Unitaid: Saving lives faster
Who we are

Unitaid saves lives by making new health products available and affordable for people in low- and middle-income countries. We identify innovative treatments, tests and tools, help tackle the market barriers that are holding them back and get them to the people who need them most – fast.

“Thanks to Unitaid, more people across Africa have access to the best HIV treatments at a fraction of the original price. Young children have been cured of tuberculosis with high-quality formulations that are easy to administer. Millions of young people are better protected against malaria through large-scale seasonal delivery of medicines, an approach that has dramatically reduced child mortality without raising costs.”
United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres
Groundbreaking solutions

Develop better products
Child-friendly medicines, fixed-dose combinations

Simplify care
Self-testing & self-collection, better tolerated treatment

Reach those most at risk
Children in Sahel have access to effective malaria prevention tools

Advance women’s health
Effective test and treat solution for cervical cancer

Bring products faster and make them affordable
Dolutegravir, rifapentine, bedaquiline etc.

170 million people use Unitaid-supported health products every year

100+ groundbreaking products introduced since 2006

Our approach helps reach global health targets three years faster

US$8 billion in savings by 2030
1. Accelerate the introduction and adoption of key health **products**

2. Create systematic conditions for sustainable, equitable **access**

3. Foster inclusive and demand-driven **partnerships** for innovation
### Unitaid’s Programmatic Priorities New Strategy 2023-2027

**Saving and Improving Lives through Unitaid Investments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIV &amp; co-infection</th>
<th>TB</th>
<th>Malaria</th>
<th>Women &amp; children’s health</th>
<th>Respond to global health emergencies</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sustain effectiveness of prevention, treatment</td>
<td>Enable TB prevention tools for high-risk groups</td>
<td><strong>Introduce and optimize prevention tools</strong></td>
<td>Improve access to better tools for safe pregnancy, birth for women &amp; newborns</td>
<td>Improve quality of clinical care packages for COVID-19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optimize and enable scale of AHD packages of care</td>
<td>Accelerate access to new detection tools</td>
<td>Improve access to quality case management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drive HCV elimination through testing, prevention</td>
<td>Accelerate adoption of new drugs and regimens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase access to screen &amp; treat for cervical cancer, STIs</td>
<td><strong>Improve child survival with triage and treatment tools</strong></td>
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- Accelerate access to self-testing and integrated diagnostics
- **Long-acting and new technologies**
- Intellectual property, regulatory and innovative supply models
- Decentralize testing and treatment for COVID-19
## Current malaria portfolio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant (Consortium lead)</th>
<th>Amount (Timeline)</th>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Focus</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prevention</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Plus Project (PSI)</td>
<td>$35m (2021-2025)</td>
<td>Benin, Cameroon, Cote d’Ivoire, Mozambique</td>
<td>Large-scale pilot delivery of co-designed PMC strategies</td>
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<tr>
<td>MVIP (WHO)*</td>
<td>$13m (2017-2023)</td>
<td>Ghana, Malawi, Kenya</td>
<td>Impact, feasibility, cost-effectiveness of RTS,S malaria vaccine</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Nets Project (IVCC)*</td>
<td>$66m (2018-2022)</td>
<td>14 countries in SSA</td>
<td>Large-scale introduction of dual AI ITNs, incl. evidence on efficacy, effectiveness, and cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEGIS (UND)</td>
<td>$34m (2019-2025)</td>
<td>Kenya, Mali, Sri Lanka, Uganda</td>
<td>Evaluate spatial repellents as a new vector control product class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOHEMIA (IS Global)</td>
<td>$25m (2019-2024)</td>
<td>Kenya, Mozambique</td>
<td>Evaluate ivermectin mass administration as a vector control product class</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Case management</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PAVE (MMV)</td>
<td>$25m (2021-2025)</td>
<td>Ethiopia, Indonesia, PNG, Peru, Vietnam</td>
<td>Introduce new screening and treatment tools to support the elimination of p. vivax malaria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIMCI (PATH)</td>
<td>$28m (2019-2024)</td>
<td>India, Kenya, Myanmar, Senegal, Tanzania</td>
<td>Integrated and appropriate fever management of sick children</td>
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<td>AIRE (ALIMA)*</td>
<td>$15m (2019-2023)</td>
<td>Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mali, Niger</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cross-cut</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Supply Side Grant (MMV)*</td>
<td>$5m (2017-2023)</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>Overcome severe malaria and prevention supply barriers</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Recently closed*
New Nets Project – partnership with The Global Fund

Introduce new long-lasting insecticide-treated nets (LLINs) in areas of insecticide resistance

Lead Grantee: Innovative Vector Control Consortium (IVCC)

Grant Period: 2018-2022

Grant Value: US$66M

Project countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Rwanda, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Cote d’Ivoire, Liberia, Ghana, DRC, Malawi, Niger, Cameroon, and Burundi

Introduce new long-lasting insecticide-treated nets (LLINs) in areas of insecticide resistance
Develop a complementary new-class vector control tool, ivermectin (endectocides)
Advancing Evidence for the Global Implementation of Spatial Repellents (AEGIS)

Evaluate spatial repellents as a new vector control product class

- **Lead Grantee**: University of Notre Dame
- **Grant Period**: 2019 - 2025
- **Grant Value**: US$ 34.7M
- **Project countries**: Kenya, Mali, Sri Lanka, Uganda
**Unitaid’s Model**

**Disease/Thematic narrative**
- Landscape of the disease, the global response, and challenges
- Identify potential opportunities

**Area for intervention**
- Business case to support areas in which we plan to invest
- Vehicle to issue calls for proposals

**Call for Proposals and review**
- Proposal review by Unitaid Secretariat and external review committee

**Grant Agreement Development**
- Collaborative process with Unitaid Secretariat to design appropriate grant

**Implementation**
- Delivery of Unitaid-funded project to catalyze scale-up of effective tools

**Area for Intervention endorsement**

**Proposal ‘go-ahead’ approval**

**Grant signing and disbursement approval**
Call for proposals: *Catalyzing adoption of an expanded vector control toolbox to fight malaria*

**Call scope**
Multi-country implementation work to accelerate demand and adoption of new vector control tools and effective deployment strategies, and establish healthy market conditions

**Objectives**
- Generate evidence to inform deployment and integration of tools within the wider toolbox
- Establish healthy market conditions, including supply security and sustainable pricing

Closed: 25 August 2023
Unitaid’s vision and mission

**Our vision**: Equitable access to health innovations to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all.

**Our mission**: We expand the reach of the best health products for those who need them most.

**We can deliver on this vision and our mission**:  
- By designing and investing in innovative approaches to make quality health products available and affordable in LMICs  
- By inspiring and promoting collective efforts with partners, countries and communities, unlocking access to the tools, services and care that can deliver the best results, improve health and address global health priorities

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**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

1. **Accelerate the introduction and adoption of key health products**
   - Boost the development of fit-for-purpose health products
   - Use market shaping approaches to enable suitable, affordable, quality supply
   - Support product adoption and scale up in countries as part of simple, effective and evidence-based models of care

2. **Create systemic conditions for sustainable, equitable access**
   - Establish an enabling environment for access, including IP and regulation
   - Support innovative supply models & approaches, including local manufacturing and technology transfer
   - Disseminate knowledge and evidence on access

3. **Foster inclusive and demand-driven partnerships for innovation**
   - Maximise the engagement of affected communities and responsiveness to their needs
   - Maximise alignment and synergies with governments, in-country stakeholders, affected communities and civil society organizations
   - Further develop global alliances for product scaleup

The engagement of communities and civil society across our work is essential
Unitaid

Benefits and successes of engaging communities

1. Increased awareness, demand and information dissemination
2. More ambitious commitments in scale up partner funding proposals
3. Ensures communities are informed and ready to ask for the best health innovation
4. Community voices in committees, conferences and technical meeting
5. Stronger translation of scientific and normative results into treatment or health literacy
Regional Manufacturing for Equitable Access (RMEA)
Africa suffers more than its fair share of communicable and non-communicable diseases, while having the lowest production capacity for health products in the world. African countries currently import more than 79% of their pharmaceutical supply from outside the continent. This dependency is unsustainable - particularly in the face of the expected population growth. Roughly half of its 1.1 billion people lack regular access to even the most essential medicines, according to the WHO.

Latin America’s access to essential medicines and health technologies is a complex endeavor, necessitating considerations for safety, quality, affordability, and timely availability. LATAM countries currently import about 50% of their pharmaceutical supply from outside the continent. While the continent has relatively more manufacturing, there are many inequalities. LATAM experiences higher instances of IP and affordability barriers affecting a significant proportion of its 700 million population’s access to essential medicines.

Malaria | Africa manufacturing value chain already being nurtured

Emerging Capacity in Africa

- **Swipha** and **Emzor** with support from MMV and Unitaid are developing a quality-assured child-friendly, dispersible formulation of SP to protect women, children and infants from malaria. **Swipha is expected to receive WHO pre-qualification for this product soon.**

- **UCL** is the first African manufacturer to gain **WHO prequalification for SP** to prevent malaria in pregnant women with support from MMV and Unitaid. In October 2023, UCL received **prequalification from WHO for SPAQ.**

- **QCIL Uganda** is listed as a **manufacturing site** for Cipla’s WHO prequalified **Artemether/Lumefantrine 20/120mg** finished pharmaceutical product.

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**New API Manufacturing capacities emerging on-continent**

- In technical collaboration with Mangalam, Emzor is developing the first API manufacturing facility in West Africa for production of 5 anti-malarials - Artemether (A), Dihydroartemisinin (DHA), Lumefantrine (L), Sulfadoxine (S) and Pyrimethamine (P).

- Advanced laboratory-scale synthesis of multiple APIs, including Amodiaquine by CPT in South Africa

- H3D and CPT partnership to pilot promising products and new synthesis pathways.
Climate and Health
Climate related challenges

- **Climate variability** (changes in temperature and rainfall), can impact the **behaviour and survival** of the malaria-carrying *Anopheles* mosquito.
  - Vector adaptability> geographical spread to new environment, resistance
  - Spread of vector due to climate changes over time could put 700 million more people at risk by 2050.
  - Increased flooding > more breeding sites
  - Outdoor living > exposure to insect biting and transmission
  - Seasonality and variation impact programme designs, modelling difficulty and disrupt effectiveness of scheduled prevention (e.g. IRS, extreme heat >sleeping outside nets)

- **Extreme weather** events such as heatwaves and flooding may lead to increases in the **transmission and burden** of the disease.
  - Population displacement and migration> exposure in endemic areas
  - Malnutrition > risk factor for severe malaria, anaemia
  - Conflict and humanitarian crises
  - Floods could limit access to nets due to damage , loss or destroyed road network

- **Drug and insecticide resistance**
  - Heat stability of treatment/diagnostic products >potential impact on product expiry and labelling
  - Efficacy of vector control tools
  - Supply chains disruptions to reach most remote/climate-affected areas
Figure 1. 10 priority health products have been selected based on relevance for & representativeness of the Unitaid portfolio and disease space

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Archetypes</th>
<th>Typical products</th>
<th>Focus products</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small molecule medicines</td>
<td>Oral medications, Injectable medicines</td>
<td>Heat stable Carbetocin, Long-acting injectable Cabotegravir, Dolutegravir-based first line regimen, Bedaquiline, Pretomanid, and Linezolid (BPaL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapid diagnostics</td>
<td>Lateral Flow Assay products (Rapid tests)</td>
<td>HIV Self-Testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point-of-Care diagnostics</td>
<td>Point-of-Care PCR testing platforms</td>
<td>Point-of-Care PCR platform for MTB test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated diagnostic platform</td>
<td>Lab-based PCR testing platform</td>
<td>High-throughput PCR platform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vector control products</td>
<td>Insecticide-based vector control products</td>
<td>Long Lasting Insecticide- treated Net (dual active ingredient nets)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>Production of medical oxygen</td>
<td>Pressure swing adsorption oxygen generating plant (PSA O₂ plant)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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From milligrams to megatons:
A climate and nature assessment of ten key health products
Unitaid response

• Board-approved Climate and Health Strategy
  o New aspiration for health products – climate smart health products (with 4 dimensions)
  o Climate concept mainstreamed into all our investments

• Unitaid response (evolving):
  o Decarbonization efforts across our Secretariat and Portfolio: climate commitments made (-50% by 2030 on portfolio and Secretariat, Board-facing KPI on Secretariat CO2 emission reduction)
  o Value-chain decarbonization focused on specific products
  o Carbon action included in our proposal and procurement forms, selection criteria but also budget to support implementers;
  o “doing our part” supported by the Climate Action Accelerator partnership

• Adaptation response
  o Deploying bed nets based on climate-informed data/programming
  o Suitability to different settings – e.g., for displaced populations/migrants, spatial repellents (SRs), attractive targeted sugar baits (ATSBs)
  o Co-benefits protection across various vector borne diseases- Dengue, Zika

• Collaborative action of partners and stakeholders
Industry/ partners’ response

• Resilience / climate risks on supply chains:
  “Milligrams to megatons” report has surfaced issues in terms of resilience:
  o Plant-source for Artemisinin
  o heat stability (ACTs) and other products
  o manufacturing concentration, risk to in-country supply chains, extreme events

• Industry collaboration mitigation response:
  o High CO2 emission (plastics mostly)
  o Downstream plastic pollution- recycling and reuse as input, greening the input, explore alternatives
  o Solutions and levers- 10 technical solutions, 40% without increasing COGs

• Partnership: criticality of partnerships; WHO ATACH as a strong platform
Thank you