# 2024 A YEAR OF ENGAGEMENT

















## OUR ANNUAL REPORT

### **KEY RESULTS**

# **EDITO**



### By Alexia Sena, President of the Board

Before I delve into some of the obvious challenges we faced in 2024, I would like to congratulate GHA and our long term partner the <u>ACTION</u> partnership, in securing a new multi-annual grant with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the 4 years to come. In a time when NGO funding is becoming increasingly scarce, this grant will

allow GHA to continue to advocate for better health policies. This good news coincides with our celebration of the <u>20 year-anniversary of the ACTION partnership</u>. With this network of locally rooted civil society organisations across the globe, we have been influencing policy and organisation resources to fight diseases of poverty and achieve more equitable access to health.

2024 was also an election year for both the EU and (unexpectedly) France, yielding results that further shifted political power away from the centre and calls on our organisation to adapt and rethink our messages and strategies.

In addition, major budget cuts for development aid in France have seriously been putting funding for global public goods at risks. International solidarity funding is being heavily criticized and questioned globally (for instance, the election of Trump) and while it certainly needs to evolve, it should not disappear. The political environment is becoming increasingly and ever more quickly challenging for NGOs. At GHA we continue to be creative and flexible in order to act rapidly and adapt. I particularly command the teams for their great work on innovative financing mechanisms such as the Financial Transaction Tax. Together with an economist, we investigated the tax collection process and uncovered an annual shortfall of up to 3bn€, giving an opportunity for the French government to tighten transparency practices and secure additional finance.

Our 2022-2027 Strategy also called on our organisation to diversify its funding and respond to trends and challenges affecting global health. 2024 was also the year when GHA started its advocacy on challenges posed by AI in health, plugging into the existing civil society ecosystem and linking with key institutions for the implementation of key EU regulations on AI and tech use and deployment in France. We are proud to add to civil society efforts alerting on the risks of AI deployment, countering the techno-solutionist vision adopted by the French government.

## **GLOBAL ADVOCACY FOR LOCAL** IMPACT : A YEAR IN ACTION

#### JANUARY 2024



First meeting with the Special Envoy, Secretary General of the Nutrition for Growth Summit

### FEBRUARY 2024

<u>Webinar</u> "Navigating the Team Europe approach in the EU-AU health partnership"



### MARCH 2024



Meeting with Gavi's new CEO and the Executive Director of the Global Fund

MAY 2024



Realease of "Soignons nos algos" <u>report</u>

#### APRIL 2024

Meeting with the Minister of State for Development, Francophonie and International Partnerships during World Immunization Week



### JUNE 2024

Team photo during the summer team Workshop in Paris



#### SEPTEMBER 2024



Distribution of the "<u>Welcome pack</u>" to new MEPs at the European Parliament in Brussels

#### DECEMBER 2024

Organizing a symposium at Sorbonne University on the Financial Transaction Tax. This half-day event aims to explore ways to improve the #FTT as an innovative fiscal tool for supporting #InternationalSolidarity.



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#### NOVEMBER 2024

AMREF France becomes a new member of The Collectif Santé Mondiale.



### OCTOBER 2024



Speaking at the Civil Society Policy Forum during the World Bank Annual Meetings

## **INCREASED & MORE EFFECTIVE PUBLIC HEALTH SPENDING**

### The French Financial Transaction Tax: GHA unveils

shortfall in tax collection process

ince 2011, we've partnered with French civil society groups to implement and expand the scope of the Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) - a tax on the financial sector that funds French budgets for development aid and global health. Despite our persistent advocacy, by 2024, the debate around the FTT had grown stagnant, with most decision-makers seemingly set in their opinions and the conversation stalled. In order to reinvigorate the debate, GHA decided to conduct an analysis of the tax collection process.



Gautier Centlivre, advocacy coordinator for GHAFrance, appeared on Le Média TV. Where he denounced the shortcomings of the **#TTF** collection system.

The government pledged to review some of the missing (redacted) data we had requested.

The report was shared with all newly elected MPs, and was a central focus of our advocacy during the annual budget discussions from September to December 2024.

The FTT was an important topic in both the National Assembly and the Senate.

Our findings were widely covered by national newspapers and radio outlets, including Le Monde, l'Humanité, Ouest France, Radio France, La Tribune, and France Culture. GHA was also invited to present the results on a web-TV platform.





In the end, the 2025 budget bill included an increase in the tax rate, from 0.3% to 0.4%. But unfortunately, the FTT is no longer administratively earmarked, meaning that the funds raised by the increase in this tax rate will no longer directly finance international solidarity.



Les milliards perdus de la solidarité

internationale

Depuis 2012, la France a instauré

une taxe unique, symbolique et

concrète, reliant les transactions de la

mondialisation aux actions de solidarité

internationale. Ce projet, depuis sa

conception jusqu'à sa mise en œuvre,

est le fruit de la mobilisation des ONG.

Nous avons constamment œuvré

pour son renforcement, en soutenant l'élargissement de l'assiette fiscale, afin

que les activités les plus nocives soient davantage mises à contribution, ou

l'augmentation du taux de cette taxe.

Cependant, depuis 2012, nous avons

négligé un aspect crucial : la collecte de cette taxe repose sur un système

Our investigation uncovered an annual shortfall of up to €3 billion in tax collection practices. Before making these findings public, GHA alerted the government, prompting an immediate meeting with senior officials from the offices of the French President. Prime Minister. and Minister of Finance. all amidst the French legislative elections in June 2024.

In December 2024, GHA organised a conference at the Sorbonne University with the economist Gunther Capelle Blancard, bringing together legislators, regulators, academics and representatives of civil society, to discuss the potential of the FTT to further fund global public goods.

### **ADVANCING GLOBAL HEALTH EQUITY**

2. EU elections: briefing the new EU Parliament and EU Commission on global health challenges

n June 2024, 720 Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) were elected in the first elections since the Covid-19 pandemic. In July 2024, Ursula von der Leyen was re-elected as President of the European Commission. After the summer she put forward a list of Commissioners-Designate, which were approved by the European Parliament in November 2024.

Considering the increasingly populist rhetoric globally, it was crucial to raise awareness of the importance of global health and international development among new MEPs, but also among Commissioners-Designate, such as the Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jozef Síkela.



GHA established new relationships with MEPs and staff members and raised awareness of the importance of keeping global health on the EU agenda.

A briefing session within the European Parliament for MEPs and staff on the importance of adequate financing for **Global Health Institutions was organised** ahead of the Commissioner hearing.



**JOB ALERT** 

EU

A Welcome Pack for newly elected MEPs, including a briefing outlining key challenges and opportunities on global health and international cooperation was widely distributed in the European Parliament.

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Revised Mission Letter: GHA created and sent a reviewed and corrected version of European Commission President Von der Leyen's mission letter to Commissioner-Designate Síkela, aligning it with our advocacy goals.



### EU COMMISSIONER FOR INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS than commercial interests.

**Spoof Job Advertisement:** GHA launched a fake online job ad for the role of European Commissioner for International Partnerships, emphasizing that the position should focus on human development rather

### **REALISING THE RIGHT TO ESSENTIAL HEALTH SERVICES**

3. Dose of Solidarity Campaign: mobilising France and the EU to champion global vaccine equity

hile vaccination can prevent up to 5 million deaths per year, major challenges still prevent universal immunisation coverage. Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance's upcoming 6.0 strategic cycle for the years 2026-2030 represents an opportunity to immunise more children, prevent deaths caused by vaccine preventable illnesses and increase regional vaccine manufacturing. In 2024, GHA led advocacy towards French and European decision-makers to foster their meaningful contribution to the successful replenishment of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.



Two declarations stand out as particularly encouraging signals: President Macron's announcement of a French commitment "at least equal to previous ones", and the European Commission's announcement to co-host Gavi's replenishment conference in 2025.

During the Dose of Solidarity campaign, we received extensive backing from <u>influential personalities</u> and collected powerful quotes from decision-makers, which helped maintain focus on the Gavi replenishment and vaccine equity.





GHA launched the campaign "A Dose of Solidarity" to mobilise France, the European Union, its Member States and the international community ahead of Gavi's upcoming replenishment to advance equitable immunisation globally. During During World Immunisation Week GHA organised a joint lobby tour with our NGO partner from Cote d'Ivoire ASAPSU in Paris. With several <u>calls to</u> <u>action</u> and <u>op-eds</u> towards <u>France</u> (also <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>) and the EU, GHA and its NGO partners reminded decisionmakers about the key role they could and should play in Gavi's replenishment.

Call to Action

Dese of RITY

## INVEST IN HEALTH FOR ALL

4. Securing France's long-term commitment to fighting malnutrition through their hosting of the Nutrition for Growth Summit (N4G)

Midst a context where French institutions and policymakers possess relatively limited expertise on malnutrition, GHA faced the challenge of mobilizing French and European MPs to advocate for France and the EU to take on a leadership role in making the N4G Summit a pivotal moment for international nutrition advocacy. To achieve this, we focused on ensuring that France, as the host country, set an appropriately ambitious agenda for the Summit and significantly scaled up its political and financial commitments to nutrition, with a particular emphasis on high-impact interventions.



GHA, both bilaterally and as part of the French and European INGOs networks, supported the N4G Special Envoy throughout his mandate. We succeeded in raising awareness of French cabinets and administration as well as EU DG representatives on nutrition and accountability through key analyses and recommendations. GHA published an <u>analysis of</u> <u>French N4G 2021</u> commitments to inform the next commitment to be made by France at the Nutrition 4 Growth 2025 Summit.



about malnutrition among their peers and

other stakeholders.

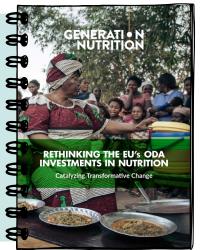
- GHA conducted an <u>awareness</u> <u>campaign</u> targeting French MPs, organizing discussions with nutrition experts and inspiring events with renowned athletes.



GHA published <u>a blog series</u> on the impact of gender inequalities on the nutrition of women and girls.

In April at the World Bank Spring Meetings, the French Minister in charge of International Partnerships demonstrated that nutrition had become a higher priority of France's development agenda. The MPs who got involved became real «champions.» actively spreading the word

As a member of Generation Nutrition, GHA co-authored <u>a report on EU</u> <u>ODA funding for nutrition security-</u> <u>sensitive and specific programs</u>. The report was presented at a special roundtable hosted by the Permanent Representation of France to the EU. It highlighted the importance of integrating nutrition into all policies, and raised awareness among key stakeholders of the importance of an adequate EU pledge at the upcoming N4G Summit.



### **ADDRESSING KEY DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH INEQUALITY**

5. "Soignons nos Algos": GHA campaigns on artificial intelligence (AI) deployment in healthcare

HA has been monitoring the adoption - and implementation of key EU AI and tech regulations in France: the Digital Service Act (DSA), the EU AI Act and the European Health Data Space (EHDS). Thanks to a 2-year grant from the European AI & Society Fund, we have been doing policy, advocacy, communication and coalition work on AI in France and at EU level since 2022. France has put digital issues at the heart of its economic strategy with a particularly pro-business approach and competences residing with its Economic Ministry. Few voices outside civil society challenge the mainstream "start-up nation" narrative. France has a very limited regulation appetite, with digital issues often being left to self-regulation by companies. In France, health is the topic where disinformation is most pervasive. Vaccine hesitancy and anti-vaccine conspiracy during COVID19 is a testimony to the threats it can pose to democracy, trust in established institutions and human life.



The «Soignons nos algos» newsletter is a collaborative space for sharing information and fostering engagement. The newsletter highlights the efforts of civil society organizations working to prioritize the public good, where there is a significant power imbalance between big tech companies and citizens.

GHA called for a public label to assess AI technologies in healthcare, ensuring safety, transparency, and citizen protection in a fragmented regulatory landscape.

GHA ran awareness activities to fight the health infodemic and its impact on democracy, highlighting its rapid spread through social media algorithms. We also pointed out the limitations of current French regulations and advocated for a stronger implementation of the EU's Digital Service Act (DSA).»

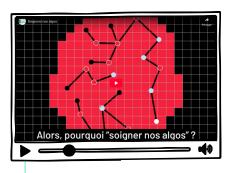


GHA is a founding member of the <u>European Digital</u> <u>Health and Rights Alliance</u> which coordinates advocacy on tech and health policy in Europe through networking, information exchange, strategizing and sharing of best practices among civil society organisations, academics and other relevant stakeholders.





GHA spoke out about the lack of transparency in public algorithms in France. The problem is even starker in the private sector, where algorithms are often hidden behind trade secrets and face fewer transparency requirements. This issue is especially concerning in healthcare, where biased algorithms can directly impact access to medical treatments or financial assistance.



GHA launched an advocacy campaign <u>Soignons nos Algos</u> ("Heal our algorithms") on AI regulation challenges in the field of healthcare in France, aiming to rebalance the dominant tech narrative and alerting on risks of hasty AI deployment.

## THE ACTION GLOBAL HEALTH ADVOCACY PARTNERSHIP CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF IMPACT!

ounded in 2004, the <u>ACTION Global</u> <u>Health Advocacy Partnership</u> is a growing partnership of 14 locally rooted, independent organisations based on 5 continents that work together driven by a shared mission to ensure equitable health outcomes for all.

### 20 years of impact

For 2 decades, ACTION has worked relentlessly in low-, middle-, and highincome countries and on the global stage to strengthen both national and global health policies, increase the scale and impact of financing to improve health in low-resource settings, and generate greater accountability from key actors.





G lobal Health Advocates stands for true partnership and respect for the organisations of the South, and has a genuine desire to support the implementation of organised advocacy that takes into account both context and stakeholders. GHA doesn't just talk about respecting differences; it's how they work with others. We hope and intend to continue this adventure that is continually adapting.

Solange Koné, Partnerships, Strategies and Advocacy Director, ASAPSU, member of ACTION Global Health Advocates has been a proud member of ACTION since 2008.

Key to ACTION's model is that Partners come from both wealthy countries that donate to global health programs and from countries that are putting those programs into action.



Over the past two decades, ACTION Partners have helped mobilize government pledges totaling more than \$130.21 billion. The funds have been used to fight TB, AIDS, malaria, polio, malnutrition, COVID-19, and more.



# **OUR RESOURCES**

**1278 848 €** total budget in 2024

## WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF:



European Artificial Intelligence & Society Fund



STOPAIDS. UNITING UK VOICES ON

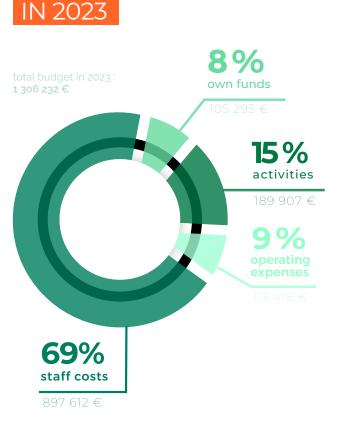




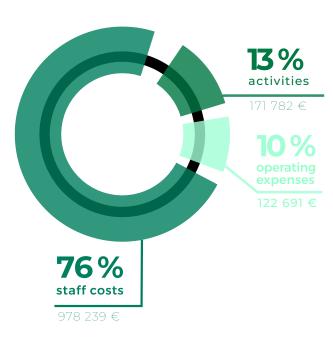
Eleanor Crook Foundation



Thank you to our partners



RESOURCE ALLOCATION



**RESOURCE ALLOCATION** 

IN 2024

# **GHA**

**Created in 2011, Global Health Advocates** is a French NGO whose mission is to carry out political advocacy in France and with the EU institutions, in partnership with civil society, to ensure policies and resources are effectively addressing health inequalities.

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