

Gates Foundation

Statements of Commitment to the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty

General section

1. The Gates Foundation hereby voluntarily *joins the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty* and states its dedication to pursue the Alliance's mission, objectives and principles, as *expressed* in the Global Alliance's Terms of Reference and Governance Framework, and to collaborate with other members to achieve lasting solutions to poverty and hunger worldwide, as expressed below.

The Gates Foundation:

2. *Recognizes* that hunger and malnutrition are the perverse manifestations of persistent, structural poverty and inequality, and recognizes the need to end poverty and hunger in all their forms and dimensions and to fully and effectively implement the 2030 Agenda.
3. *Acknowledges* the alarming growth in the number of people facing food insecurity and poverty in recent years, noting that, despite all significant past and current efforts, the world is not on track to meet SDG 1 and 2 targets, inequality is also on the rise (SDG 10), and a significant increase in collective ambition, as well as improvement in collective alignment and coordination for the fight against hunger and poverty, is urgently needed.
4. To that effect, *endorses* the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty and its mission to *support and accelerate efforts to eradicate hunger and poverty (SDGs 1 and 2) while reducing inequalities (SDG 10), contributing to revitalize global partnerships for sustainable development (SDG 17) and to the achievement of other interlinked SDGs, and championing sustainable, inclusive and just transitions.*
5. *Notes* that it is crucial for the world to unite behind large-scale, integrated approaches combining international, regional, national, and local levels, that recognize the interconnected nature of challenges and solutions to hunger and poverty and pair social protection with access to goods and services that can help the poor and vulnerable populations to overcome structural barriers and drive responsible investment in their productive capacity. These complementary services include but are not limited to interventions for poverty reduction, food security and nutrition, early childhood support, education and skills development, employment services, health and care services, as well as family farmers and smallholders' access to finance, extension services, research and/or agricultural inputs, in line with international commitments and obligations.
6. *Particularly recognizes* the high value and positive impact of quality implementation of national and local country-owned, inclusive policy instruments and programmes, focused on the poorest and most vulnerable, in the fields of poverty reduction, social protection, food security and nutrition, gender equality, decent work in the agri-food sector,

skills development, family farming and smallholder agriculture, food systems transformation, health and care services and resilience building.

7. Also *acknowledges* the Global Alliance's reference basket of such policies as a collectively built, ongoing collection of examples with robust evidence to reduce hunger and poverty, and as a useful basis to guide joint action and increase alignment of the international community at country level. This acknowledgement is applicable to the policy basket approach as a general guide to action and does not imply endorsement of any specific policy instrument or programme contained in the basket.
8. Therefore, by joining the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, *commits* to do its best efforts, in its own field of action, and according to its own mandate, capacities, priorities, preferences, procedures, and legal arrangements and framework, to support the implementation of policy instruments and programmes at country level as appropriate, including by the promotion of shared learning and the mobilization of resources, public and private, at scale.

In particular:

Financial support commitments

The Gates Foundation:

[1] Informs that USD 2.3 billion of financial resources have been already publicly committed by the foundation in 2021 and 2022 (details below) to be used in the reference timeframe 2021-2026 to support investment in nutrition and climate-adaptive agricultural development in Africa and South Asia. These existing commitments contribute to the fight against hunger and poverty, aligned with SDG1 and SDG2. The amount informed is the best possible estimation considering different applicable modalities, allocations and budget cycles, and is subject to changing circumstances and budgets. It is not to be considered a pledge of new and additional resources.

Additional detail: The foundation publicly announced a commitment at the UN Food Systems Summit in 2021 to invest \$922 million over five years in maternal and child nutrition in Africa and South Asia. In 2022 at COP27, the foundation announced a commitment of \$1.4 billion over 4 years in climate adaptive programs to support smallholder farmers across Africa and South Asia.

[2] Announces two new grants of up to USD 4.2 Million, to be fully disbursed by December 2026, to implement, improve, or scale-up the implementation of policies within the Alliance's policy basket.

The new funding commitment described above will be applied towards two projects aligned with the Alliance's priorities and policy basket: The BRAC's Ultra-Poor Graduation (UPG) initiative which will drive innovation and fill implementation gaps to expand large-scale, government-led UPG programs, reaching 1.5 million households up to 2030 ; and the Nutrition and Social Protection program in partnership with the World Bank, which aims to expand technical resources available to promote nutrition sensitive

social protection in World Bank funded programs, with a focus on women and children.

In addition to the above, informs and commits to implementing the following actions, programmes, and other activities aligned with SDGs 1 and 2 and the Global Alliance's objectives:

The Foundation is committed to supporting the following efforts and initiatives:

- The Nutrition for Growth (N4G) in 2025, along with other donors committed to ending malnutrition globally.
- The Child Nutrition Fund, reinforcing its capacity to address global malnutrition and promote sustainable development.
- IDA as a key funding mechanism to fuel the development of Low-Income Countries.

Commits to make its best efforts to improve the destination, allocation and alignment of the use of its resources, including through coordination and cooperation facilitated by the Global Alliance, to support member countries to implement, improve, or scale-up the implementation of select programmes or policy instruments in the Alliance's reference basket to drive the fight against hunger and poverty, in line with sustainable country-led financing and implementation strategies.

Knowledge support commitments

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation:

Commits, through its partners, to make its best efforts to co-create and provide technical assistance, capacity building and strengthening, training and/or knowledge-sharing on voluntary and mutually agreed terms in response to requests by Global Alliance member countries that choose to implement policy instruments and programmes in the Alliance's policy basket that are compatible with its areas of expertise.

Commits to make its best efforts to improve the alignment of its actions, including through the Global Alliance's coordination mechanisms, leveraging, and partnering with other actors to better support large scale, country-owned implementation of policies and programmes in the reference basket by Global Alliance member countries, aiming at enhancing country-level outcomes.

Commits to collaborate with other Alliance members to develop innovative solutions and share good practices in learning and knowledge exchange and dissemination on voluntary and mutually agreed terms, data collection and analysis, including by leveraging existing local, national, and international knowledge networks, coalitions, communities and other fora related to aspects relevant to the fight against hunger and poverty.

[1] Informs its capacity and readiness, via its partners, to support Alliance member governments in implementing, improving or scaling-up the following policy instrument types, referenced in the Global Alliance's basket of policy instruments:

Access to credit and financial services

Inclusive credit and financial services

Support to Smallholder farmers

Climate resilient agricultural technologies

Pro-poor access to agricultural inputs, technology and knowledge

Nutrition

Prevention and control of micronutrient deficiencies

Maternal and early childhood nutrition

Prevention, detection and management of malnutrition

Promotion and access to healthy diets, including through education and affordable/subsidized prices

Integrated programmes (IP)

Integrated programmes for gender equality and empowerment

[2] Informs and commits to implementing the following actions, programmes, and other activities in support of the Global Alliance's objectives:

As a grantmaking organization, The Gates Foundation funds a network of implementing partners that provide evidence-based policy support to LMIC governments - with an emphasis in Africa and South Asia - to reduce poverty, improve food security and address malnutrition. These partner organizations have a wealth of technical and knowledge resources aligned with the policy basket components mentioned above, that are made available to countries and local organizations according to the existing funding and geographic priorities. The Gates Foundation commits to (a) encourage its technical and implementing partners to join the Alliance as appropriate, (b) facilitate coordination across partners in support of the Alliance's goals and (c) support partners to implement technical assistance initiatives on priority geographies under the Alliance's coordination.

Point (c) above will be enabled by existing grants and programs that are aligned with the Alliance's policy basket and potentially through an implementation fund to be set up by the foundation in 2025. This mechanism will include the following partners and programs:

Smallholder Farmer Support: AGRA, FAO MAFAP, World Bank Gender Innovation Lab, Akademiya2063, Shamba Centre, CABI, CGIAR/IFPRI, University of Sheffield, Tufts University

Maternal and Child Nutrition: Results for Development, UNICEF, World Food Programme, Helen Keller International, GAIN

General acknowledgments

Recognizes the possibility to, including through the mechanisms available to Global Alliance members, coordinate, partner with and/or seek support from the Global

Alliance's other members, within their respective capacities, availability, and fields of activity, to carry out the present commitments with greater effectiveness.

While recognizing that the above commitments are voluntary and non-legally binding, being subject to and carried out under its own capacities, regulations, priorities, and modalities, as well as to the availability of appropriate resourcing, *strives* to seriously consider, as appropriate, and according to its own legal frameworks and governance process, to review its procedures and priorities as found necessary to better deliver on the present commitments, enhance synergies and joint efforts with other entities and initiatives, and improve outcomes on the collective fight against hunger and poverty.