



Annual Report
Action Santé Mondiale/Global Health
Advocates
2020



Table of contents

I.	FIGHT AGAINST PANDEMICS: COVID-19: A RENEWED STRUGGLE FOR HEALTH EQUITY	4
	Mobilizing France in the international response to COVID-19.....	4
	Strengthening the EU's COVID-19 response	7
	Ensuring equitable access to COVID-19 technologies	7
	Supporting ambitious development spending in global health mechanisms: disbursement of French pledge to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.	9
II.	WOMEN & CHILD'S HEALTH	9
	Renewing French commitments for immunisation.....	9
	Reaching EU nutrition goals during COVID-19.....	10
	France hosting the Generation Equality Forum.....	12
III.	FUNDING & QUALITY OF AID	12
	Securing ambitious and effective EU development budgets and policies.....	12
	Raising awareness about the diversion of aid	13
	Strengthening the EU's role in Global Health	14
	French budget bill: ODA, COVID19 and the French Financial Transaction Tax.....	15
IV.	RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT: ENSURING SOCIAL IMPACT OF EU AND FRENCH R&D	17
	Ensuring transparency of public R&D funding in France.....	17
	New reports 'In the name of innovation' show industry controls billions for EU's health and climate research.....	17
	Developing societal impact pathways and indicators to define, track and measure societal impact of EU biomedical R&I	18
V.	STRENGTHEN CIVIL SOCIETY IN COUNTRIES WITH HIGHER HEALTH INEQUALITIES TO INFLUENCE THEIR DECISION-MAKERS.....	19
	Strengthening ASAPSU's partnership in Ivory Coast.....	19

ACRONYM

CSO	Civil Society Organisation
FTT	French Financial Transaction Tax
F2F	Farm to Fork
GEF	Generation Equality Forum
GN	Generation Nutrition
N4G	Nutrition for Growth
SRHR	Sexual and reproductive health and rights
UHC	Universal Health Coverage Day
ODA	Official Development Assistance

Editorial

2020 was uniquely challenging, yet it gave me further confidence that GHA's flexible DNA and family spirit helped us smartly adapt to new policy challenges as well as new ways of working and doing advocacy. While we had to adapt and continue our work mainly via webinars and conference calls rather than in person, we still managed to strengthen our ties with our partners from Cote d'Ivoire ASAPSU who officially joined the ACTION partnership. In 2020 we also saw two of our major grants being renewed: an exceptional 4-year renewal of our ACTION grant and 2-year renewal of our OSF grant to continue our fight for equal access to healthcare.

In 2020 we said goodbye to some of our most senior staff in Paris and in Brussels, whom I want to sincerely thank for their contribution to the GHA family and work. They have largely contributed to building the reputation of GHA as a policy influencer but also increasingly to GHA's research and analysis capacity. I wish them the best in their new career endeavours. As a year of both seismic change and opportunity we have also welcomed a new Director of Advocacy, Elise Rodriguez, who has long-standing experience in the advocacy and humanitarian world. For the first time in GHA's history, Elise is leading the advocacy and policy teams based both in Paris and Brussels. This is a unique opportunity for us to strengthen our work across geographies, at national, European and international levels.

Patrick Bertrand

I. FIGHT AGAINST PANDEMICS: COVID-19: A RENEWED STRUGGLE FOR HEALTH EQUITY¹

Mobilizing France in the international response to COVID-19

Upon the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, Global Health Advocates (GHA) was quick to adapt its activities to ensure that **France played a political and financial leading role in the international health response to the crisis**. One of GHA's main objectives was to ensure France would play a key role in the international response to the Covid-19 pandemic by championing equitable access policies and health system strengthening.

In this regard, right at the onset of the crisis and in collaboration with organizations from the Collectif Santé Mondiale, GHA published a [position paper](#) including its financial, political and operational recommendations to ensure a fair, appropriate and needs-driven international response from France to the Covid-19 pandemic. GHA also contributed to the publication of numerous [open letters](#), [public statements](#), [press releases](#) and [op-eds](#), in collaboration with international and French civil society organisations (CSO), calling for a global equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines. GHA also called on France to increase its financial commitments towards the COVID-19 crisis, and to equitably fund all components of the international response, especially through the Access to Covid-19 Tools Accelerator.

Throughout the year, GHA led a strong advocacy work to hold France accountable in its attempt to make the future vaccine against COVID-19 a global public good. In this regard, GHA pressured the French government to:

- attach clear conditionalities to its public funding for R&D such as access guarantees in terms of prices or pooled knowledge and data,
- ensure that pharma companies make licenses and technologies developed against Covid-19 available and negotiate transparent technology transfer agreements with manufacturers of other regions (especially Southern countries),
- ensure the distribution of the vaccine in most vulnerable countries is supported by increased funding from international aid dedicated to the strengthening of health systems.

Another main area of GHA's advocacy work has been to monitor the disbursement of the French commitments in the international response to the pandemic, especially through the "Covid-19 – Health in Common" initiative of the French Development Agency and the French funding to ACT-A.

¹ For more information on GHA's work on COVID-19, please visit our dedicated page on our website: <https://www.ghadvocates.eu/cause/fighting-covid19/>

In order to carry its messages, Global Health Advocates participated in a series of regular advocacy meetings with key political and institutional representatives and decision-makers working on the French international response to the Covid-19 crisis. These meetings took place with people from the French Presidency office, the French Ministry for Solidarity and Health, the Cabinet of the Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs, the Cabinet of the Minister of Finance, the French Agency for Development and the Delegation of the European and International Affairs at the Ministry of Health. GHA also played a key role as CSO representative within the French global ACT-A taskforce, which gathers agents of the related ministries and academics/health experts working on the Covid-19 pandemic and the ACT-Accelerator platform. Finally, to support its advocacy work and illustrate its advocacy messages and recommendations with concrete examples, GHA produced [several videos](#) shared on its social media.

In order to raise awareness among French MPs, GHA organized a webinar in April² with French MP Valérie Thomas and MPs from the Foreign Affairs Committee. Before analyzing France's cooperation policy and the role of ODA in mitigating the effects of this crisis, GHA presented the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on developing countries and on their health needs.

This event was a success for GHA: 10 MPs and 6 parliamentary assistants attended the webinar. Furthermore, as a follow up and in order to mobilize MPs, GHA called them to action by signing a letter to the French Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs asking for:

- additional emergency funding to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic, in the form of donations
- the sanctuarization of future ODA budgets, particularly in health, as provided for in the draft development bill
- France to mobilise at least 250 million euros at the Gavi replenishment conference. This outcome was very helpful toward increasing global cooperation and resource mobilisation for COVID.



² before the launch of ACT-A

Programme

Elise Rodriguez
Directrice du plaidoyer
Action Santé Mondiale



Introduction sur une crise
sanitaire mondiale et ses
enjeux pour l'aide au
développement française

Partie 1

Le rôle de l'aide publique au développement en santé

Margot Jaymond
Chargée de plaidoyer
Action Santé Mondiale



L'aide publique au
développement en santé :
que doit-elle prioriser ?

Augustin Kola Manzama-Esso
Champion OAFRESS
pour le plaidoyer
Partenaire du Togo



Témoignage d'un partenaire
de la société civile d'Afrique
francophone impliqué dans
la riposte COVID au niveau
communautaire

Valérie Thomas
Députée du Puy de Dôme
Membre de la Commission
des Affaires Etrangères



Panorama des actions
envisageables pour l'APD
française en santé à l'horizon
de la future loi sur le
développement

Partie 2

Quel impact du Covid-19 sur la future loi de développement solidaire et de lutte contre les inégalités mondiales et sur les budgets d'APD ?

Bettina Petit
Chargée de mission plaidoyer
Action Santé Mondiale



Comment limiter l'impact de la
crise économique à venir sur les
futurs budgets d'aide publique
au développement ?

Hubert-Julien Laferrière
Député du Rhône
Membre de la Commission
des Affaires Etrangères



La nécessité de mobiliser
davantage les financements
innovants

France has played a leadership role in the international response to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, France does not fulfil its financial commitments towards the international response to COVID-19 pandemic, especially compared to other countries such as the UK or Germany. Furthermore, even though France has committed to make the COVID-19 vaccine a global public good, it still doesn't support concrete global initiatives and actions which could really help make a difference (such as the Indian and South African proposal for WTO waiver from Intellectual Property protections for COVID-19-related medical technologies or the C-TAP). GHA, along with the members of the Global Health Collective, developed a [reaction](#) to the announcement of the Paris Peace Forum on November the 12th 2020. While France hosted the summit, President Macron didn't introduce any solution towards universal access and only repeated previous financial commitments to the ACT-Accelerator.

Strengthening the EU's COVID-19 response

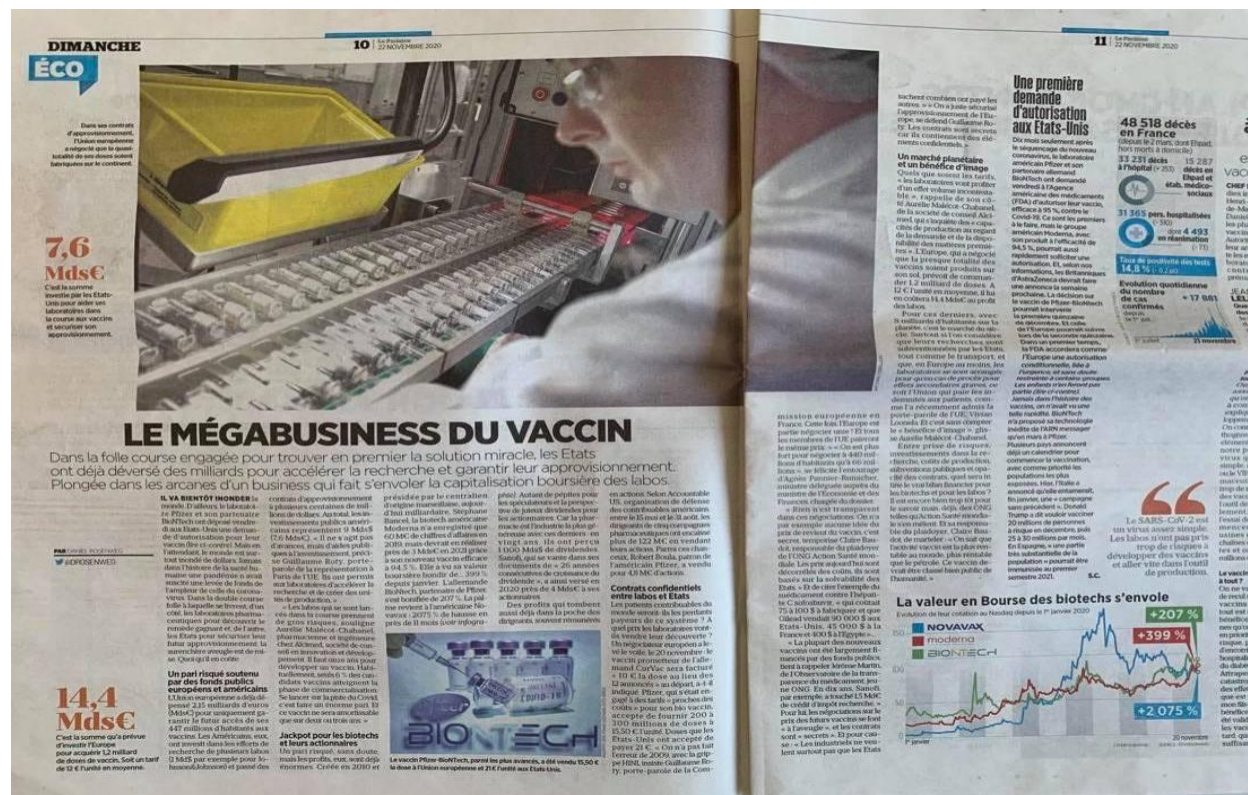
The EU played a leadership role in the launching of the [ACT-Accelerator](#), acting as a convener and encouraging pledges. However due to the constraints of the budget negotiations, the EU was not immediately willing to make an ambitious financial pledge. It took a significant amount of advocacy actions throughout 2020 to get the EU to commit to the ACT-Accelerator. GHA joined the Pandemic Action Network (PAN) to draft a letter with a financial request of 1.9 billion, and a series of recommendations as to where the EU could find this money in their budget lines. In order to advocate for the EU's participation in the global COVID-19 response, GHA have carried two main actions. First, GHA have incorporated the financial request and messages on global solidarity and [equal access](#) into its work on global health financing. Secondly, GHA have participated in meetings with EU representatives from all three institutions.

Ensuring equitable access to COVID-19 technologies

Since the beginning of the crisis, barriers to equitable access to COVID-19 technologies have jeopardized the efficiency of the international response to the crisis and resulted in a "moral failure" as pointed out by WHO Director General. Given the huge amount of public funding that enabled pharma companies to develop their products, it became urgent to advocate for a fair global response that could guarantee all countries to receive vaccines, diagnostics and treatments. GHA advocated for greater transparency of the pharmaceutical market, especially of public funding for biomedical R&D, and for a waiver on traditional intellectual property rights rules for COVID 19 products.

GHA mobilized French MPs through a letter to Emmanuel Macron, calling on the French President to adopt specific measures in favour of access to vaccines, diagnostics and treatments, and mobilised French MP Vincent Ledoux to table a [draft resolution](#) for universal, rapid and equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccine, which was finally adopted by the French National assembly in November 2020. The resolution calls on the Government for more transparency in biomedical R&D and greater access to covid 19 health products. GHA ensured

media coverage on these issues through the publication of an [op-ed](#) in the newspaper Liberation and an interview in the printed version of the newspaper Le Parisien.



« Rien n'est transparent dans ces négociations. On n'a par exemple aucune idée du prix de revient du vaccin, c'est secret, tempore Claire Baudot, responsable du plaidoyer de l'ONG Action santé mondiale. Les prix aujourd'hui sont décorrelés des coûts, ils sont basés sur la solvabilité des Etats »³

In Autumn 2020, during the 2021 social security bill's discussion, a measure asking pharma companies to publish the amount of public money received to develop their product was adopted by the French National Assembly. Unfortunately, the measure was declared unconstitutional afterwards.

Following a statement of Secretary of State [Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne at the UN General Assembly](#), France took the lead in drafting a Charter on Equitable Access for ACT-A. GHA got the opportunity to directly have an input in the charter. GHA sees this move as a major opportunity to leverage France's engagement on more of the most progressive parts of the charter, namely on access and transparency.

³ "Nothing is transparent in these negotiations. For example, we have no idea what the cost of the vaccine is, it's a secret, says Claire Baudot, head of advocacy for the NGO Global Health Advocates. Prices today are decorrelated from the costs, they are based on the solvency of States"

Supporting ambitious development spending in global health mechanisms: disbursement of French pledge to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.

With funds being reallocated to the COVID-19 response, the French contribution to the Global Fund was at risk of being delayed. GHA worked hand in hand with the Global Fund and partners to share intel on French disbursement and mobilized French government and MPs to ensure the French pledge would be delivered in time.

II. WOMEN & CHILD'S HEALTH

Renewing French commitments for immunisation

In June 2020, the United Kingdom hosted the Global Vaccine Summit and Gavi's replenishment conference. One of GHA's main objectives was to ensure France would be committing at least 250 million euros. In order to secure this ambitious pledge, GHA disseminated [a joint position paper](#) with ONE France and UNICEF France in January and participated in regular advocacy meetings with key decision makers. Prior to the replenishment, GHA worked to underline the role of Gavi in fighting the Covid-19 pandemic, in accelerating the development of a COVID-19 vaccine, in strengthening health systems and in maintaining immunization programs. Finally, GHA also stressed Gavi's central role in purchasing vaccines at an accessible price for LICs and vulnerable populations. To support its advocacy work, GHA published several letters and public statement in partnership with Global Citizen, ONE France, and UNICEF France, an [op-ed signed by 40 actors and experts of child health from 20 different countries](#), in the French newspaper La Croix in which GHA ask President Macron to pledge at least 250 million euros to Gavi.

GHA organized a parliamentary mission to Rwanda from February 4 to 8, 2020 to sensitize 4 French MPs to the progress accomplished and the remaining challenges in maternal and child health issues with a particular focus on Gavi. GHA organized several visits (hospital, community health center, program to reach the most isolated populations, university) as well as meetings with political representatives (Minister of Health, French Ambassador, Rwandan parliamentarians) or non-governmental representatives (international organizations such as the World Bank, Gavi, etc.) for MPs to understand the concrete consequences of vaccine-preventable childhood diseases, the difficulties of access to care for women and young girls, the crucial role of communities and civil society in access to care, and the need for and effectiveness of France's health development policies. Following this visit, GHA drafted an op-ed, signed by the 4 MPs who participated in the delegation and published it in [Euractic newspaper](#) in order to raise awareness of the importance of global health financing in a context marked by COVID-19. This text calls on France to be up to the challenges of the 2020 meetings on global health: the Gavi replenishment conference, the Generation Equality Forum and the future French law on ODA.



The replenishment was a success. Emmanuel Macron announced a 250 million euros contribution to Gavi for the 2021-2025 cycle and an additional 100 million euros contribution when a vaccine against Covid-19 would be available. In total, the Global Vaccine Summit raised more than US\$ 8.8 billion from 31 donor governments and 8 foundations, corporations and organizations to immunize 300 million children and support the global fight against COVID-19. The Global Vaccine Summit also saw the launch of the Advance Market Commitment for COVID-19 Vaccines (Covax AMC), a new innovative financing instrument to provide access to COVID-19 vaccines for low- and middle-income countries.

Reaching EU nutrition goals during COVID-19

The coronavirus pandemic also affected the nutrition agenda. It quickly became apparent that the pandemic would prevent the Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit from taking place in 2020, and it was promptly postponed to 2021. GHA, through the Generation Nutrition (GN) EU civil society Coalition, had already begun working on a financial request for the EU's contribution towards N4G, but adapted to the new realities of COVID-19 and began exploring the connections between COVID-19 and nutrition. In September 2020, GHA hosted a webinar called "How has COVID-19 changed the game on reaching nutrition goals?", featuring Dr. David Nabarro (WHO Director-General's Special Envoy on COVID-19 Preparedness and Response), MEP Pierrette Herzberger-Fofana, Sihem Sassi (from the EU delegation to Burkina Faso), Martin Hoppe (Head of Division for Food and Nutrition Security at BMZ), and two SUN youth leaders. A number of representatives from the Parliament, Commission and Member States attended. GHA will continue making the case for nutrition as an essential part of a sustainable COVID response into 2021.

In 2021, the UN will host a Food System Summit, in which the EU is engaged. For this reason, GN has been engaging with the European Commission's Farm to Fork (F2F) strategy, writing

to all key policy makers in May 2020 with topline recommendations, including ways to strengthen the external dimension and the gender lens. GN also drafted a policy brief called "[Building Sustainable, Resilient And Fair Food Systems To Improve Food And Nutrition Security For All By 2030](#)", which outlined root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition, touched on the need for a comprehensive Strategy with Africa, and made stronger links to health systems.

Programme

How has **COVID-19** changed the game on reaching nutrition goals?

Tuesday, 8th September 2020, 14:00 - 15:30 CEST on Zoom

14:00 – 14:05	Welcome by Céline Mias, Care International
Session 1. What do we need to see in the upcoming EU programming cycle to close the gap on nutrition goals?	
14:05 – 14:10	Introduction of Speakers by Ludovic Wahis, WorldVision International
14:10 – 14:20	Opening Remarks by Dr. David Nabarro, Mike Khunga, Sihem Sassi, and Elisa Pozzi
14:20 – 14:40	Interactive Discussion with Speakers and Participants
Session 2. Leadership and political will for nutrition in a COVID-19 context	
14:45 – 14:50	Introduction of Speakers by Antonia Potter Prentice, Alliance2015
14:50 – 15:05	Opening Remarks by Dr. Pierrette Herzberger-Fofana, Martin Hoppe, Christelle Huré, and Dan Irvine
15:05 – 15:25	Interactive Discussion with Speakers and Participants

**GENERATION • N
NUTRITION**

The event is hosted by Generation Nutrition, which gathers NGOs advocating for the fight against malnutrition at the EU level. Members of Generation Nutrition include Action Against Hunger, Alliance2015, Care International, Global Health Advocates, Save the Children, WaterAid, and World Vision.

France hosting the Generation Equality Forum

In June 2021, France will be hosting the Generation Equality Forum (GEF), a global gathering initially planned for 2020 at the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration. GEF aims at fostering the realization of gender equality worldwide in six areas, through six multi-actors Action Coalitions. In this context, GHA's main objectives were to ensure that France would take the lead on an Action Coalition on women and girls' health and make ambitious political and financial commitments towards these issues during the summit in Paris. Throughout the year, Global Health Advocates participated in civil society meetings especially with the Collectif Générations Féministes and its working group on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). GHA worked on producing analysis and organized a workshop with other CSOs on the French funding towards SRHR to foster a common civil society financial request for France. In addition, GHA shared recommendations to key decision-makers working on the Generation Equality Forum and SRHR issues. GHA also engaged in parliamentary mobilization through meetings with key MPs sensitive to gender equality issues. To support this work, GHA published a series of articles and public statements, including following the official announcement of the [Generation Equality Forum postponement in 2021](#) or the [French lead on Bodily autonomy and sexual and reproductive health and rights](#). One of GHA's objectives was achieved as France publicly announced its lead of the SRHR Action Coalition in July 2020. As the Generation Equality Forum will occur in June 2021, Global Health Advocates is still mobilized to ensure that bold political and financial commitments are taken by the French government during the Summit in Paris.

III. FUNDING & QUALITY OF AID

Securing ambitious and effective EU development budgets and policies

Throughout 2020, GHA represented Coordination Sud in the Concord "MFF Leading Group", which is the CSO group responsible for analysing and engaging with the development of the EU's next 7-year budget (2021-2027). The budget negotiations were tense. Because the negotiations were happening at a high political level (Ministerial or even Heads of State), there was little space for CSOs to participate. Overall, GHA's advocacy resulted in some major success. As such, in EU development policies GHA were able to have the definition of "human development" expanded to include nutrition, stronger social protection, and a reference to the most marginalized. GHA also managed to get more references to basic social services, including health, education, nutrition, social protection into the geographic programmes, which is important considering the new structure of the budget which favours geographic over thematic programming. The Global Challenges budget line of the thematic pillar (which is where funding for global health initiatives comes from) is smaller than GHA would have hoped for, but GHA managed to get an extra €600 million ring-fenced within the flexibility cushion, increasing the very limited Global Challenges from €2,726 billion to €3,326 billion. One remaining challenge is a new 10% spending target for migration, while some member

states wanted it to be “at least 10%”, some positive language was included such as references to strengthening legal pathways and protecting refugees.

Raising awareness about the diversion of aid

Securitisation and financierisation of aid: GHA webinar for African and European Civil Society
In 2019, GHA completed [four policy briefs](#), based on the fact-finding missions GHA conducted in Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone and Uganda. These briefs covered the issues of privatisation, securitisation and financierisation of EU and French aid. As part of GHA's dissemination efforts GHA held in 2020 a webinar for its CSO partners, where GHA shared the key findings and created space for a discussion. The objectives of the webinar were to gather feedbacks from civil society in both donor and aid-recipient countries; see what is useful, or what GHA may have missed; and understand better which areas GHA should explore in its future work. This webinar was attended by approximately 30 CSOs from the three countries and the EU and has allowed GHA to adapt its advocacy strategy moving forward.

Privatisation of aid: Improving the EU's External Investment Plan (EIP):

The EIP is part of the EU's new narratives which frame the private sector as the key to reaching the SDGs. GHA is concerned that if it is not implemented properly, the [EIP](#) may lead to the privatization of aid, and may divert it from pro-poor programming, which is better suited for the provision of health. The idea is the following: if the EU “stimulates the economy” in partner countries by shifting the risk of for-profit projects from the private to public sector (through guarantees or blending private and public finance), economies will grow and more money will be made available for social programming and development. Taking this into account, initiatives geared at the private sector are increasingly taking up more of the external action budget. However, these assumptions are not proven. On the contrary, [evidence shows](#) that the leveraging rate is particularly low in low-income countries, exactly where aid is needed the most, and the EU's own [court of auditors](#) determined this project has not proven it's added-value.

GHA worked with the adhoc “EIP CSO group” at the EU level to make the case for the reasons the inclusion of civil society will be paramount for the EIPs success. To this end, a letter was drafted outlining the ways CSOs could participate in each of the three pillars and disseminating it to all relevant policy makers. GHA also tracked the budget negotiations, providing its insights on what would be the best way to structure this instrument to ensure that it will not do harm and work to accelerate progress towards the SDGs. Overall, GHA's advocacy on the EIP received very good results - most notably that the budget line for this instrument was capped at 10 billion and will come exclusively from the geographic pillar. There was also the creation of a grievance mechanism, and alignment to international agreements including ILO core labour standards. Finally, there will be assessments of compliance with development effectiveness and how the instrument meets gender equality expectations. GHA will continue to monitor this instrument during 2021.

Strengthening the EU's role in Global Health

The need for a renewed EU Global Health Strategy:

Throughout 2020, GHA worked with a number of other global health CSOs (Save the Children, Aidsfonds, DSW, Action Against Hunger, Wateraid and IPPFM) to create three advocacy documents making the case for a renewed EU Global Health Strategy: a document about [why this strategy is needed](#), a full "[shadow](#)" [strategy](#) describing how it could look, and an [executive summary](#) summing up the situation and recommendations. COVID-19 has made it clear that, on one hand, the EU's global health actions lack coherence, and on the other hand, there is still a big problem of coordination, both within the EU institutions and between Member States. GHA disseminated these three documents to all relevant policy makers via email and had a joint meeting with the health representatives from within the Directorate for International Partnerships (previously DEVCO). In December, GHA co-hosted a webinar in celebration of Universal Health Coverage Day (UHC), which made the case for a renewed global health strategy as a means of ensuring coherence and allowing the EU to support partner countries as they accelerate progress towards achieving UHC. The establishment of a new strategy is always a long-term process, and GHA has been working with each presidency to mobilise support and build momentum for the strategy to be developed under the French Presidency in 2022.

Making the case for ambitious EU health programming:

In October, GHA developed and published a policy brief called [Global Health in the age of COVID-19: Prioritising global health in EU development programming](#), which highlighted concerns about EU development programming, particularly as it relates to the underfunding of global health. While recognizing the leadership role the EU has played in the global COVID-19 response, GHA urged the EU to maintain consistency between their "Team Europe" approach to COVID-19 and their programming process, by ensuring the long-term prioritisation of health systems strengthening in partner countries and going beyond the 20% human development target and asserting that this can only be achieved with the meaningful inclusion of local civil society organisations at all levels of the policy cycle. The programming process as well as upcoming discussions on the EU-Africa Partnership provide the opportunity for the EU to continue showing leadership on health by including health as both a cross-cutting and stand-alone focal area.

Ensuring the next EU-Africa relationship is strong on health and human development:

In early March, the EC released a [Communication on the EU-Africa Strategy](#), which GHA found extremely limited on both health and human development. The Council followed up with [Conclusions on Africa](#) in June, and although the COVID-19 pandemic was already raging by then, these conclusions were still not comprehensive on health systems strengthening as a key area for partnership. As a response, GHA co-developed an unbranded document advocating for health to be a stand-alone area of partnership between the EU and African Union (AU), as well as highlighting some key areas this partnership should cover, such as building regional capacities, fostering regional cooperation and investing in community workers and health services. This document widely circulated among the commission and

member states and has been referenced back to us in advocacy meetings. GHA kept the document unbranded with the intention of having the ideas taken up internally, rather than seen as a CSO-initiative, and judging by the responses GHA has received from policymakers, it seems GHA have been successful in this objective.

In late 2020, GHA began research for a joint paper with its partners from Eastern Africa, [WACI Health](#). The purpose of the paper is to raise the priorities of African civil society on health and human development, by comparing their objectives to the structure of the EU's strategy and acknowledging gaps. GHA intend to publish the paper in Q2 of 2021 and disseminate it ahead of the EU-AU summit, which was postponed from 2020 (date still unknown). GHA has also made an effort to gather more information about the EU-Africa policy process, by reaching out to policy makers and feeding back into the wider Global Health CSO group. GHA are engaging with the current and future presidencies to ensure health is maintained high on the EU-Africa agenda.

French budget bill: ODA, COVID19 and the French Financial Transaction Tax

During the second semester, GHA closely followed the 2021 French budget bill debates. The first draft of the bill included a small increase in the ODA budgetary mission. Yet the need for international solidarity has grown as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. At the same time, revenues from the French Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) had increased dramatically (€ +340 million compared to the previous year). In order to face these new challenges, GHA worked with MPs on the need for FTT revenues to go towards development funding and particularly health issues.

After several weeks of advocacy meetings and dissemination of budgetary documents' analysis, GHA and its French CSO partners from Coordination SUD managed to gather support from many parliamentarians - including leaders in the majority party - in favour of a higher allocation of FTT revenues to ODA. GHA was also heard by French MP Valérie Thomas, rapporteur on the ODA budget of the finance bill: an additional opportunity for GHA to raise awareness of its recommendations among MPs and the French government.

Due to the government's opposition, and despite a strong mobilisation of French MPs during the debates at the French National Assembly, the 2021 Budget bill was adopted without changing the FTT rate and its allocation. Nevertheless, an additional € 700 million envelope was allocated to the ODA budgetary mission.

Joining forces on essential services: "What if we started with basic needs?" Campaign:

GHA reached out to other CSOs working not only on Global Health but also on access to Education, Water, Sanitation and social protection in order to develop a campaign towards the reinforcement of ODA for essential social services (ESS). Based on the analysis of French ODA toward these sectors, the ad hoc group led by GHA developed a series of

recommendations to increase the quantity and quality of ODA to ESS. These recommendations included reaching 50% of ODA (from 19% in 2018) dedicated to ESS, mainly in grants and to have a special focus on LDCs with a cautious approach on private sector involvement.



A [common advocacy document](#) was produced and sent to relevant stakeholders in order to strengthen joint advocacy between Global Health, Global Education and Water and sanitation CSOs. Several processes were particularly important regarding stronger involvement of French ODA toward ESS. The French Development Agency (AFD) was updating its strategic framework and held consultations with civil society where members of the campaign had the opportunity to share the importance of scaling up investments toward ESS, especially in the COVID-19 context and the subsequent economic and social crises.

The campaign was also an opportunity to raise awareness among Members of Parliament regarding ESS and the discrepancy between French stated priorities for development cooperation and actual disbursements. With an announced stronger focus on grants and LDCs, French ODA should also be reinforcing its support to ESS.

Finally, in November 2020, France hosted the Finance in Common Summit where public development banks of the world gathered to maximise their impact and coordination towards reaching the SDGs. Public development banks are strong actors to finance sustainable development but, most of the time, the way they design their financial support can actually be an obstacle to effectively improve public services for basic needs. At this occasion, members of the campaign took an active part in developing CSOs inputs for the final declaration and contributed to several statements before and after the Forum.

IV. RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT: ENSURING SOCIAL IMPACT OF EU AND FRENCH R&D

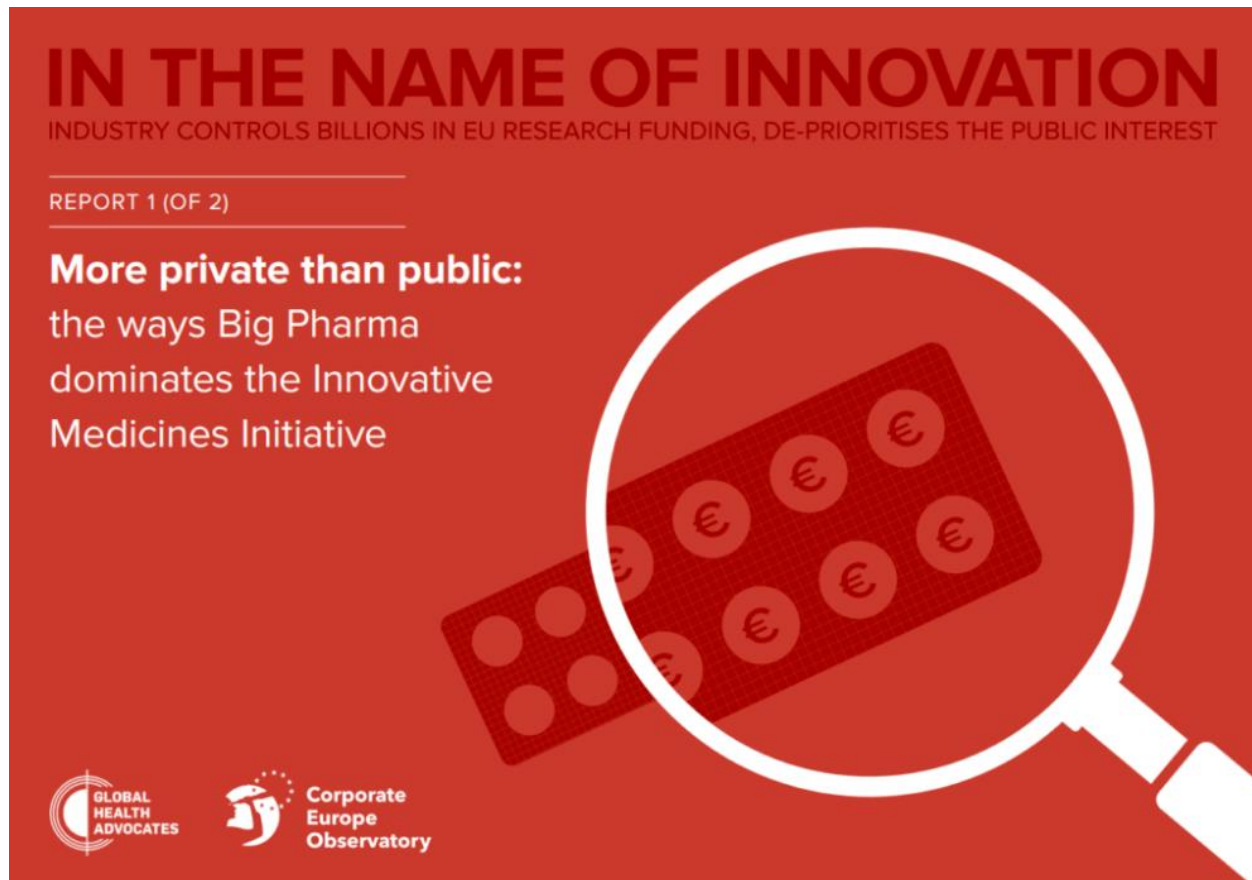
Ensuring transparency of public R&D funding in France

GHA has been working for several years to improve the transparency of the medicines market, with a view to ensuring access to health products and health for all. While the COVID-19 pandemic has brought these issues to the forefront, the year 2020 was marked by a major step forward in this direction. In October, an historic amendment was adopted by the French parliament, aiming at requiring pharmaceutical industries to publish the public R&D investments they have received for the development of their products. This proposal, already widely supported in 2019 (notably by the current French Minister of Health Olivier Véran, when he was still an MP), had already been adopted in the framework of the social security bill for 2020 at the end of the second reading, but was subsequently censored for procedural reasons. The adoption of this provision in 2020 at the first reading was therefore a great victory towards more transparency in the drug market. This progress has been confirmed during the examination of the text in public session. To be effective, this provision must now be the subject of an implementing decree from the French government. Therefore, GHA will work hard to push for its rapid publication in order to improve transparency on the pharmaceutical market as soon as possible.

New reports 'In the name of innovation' show industry controls billions for EU's health and climate research

Two in-depth reports 'In the Name of Innovation' were published on 25 May 2020 by GHA and Corporate Europe Observatory (CEO). They investigate two research Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) between the European Commission and industry lobby groups: [the Innovative Medicines Initiative Joint Undertaking \(IMI\)](#) and [the Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking \(BBI\)](#). For the past 15 years, industry lobby groups have controlled the use of €3.6 billion in public EU funds for health and climate research through two public-private partnerships, at the expense of public interest. These lobby groups have prevented these partnerships from meaningfully investing into research projects addressing societal challenges such as epidemic preparedness, or viable climate solutions, and mostly made them fund their own commercially profitable research projects instead. They are now lobbying for these partnerships to be renewed in a comparable form in the next EU budget, under the EU's Research programme 'Horizon Europe' (2021-2027), with the support of the European Commission's DG Research & Innovation. What is at stake here is the corporate capture of large areas of the EU's research policy and budgets, at the expense of public needs, our health, and nature. GHA also published [videos](#), a [podcast](#) explaining the content

of the report, and got a short gig on the daily ARTE news a famous French-German TV channel. In July, GHA published a [reaction](#) to the IMI's response to its report.



Developing societal impact pathways and indicators to define, track and measure societal impact of EU biomedical R&I

At the end of 2020, the European Commission tendered its €350,000 pilot project, (originally developed by GHA together with the office of former MEP Cabezon Ruiz) to define and help ensure a fair public health return on EU medical R&D investments. Via this study, experts will draft and develop societal impact Key Performance Indicators for EU R&D funding together with societal actors. GHA will follow this process, participate in the study and ensure the results will be used for future advocacy on needs-driven EU R&I.

V. STRENGTHEN CIVIL SOCIETY IN COUNTRIES WITH HIGHER HEALTH INEQUALITIES TO INFLUENCE THEIR DECISION-MAKERS

Strengthening ASAPSU's partnership in Ivory Coast

GHA's long standing partnership with [ASAPSU](#), a health nongovernmental organization based in Ivory Coast, reached a turning point in 2020 as ASAPSU became an official member of the [ACTION Partnership](#). Along the year, Global Health Advocates provided technical support and strategic guidance to ASAPSU's team to help strengthen their capacities and organizational structure for the development and the implementation of impactful advocacy strategies.

GHA coaching sessions: sharing GHA's practices and tools:

As part of GHA's support to ASAPSU, GHA's staff offered thematic coaching sessions to share their best advocacy strategy skills tips. For each of the following topics, live discussions were organized:

- Using social networks for advocacy
- How to perform non-partisan advocacy during election campaigns?
- Building networks and tools to reach MPs
- Policy brief writing and dissemination

GHA's Facilitation role: Meeting with the Ivory Coast Country Director's Office:

Thanks to the support of the ACTION Partnership, ASAPSU had the opportunity to meet with the World Bank Country director for Ivory Coast to discuss the role of the bank in health and sharing perspectives on priority challenges. GHA took part in the preparatory work and supported ASAPSU's team for messaging and questions around health financing, the human capital project and the role of the World bank in the COVID-19 response.