in the establishment of the WHO Academy in Lyon, which from 2024 will provide on-site and distance training for thousands of healthcare professionals worldwide.

With this strategy, we want to unite all our efforts/forces to achieve the sustainable development goals, reduce health inequalities and ensure that everyone's right to health is effectively guaranteed throughout the world.



Chrysoula Zacharopoulou

Minister of State for Development, Francophonie and International Partnerships

France's global health strategy proposes a new method and a new ambition for 2023 - 2027.

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We have chosen a new cooperation method, fully aligned with the partnership approach that drives France's international policy.

in the light of growing international challenges, action to protect global public goods, from climate change to biodiversity, requires creativity and trust.

This is also the case for global health: we need to unite public and private players, and all civil society, to work together towards a new horizon of progress.

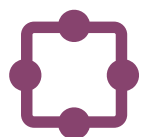
That is why our new strategy proposes to further develop local initiatives, participative governance mechanisms and community involvement.

While France's ambition for global health has always been guided by the "right to health", we are renewing our strategy by clarifying this attachment to human rights in the light of our feminist diplomacy.

We want to take better account of one of the main determinants of health inequalities: gender inequalities and stereotypes, which further hamper women's and girls' access to appropriate, quality health services.

France will therefore strive to promote more equitable health systems, particularly regarding sexual and reproductive rights at all ages.

This strategy, with its rethought method and renewed ambition, will guide France's global health action for 2023-2027.





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Sylvie Retailleau

Minister for Higher
Education and Research

The entire French higher education and research community firmly supports the ambitions of the French Global Health Strategy.

The launch of this strategy is an opportunity to highlight French research and training initiatives in this field.

One example of a flagship tool in the field of global health research is the development of international global health research platforms (PRISME) by the ANRS|MIE. It introduces a new kind of partnership that is balanced, inclusive and adaptable. The aim is to bring together all the partners and research initiatives addressing global health issues on a single national virtual platform. Three platforms already exist, in Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

When we consider global health, we need to bear in mind the 'one health' approach. This is particularly true for research. Accordingly, the international PREZODE (Preventing Zoonotic Disease Emergence) initiative has been launched, initiated by the French President, as part of the One Planet Summit in January 2021. PREZODE promotes prevention, early detection and surveillance to reduce the risk of the emergence of infectious diseases of animal origin. To achieve this, PREZODE aims to encourage collaboration between countries, develop a research framework and raise awareness of the various existing initiatives on the subject.

As far as training is concerned, the forthcoming opening of the World Health Organisation Academy in Lyon—a project strongly supported by France—is a concrete achievement that bears witness to my ministry's commitment to building France's Global Health Strategy. France is committed to working alongside the WHO Academy through a number of partnerships currently being set up, in particular with universities, research institutes and public health establishments. The aim is to enrich learners' experience through the Academy's diversified training programme. The construction of a simulation centre will also enable partnerships with French teams specialising in this field.

Last but not least, France has a global influence thanks to the international Pasteur network. Present in 25 countries and on every continent, the Pasteur Network includes 33 member states united by their shared missions and values for the benefit of their populations. Located in the heart of many endemic areas, this network has repeatedly demonstrated its major surveillance role for emerging infectious diseases. The mission of the Pasteur Network is to contribute to the improvement of human health by promoting biomedical research, public health activities, training, innovation and technology transfer. Its action is essential.

Much remains to be done, and I am truly proud to speak on behalf of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, whose stakeholders, administrations and operators are fully committed to the deployment of our French Global Health Strategy.



Aurélien Rousseau

Minister of Health and
Prevention

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France's new 2023–2027 global health strategy represents a turning point in our approach to global health. It illustrates our collective ability to draw the most valuable lessons from the Covid-19 pandemic so that we can be even better prepared to prevent, prepare for and manage such events in the future. It also demonstrates France's ability to bring multilateralism and solidarity to life for the benefit of people's well-being and health, and I would like to reiterate our confidence in the World Health Organisation to ensure that these common battles are fought on an international level.

This strategy is the result of a collective effort by the French team, and I would like to acknowledge the commitment of the Ministry of Health and Prevention, alongside the Ministries of Europe and Foreign Affairs, Higher Education and Research, the health agencies, as well as civil society organisations, researchers and the health industry, who have all worked together to bring this new strategy to life. The challenges now posed by its implementation, and our own accountability for fulfilling these commitments, are equally compelling. When it comes to global health, France upholds the same values and commitments as it does in its national health policy: a resolutely humanist approach, based on equity, human rights and science; an approach that is also deeply rooted in the partnerships between all players involved, in global health, each in their own role.

In an uncertain geopolitical context, the world is faced with a large number of health challenges: climate change and loss of biodiversity, ageing populations, migratory flows, shortages of human resources for health, geopolitical

upheavals and the return of war in Europe, social inequalities in health, the digital transition and the artificial intelligence revolution, and so on. These transformations require us to take on the immensely challenging task of anticipation, based on a partnership approach, which is the aim of this strategy.

Achieving universal health coverage must remain an unchanging goal so that everyone has access to health services, regardless of gender, income or geographical criteria.

In this area, as in all our priorities, I cannot overstate how essential the role of healthcare professionals is in strengthening our health systems. Without these men and women, we are nothing and this strategy would have no chance of success. All around the world, the sector is facing the risk of human resources shortages, at a time when access to care is still not guaranteed. To overcome this challenge, career attractiveness and training must be a priority. France is therefore actively supporting the creation of the WHO Academy and is very proud to host it in Lyon, with the aim of providing innovative training for professionals from all around the world on what have been identified as priorities for global health.

We need to build a genuine prevention policy, bolstered by the emergence of a shared culture of prevention starting at a young age to guarantee the health and well-being of all. Social inequalities in health are prevalent and call for a redefinition of health policies. Our approaches to putting health at the heart of all policies will make sure no-one is left behind. France thus intends, to promote, on a national level and as part of its global health strategy, this shift towards prevention, which is also a prerequisite for the sustainability of our health systems worldwide. Similarly, in our fight against infectious diseases, in particular the three major diseases of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, or the fight against antimicrobial

resistance and vector-borne diseases, prevention must be one of the pillars of our international action. Research in this area, which intersects with the fields of behavioural, human and social sciences, will also be essential in assessing the impact of such policies and develop new practices in health prevention.

Finally, it is also vital we take a better account of the environment and animal health in order to prevent, prepare for and respond to health crises more efficiently in each part of the world, including in a regional approach that is more comprehensive than the national framework: this is one of the reasons why the French strategy will actively support and ensure coordination with the implementation of a European

global health strategy based on the 'One Health' approach. This is how we will be able to prevent rather than merely predict health threats and achieve the sustainable development targets set by the United Nations for 2030.

Because the global, national and local levels are inextricably linked, this French global health strategy feeds into and, in turn, nourishes our health policy in France. Prevention and the fight against social inequalities in health, the 'One Health' approach, the fight against antimicrobial resistance... This global strategy is in constant dialogue with the resolute action taken by the Government every day to protect the health of the French people.



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1. Context and ambitions

Major improvements have been made in global health over the last twenty years, particularly in maternal and child health and in the fight against major pandemics. Between 2000 and 2017, maternal mortality fell by 37%¹, while mortality among children under 5 halved between 2000 and 2020². At the same time, access to antiretroviral treatment for people living with HIV has increased considerably: from less than one million in 2000 to more than 28 million in 2020, currently equivalent to almost three quarters of the global HIV-positive population³.

We should recognise and welcome this progress, but at the same time take a clear-sighted look at the road ahead and the deep inequalities that continue to exist and risk jeopardising our achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 3 on health and well-being, but also SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 6 (water and sanitation), etc.

Progress has been uneven, and there are still major disparities between different populations and areas within the same country, between urban and rural communities, cross-border living areas, countries and geographical regions. For example, the under-five mortality rate was 38 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2021 worldwide, while in low-income countries the rate was 67 deaths per 1,000 live births⁴. Inequalities are even

greater within countries, between the richest and poorest groups of the population.

This progress is also very fragile. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, progress on several indicators was slowing. The World Health Organisation's (WHO) goal of seeing 1 billion more people benefit from universal health coverage (UHC) in 2023 than in 2019 has not been achieved, despite the increase in the world's population.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought this progress to an abrupt halt, seriously disrupting all health services. According to the WHO, 92% of Member States reported disruptions to their healthcare systems for almost half of the services monitored⁵. For example, tuberculosis screening and access to treatment fell sharply during the COVID-19 pandemic, as mortality rates rose once again, jeopardising progress towards the eradication target set for 2035⁶.

Beyond the direct effects of the crisis affecting health services, it has also revealed a glaring lack of investment in national health systems and public health institutions, the weakness of our prevention, preparation and response mechanisms in the event of global health threats, and a lack of recognition and implementation of the 'One Health' approach. Yet, it is clear that the interdependence between human health, animal health and the

1. WHO, UNICEF, World Bank, UNFPA (2019)

2. [World Bank](#)

3. [UNAIDS](#)

4. Levels & Trends in Estimates developed by the United Nations Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation Child Mortality Report 202

5. [Report of the Chief Executive to the 142nd Executive Board](#) (January 2023)

6. [Global Tuberculosis Report 2022 ; Implementing the end TB strategy: the essentials, 2022 update](#)

environment is a major issue, at a time when climate change, the biodiversity loss and pollution threaten to profoundly alter health indicators throughout the world and undo some of the progress made in recent decades.

According to the 2014 Lancet Global Health Commission, environmental threats represent the greatest health threat to humanity. It is therefore essential to implement prevention and adaptation policies to address the consequences of environmental threats, which disproportionately affect vulnerable groups, as well [as] women and children.

The growing number of crises linked to pandemics, climate change, conflicts and other global crises, as well as demographic and epidemiological shifts, mean that health and social protection systems need to be thoroughly reconfigured in order to strengthen populations and communities resilience and reduce their vulnerability. Despite the unprecedented extension of social protection measures worldwide during the COVID-19 crisis, more than half of the global population lives without any protection against the risks of illness or loss of income⁷.

Finally, other challenges, such as the rise of regional stakeholders, including the European Union and the African Union, and the links between different stakeholders and disciplines, the role and rapid evolution of science and a rebalancing of North-South, North-North and South-South relationships, are reshuffling the cards and calling for the implementation of a new global health order.

These changes call for new working and governance methods that place people and their well-being at the heart of policies. Global health is no longer, an issue linked solely to development policy or public health policy. The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated its global nature: global health involves all stakeholders (governments, international organisations, financial institutions, researchers, civil society, the private sector, etc.), affects all sectors and concerns all countries which shall now be considered as interdependent. Action must be taken at all levels of policy-making; the three high-level meetings of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on health, in September 2023, aimed to embed these changes into public policies and reaffirm the commitment of countries at the highest level.

In this context, and given that health has always been at the heart of its external action⁸, France is publishing a new global health strategy for the period 2023–2027, to contribute to improve health and well-being worldwide and ensure that health is taken into account in all policies.

It will form the basis of France's global health ambitions and priorities in multilateral bodies, particularly in Europe, and shape its bilateral cooperation activities.

Following the meeting of the French Presidential Development Council on 5 May 2023, the members of the Interministerial Committee for International Cooperation and Development (CICID) adopted new guidelines for international cooperation policy and official development assistance.

7. ILO, World Social Protection Report 2020–2022, June 2022

8. Cf. Act No. [2021-1031 of 4 August 2021](#) on solidarity-based development and the fight against global inequalities

Based on this, the programming law no. 2021-1031 on solidarity development and the fight against global inequalities, and the results achieved since the CICID session of 8 February 2018, decisions have been taken to boost the effectiveness and impact of France's actions towards solidarity and sustainable investment.

Among the 10 priority political goals, global health is covered by the 4th goal, which aims to strengthen resilience to health risks, including pandemics, by investing in primary healthcare systems and supporting the training of healthcare workers in at-risk countries. This strategy is fully in line with the strategic guidelines of the CICID.

The objectives of this new strategy are also in line with those of the European Union's revised global health strategy⁹.

Developed in collaboration with the widest possible range of French global health stakeholders, this new strategy aims to centre its action around five ambitions over the next five years.

Ambitions:

1. Help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular SDG3;

2. Reduce health inequality by examining all its socio-environmental components;

3. Strengthen the 'One Health' approach, to better prevent and prepare for future global health crises and emergencies;

4. Take into account the consequences of climate change on health and the environmental footprint of health systems;

5. Promote French values, expertise, research, know-how, innovation and partnerships.

9. [EU Global Health Strategy](#), published on 30 November 2022

2. The guiding principles of the strategy

Through its action in the field of global health, France promotes and defends certain values and principles. These principles and fundamental values are those that have underpinned the development of the French national health system: universality, accessibility, solidarity, equity, non-discrimination and ethics.

These principles inform and guide France's positions, declarations, votes, projects, initiatives and investments in global health. They therefore represent a measure of French global health initiatives.

These principles are:

2.1. Health for all

France promotes universal and equitable access to health services, combating all forms of inequality and exclusion and taking into account vulnerability factors and the specific characteristics associated with different populations and regions. As per its national model, France promotes the principle of solidarity to ensure that everyone is protected according to their needs and means.

France recognises and supports the WHO's definition of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), which aims to ensure that everyone has access to the full

range of quality health services they need, when and where they need them, without financial hardship. France recognises the role of populations and communities as stakeholders in healthcare systems, thereby enshrining the principle of health for and by all.

2.2. One health

In all its global health actions, France recognises and promotes the 'One Health' approach, as defined by the One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP):

'One Health is an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems.

It recognizes the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the wider environment (including ecosystems) are closely linked and inter-dependent.

The approach mobilizes multiple sectors, disciplines and communities at varying levels of society to work together to foster well-being and tackle threats to health and ecosystems, while addressing the collective need for clean water, energy and air, safe and nutritious food, taking action on climate change, and contributing to sustainable development.¹⁰

10. [Definition given in 2021 by the One Health High-Level Expert Panel \(OHHLEP\) and adopted by WHO, WHOA, FAO and UNEP](#)

2.3. Human rights

France considers that the access to the the highest attainable standard of health is a fundamental right that must be guaranteed by States. It applies to the individual and is not conditioned by any status or function. This right is established in Article 25 of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights: 'Everyone has the right to a standard of living that ensures the health and well-being of him or herself and of his or her family.'

According to this principle, France's actions in global health are characterised by the defence and promotion of human rights, the fight against discrimination, respect for minorities, gender equality, the protection of at-risk populations and the promotion of equitable access to health services.

In line with, European and international texts and standards, France is particularly committed to the health of children and adolescents, young people, women, the elderly, displaced persons and people in situations of extreme vulnerability.

Finally, promoting the participation of citizens, communities and healthcare users in health policies is a key principle of France's action in global health. Established by the 2002 'health democracy' law, this approach, which aims to involve users, professionals and public decision-makers in the development and implementation of health policy, celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2022.

2.4. Gender equality

Gender is a determining factor when it comes to health inequalities. Gender inequalities and stereotypes further hamper women's and girls' access to appropriate, quality health services. Gender-blind interventions are ineffective and can even exacerbate these inequalities.

Through its feminist foreign policy, France is committed to promoting gender-responsive health systems in order to reduce inequalities in access to preventive measures, screening, care and appropriate treatment. The aim is to provide better care, improve understanding and training in gender issues and equal participation in the field of healthcare to improve the health and well-being of women, adolescents and girls and guarantee their fundamental rights.

This approach must allow everyone to have access to quality health services, and in particular to sexual and reproductive health and rights at any age. France is adopting a transformative approach to gender relations that will help to change social representations and practices linked to gender identity in health systems, reduce inequalities and combat sexual and gender-based violence.

2.5. An approach based on scientific results and methods

In order to ensure the quality and effectiveness of global health interventions and policies, a critical analysis of the available scientific data and results is crucial. This approach involves the production, the availability and the use of high-quality data on people's health and their environment, setting up evaluation mechanisms for public actions and policies, and conducting impact studies and assessments based on sound scientific data and reliable expertise.

This multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder process calls for enhanced dialogue between policy-makers, scientists, workers on the ground and the general public, in order to promote the appropriation of scientific approaches and research, and confidence in global health policies.

2.6. Co-construction, ownership and sustainability

In line with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, France's action in global health incorporates the principles of ownership, alignment, results, harmonisation and accountability. This implies the introduction of structural reforms, laws and regulations, capacity-building initiatives for stakeholders and institutions, and the drive for sustainable changes in the practices and behaviours of all health players.

France's aim is to systematise the dynamics of co-construction, based on a logic of mutual interest and project ownership, by strengthening support for local, national and regional initiatives, by supporting the implementation of governance mechanisms and by further empowering all stakeholders, especially communities.

2.7. Consistency and complementarity

France's global health strategy aims to be consistent with and complementary to a range of relevant documents, roadmaps and commitments, including:

- the 2023–2033 national health strategy, which is currently being revised and will be published at the end of 2023;
- the other international sectoral strategies supported by France, including the strategies on sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender equality, human rights and development, food security and nutrition, and the humanitarian strategy;
- the priorities defined by the Interministerial Committee for International Cooperation and Development (CICID) in July 2023;
- the European global health strategy and the global health strategies of the other Member States of the European Union, where they exist;
- other European and international frameworks and standards to which France subscribes and contributes;
- France's long-standing bilateral and multilateral commitments to global health.

This strategy naturally follows on from the previous Global Health Strategy (2017–2021).

It also aims to strengthen the coordination and complementarity of French and European interventions and investments, across all sectors: governments, higher education and research bodies, operators, civil society, industry and other private stakeholders and experts.



FOCUS ON: The European global health strategy¹

The revised strategy of the European Union (EU) makes global health an essential pillar of the external dimension of a Public Health Union and of the EU's external policy, a critical sector in geopolitical terms and a central factor in the EU's strategic autonomy until 2030. It highlights three main priorities, which are also reflected in the French strategy:

- to improve people's health and well-being throughout their lives
- to strengthen healthcare systems and promote universal health coverage
- to prevent and combat health threats, including pandemics, by applying the 'One Health' approach

The European strategy aims to catch up with the targets linked to the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. It is therefore refocusing its action on Universal Health Coverage (UHC), strengthening primary care and examining health factors, such as poverty and social inequalities. It tackles factors likely to endanger health, such as climate change and environmental degradation, food security, conflicts and other humanitarian crises. Finally, it introduces a robust approach to 'health in all policies' and the 'One Health' approach.

Joint European Action on the Impact of the EU's Contribution to Global Health

France, through the Ministry of Health and Prevention (MSP), has positioned itself as coordinator of the European Joint Action 'Global Health Impact' (JA GHI), which aims to promote synergies and coordination between the actions of the Member States and the European Union in the field of global health.

Following the many proposals put forward by the Member States, this Joint Action aims to establish a global coordination system to better share information, define the EU's positions and take political and financial measures to address global health challenges.



1. [EU Global Health Strategy](#) (November 2022)

3. Team France: driving strategy

Team France brings together all French stakeholders working in the field of global health, in line with the priorities of this strategy and its guiding principles. Team France is made up of institutional players, local authorities, public operators and agencies, civil society organisations, foundations, scientific institutions, researchers, professional organisations in the health sector (human, animal and environmental health) and private sector stakeholders.

The rationale behind a united Team France is based on the desire of all these stakeholders to identify common areas for discussion, coordination and collaboration in order to strengthen the impact and sustainability of global health interventions.

The institutional players steering the strategy

France's global health strategy is coordinated by the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE), the Ministry of Health and Prevention (MSP) and the Ministry of Higher Education and Research (MESR). They act in their supervisory capacity, define strategic and policy positions, contribute to the funding of actions implemented in line with this document and ensure accountability.

The ministries represent France in the various international governance and negotiation bodies (international organisations, multilateral funds, G7, G20, etc.).

Drawing on France's extensive diplomatic network, in particular its regional global health advisors (CRSM), social affairs advisors (CAS) and cooperation and cultural action departments (SCAC), France acknowledges the specific

characteristics and needs of its various partners, depending on the context and developments, to ensure that its actions are relevant. France can also count on the expertise of national health agencies such as Santé publique France (SPF), the Haute autorité de santé (HAS), the Agence nationale de sécurité du médicament (ANSM) and the Agence de sécurité sanitaire (ANSES).

Other ministries such as the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty (MEFSIN), the Ministry of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion (MTECT) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty (MASA) are also called upon to help implement the strategy and ensure the overall coherence of French action.

The AFD Group's actions towards health and social protection

The AFD Group comprises Agence Française de Développement (French Development Agency (AFD)), Proparco, a subsidiary dedicated to supporting the private sector, and Expertise France, the French international agency for technical expertise. It is therefore France's main bilateral development aid programme. Its actions are carried out in more than 150 countries around the world, as well as in the French overseas territories.

Thanks to the wide range of financial tools at its disposal and a strong partnership approach, the AFD Group is able to offer its partners an integrated health and social protection package. It is able to support the ambitious public policy reforms carried out by partner countries, to finance the public and private operators who implement these policies, including civil society organisations (CSOs) and private sector

players, and to provide technical expertise to support these reform processes.

The AFD Group has a long-standing commitment to improving health systems. For example, it set up the 'Health in Common' initiative in April 2020 to meet the health and social needs of Global South countries in the face of the Covid-19 crisis, which was France's main bilateral response to the crisis at international level (1.8 billion euros committed in 2020 and 2021).

French stakeholders in higher education and research (ESR)

France has a large network of institutional players in the field of research, including the French National Agency for Research on AIDS, Viral Hepatitis and Emerging Infectious Diseases (ANRS|MIE), the French agricultural research and international cooperation organisation working for the sustainable development of tropical and Mediterranean regions (Cirad), the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), the National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and the Environment (INRAE), the National Institute of Health and Medical Research (Inserm), Institut Pasteur and the Institute of Research for Development (IRD). All have a long-standing commitment to achieving global health objectives in France and its partner countries, particularly low- and middle-income countries.

French research players are promoting a decompartmentalised, integrated, systemic and interdisciplinary approach to global health. This approach is based on the development of innovative, balanced partnership strategies, built in collaboration with national stakeholders and partners to take account of local needs, realities and knowledge.

Civil society organisations (CSOs)

CSOs include non-governmental organisations (NGOs) with operational activities in emergency preparedness and response, long-term support, advocacy, community-based organisations, activist groups and association platforms and networks.

Whether in France or in partner countries, they play a decisive role in promoting universal access to healthcare. Through their projects and expertise, they are able to adapt and intervene directly with populations and communities to best meet their needs, involving them in the response and improving accountability of local actions.

Their role is crucial in reaching the most vulnerable populations and marginalised and discriminated communities, and ensuring equitable access to healthcare, services and information. Their ability to innovate and their flexibility make them essential players in preventing and responding to health threats, improving healthcare systems and improving the well-being of populations.

CSOs are a unique and fundamental component in the implementation and evaluation of this strategy. Their independence, their ability to involve the public and their close monitoring of actions taken by other bilateral and multilateral stakeholders enable them to advocate appropriate strategies and increased resources for global health.

Philanthropy

Foundations and endowment funds play an important role in supporting development policy and international solidarity, particularly in the field of global health, either as operators (Institut Pasteur, Fondation Mérieux, Fondation Pierre Fabre, etc.) or as donors (Foundation S-The Sanofi Collective, Fondation Veolia, Fondation de France, Break Poverty, Fondation Une santé durable pour tous overseen by the Fondation Bullukian, etc.). The links and complementarity between public actors and private foundations are an essential part of the global health landscape.

Private sector

Private-sector stakeholders are committed to promoting French expertise internationally, while working to strengthen national cohesion and align strategies. Healthcare companies play a fundamental role in France's global healthcare strategy, thanks to their scale, expertise, the strategic nature of their offerings and their historical presence in key regions (Africa, Asia).

Numerous collective organisations are acting as spokespersons and will play a key role in implementing this strategy:

- French Healthcare and its association are designed to promote France's strengths;
- The Healthcare Export Federation, which has a threefold mission: to structure and rationalise the healthcare export ecosystem, to advise companies and public authorities, and to represent them abroad;
- The Special Envoy for Innovation in Health, who promotes the French ecosystem in the health innovation sector (Plan Innovation Santé 2030)
- The International Division of the Comité stratégique de filière industries et technologies de santé (CSF-ITS) has four main objectives: to develop a high-quality, collaborative French offer and promote it abroad; to develop the internationalisation of the sector and stakeholder coordination; to promote the attractiveness of France; and to improve the sector's performance.

4. The strategy's three thematic priorities

4.1. Priority 1: **To promote equitable, sustainable, resilient, adaptive and people-centred health systems to achieve universal health coverage**

Despite significant progress over the last 20 years, we continue to face deep-seated inequalities in access to health services and the challenges of achieving universal health coverage (UHC) are immense. The health crises of recent years, in particular the COVID-19, have highlighted the fragility of health systems, which have suffered a chronic lack of funding in many countries.

UHC aims to ensure that every person and every community has access to the full range of quality health services they require, when and where they need them, without financial hardship. UHC addresses the full range of essential health services required throughout life, including health promotion, prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care¹¹.

Today, more than half the people in the world (4 billion) have no access to essential health services, 800 million face catastrophic health costs and more than 100 million people fall into poverty every year because of the cost of healthcare¹².

France has made the extension of UHC one of its global health priorities, as part of a global approach to social protection that enables individuals and communities to cope with health problems, as well as the indirect costs of illness and disability.

Achieving UHC, a priority in line with the European strategy and included in the Sustainable Development Goals, calls for the creation of a national social contract that engages a population in a process of solidarity and protection. This solidarity operates without distinction nor exclusion between the healthy and the sick, the young and the old, the wealthy and the poor. This requires strong political decision-making, the implementation of solid and equitable funding mechanisms and the collaboration of all national stakeholders.

It should be remembered that there can be no UHC without equitable, sustainable, resilient, adaptive and people-centred healthcare systems. To achieve this, France is promoting a cross-functional and systemic approach to strengthening health systems, with the aim of bringing about lasting changes in the policies, regulations, institutions and practices of all those involved.

11. [WHO definition of UHC](#)

12. [Tracking Universal Health Coverage: 2021 Global Monitoring Report](#), WHO and World Bank

As part of its global health action, France believes that these improvements to health systems must be:

- **Systemic** – the intervention goes beyond the supply of inputs and concerns policies and regulations, organisational structures and the behaviour and practices of stakeholders
- **Transversal** – the intervention benefits more than one disease, programme or pillar of the health system (service delivery, health workforce, leadership and governance, medical products, vaccines and technologies, information systems and financing)
- **Sustainable** – its impact is long-lasting; to achieve this, the project must incorporate a long-term strategy from the outset
- **Equitable** – the intervention promotes equal access to quality health services
- **Co-constructed and suitable** – the intervention is supported by national institutions and forms part of a national health programme bringing together all stakeholders
- **Based on sound data and results** – the intervention is based on scientific data and results and responds to expressed and documented needs in the field;
- **Adaptable** – the intervention is able to adapt to the context and its changes and to adopt a proactive, learning-from-experience approach;
- **Resilient** – the intervention actively contributes to mitigating the impact of shocks, including those linked to the consequences of environmental threats, in particular climate change;
- **Gender-responsive** – the intervention fully integrates gender issues to ensure that rights are respected within health systems in an effective way.

Faced with the impact of environmental threats on the health of populations, in particular climate change, loss of biodiversity and pollution, France is committed to strengthening the resilience of health and social protection systems in the face of climate instability and change, even though the health sector produces around 5% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions.¹³

4.1.1. Specific Objective (SO1): promote universal social protection systems for health, taking into account climate issues and their impact on health

Less than half of the world's population has access to essential healthcare services and almost 800 million people worldwide face catastrophic health costs or severe impoverishment¹⁴. By supporting the establishment of UHC and social protection mechanisms, France aims to promote universal access to quality healthcare and services, as well as financial protection in the event of illness, for everyone, at all stages of life, and in particular for the most vulnerable.

In line with its national model, based on universality and solidarity, France has made the extension of UHC, social protection and the strengthening of health systems the cornerstone of its global health action. In this context, France reiterates that UHC must be considered as a right and cannot be defined according to a person's status such as that of employee. It must be financed collectively through a system of public subsidies that ensures the widest possible pooling of resources and provides universal financial protection against catastrophic or impoverishing medical fees. UHC must also ensure the quality of services and provide information on people's rights and responsibilities, guaranteeing effective access to services.

13. [The environmental footprint of health care: a global assessment](#), *The Lancet*, 2020

14. [Tracking Universal Health Coverage: 2021 Global Monitoring Report](#), WHO and World Bank



FOCUS ON: Social Protection, as priority for France

Social protection is a means of tackling many different determinants of health, including poverty, nutrition and education. It also strengthens the resilience of populations, enabling them to react and adapt to shocks and crises, including climate change.

The French approach aims to encourage the establishment of universal social protection based on a principle of solidarity, working towards a world where access to social protection is a fundamental human right and represents an essential tool for preventing and reducing poverty, combating discrimination, increasing resilience and promoting social inclusion.

Long supported by France, the idea of universal access to social protection has gradually gained ground in the international community, particularly in the form of social protection floors guaranteeing a minimum of access to essential health care and a basic income for children, the elderly and those unable to obtain a sufficient income from work.

In recent years, a consensus has emerged concerning the importance of social protection as a strategic tool for development, culminating in its inclusion in the United Nations' 2030 Agenda in 2015.

Drawing on its national experience, France supports the development of universal social protection systems through financial and technical assistance in many countries around the world. It also encourages greater coordination of social protection actors and policies at both national and international level, building on existing initiatives such as the Global Partnership for Universal Social Protection to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (USP2030), the Providing for Health (P4H) network or the Social Protection Interagency Cooperation Board (SPIAC-B), and more recently the Global Accelerator for Decent Work and Social Protection (led by the International Labour Organisation–ILO).

France will give priority to the following areas:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To contribute to national, regional and international advocacy in favour of the extension of UHC and universal social protection, with a view to improving access to health services, protecting populations against the financial risks associated with illness, maternity and disability, improving equity, the quality of services and the resilience of populations and communities.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To defend and promote advocacy for the extension of UHC and social protection in all international bodies and forums: international organisations, the European Union, G7, G20, multilateral funds, development banks, international financial institutions, etc.
- > To participate in international initiatives and projects such as the United Nations High-Level Meeting on UHC (September 2023), the UHC2030 Coalition, the P4H network, Global Accelerator for Decent Work and Social Protection, etc.

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To support the operationalisation of national reforms in favour of UHC through the implementation of solidarity-based, efficient and sustainable national financing mechanisms for healthcare, disease prevention and health promotion.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > At the bilateral level: involve French stakeholders such as operators (AFD Group, research actors, non-governmental organisations for financial and technical support in the aim of improving the capacities of national stakeholders in the implementation of these reforms (example : the Health Voucher programme in Cameroon).

- > At the multilateral level: support for the action of multilateral funds and initiatives in favour of health systems strengthening (HSS) and UHC; participation in the P4H network dedicated to health financing.

FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To promote the development of resilient social protection systems and support mechanisms applicable to extreme weather events that help people adapt to climate change and other shocks.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > Systematic inclusion of an adaptive approach to climate change and its consequences in UHC and social protection projects financed by France
- > Advocacy in multilateral forums in which France participates to ensure that extreme weather events and their impact on the health of populations and healthcare system resilience are taken into account

4.1.2. Specific Objective 2 (SO2): to contribute to improving equitable access and quality of health services, by promoting person-centred services based on a primary health care approach

According to the WHO Constitution, enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, gender, political belief, or economic or social condition. In line with the founding principles of its national system and the EU's revised global health strategy, France is making equitable access to quality health services a key element of its global health policy.

To ensure that these principles are translated into practice, France is promoting a person-centred approach to health services, placing people, communities and patients at the heart of the system. Health democracy thus involves all the players in the

development and implementation of health policy, in a spirit of dialogue and consultation.

France sees primary healthcare services as a core element of healthcare systems and a means of accelerating the application of universal healthcare coverage. Integrated with the other levels of the health architecture, primary healthcare services aim to ensure the equitable delivery of essential care to the population. Building upon the capacities of second-level facilities, which treat most high-risk mortality diseases in children and adults, also represents a challenge in terms of the overall approach to health services and care.

The quality of services is a key determinant of access to healthcare. Quality, safety and appropriateness of care must remain the core values of any healthcare system, applied at every stage of the healthcare process. Improving healthcare quality is part of the national health policy and involves all stakeholders, including communities, at every level. Quality improvement must be measured and monitored as part of a learning-from-experience approach.

As part of the review of EU pharmaceutical legislation, France is also promoting the guarantee of quality standards, drawn up in dialogue with the private sector among other actors, with the aim of ensuring a balance between accessibility and innovation, always to the benefit of patients.

France will give priority to the following areas:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To contribute to the improvement of healthcare quality and accessibility, including for primary and community health services, particularly those targeting vulnerable populations.

Priority levers and tools for action:

Continued support for projects aimed at improving access to services, innovation and quality improvement, in multilateral initiatives (Unitaid, Global Fund, Gavi, Pandemic Fund) and bilateral initiatives via support for national programmes: programme to support the healthcare sector in the Comoros (PASCO¹⁵) or support for NGO initiatives to improve the capacity of healthcare structures, such as the CARHAIBES project¹⁶;

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To strengthen health democracy and citizen participation in the governance of healthcare systems, by promoting the establishment of inclusive consultation bodies at local, regional, national and international levels.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To support national citizen participation and civil society structuring initiatives to boost participation in the governance of health systems, such as the Etats Généraux de la Santé (France), Societal Dialogue Processes (Tunisia) or National Health Assemblies (Thailand)¹⁷.
- > To support processes that involve civil society in development aid mechanisms, such as the Global Fund's Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs) or the work initiated by the PREZODE initiative to develop and strengthen platforms for science/society/policy-makers dialogue on health issues.

15. [Comoros Health Sector Support Programme \(PASCO\) / AFD](#)

16. [AIDES / AFD project](#)

17. [Voice, agency, empowerment—handbook on social participation for universal health coverage](#) (WHO), 2021

FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To improve equitable access to health products and innovations, by diversifying sources of production, distribution and supply at national and regional level.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To develop multi-stakeholder initiatives and projects within the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) MAV+ (production of vaccines, medicines and health technologies in Africa) such as AFD Group's support for the project to strengthen the pharmaceutical sector in Senegal¹⁸.
- > To contribute to a better regulation of pharmaceutical sectors, such as support for the establishment of the African Medicines Agency (AMA), European twinning schemes to support Rwanda's national pharmaceutical regulatory agency, or the RegPharma project to strengthen pharmaceutical regulation in West and Central Africa.

FOCUS AREA NO. 4:

To promote the digitisation of healthcare processes and services to ensure equal access to quality health services. This approach must be considered within an ethical framework that takes into account the specific characteristics and needs on the ground, while ensuring the quality, safety and proximity of services, as well as the protection of healthcare data, in compliance with European standards and regulations.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To participate in the implementation of the WHO's global strategy for digital health 2020–2025¹⁹, in conjunction with the EU's Global Health Strategy (e.g. the EEI on Digital Health).

- > To support the development of digital skills among all healthcare professionals, as set out in the new National Roadmap for Digital Health 2023–2027²⁰.

- > To support joint European projects focusing on digital literacy training and the development of common tools, such as the introduction of a harmonised 'digital health' skills repository based on European data management policy

FOCUS AREA NO. 5:

To promote the development of healthcare systems that are resilient to the consequences of climate change and contribute to its mitigation.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To systematically include in health projects and initiatives financed by France, measures that promote the low-carbon transition, adaptation and long-term resilience, in line with the Paris Agreement.
- > To seek the input of the One Sustainable Health forum, which brings together scientists, political decision-makers, civil society organisations and the private sector.
- > To support initiatives aimed at meeting the challenges posed by the link between climate change and health within the framework of decision-making bodies such as the G7, G20 or French research institutes.

18. [AFD project](#), page 10

19. [WHO Global Digital Health Strategy 2020–2025](#) (2021)

20. [Digital Health Roadmap 2023–2027](#)

4.1.3. Specific Objective 3 (SO3): Strengthening human resources in the health sector

Human resources in the health sector are the cornerstone of any health system. They guarantee the availability, continuity, access and quality of services, the resilience of health systems, health security and universal health coverage.

Human resources in the health sector refers to all medical, paramedical and non-medical staff, including community-based health workers, who carry out the various functions of a health system. Animal health professionals (veterinary and para-veterinary professions) and structures must also be taken into account to ensure the effective implementation of the 'One Health' approach.

All countries today are experiencing difficulties and shortages of human resources for health. These shortages are very uneven between countries, and within countries between urban and

rural areas and the public and private sectors. They are the result of insufficient financing, particularly regarding the initial training of healthcare staff and public health professionals.

This lack of financing explains to a large extent the significant gap between the supply available, the demand on healthcare systems and the needs of the population. This gap is also due to the demographic and epidemiological transitions currently at play and the gradual implementation of universal health coverage. These challenges call for the implementation of transitional and long-term measures that can adjust the supply and skills of healthcare personnel to the needs of the population.

Greater investment in the initial training of healthcare staff must be a priority, as this is a fundamental lever for building up a sufficient number of high-quality human resources in health to achieve UHC.

FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE: The WHO Academy

Launched jointly by the President of the French Republic and the Director-General of the WHO in June 2019, the WHO Academy aims to become a flagship centre for lifelong learning for healthcare professionals from all over the world.

The WHO Academy will thus help to improve the quality of services and better prepare health systems for future pandemics. The entire global healthcare ecosystem will benefit from this project: healthcare professionals, public officials, business leaders and civil society representatives.

Since its launch, the Academy has benefited from substantial funding from France: €44.7 million from the Government; €44.7 million from local authorities and a commitment to raise €30 million from the private sector. The building will be opened in Lyon in the second half of 2024.

The WHO Academy is a priority initiative for France, to meet the training needs of all health around the world. It is supported by all French players, at political, institutional, academic, research, private sector and civil society levels.

Ongoing training in key skills is also an essential tool for strengthening the human resources already working in the field. This is why France has joined forces with the WHO to launch the WHO Academy, which will open its doors in 2024 and become a centre for continuing education designed to offer the latest innovations in health training.

To be effective and sustainable, all actions aimed at strengthening human resources for health must adopt a systemic approach by improving availability, quality, geographical and financial accessibility, staff acceptability, the attractiveness of healthcare professions and support throughout the career.

Many other factors also need to be taken into account, including labour market dynamics (migration, remuneration, absorption, etc.), public policy (private sector regulation, workforce distribution, deployment, monitoring, etc.) and gender inequalities.

In this area, France is calling for efforts to push gender equality among healthcare professionals even further. Although women make up nearly 70% of the workforce in the healthcare system, they occupy only 25% of leadership roles and are the victims of many injustices and gender-based violence. Training and raising awareness of gender issues in human resources for health must also be stepped up, so that gender and its specific factors are fully taken into account in health and care practices.

As part of its global health action, France is committed to respecting and promoting the WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel²¹, which is crucial if we wish to respond to the challenges of migrating health workers and the improvement of our national health systems²².

France will give priority to the following areas:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To contribute to increasing the number and quality of human resources for health, while respecting the specific needs and constraints of each country.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To drive the improvement of initial training institutions, particularly in rural and/or sparsely populated areas.
- > To support multilateral initiatives such as the WHO Academy, programmes and funds supported by multilateral development banks (MDBs) and multilateral health funds.
- > To support bilateral projects, such as: nursing schools (Chad²³ and Palestine²⁴), human resources strengthening in Burundi²⁵ and Expertise France's Initiative projects, in particular via the Initiative's Accelerator, its new funding scheme.

21. [who.int/fr/publications/m/item/nri-2021](https://www.who.int/fr/publications/m/item/nri-2021)

22. WHO [Code of practice on the international recruitment of health personnel](#) (2010)

23. [PASST programme \(health sector support projects in Chad\) 1 and 2 / AFD](#)

24. [Red Cross / AFD project](#)

25. [Red Cross/AFD project](#)

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To strengthen governance systems and human resources management in health.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To work towards the transformation of the health and care professions, through ongoing training, recognition and enhancement of training and qualifications, improved pay and working conditions, and the establishment of appropriate statutes for all health workers, including community health workers.
- > To assist national institutions, especially via the AFD Group, in working towards better health HR management, regulating the labour market, defining job descriptions and accrediting training structures.

FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To encourage university partnerships, partnerships between public health and research institutes, hospital cooperation and international mobility for students, healthcare professionals and scientists in order to share best practices and encourage reciprocal skills and knowledge building.



FOCUS ON: International hospital cooperation

International hospital cooperation is an essential tool for cooperation, development and influence in global health. It allows establishments and professionals to showcase their expertise, take part in a collective and multi-disciplinary dynamic, and offers the opportunity to analyse professional practices and global health issues.

Hospitals (CH) and university hospitals (CHU) provide a wide range of services, and hospital expertise is required in many areas (surgical and obstetric medicine, oncology, infection prevention and control, mental health, emergency medicine).

France has a vast network of institutions and experts capable of providing clinical research, training, care and expertise. It is vital that we allow for the involvement of these players, both public and private, in order to match the needs identified in the countries of intervention with the expertise available.

There are a number of existing schemes that encourage the development of hospital cooperation, including the call for projects organised each year by the Directorate General for Healthcare Provision (DGOS¹) of the Ministry of Health and Prevention, intergovernmental framework agreements and inter-hospital agreements designed to facilitate the training of healthcare professionals in French university hospitals, and the hospital partnership programme managed by the French Development Agency (AFD) and implemented by the French Hospital Federation (FHF). Each year, the two schemes provide support for around a hundred hospital cooperation projects.

In particular, these hospital partnerships provide support in setting up facility projects, quality initiatives and procedural guides, as well as for staff training, the development of nursing care and facility organisation and management. Between 2011 and 2020, almost 1,681 foreign professionals were enrolled in the DFMS/A² as part of hospital cooperation schemes.

1. [International hospital cooperation – Ministry of Health and Prevention \(sante.gouv.fr\)](https://www.sante.gouv.fr)

2. DFMS/A: Diplôme de formation médicale spécialisée / approfondie (2-year diploma in specialised / in-depth medical training). These professionals are either currently undergoing specialised medical training in their country (DFMS - 1 to 3 years), or hold a specialised diploma allowing them to practise this specialised discipline in their country (DFMSA - 6 months to 1 year). University hospital training for part of a DES/ DESC and award of a national diploma recognised in the country of origin.

FOCUS AREA NO. 4:

Promote gender equality within human resources in healthcare, by fighting against pay inequalities and gender-based violence, raising awareness of the value of unpaid care, equal participation of women and men at all levels of responsibility and decent working and living conditions for all health workers.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > Systematic inclusion of a gender equality approach in bilateral and multilateral projects and initiatives.
- > Support for the Gender Equal Health and Care Workforce Initiative launched in 2021 at the Generation Equality Forum by France, the WHO and the NGO Women in Global Health.



Raising awareness about family planning © Expertise France/Anna Surinyach

4.2. Priority 2: Promoting people's health and well-being; preventing and combating disease at all stages of life

The WHO defines health as 'a state of physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity'. As a result, health needs to be considered in its entirety, and the notion of well-being must be taken into account at every stage of life. This vision is also supported by the EU in its global health strategy.

Health-promoting initiatives are based on concerted action and the coordination of all public policies to encourage both the development of positive behaviours and the creation of environments conducive to health. These initiatives are designed to empower people to take control of their own health, and aim to help them take ownership of health promotion, prevention and education tools.

Preventive actions can be taken to prevent health problems from occurring in the first place (primary prevention), or to detect them early so as to avoid their degradation (secondary prevention), or to alleviate their consequences or complications (tertiary prevention).

In line with its national public health strategy, France seeks to promote, in its international action, the implementation of public policies which encourage effective interventions centred on the individual and his or her environment, to act on both health determinants and risk factors which may be individual or collective, environmental, social or economic.

Provided that social inequalities in health are the product of cumulative inequalities present throughout life, depending on the conditions in which individuals are born, grow up, live, work and age. These inequalities hinder access to health services.

Health promotion and prevention will therefore be at the forefront of French initiatives, in particular by prioritising health-promoting behaviours, acting on the determinants of health, living conditions and the environment, developing prevention initiatives and providing support at every stage of life. France's national and international prevention initiatives will be wide-reaching and complementary.

4.2.1. Specific Objective 1 (SO1): To support prevention and promotion programmes for health and well-being, focusing on the determinants of health

Programmes to prevent communicable and non-communicable diseases and to promote health-positive behaviours concern particularly diet and nutrition, physical activity, vaccination, addiction prevention, the development of psychosocial skills, health education and comprehensive sex education. These programmes help to change social attitudes towards people's sexual orientation, age, disability or gender identity, as well as towards people living with HIV and other diseases, and to prevent violent behaviour, particularly sexual violence, towards girls and women.

Communities have an essential role to play in implementing these policies. In this regard, France is promoting an intersectoral and participatory approach to health promotion, with individuals and communities at the heart of the system.

France supports initiatives that systematically take into account the determinants of health linked to the environment, in particular those linked to pollution, the threats posed by the loss of biodiversity and climate change, and access to drinking water.

Generally speaking, it seems that the sustainability of healthcare systems relies on our efforts to strengthen prevention-related aspects in a community-based approach and to drive operational research in prevention within the behavioural, human and social sciences. France therefore intends to promote this shift towards prevention in the multilateral fora in which it participates and systematically in the bilateral partnerships that may be forged, just as it will endeavour to encourage and support research projects dealing specifically with this issue of prevention, from the validation of practices to innovation in the field.

In this respect, France will give priority to the following areas:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To support programmes promoting healthy behaviours, via ‘health taxes’ on harmful products (sugar, tobacco, alcohol, petroleum products, etc.), health education and therapeutic education programmes, particularly via information, health promotion in schools and programmes to support literacy, including digital literacy, in all teaching programmes and health and paramedical programmes.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To promote and improve France’s tax incentive approach, influencing behaviour and market mechanisms: neutral cigarette packaging, ‘health taxes’ on tobacco, alcohol and sugar, taxes on polluting products, etc.
- > Actions to raise awareness of health-promoting practices and behaviours among the general public, in schools, communities or patient groups, etc.

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To support health-promoting initiatives by strengthening community networks and approaches, developing interdisciplinary approaches to prevention, including animal and

ecosystem health, and involving local communities.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > Capacity building and screening, diagnosis and surveillance tools.
- > To promote and strengthen preventive actions and programmes, in particular by supporting community organisations capable of reaching out to populations to provide prevention and raise awareness of health-promoting behaviours (rural areas, hard-to-reach populations, key populations, etc.)

FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To take action on the double nutritional burden (under-nutrition, overweight and obesity) by strengthening commitments to nutrition and its various determinants, in particular among young children and pregnant and breastfeeding women.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To promote and enhance the incentive-information approach developed by France, with the example of the neutral cigarette pack and the Nutri-Score.
- > To continue to implement France’s international strategy for food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture 2019–2024.
- > To support the dissemination of the Committee on World Food Security’s voluntary guidelines on food systems and nutrition.
- > Organisation of the next ‘Nutrition For Growth’ summit, in conjunction with the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.
- > To support bilateral projects such as the NutriZaza project in Madagascar²⁶.
- > To support the implementation of the Scaling-Up Nutrition (SUN) 3.0 strategy²⁷.

26. [AFD project](#)

27. scalingupnutrition.org

FOCUS AREA NO. 4:

To act on the environmental determinants of health (pollution, biodiversity) as part of a preventive approach and by helping to improve knowledge.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > Involvement and advocacy in international bodies and forums: One Planet Summit, One Ocean

Summit, One Forest Summit, One Sustainable Health Forum, Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health (ATACH) supported by the WHO.

- > To support zero-carbon projects and programmes that are resilient to the consequences of climate change.



FOCUS ON:
Focus on the international strategy for food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture 2019–2024

In 2019, France adopted its international strategy for food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture, which runs until 2024. Of the five areas identified, the third is entirely devoted to promoting nutrition.

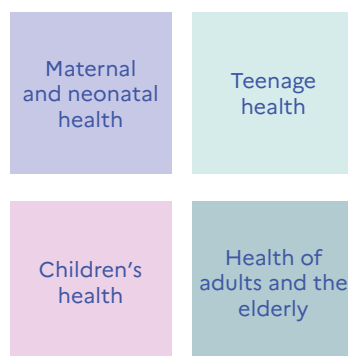
France intends to combat malnutrition using a holistic, multi-sectoral and multi-actor approach, giving priority to undernutrition and the crucial period of the first 1,000 days of infant life (from fertilisation to the age of two). This approach is based on UNICEF's conceptual framework for nutrition, which identifies all the direct and indirect causes that impact a population's nutrition levels.

The strategy's other key areas of action include:

- strengthening global governance of food security and nutrition
- supporting the development of sustainable agricultural and food systems, in particular through the promotion of agro-ecological practices
- supporting the development of sustainable agricultural and food sectors and encouraging the creation of decent jobs in rural areas, particularly for young people
- strengthening food aid for vulnerable populations and improving their resilience, in particular through the programmed food aid scheme (AAP) piloted by the MEAE.

4.2.2. Specific Objective 2 (SO2): Participate in the development of healthcare pathways that encourage the delivery of comprehensive health service to all portions of the population, at every stage of life

To meet the specific health needs of everyone, including the most vulnerable populations, and to help reduce inequalities in health, France's actions focus on guaranteeing a continuum of care at all stages of life:



Maternal, newborn and child health

Despite the progress made between 2000 and 2020, an average of 800 women still die every day during pregnancy or childbirth, i.e. one woman every two minutes²⁸. The latest data shows a worrying decline in women's health. This is also the case for the health of children and adolescents: it is estimated that more than 5 million children under the age of 5, as well as 2.1 million children and young people aged between 5 and 24–43% of whom are adolescents–died in 2021 worldwide. Yet all these deaths are usually avoidable, and the causes are well identified, starting with inequalities in access to healthcare. As a result, targeted programmes linking health services and social protection need to be put in place to advance health equity.

28. [United Nations Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter-Agency Group \(MMEIG\), report 'Trends in maternal mortality 2000 to 2020', 2023](#)

FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE: GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, was set up in 2000 to improve access to vaccination in the poorest countries. With its strong negotiating power, the organisation is able to obtain vaccines at affordable prices. In recent years, Gavi has also been developing a new approach to encourage regional vaccine production on the African continent, to meet the continent's vaccine needs.

France has been supporting Gavi since 2004 and is its 6th largest contributor. It renewed its support at the World Vaccine Summit in June 2020, announcing a historic contribution to meeting global challenges: €500 million has been committed for the 2021–2025 cycle.

Through Gavi, France is participating in a multilateral effort to prevent infectious diseases, improve child health and strengthen health systems, while respecting human rights, gender equality and equity in health. Gavi played a decisive role in the COVID-19 crisis and intends to consolidate its place in the new global health architecture.

Created in 2006, IFFIm is an innovative financing mechanism attached to Gavi, enabling funds to be raised on the financial markets by issuing vaccine bonds guaranteed in the long term by the commitments of the contributing countries. It responds to a strong need for investment to widen access to vaccines in developing countries. France's total commitment to IFFIm amounts to €1.39 billion over the period 2007–2026, making it the 2nd largest contributor.



Teenage health, including access to sexual and reproductive health services

Sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) are one of the priorities of France's external action. This is reflected in the publication of an international strategy on sexual and reproductive health and rights 2023/2027, as well as in France's commitment to the Generation Equality Forum's 'Action Coalition for Bodily Autonomy and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights'.

Ensuring that adolescents, young people and women have access to sexual and reproductive health information, products and care helps to eliminate the vulnerabilities they face and promotes gender equality. Sexual and reproductive health services must therefore be fully integrated into health systems and form part of the minimum package of care, including in emergency situations.

Particular attention must also be paid to preventing and reducing addictive behaviour among children, teenagers and young adults.



FOCUS ON:

France's international strategy on sexual and reproductive health and rights

At the heart of conversations surrounding human rights and individual freedoms, gender equality, the sustainable development of societies, and public health, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) have been an important issue for France for many years.

In 2021, France, as co-leader of the Generation Equality Forum's action coalition on bodily autonomy and SRHR, has made several commitments in this area: 400 million euros devoted to SRHR over the five years of the Forum (2021–2025), through various programmes, including €50 million a year in funding invested in these issues by the AFD; its support for the UNFPA Supplies programme or the ODAS Centre (Organisation for Dialogue on Safe Abortion) to guarantee access to safe abortion in West Africa.

In 2023, France launched its new International Strategy on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (2023–2027). It reiterates France's commitment within a current context marked by crises and conservatism that risk infringing these rights. It guides France's action to help women gain access to their sexual and reproductive rights.

The strategy covers 6 thematic priorities: access to safe abortion, access to quality sexual and reproductive health services and products; the fight against sexual and gender-based violence; driving social and behavioural change through comprehensive sexuality education and actions to transform masculinities; equality and access to rights for LGBT+ people, and the defence of sexual and reproductive health and rights in times of crisis.

Combating non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and promoting mental health

Better prevention and management of non-communicable diseases are needed to adapt to the epidemiological shifts affecting several regions of the world. The emergence of global issues such as multiple forms of malnutrition (obesity and undernutrition), diabetes, hypertension, cancers and the deterioration of mental health means that public health policies need to adapt in response to the growing burden of non-communicable diseases, the morbidity and mortality of which are on the rise in most countries.

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the risks of mental health deterioration and also highlighted the inadequacy of public policies for mental health prevention and promotion.

The European Commission's recent communication (7 June 2023) on a global approach to mental health reiterates the need to integrate health into all policies. In this respect, France intends to further facilitate the multisectoral approach of the EU's mental health strategy, by working effectively alongside the WHO and as part of the annual Global Mental Health Summit, in particular that of October 2023 in Argentina entitled 'Mental Health in All Policies'.

France will give priority to the following areas:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To promote maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health by improving the integrated approach to healthcare paths while strengthening community-based health systems.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To support the French Muskoka Fund (FFM).

- > Bilateral projects, such as the 'Health Voucher' project in Cameroon²⁹.

- > Ensure that the needs of women, children and adolescents are adequately taken into account in all health projects and initiatives supported by France.

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To improve access to sexual and reproductive health services, including for HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), particularly for adolescent boys and girls, by promoting comprehensive sexual education and the availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality of comprehensive abortion and contraceptive services and the management of conditions affecting sexual health, and by promoting the integration of sexual and reproductive health services into primary health care.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > Development of multi-stakeholder initiatives and projects such as the Team Europe Initiative on SRHR in sub-Saharan Africa.
- > Contribution to the Global Fund for Survivors of Conflict-related Sexual Violence, in particular to build capacity and provide comprehensive care.
- > To support bilateral projects such as the SANSAS project in Senegal³⁰.
- > To support research programmes: QUARITE, Quali-Dec³¹ and Makasi³².

29. [AFD project](#)

30. [SANSAS, Solthis/AFD project](#)

31. [qualidec.com](#)

32. [Makasi, empowerment project](#)

FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE: The French Muskoka Fund

The French Muskoka Fund (FFM) has been operating in West and Central Africa since 2011 to accelerate the reduction of maternal and child mortality rates and improve reproductive, sexual, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health and nutrition. It represents an emblematic commitment in French diplomacy to improve the health and well-being of women and children in the sub-region and recognise their rights.

Thanks to funding from France, this innovative mechanism for coordination, technical support and implementation at regional and national level brings together the complementary mandates and distinct comparative advantages of: WHO, UN Women, UNFPA and UNICEF. The FFM is currently designed as an operating model that allows for better coordination of regional and national strategies, more harmonised technical support for countries and the procurement of partners and funds for the reproductive, sexual, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health and nutrition in nine countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo).

Over the past 12 years, France has invested more than €170 million through the FFM for operations on the ground, in conjunction with local authorities and communities, organised around four main themes:

1. Maternal, newborn and child health and family planning
2. Sexual and reproductive health of young people and adolescents
3. Strengthening health systems
4. Nutrition

However, the various economic, health, humanitarian and environmental crises are jeopardising the progress made. The COVID-19 pandemic has also had an indirect impact on children's health, disrupting vaccination campaigns, nutrition services and access to primary healthcare. In July 2021, at the Generation Equality Forum, France reiterated its political, technical and financial support for the FFM up to 2026 (included), to the tune of €10 million a year. In May 2023, the G7 reaffirmed its support for the FFM and its actions to promote the health of women, mothers and children.



FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To step up the fight against non-communicable diseases (NCDs), by prioritising preventive action and developing a multi-sectoral approach to care, taking into account genetic, epigenetic, physiological, environmental, behavioural and economic factors.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To support the WHO's work and initiatives as part of the Global Action Plan to combat NCDs and the activities of the WHO's regional offices.
- > To support research programmes (AIR-QUALI-4-ASMAFRI, IARC, etc.).
- > To integrate NCD components more systematically into infectious disease programmes, in connection with comorbidities and also ageing, due to the fact that people are living longer, as seen in the 'HIV-ageing together' programme³³.

FOCUS AREA NO. 4:

To take a global, cross-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary approach to mental health, incorporating a mental health component into programmes and initiatives, and responding to the specific needs of the most vulnerable groups, such as young people, migrants, isolated women, people in precarious socio-economic situations and people with disabilities.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > Inclusion of mental health components in global health, humanitarian and development programmes.
- > To advocate for mental health to be given higher priority status on the international agenda, in particular through participation in the Alliance of Champions for Mental Health and Wellbeing or the Global Mental Health Summit.

- > To support WHO programmes and initiatives, in particular via the WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mental Health at the Lille Métropole Public Mental Health Establishment (EPSM).

- > Support for bilateral projects such as the AFD Group's 'Mental Health and Community Psychosocial Support' projects in Lebanon³⁴ or Expertise France (EF) projects to improve the management of mental disorders in Algeria and Burkina Faso³⁵.

4.2.3. Specific objective (SO3): To continue and step up the fight against infectious diseases

Partly as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the progress made over the last 20 years in the fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, polio, emerging diseases and neglected tropical diseases has been reversed.

The fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, coronaviruses and future pandemics is one and the same global health battle, and France remains committed to it through its involvement in the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund), Unitaïd, Gavi and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI).

Following the example of the 'emerging infectious diseases (EID) and nuclear, radiological, biological and chemical (NRBC) threats' national acceleration strategy, we need to improve our international strategies against communicable diseases by integrating the 'One Health' approach to take into account the factors that influence the conditions and pace of emergence. Growing challenges such as the effects of climate change and antimicrobial resistance, which threaten the health of millions of people around the world, must be given greater consideration.

33. [Project by Institut Bouisson Bertrand/L'Initiative](#)

34. [AFD project](#)

35. [EF projects in Algeria and Burkina Faso/MSP](#)

These efforts must be part of a drive to strengthen healthcare systems and promote equal access to services and treatments.

Finally, neglected tropical diseases (NTDs)³⁶ are the subject of a dedicated 2021–2030 WHO roadmap³⁷, which defines our goals regarding the monitoring, elimination and eradication of these diseases at national, regional and continental levels. Neglected tropical diseases affect more than 1 billion people worldwide.

For this specific objective, France will give priority to the following areas:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To improve infectious disease prevention and care initiatives and make them accessible to all, by involving local populations in a community-based approach, particularly through multilateral health initiatives.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To pursue actions at multilateral level in funds such as the Global Fund, Unitaïd, Gavi, the IMEP, etc.³⁸
- > To support preventive actions and programmes such as vaccination, PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis), step up preventive treatment against tuberculosis among the most at-risk populations, improve hygiene conditions, promote use of insecticide-treated mosquito nets, etc.
- > To improve the complementarity of bilateral and multilateral approaches, based on the Expertise France Initiative.

FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE: Multilateral action to combat major pandemics

In its commitment to the fight against communicable diseases, France has opted for multilateralism, investing in particular in the Global Fund, Unitaïd, Gavi, and more recently the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

France plays an important political and financial role within these organisations to promote access to healthcare products among the most vulnerable populations. France is the second largest long-standing contributor and the largest European donor to the Global Fund, donating more than €6.2 billion between 2002 and 2023, and the largest funder of Unitaïd, donating more than €2 billion since 2006. These commitments have enabled France to contribute to the strategic development of these organisations, by promoting greater cross-functionality and an approach that will ensure the sustainable improvement of health systems.

Because the work carried out by the Global Fund and Unitaïd is complementary—the former promoting the scaling up of the latter’s investments—the President of the French Republic described France’s commitments to the two organisations as indissociable at the Global Fund’s 7th Replenishment Conference in New York in September 2022. He also called for a ‘joint replenishment’ in 2025.



36. [List of the 20 NTDs](#)

37. [Roadmap for Neglected Tropical Diseases 2021–2030](#), WHO, 2021

38. [Global Polio Eradication Initiative \(GPEI\)](#)

- > To support community-based research projects to assess the acceptability and allow for the upscaling of interventions targeting at-risk populations: ATLAS projects (Self-testing: 'Libre de connaître son statut VIH'– Solthis/IRD), CORAFMOB (Community projects and socio-sanitary issues relating to COVID-19– Sénégal, Burkina Faso - IRD), DRIVE (Drug Users in Vietnam– ANRS | MIE), CohMSM (**HIV prevention and care**– West Africa– ANRS | MIE), PrEP FEMMES (deployment of PrEP for and in collaboration with sex workers, trans women and the sexual partners of intravenous drug users– Morocco, Mali, Mauritius– Coalition PLUS).
- > Involvement in the various projects being carried out at EU level (keeping the subject on the agenda of the Council of the European Union in conjunction with the various presidencies, priority given to HERA, EU4Health and Horizon Europe funding, TEI health security in Africa with the One Health approach, etc.).
- > To make antibiotic resistance a priority in the international *agreement on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response*⁴¹.
- > To support related research programmes, such as: CIRCUS (Circulation of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in humans, animals and the environment–Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar–CIRAD), RAMSES (Circulation of antibiotics in drug markets–Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Cambodia–CIRAD, INRAE, IRD)
- > To continue bilateral cooperation activities developed as part of national projects.

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To strengthen efforts to combat antimicrobial resistance, by promoting the 'One Health' approach, through multi-disciplinary action and by advocating the cautious and responsible use of antimicrobials (in particular antibiotics) and measures to prevent and control infections.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To support the implementation of the WHO Global Action Plan to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance, in conjunction with the actions of the Quadripartite Alliance and national initiatives such as the Interministerial Roadmap for the Control of Antimicrobial Resistance³⁹ and the 2022–2025 National Strategy for the prevention of infections and antimicrobial resistance in human health⁴⁰.

FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To help in the search for new practical responses to neglected tropical diseases.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To pursue bilateral actions such as the partnership between the AFD and the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi).
- > To support related research programmes, such as Trypa-NO! (Surveillance, screening and vector control of sleeping sickness–IRD)

39. [Interministerial roadmap for controlling antibiotic resistance](#) (currently being updated)

40. [Stratégie nationale 2022-2025 de prévention des infections et de l'antibiorésistance en santé humaine](#)

41. [Pandemic prevention, preparedness and response accord](#), WHO

4.3. Priority 3: **Driving better anticipation, prevention, preparation and response to public health emergencies and climate change, as part of the 'One Health' approach**

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the difficulties faced by the international community when forced to deal with a large-scale health crisis. The rapid spread of the pandemic took the whole world by surprise, highlighting the vulnerability of countries and their health systems. And yet we know what needs to be done: we must improve national, regional and international capacities for anticipating, preventing, detecting, preparing for and responding to health crises in a coordinated manner.

A collective effort to better anticipate, prevent, prepare for and respond to public health emergencies is needed to meet the following challenges:

- prevention, by identifying and anticipating the consequences of environmental degradation (climate change and loss of biodiversity)
- strengthening health systems, including early detection, surveillance and data sharing capacities, regulation, and strengthening human resources in human and animal health
- increasing national and regional public health institutes capacities institutes and disease control centres
- securing access to healthcare products and upstream preparation, including transdisciplinary mobilisation of research, to guarantee an effective and efficient response by drawing lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic
- securing supply chains and developing production capacity for diagnostic, therapeutic and vaccine tools in developing countries

The 'One Health' approach must be applied across the board to all actions taken in the field of pandemic prevention, preparedness and response (PPPR), in order to shift our anthropocentric perspective to a more holistic vision encompassing animal health and the environment.

The European Union, which played a leading role in the response to the COVID-19 crisis, has taken full account of the issues and challenges associated with pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, by devoting its guiding principles No. 7 (strengthen PPPR and early detection capacities), No. 8 (work towards a permanent global system that promotes the development of, and equal access to, vaccines and countermeasures) and No. 9 (negotiate an effective and legally binding agreement on the pandemic, based on the 'One Health' approach and reinforced International Health Regulations (IHR))⁴².

From the outset of the COVID-19 crisis, France has been involved in the discussions and efforts undertaken at global level for PPPR, at several levels:

- a. **In terms of standards**, with the negotiation of a future international agreement on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response and the revision of the International Health Regulations (IHR).
- b. To promote **equal access**, in particular through the continuation of the 'Access to Covid-19 Tools Accelerator' (ACT-A) initiative, designed to accelerate the development, production and equitable and universal access to treatments, tests, diagnosis and vaccines against Covid-19, while supporting health systems and the new medical countermeasures platform.
- c. By contributing to the **financing of** pandemic prevention, preparedness and response (PPPR), via the the Financial Intermediary Fund for Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response (Pandemic Fund), hosted by the World Bank.

42. [EU global health strategy](#), 2022



FOCUS ON: International 'One Health' initiatives

The Quadripartite Alliance and the 'One Health' High-Level Expert Panel

The Quadripartite Alliance—which involves the World Health Organisation (WHO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)—integrates the 'One Health' approach to better anticipate prevention, detection, preparedness and response to global health threats and promote sustainable development. In October 2022, the Quadripartite Alliance launched its joint 'One Health' Action Plan for the period 2022–2026¹.

In 2021, it launched the creation of the One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP), made up of 26 international multidisciplinary experts, tasked with formulating scientific and policy recommendations on PPPR in the face of emerging health crises arising from human-animal-environment interactions and informing the public about the issues at hand. In December 2021, the OHHLEP's initial work resulted in a definition of the 'One Health' approach, which is used as a guiding principle for this strategy.

The PREZODE initiative (Preventing Zoonotic Disease Emergence)

It is against this backdrop that the international PREZODE initiative has been launched, at the instigation of French President Emmanuel Macron, as part of the One Planet Summit in January 2021. PREZODE promotes prevention (before humans are contaminated), early detection and surveillance to reduce the risk of emerging infectious diseases of animal origin. To achieve this, PREZODE aims to encourage multilateral collaboration within and between countries, to develop a research framework, and to promote dialogue between the various existing initiatives on the subject. In May 2023, the PREZODE community² had over 200 signatory members (governments, academic networks, research institutes, international organisations, civil society, private sector, etc.), including 20 participating governments.

The One Sustainable Health for All Forum

Created on September 1st, 2020 in Lyon, the One Sustainable Health for all (OSH) Forum is a civil society initiative launched in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It brings together more than 30 foundations, research institutions and civil society organisations to develop models for implementing and financing inclusive and sustainable healthcare systems, in response to the challenges of social and environmental crises.

The Forum encourages dialogue between health professionals (human and animal health) and environmental professionals (climate/biodiversity), with the aim of collectively tackling health, environmental and social challenges. The aim of the OSH Forum is to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs through an operational approach that encourages the implementation of innovative projects relating to human, animal and environmental health.



1. [One Health Joint Plan of Action \(2022 - 2026\)](#)

2. [prezode.org](https://www.prezode.org)

4.3.1. Specific objective (SO1): Focusing on prevention and surveillance as part of the 'One Health' approach

In view of the gaps in prevention and surveillance, and the prospect of future pandemics, it is essential that all countries are in a position to prevent, prepare and respond, prevent and respond to future health crises.

We must ensure the availability of monitoring and surveillance tools and systems that can anticipate and share knowledge on the risks of the emergence and spread of pathogens, particularly zoonotic pathogens, which account for almost 75% of emerging and endemic infectious diseases. The links between human health, animal health and the environment are well established. As a result, the 'One Health' approach now seems unavoidable, and requires a broader perspective to take account of the impact of animal and environmental health on human health, which is not limited to infectious risks.

We must plan interventions to mitigate risks and reduce as far as possible the development of emergence and propagation phenomena caused by human-animal-ecosystem interactions. In this respect, the sharing of knowledge on risks must be achieved by strengthening collaboration between public decision-makers, research stakeholders and the academic world. Training in public health and epidemiology for intervention in surveillance and response systems is also a key element.

France recognises antimicrobial resistance as one of the ten greatest global threats to public health, and is fully in line with the WHO's warnings and the EU's recommendations⁴³. Antimicrobial resistance includes bacterial resistance to antibiotics (antibiotic resistance), fungal resistance to antifungals, viral resistance to antivirals and parasite resistance to

antiparasitic. Bacterial resistance to antibiotics is a major threat worldwide. It would seem necessary to promote both the proper use of antimicrobials and the prevention and control of infections, whether bacterial or viral, healthcare-associated or community-acquired, in order to combat antibiotic resistance—and more broadly to improve the health of populations, animals and ecosystems.

Considering that the prevention and surveillance of the risks of the emergence and spread of pandemics must be at the heart of health policies, France intends to help strengthen the operational capacities of countries, within a multisectoral and multidisciplinary framework, while adapting to specific local circumstances, by focusing on the following areas of intervention:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To prevent and control the emergence and spread of zoonoses and improve the monitoring and elimination of existing zoonoses, in particular by improving surveillance of farm animal and wildlife health and ecosystem management and data collection.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To support international projects and initiatives such as the Quadripartite Alliance, PREZODE, the 'One Health' High-Level Expert Panel and the DURABLE project⁴⁴.
- > To actively participate in the negotiations for an international agreement on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response and the revision of the International Health Regulations (IHR).
- > Support for bilateral and multilateral projects and initiatives aimed at improving surveillance capacities, such as the International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI), the Team Europe Initiative

43. [The EU adopted a recommendation at the EPSCO Council meeting on 13 June identifying AMR as one of the three main priority health threats](#)

44. [Institut Pasteur / EU project](#)

for public health institutes, the One Health approach to health security, projects financed by the Pandemic Fund, Pasteur Network, the Segal One Health Network⁴⁵, etc.

> Support for the AFROSCREEN genomic surveillance project in 13 sub-Saharan African countries (ANRS | MIE, Institut Pasteur, IRD - financed by the AFD)⁴⁶.



FOCUS ON: The International Agreement on Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response and the International Health Regulations

The World Health Assembly of December 1st, 2021 established an intergovernmental negotiating body (INB) opened to all Member States and Associate Members to draft and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, to be adopted at the World Health Assembly in May 2024.

In order to draw lessons from the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, this new international agreement aims to achieve more equitable management of health emergencies by establishing mechanisms to facilitate access for all countries to medical countermeasures such as diagnostic and treatment tools, or vaccines, by enabling all regions of the world to have access to local production infrastructures. For this agreement to have a real impact on the ground, it will have to take account of the links between human health, animal health and ecosystems.

To meet these objectives, France is fully involved in the INB negotiations and is giving priority to the following principles:

- Equity and transparency as the cornerstone of this new instrument
- an ambitious 'One Health' approach
- working towards stronger and more resilient health systems in the face of future pandemics
- strengthening local and regional production capacities for medical and non-medical countermeasures and ensuring equal access to them
- proper consideration of the cross-cutting effects of pandemics beyond health, transparency and accountability in decision-making and implementation based on scientific evidence and knowledge

At the same time, France is also involved in the efforts to revise the International Health Regulations (2005), launched at the 75th session of the World Health Assembly, a key text for the international health security system. Among other things, this review will allow for:

- the creation of a regional alert level and an intermediate level, in addition to the maximum alert level public health emergency of international concern)
- the improvement of regional cooperation by strengthening actions taken at regional level in crisis preparedness and management
- the reinforcement of its implementation and compliance with its obligations.

45. [AFD / EU project](#)

46. afroscreen.org

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To improve early risk detection at source at community level through training, recognition and integration into health systems.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To support international projects and initiatives such as ZODIAC (Zoonotic Disease Integrated Action), an initiative led by the International Atomic Energy Agency aimed at improving surveillance in public health and animal health laboratories.
- > To support inter-laboratory collaboration in human and animal health.
- > Bilateral projects such as the EBO-SURSY project, coordinated by the WOAH in partnership with the CIRAD, Institut Pasteur and the IRD, which aims to strengthen surveillance mechanisms, including community-based initiatives, in the fight against haemorrhagic fever diseases in 10 West and Central African countries⁴⁷.

FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To support the construction of interoperable databases, common standards and harmonised regulatory frameworks, encouraging the sharing of data in a spirit of equity and transparency.

FOCUS AREA NO. 4:

To raise awareness of these issues among the general public and ensure that the 'One Health' approach is incorporated into the training of healthcare professionals, whether in the fields of human health, animal health or environmental expertise, by promoting the development of joint training courses.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To support projects financed by the Pandemic Fund (focused on strengthening human resources) and the PREZODE initiative.
- > To support training programmes within the WHO Academy and other training courses in public health and epidemiology.



FOCUS ON: The Pandemic Fund

The Pandemic Fund is a fund hosted by the World Bank. It was set up to meet the need for pandemic preparedness, prevention and response, with a budget estimated at 10.5 billion US dollars a year by the WHO and the World Bank.

The Fund aims to finance prevention, preparedness and response to future pandemics and to remedy shortcomings in the financing of healthcare systems.

The Fund issues regular calls for proposals, issued by a single country, a multi-country coalition, a regional initiative or an implementing entity, in order to ensure that the needs of the ultimate beneficiaries of the funds are taken into account. They choose the implementing entities with which they want to bring the project to fruition.

The first call for proposals of the Pandemic Fund, launched in March 2023, has been allocated 300 million US dollars. It focused on (i) laboratory capacity, (ii) strengthening human resources in health, and (iii) surveillance and early warning capacity.

France is a donor to the Pandemic Fund, sits on its Board and lobbies for funds to be allocated to the sustainable strengthening of health systems and risk prevention.

47. [WOAH Project](#)

4.3.2. Specific Objective 2 (SO2): To prepare equitable and effective response by strengthening inclusive emergency preparedness and financing mechanisms at global and country level

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown the urgent need to be collectively prepared for a health crisis to ensure an equitable and united global response.

By 'preparation', we mean all the actions taken upstream to plan all the resources needed to deliver an effective response in the event of an emergency, the carrying out of exercises to ensure their operability and the training of the teams called upon in the event of an emergency. This includes building capacity and resources at community, national, regional and global levels to prevent, detect, contain and respond to the spread of the disease, and to mitigate its economic and social impact.

Preparedness measures must be integrated into strong health systems, with a view to strengthening them and improving access to health services. This preparation must also take into account the bond of trust that needs to be created with the population as part of a pan-societal and community-based approach, in order to facilitate the deployment of medical countermeasures and their acceptability.

The safe and effective availability of medical countermeasures is also a major challenge. There is a worldwide consensus on the need for a permanent medical countermeasure' platform. This is the focus of the discussions currently underway as part of the continuation of the ACT-A initiative⁴⁸, aimed at accelerating the development, production and equitable and universal access to treatments, tests, diagnosis and vaccines against COVID-19, while strengthening health systems. In the light of the ACT-A final evaluation report published in 2022 and the lessons

learned from the existence of this system, discussions should lead to the establishment of a permanent platform.

The pandemic has also revealed the need to encourage a regional approach to guarantee greater sovereignty for countries over the systems put in place. With this in mind, France has supported regional initiatives to provide access to vaccines, such as the African Union's African Vaccine Acquisition Trust (AVAT) initiative and the platforms set up by regional development banks, as seen in Latin America.

Finally, as part of negotiations on the adoption of an international agreement on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response and the revision of the International Health Regulations (IHR), France's international and European position aims to strengthen the global health architecture and global health governance, as also supported by the European Commission in its strategy.

With this in mind, France will give priority to the following areas:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To prepare and facilitate access to medical countermeasures by promoting the establishment of a dedicated platform, the development of partnerships with regional institutions and production hubs, and by anticipating the deployment of efficient and flexible supply chains

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To participate in negotiations for a platform providing equitable access to medical countermeasures in the event of a crisis within the various discussion bodies (WHO, G7, G20).
- > To participate in the governance of European Commission's DG HERA which, through its international component, ensures collaboration

48. Initiative launched at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in April 2020 by France, the European Commission, the WHO, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and multilateral funds (such as the Global Fund, Gavi and Unitaïd), which has raised 23.5 billion US dollars. French support has taken the form of multilateral and bilateral contributions totalling €1.16 billion in commitments

with global partners to address bottlenecks in the international supply chain, remove unnecessary restrictions and increase global production capacity.

- > To support projects aimed at developing production capacity in developing countries, particularly in Africa.
- > To coordinate, through ANRS | MIE, the European *Be Ready* Programme (Building a European Strategic Research and innovation Agenda), in direct synergy with other EU and international initiatives for pandemic preparedness.

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To promote the adaptability and flexibility of health systems in the event of a health crisis, particularly at community level, with the aim of improving the identification and referencing of health centres to enable them to care for large numbers of patients in emergency situations while continuing to provide essential care.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To contribute to the Pandemic Fund and participate in its governance, with the aim of sustainably strengthening the resilience of healthcare systems.
- > To support bilateral projects such as: HOSPICOVID research project, AFD-supported programmes to train field epidemiologists.
- > To participate in the WHO's Global Health Digital Certification Network (GHDCN), which enables mutual recognition of certificates (for tests and vaccines).

FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To participate in the development of emergency response mechanisms at regional level.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To support and participate in initiatives such as the European and African CDCs, the Global Outbreak Network, the EU Task Force, etc.

FOCUS AREA NO. 4:

To organise PPPR financing via international and interregional partnerships.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To contribute to the Pandemic Fund to ensure effective emergency responses.
- > Support bilateral and European projects such as Ecomore (combating emerging diseases in South-East Asia)⁴⁹.
- > To participate in G20 negotiations on the subject.

4.3.3. Specific Objective 3 (SO3): Ensuring a coordinated and effective response

Once anticipation, prevention and preparation have been ensured, the response must be rapid and effective to guarantee the population is protected. This phase, which takes place immediately after the onset of a health crisis and involves the actions taken to reduce its health, economic and social impact, should encourage decentralised, coordinated responses tailored to the specific needs of each region and country. To achieve this, community work that closely involves local populations is a key part of the response and must be recognised as such.

France is involved in the work on revising the International Health Regulations (IHR) and negotiating the international agreement on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, launched at the 75th session of the World Health Assembly. This revision should allow for the creation of a regional alert and intermediate alert level and help

49. [Réseau Pasteur / IRD / AFD project](#)

to improve regional cooperation and strengthen the implementation of and compliance with IHR obligations.

For this specific objective, France will give priority to the following areas:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To strengthen coordination and governance mechanisms for managing responses to health crises, including emergency funding.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To participate in both the negotiations to revise the IHR and elaborate an international agreement on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response.
- > To improve multilateral crisis management governance in Geneva and New York.
- > To participate in the 2023 United Nations High-Level Meeting on PPPR and in the follow-up to the commitments made by the United Nations General Assembly

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To organise the research, production and equitable distribution of medical countermeasures, taking care to reach the most remote populations.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To implement French emergency and humanitarian aid mechanisms, such as the CDCS, the emergency fund, etc.
- > Activation of the future medical countermeasures' platform.
- > Bilateral projects to strengthen local production capacity for health products, for example in Senegal.

FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To support the implementation of emergency communication and information-sharing mechanisms at national, regional and international levels and for the general public.



FOCUS ON: Health and humanitarian aid

According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), over 76% of the world's poorest populations live in high-risk environments. Conflicts, crises and disasters prevent people and communities from accessing quality health services and delay progress towards universal health coverage.

Current conflicts and humanitarian disasters, such as those in Ukraine, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Somalia and Yemen, are slowing down the progress made at the beginning of the century and are generally causing a decline in physical and mental health. And the consequences of these conflicts on health—both physical and mental—are very worrying, particularly in terms of nutrition¹, access to basic services including vaccination², hygiene and, more broadly, education.

Medical staff are frequently the targets of violence and actions obstructing their efforts to provide care and carry out interventions. Although they constitute a violation of international humanitarian law, these attacks on humanitarian and medical personnel have multiplied in recent years and constitute a weapon of war. In addition to the short-term consequences for the victims, these attacks also have longer-term consequences on the viability of healthcare infrastructures in countries in conflict and on people's access to healthcare.

Health is an important part of humanitarian aid. French humanitarian action aims to provide assistance and protection to vulnerable people and to meet the basic needs of populations affected by natural disasters or conflict: access to water and sanitation, food, shelter and medical care.

France has a number of measures in place when it comes to health aid, including emergency medical assistance and the dispatch of medical supplies. These are based on interministerial coordination with the Ministry of Health and Prevention, including Santé publique France and the Assistance publique des hôpitaux de Paris (AP-HP), the Ministry of the Interior and private-sector stakeholders. France also finances French and international NGOs carrying out emergency health aid projects and participates in the emergency mobilisation of multilateral health funds to which it contributes, such as the Global Fund, in particular through its national L'Initiative programme.

France's action falls within the framework of the [consolidated guidelines for humanitarian aid in the field of health](#) which help to ensure coherence between the services of the European Commission, EU countries and other donors in the health aid sector.

1. By 2020, more than 45 million children will be suffering from acute malnutrition, according to the ['Protect the Promise' report](#)

2. In 2021, 25 million children were unvaccinated or under-vaccinated, six million more than in 2019, according to the [Unicef report 'Levels and trends in child mortality'](#) (Jan. 2023)

5. The two cross-cutting priorities of the strategy

5.1. A new global health architecture, based on the complementarity of our bilateral and multilateral action

France has chosen to make multilateralism in global health one of its principles of action. It is involved in international organisations and initiatives dedicated to global health such as the WHO, the Quadripartite Alliance, UNAIDS, the Global Fund, Gavi, Unitaid, UNFPA, UNICEF, the Global Fund for Survivors of Conflict-related Sexual Violence, and more recently the GPEI and the Pandemic Fund. France also takes part in discussions and negotiations on health issues in organisations and forums such as the G7 and G20, the OECD, the ILO, the UN General Assembly and the UN Foreign Policy and Global Health Initiative.

France is also a committed player in multilateral financial institutions, the IMF, the World Bank, regional development banks (Asian Development Bank (ADB), African Development Bank (AfDB), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), European Investment Bank (EIB), etc.) and the entire network of public development banks gathered in the Finance in Common Summit (FIAC) network.

The issues and challenges facing global health require a collective, coordinated international response based on solidarity, cooperation, transparency and science. Despite a level of cooperation never seen before in the history of global health, which enabled a rapid and united response, the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the need to reform the global health architecture.

France recognises the need to build this new global health architecture in collaboration with all stakeholders and communities in a cross-cutting and multidisciplinary approach, linking the challenges of global health to other issues such as climate change and social justice. The ambition is to build a stronger, solidarity-based international health architecture that promotes and protects the health of as many as possible. Preventing and combating pandemics and other major health emergencies must be a priority, because no government or multilateral body can deal with such threats alone.

France reiterates its commitment to the principles of the common goods for health. This refers to the goods and services that preserve and promote health to the benefit of all countries, all population groups and all generations. In fact, these must be financed and managed collectively, beyond private interests, and in favour of the common interest.

They must be adapted to take account of local contexts, the needs of local people and communities, and their knowledge and experience.

This first cross-cutting priority of the strategy aims to guarantee access to health services as a global common good and respond more effectively to the needs of countries by promoting inclusive, intersectoral and decentralised governance of global health. With this in mind, France will use the levers of its bilateral and multilateral action to consolidate its role in global health architecture.

5.1.1. Specific objective (SO1): To help boost the effectiveness and functioning of multilateralism in health

We must learn from our collective management of the COVID-19 pandemic and take the necessary steps to strengthen the multilateral health architecture, with the WHO at its centre, by promoting universal and equitable access to health services and products. This reform should empower the international community to be more responsive, effective, transparent and inclusive towards populations, communities, governments, regional institutions and other stakeholders, while meeting the need for accountability.

It also seems essential to concentrate efforts and invest as a priority in the foundations of health systems, i.e. quality, prevention, health surveillance, regulation, information, governance, human resources, infrastructures, and the availability of and access to products and services.

Finally, it is essential to take full account of new scientific data to inform decision-making. This means strengthening the dialogue between science and society.

To contribute to this ambition, France will give priority to the following areas:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To promote health democracy, equity and solidarity within international fora (such as the G7, G20, multilateral funds, financial institutions and development banks), and scientific fora (such as IPCC); and strengthen the coordination and coherence of global health policies.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To maintain a presence in global health bodies and organisations (WHO, G7, G20, Quadripartite Alliance, UN, multilateral funds, the *Diplomatie et santé* initiative, etc.).
- > To participate in the major negotiations to reform the global health architecture.

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To support WHO reforms aimed at consolidating its role as scientific coordinator and standard-setter.

FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To support cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination initiatives, such as the Quadripartite Alliance, the Global Coalition for Social Justice, the Global Accelerator for jobs and social protection, the WHO Digital Health Roadmap initiatives, etc.

FOCUS AREA NO. 4:

To advocate greater accountability of global health bodies, initiatives, funds, programmes and financing mechanisms, their performance and results, which must be shared transparently, while promoting impact assessment.

FOCUS AREA NO. 5:

To strengthen the complementarity of bilateral and multilateral global health initiatives.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To ramp up use of complementary schemes such as *L'Initiative*.

- > To provide francophone international technical expertise to governments and regional and international organisations.

- > To develop tripartite cooperation between France, international or regional organisations and third countries.

**FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE:
L'Initiative¹ a model for pooling multilateral investments
and France's bilateral actions**

Created in 2011, L'Initiative is a facility created by Expertise France to supplement the Global Fund. Its aim is to improve the effectiveness of Global Fund grants and increase their impact on health systems. Through technical assistance and projects tailored to country-specific needs, L'Initiative supports beneficiary countries at all levels, from governments to civil society organisations, including community-based organisations, as well as health workers and researchers, in order to guarantee effective pandemic responses and health systems strengthening.

As part of France's indirect contribution to the Global Fund, it receives an annual share of the French contribution to the Global Fund. The percentage dedicated to L'Initiative has risen steadily from 5% to 9% between 2011 and 2022, and will reach 20% for the 2023–2025 cycle, representing 106 million euros per year.

L'Initiative represents an innovative mechanism for consolidating bilateral cooperation with our multilateral commitment to health and, as a result, enhancing the visibility of French action.

For the 2023–2025 cycle, L'Initiative's strategy will focus on the following objectives:

- To continue to guarantee Global Fund financing to the most vulnerable countries, necessary for the sustainable strengthening of their health systems, and improve its application, particularly in French-speaking African countries.
- To strengthen HR capacities in health, such as through the training of health workers, by dedicating a substantial part of its additional resources to this area, in particular for actions that will contribute to the future WHO Academy.



1. initiative5pour100.fr

5.1.2. Specific Objective 2 (SO2): To promote the regionalisation of global health to take greater account of the needs expressed by countries and populations

To be in a better position to respond to health crises and deal with issues that go beyond national borders, many countries have created forums for consultation and dialogue at national and regional level, or intend on doing so. These structures are active in many areas of global health, including research and development, regulation, surveillance and the production of health products.

France wishes to support these initiatives, which help to reduce fragmentation and take better account of local needs. It therefore supports the growing role played by regional health governance centres and institutions.

Drawing on the wealth of its bilateral action, implemented in particular by the AFD Group, including Expertise France and Proparco, public health agencies, university hospital centres (CHU), research institutes and also non-governmental organisations and private sector players, France will continue to bring a harmonised voice to multilateral bodies, in order to seek possible leverage and catalytic effects, both at national and regional levels.

With this in mind, France will give priority to promoting the following areas of intervention:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To strengthen partnerships between regional public health bodies and institutions, such as the regional offices of the Quadripartite Alliance (WHO, WHOA, UNEP, FAO), the regional centres for disease prevention and control and the regional medicines agencies, and to develop inter- and intra-regional cooperation

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > The Health Security TEI (One Health) in support of the Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC) in

Africa, the REGPHARMA project in support of pharmaceutical regulation in Africa and the PREZODE initiative.

- > To set up partnerships with regional bodies such as the African CDC in conjunction with the European CDC.

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To strengthen the Europe teams by deploying the full potential of the Team Europe Initiatives and mechanisms and the European global health strategy

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To support European projects and initiatives such as the TEIs: SRHR, health security, digital health, local production in Africa (MAV+), support for public health institutes, etc.
- > Participate in the governance of European agencies and directorates in order to influence European choices at global level, including:
 - the European Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (HERA), to ensure closer collaboration with global partners working to anticipate threats and provide access to medical countermeasures
 - the European CDC, to strengthen international collaboration, in particular by setting up an EU Health Task Force that can be mobilised in partner countries
 - the European Medicines Agency (EMA), to strengthen international collaboration aimed in particular at monitoring and mitigating shortages of medicines and the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (ECPM)
- > To participate in the creation and deployment of the European Health Data Space.
- > To participate in joint European actions, particularly in their external dimension.

5.1.3. Specific Objective 3 (SO3): To contribute to the emergence of a shared vision of global health financing

Despite increasing steadily over the last twenty years, global health financing has shown its limitations in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic: underfunding of essential health services, a segmented approach by disease, fragmentation of players and mechanisms.

France is calling for the construction of a new framework for global health financing, to promote the coordination and effectiveness of the mechanisms in place, while working to strengthen national health systems—with priority given to national financing. Strong, inclusive governance and the transparent use of data for decision-making will increase the impact of funding and ensure that health systems are strengthened in the long term.

This ambition is part of the new Paris Agenda for People and the Planet, which aims to build a new global solidarity contract to allow vulnerable countries to access the funding they need to cope with the consequences of crises and shocks.

In its strategy, the EU aims to increase its funding for health—and its efficiency—not only from a development perspective (such as via contributions to multilateral initiatives and funds such as the Global Fund), but also from a more global approach encompassing support for the setting of international standards, health research and more sustainable international and local production of health products.

To achieve this, France will give priority to the following areas:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To promote virtuous financing models for global health that increase and sustain global and national financing, enhance efficiency and create more equitable health systems.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To promote a global taxation agenda for health, in particular a tax on airline tickets and financial transactions.
- > To promote national health-promoting tax schemes, such as taxation on carbon, tobacco, alcohol, sugar, etc.
- > To monitor the implementation of the commitments made at the Summit on a New Global Financing Pact in June 2023.
- > To support national strategies to increase national health budgets.
- > To support the sustainable financing of national and regional public health, health financing and social protection institutions.

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To contribute to better complementarity and coordination of funding mechanisms (tools of international financial institutions, development banks, multilateral funds, pandemic prevention, preparedness and response funds), as well as their transparency, effectiveness, impact and accountability.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To contribute to the financing of international programmes and initiatives such as: Global Fund, Unitaid, Gavi, IMEP.
- > To contribute to United Nations agencies (WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN Women).
- > To contribute to public development banks (multilateral banks, Pandemic Fund, AFD) through the 'Finance In Common' network (FIAC).
- > To support international networks coordinating health financing players such as *Providing for Health* (P4H) and UHC 2030.

FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To improve the visibility and transparency of France's bilateral and multilateral contributions, with a more robust accountability framework.

5.2. Make research and public and private expertise levers for the French action and influence in global health

France has a rich network of health stakeholders, including scientists, doctors, non-medical staff, researchers, humanitarian aid workers, development specialists, civil society organisations and private sector actors. Alongside the institutions, they play a full part in implementing France's global health initiatives.

The Paris Agenda for People and the Planet

Following the COVID-19 crisis, public debt reached unprecedented levels in all countries. Inflation has risen sharply and the tightening of monetary policy is generating financial volatility and reducing risk appetite. In light of this, and at the instigation of French President Emmanuel Macron, France organised the Summit on a New Global Financial Pact on 22 and 23 June 2023 to lay the foundations for a renewed international financial system and guarantee access for funding across all countries, without them having to choose between poverty reduction, the fight against climate change, health and the preservation of biodiversity.

At the end of the two days of meetings and discussions, a **Paris Agenda for People and the Planet** was signed to guarantee a zero-poverty planet setting out concrete measures to be adopted:

- allocate \$100 billion worth of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) to the most vulnerable countries and work towards establishing other mechanisms for reallocating SDRs
- invest at least \$100 billion of private funding every year for every dollar lent by multilateral development banks, in emerging and developing economies
- increase the lending capacity of multilateral development banks to \$200 billion within 10 years, by optimising their balance sheets and taking on more risk
- speed up debt suspension and treatment procedures where necessary, in particular to increase the budgetary room for manoeuvre of over-indebted countries
- ensure better coordination between all financial institutions and players in the financial sector, particularly within the FIAC network

A joint working committee has been set up to monitor this roadmap, with the participation of international and regional organisations, countries and civil society.



Training, applying, structuring and coordinating this diverse wealth of expertise is a key challenge.

This second cross-cutting priority aims to make research and expertise, both public and private, as well as training and innovation, levers for action and influence in France's global health strategy.

5.2.1. Specific Objective 1 (SO1): To promote coordination between French, Francophone and European players in global health

France is able to rely on a network of high-quality public and private actors. To make the most of this pool of talent, France needs to promote research careers, such as in fundamental science, clinical research and surveillance, as well as promote the international expertise of French public institutions such as the Haute Autorité de Santé (French National Authority for Health, HAS), the Agence Nationale de la Sécurité des Médicaments et des Produits de Santé (National Agency for the Safety of Medicines and Health Products, ANSM) and Santé Publique France (SPF). It must also work closely with its NGOs, businesses and other private sector stakeholders.

Faced with challenges in terms of the availability and mobilisation of French expertise, the use of Francophone and European expertise—in the spirit of cooperation between the Team Europe and Team Francophonie—represents a major lever.

This French, Francophone and European expertise therefore deserves to be better structured and coordinated to be even more effective, more available and more visible. To implement its strategy, France is encouraging intersectoriality and interdisciplinarity through the following areas of intervention:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To strengthen the coordination and coherence of France's global health initiatives.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To establish an interministerial council on global health and a high-level scientific council for global health.
- > To promote a coordinated 'France team' approach in partner countries.

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To encourage the development of inter-regional cooperation by calling upon French regional organisations and bodies (local authorities and overseas territories).

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To promote and support projects such as the SIT (sterile insect technique) programme in the Indian Ocean and projects initiated as part of the research programme in partnership with One Health Indian Ocean.
- > To support the European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) by hosting the 11th EDCTP Forum in Paris (November 2023).
- > To support exchanges and actions to share and capitalise on information between regional health surveillance networks, such as the Indian Ocean Commission network, the Pacific Community network, the Asian networks under the aegis of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the CARPHA Caribbean network.

FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To promote and consolidate the pool of French, European and Francophone experts (public and private) to match supply and demand, by developing the capacities and international missions of French institutions.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To structure the network of international technical experts (ETI) deployed in over 50 countries.
- > To facilitate the engagement, management and monitoring of the pool of experts from French agencies and institutions such as the HAS, SPF, the Public Health Information Service (SPIS) and PariSanté Campus.

FOCUS AREA NO. 4:

To rely on players from the private sector (for-profit and non-profit), foundations and endowment funds, and capitalising on the increased attractiveness of the French healthcare ecosystem to promote partnerships that capitalise on France's know-how, innovation and expertise.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To develop joint initiatives and projects with stakeholders in the French private sector, in particular via the "French Healthcare" association.
- > To defend and promote advocacy in favour of the activities of global health French foundations, in order to strengthen the impact of public health policies, such as the guidance of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council (ESEC) or the *One Europe for Global Health* Coalition.
- > To develop digital health with all public, private and community stakeholders (including patient associations) as part of the new digital health roadmap and its national and European governance.
- > Co-presidency of digital health governance at EU level (eHealth network) Ministerial Delegation for Digital Health.
- > To support the development, deployment and access to French and French-speaking health innovation tools.

5.2.2. Specific Objective 2 (SO2): To develop global health training and capacity-building opportunities for stakeholders

Building the capacity of human resources and infrastructures in the field of global health is a key challenge. To achieve this, we need to improve the attractiveness of French training in the fields of research, human health (medical and paramedical), animal health and ecosystems.

To meet this challenge, France needs to strengthen its initial and continuing education initiatives, to develop the 'academic field of global health', bringing together training, research and expertise.

By developing and strengthening cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary training, this objective should be aimed at both French stakeholders and foreign partners. The sharing of knowledge and know-how between French and European health and research players through training is a real resource for cooperation that France can and must capitalise on.

For this specific objective, France will give priority to the following areas:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To structure and strengthen the global health training offer in France (including digital training) and make it visible and accessible to partner countries.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To boost the involvement of international partner institutions.
- > To support the creation of partnerships with French and European stakeholders (universities, École des hautes études en santé publique (EHESP), École nationale supérieure de sécurité sociale (EN3S), network of French-speaking public health schools, research centres and institutes, NGOs, Campus France, private sector, PariSantéCampus, etc.).
- > To structure the network of French global health stakeholders (network of training institutions for instance) and make it more visible

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To strengthen global health research partnerships, better identify the research needs of stakeholders in partner countries and build their capacity (basic research, clinical research, public health research).

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To include a global health component in the future strategy for accelerating public health research

FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To develop partnerships and interdisciplinary and intersectoral training in partner countries, to ensure that this is applied on the ground.

5.2.3. Specific Objective 3 (SO3): To use scientific knowledge and French, French-speaking and European expertise and innovations to support the implementation of public policies

To ensure the relevance and efficiency of their effects, public policies must be based on existing knowledge, evidence and data. To achieve this, we must promote the continuum from research to action and strengthen the links between the academic sector and decision-makers. France can draw on the work and expertise of the various French stakeholders available, such as the ANRS | MIE, CIRAD, CNRS, INRAE, INSERM, Institut Pasteur, IRD and Pasteur Network, as well as multidisciplinary institutes such as IHEST (Institut des Hautes Etudes pour la Science et la Technologie).

Priority will be given to the following areas:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To promote open science with partner countries, on the basis of reciprocity, respect for the ethical framework and the sharing of data across the research continuum, to encourage the identification and scaling-up of good practice and innovations and to strengthen skills in data exploitation.

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To promote a research agenda in support of the strategy's priority themes and promote impact assessment in public policies and health programmes and initiatives.

FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To strengthen, promote and coordinate Francophone, European and international research facilities and/or networks, so as to encourage the sharing of transdisciplinary knowledge (biomedical sciences, life sciences, environmental sciences, humanities and social sciences), create synergies in the identification of priorities and pool resources.

Priority levers and tools for action:

- > To support international projects and initiatives such as the international global health research platforms (PRISME), the Pasteur network, the SHARENET network, the French-speaking network on neglected tropical diseases⁵⁰, scientific symposia and forums; Deployment of the European Health Data Space, which will lead to the creation of a European scale for the re-use of data, with a single platform and a catalogue of European data and metadata.

50. [French-speaking network on neglected tropical diseases](#)



FOCUS ON: International research platforms in global health (PRISME)

In 2022, ANRS | Emerging Infectious Diseases (ANRS | MIE), together with its French and international partners, has designed an innovative model: the International Global Health Research Platforms (PRISME). This new balanced, inclusive and adaptable partnership model finds its strength in the federation of various national institutions around a shared project of scientific, technical and academic cooperation.

The aim of this model is to bring together all existing partners and research initiatives that address global health issues within a single virtual platform, managed by a national structure. It was created to respond to scientific and public health challenges and to help strengthen research infrastructures, capacities and networks.

It is based on:

- a multi-stakeholder, international framework for reflection and consultation to encourage the integration of scientific research with global health priorities
- a place where all parties can share actions and resources
- a research continuum from identification of research priorities to the application of the results.

To date, three platforms have been created, in Guinea in May 2022, Côte d'Ivoire in January 2023, and the most recent was inaugurated in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), in March 2023, in the presence of the President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron. It brings together the National Institute for Biomedical Research (INRB), which coordinates the platform, on the Congolese side, the Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention and the University of Kinshasa, and on the French side, Inserm, ANRS | MIE, IRD, the University of Montpellier and the French embassy. It is the culmination of a long, strong history of international and inter-institutional cooperation, particularly between ANRS | MIE, INSERM and IRD with INRB.

**5.2.4. Specific Objective 4 (SO4):
To improve dialogue between
diplomats, scientists and the private
sector in the interests of French
diplomacy**

The importance of scientific cooperation has grown considerably as a result of emerging global risks, new scientific hubs in several regions of the world and tougher relations with certain countries on scientific issues.

There is an ever-increasing need to update the doctrine and instruments of French scientific cooperation in all areas. As part of the French Presidency of the European Union (FPEU), the 'Marseille Declaration' of 8 March 2022⁵¹ defined the framework of European policy and the EU's key principles and values for international cooperation in research and innovation. The links between research, global health expertise and diplomacy need to be reinforced, as does the interaction between public and private operators.

With this in mind, the strength of the French diplomatic network will continue to be put to good use to promote the French vision of health, in line with the Roadmap for Influence⁵²—particularly in the following areas:

FOCUS AREA NO. 1:

To introduce training for embassy staff and scientists in the major challenges of global health diplomacy.

FOCUS AREA NO. 2:

To lead a network of French scientific communities overseas and French-speaking health communities, in particular those working in international organisations and in the private sector.

FOCUS AREA NO. 3:

To ensure that health and social protection play a greater role in local development councils in French Embassies.

FOCUS AREA NO. 4:

To develop a communication and promotion strategy for French and European innovation.

51. [Marseille declaration on international cooperation in research and innovation](#), 8 March 2022

52. [French influence roadmap](#), 2022

6. Governance and accountability framework

France's global health strategy for 2023–2027 will be accompanied by a governance and accountability framework—to be published in the first quarter of 2024—to ensure that the strategy is evaluated and implemented effectively.

This will include:

- Governance bodies for political, institutional and technical evaluation
- A group of international experts to assess the relevance of the guidelines
- An accountability framework appended to this strategy.



Children treated as part of the project to improve identification of respiratory distress in children (AIRE) - © ALIMA

7. Acronyms and abbreviations

AAP	<i>Aide alimentaire programmée</i> (Food Aid)
ACT-A	Access to Covid Tools Accelerator
AFD	<i>Agence française de développement</i> (French Development Agency)
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
AMA	African Medicines Agency
ANRS	<i>Agence nationale de recherche sur le sida et les hépatites virales</i> (French National Agency for Research on AIDS and Viral Hepatitis)
ANSM	<i>Agence nationale de la sécurité des médicaments et des produits de santé</i> (National Agency for the Safety of Medicines and Health Products)
ODA	Official Development Assistance
AP-HP	Assistance publique des hôpitaux de Paris
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
ATLAS	<i>Autotest: libre de connaître son statut VIH</i> (Self-testing scheme: free to know your HIV status)
AVAT	African Vaccine Acquisition Trust
AfDB	African Development Bank
ADB	Asian Development Bank
Be Ready	Building a European Strategic Research and innovation Agenda in Direct Synergy with other EU and International Initiatives for Pandemic Preparedness
EIB	European Investment Bank
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
CARPHA	Caribbean Public Health Agency
CAS	<i>Conseillers aux affaires sociales</i> (Social affairs advisers)
CCM	Country Coordinating Mechanisms
CDC	Centre for Disease Control and Prevention
CDCS	<i>Centre de crise et de soutien</i> (Crisis and support centre)

ESEC	Economic, Social and Environmental Council
CSF-ITS	<i>Comité stratégique de filière industries et technologies de santé</i> (Strategic Committee for the Healthcare Industries and Technologies Sector)
CH	<i>Centre hospitalier</i> (Hospital)
CHU	<i>Centre hospitalier universitaire</i> (University hospital)
CICID	<i>Comité interministériel de la coopération internationale et du développement</i> (Interministerial Committee for International Cooperation and Development)
CIRAD	<i>Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement</i> (Centre for International Cooperation in Agricultural Research for Development)
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
CIRCUS	<i>Circulation des bactéries résistantes aux antibiotiques pour les humains, les animaux et l'environnement</i> (Circulation of antibiotic-resistant bacteria for humans, animals and the environment)
CNRS	<i>Centre national de recherche scientifique</i> (National Centre for Scientific Research)
CPD	<i>Conseil présidentiel du développement</i> (Presidential Development Council)
CRSM	<i>Conseillers régionaux en santé mondiale</i> (Regional global health advisors)
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
DFMS/A	<i>Diplôme de formation médicale spécialisée / approfondie</i> (Diploma in specialised / in-depth medical training)
DGM	<i>Direction générale de la mondialisation, de la culture, de l'enseignement et du développement international</i> (Directorate-General for Globalisation, Culture, Education and International Development)
DGOS	<i>Direction générale de l'offre de soins</i> (Directorate General for Healthcare Provision)
SDR	Special drawing rights
DNDi	Drugs for Neglected Disease initiative
SRHR	Sexual and reproductive health and rights
EDCTP	European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership
EF	Expertise France
EHEPS	École des hautes études en santé publique
EMA	European Medicines Agency

EN3S	École nationale supérieure de sécurité sociale
EPSM	<i>Etablissement public de santé mentale Lille Métropole</i> (Lille Métropole public mental health establishment)
ESR	<i>Enseignement supérieur et de la recherche</i> (Higher education and research)
ETI	<i>Experts techniques internationaux</i> (International technical experts)
EU4Health	“EU for Health” programme
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FFM	<i>Fonds français Muskoka</i> (French Muskoka Fund)
FGE	<i>Forum Génération Égalité</i> (Generation Equality Forum)
FHF	<i>Fédération hospitalière de France</i> (French Hospital Federation)
FIAC	<i>Finance en commun</i> (Finance in Common)
FIF	Financial Intermediary Fund
IMF	International Monetary Fund
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
GFATM	Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
G20	Group of Twenty
G7	Group of Seven
Gavi	Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
HAS	<i>Haute Autorité de Santé</i> (French National Authority for Health)
HERA	European Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority
IEE	<i>Initiative équipe Europe</i> (Team Europe Initiative)
IFFIm	International Finance Facility for Immunisation
GPEI	Global Polio Eradication Initiative
INB	Intergovernmental negotiating body (responsible for drafting and negotiating a convention, agreement or other international instrument, under the WHO Constitution, to improve pandemic prevention, preparedness and response)
INRAE	<i>Institut national de recherche pour l’agriculture, l’alimentation et l’environnement</i> (French National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and the Environment)
INRB	<i>Institut national de recherche biomédicale</i> (National Institute for Biomedical Research),

DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Inserm	<i>Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicale</i> (French National Institute for Health and Medical Research)
IRD	<i>Institut de recherche pour le développement</i> (Institute of Research for Development)
STI	Sexually transmitted infections
JA GHI	Joint Action “Global Health Impact”
LGBT+	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender + people
MASA	<i>Ministère de l’Agriculture et de la Souveraineté alimentaire</i> (Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty)
MAV+	Manufacturing and access to vaccines, medicines and health technologies in Africa
MEAE	<i>Ministère de l’Europe et des Affaires étrangères</i> (Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs)
MEFSIN	<i>Ministère de l’Économie, des Finances et de la Souveraineté industrielle et numérique</i> (Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty)
MESR	<i>Ministère de l’Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche</i> (Ministry of Higher Education and Research)
EID	Emerging infectious diseases
NCDs	Non-communicable diseases
UCPM	EU Civil Protection Mechanism
MSP	<i>Ministère de la Santé et de la Prévention</i> (Ministry of Health and Prevention)
MTECT	<i>Ministère de la Transition Ecologique et de la Cohésion des Territoires</i> (Ministry for Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion)
NRBC	Nuclear, radiological, biological and chemical threats
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
ODAS	<i>Organisation pour le dialogue pour l’avortement sécurisé</i> (Organisation for Dialogue on Safe Abortion)
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
OHHLEP	One Health High-Level Expert Panel
ILO	International Labour Organisation
WHO	World Health Organisation
WOAH	World Organisation for Animal Health
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
UN Women	United Nations organisation dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

SO	Specific objective
CSO	Civil society organisation
OSH	One Sustainable Health for All Forum
P4H	Providing for Health
PASCO	<i>Programme d'appui au secteur de la santé aux Comores</i> (Support programme for the Comoros health sector)
FPEU	French Presidency of the European Union
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
PPPR	Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response
PrEP	Pre-exposure prophylaxis
PREZODE	Preventing Zoonotic Disease Emergence
PRISME	<i>Plateformes de recherche internationale en santé mondiale</i> (International Global Health Research Platforms)
RAMSES	Circulation of antibiotics in drug markets
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
HR	Human resources
HHR	Health human resources
IHR	International Health Regulations
HSS	Health systems strengthening
SANSAS	<i>Santé reproductive des adolescent.e.s et jeunes du Sénégal</i> (Reproductive health of adolescents and young people in Senegal)
SCAC	<i>Services de coopération et d'action culturelle</i> (Cooperation and Cultural Action Services)
SPF	Santé publique France
SPIAC-B	Social Protection Interagency Cooperation Board
SRMNIA-N	<i>Santé reproductive, maternelle, néonatale, infantile et de l'adolescent et nutrition</i> (Reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health and nutrition)
SUN	Scaling-Up Nutrition
SIT	Sterile insect technique
AU	African Union
EU	European Union
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund

UNITAID	International Drug Purchasing Facility
USD	United States Dollar
USP2030	Universal Social Protection to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ZODIAC	Zoonotic Disease Integrated Action

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