



for every child



Abu Dhabi Pledging Moment 2025: Press Clips



Global Leaders pledge US\$ 1.9 billion in Abu Dhabi to End Polio and protect children worldwide

ABU DHABI, UAE (8 December 2025) International leaders, philanthropists, and global health partners [announced](#) today in Abu Dhabi a collective US\$ 1.9 billion to advance polio eradication. This includes approximately \$1.2 billion in newly pledged funds that will reduce [the remaining resource gap](#) for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative's (GPEI) 2022-2029 Strategy to \$440 million. The funds will accelerate vital efforts to reach 370 million children each year with polio vaccines, alongside strengthening health systems in affected countries to protect children from other preventable diseases.

The global pledging event, 'Investing in Humanity: Uniting to End Polio', was hosted by the Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity in partnership with GPEI, and took place at Abu Dhabi Finance Week.

The event was attended by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Vice Chairman of the Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity; Ahsan Iqbal Chaudhary, Minister for Planning and Development, Pakistan; Bill Gates, Chair of the Gates Foundation; and Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization; alongside leaders from governments, multilateral institutions, and the private sector.

[Pledges](#) were made from a diverse group of donors and countries, including: \$1.2 billion from the Gates Foundation; \$140 million from the Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity; \$450 million from Rotary International; \$100 million from Bloomberg Philanthropies; \$154 million from Pakistan and \$62 million from Germany; \$46 million from the United States of America; \$6 million from Japan; \$4 million from the Islamic Food & Nutrition Council of America (IFANCA); and \$3 million from Luxembourg.....

... "Supporting children and protecting the most vulnerable is central to IFANCA's mission," said IFANCA President Dr. Muhammad Munir Chaudry. "We are proud to renew our commitment to the global effort to end polio and to help ensure every child is reached with lifesaving protection. The last mile is the hardest, but we stand with our partners across GPEI to finish the job and create a world finally free of polio."

<https://polioeradication.org/news/global-leaders-pledge-us-1-9-billion-in-abu-dhabi-to-end-polio-and-protect-children-worldwide/>

Abu Dhabi Secure \$1.9 Billion To Finish The Fight Against Polio

by ESG News • December 8, 2025

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- USD 1.9 billion in global commitments announced at ADFW 2025, including USD 1.2 billion in new funding
- Resource gap for GPEI 2022–2029 strategy drops to USD 440 million
- Funding aims to reach 370 million children annually and strengthen national health systems

Roughly USD 1.2 billion of the total reflects new pledges, shrinking the outstanding financing gap to USD 440 million. The capital will accelerate immunisation campaigns aimed at 370 million children per year, with a parallel focus on health system resilience in regions where disease risk remains high.

Pledges spanned public, private and philanthropic funders. The Gates Foundation committed USD 1.2 billion. The Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity pledged USD 140 million. Rotary International committed USD 450 million, Bloomberg Philanthropies USD 100 million, Pakistan USD 154 million and Germany USD 62 million. Additional support came from the United States at USD 46 million, Japan at USD 6 million, **IFANCA at USD 4 million** and Luxembourg at USD 3 million.

A Near-Eradicated Disease, But A Narrow Window

Wild poliovirus is now endemic in only Afghanistan and Pakistan, but variant strains continue to surface through low-immunisation corridors. The stakes are long term and financial. Full eradication would save the world more than USD 33 billion by 2100 compared with managing recurring outbreaks.

<https://esgnews.com/abu-dhabi-secure-1-9-billion-to-finish-the-fight-against-polio/>

Candid.

Philanthropy News Digest

Funders commit \$1.9 billion to advance global polio eradication effort

December 9, 2025

The [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) (GPEI) has announced commitments totaling \$1.9 billion from a coalition of global health funders to close financial gaps and support the distribution of polio vaccines to more than 370 million children each year.

The pledges were made in Abu Dhabi at events hosted by the [Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity](#) (MBZFH) in partnership with GPEI and include awards from the [Gates Foundation](#) (\$1.2 billion), MBZFH (\$140 million), [Rotary International](#) (\$450 million), [Bloomberg Philanthropies](#) (\$100 million), and [Islamic Food & Nutrition Council of America](#) (\$3 million). National contributors include Pakistan (\$154 million), Germany (\$62 million), the United States (\$46 million), Japan (\$6 million), and Luxembourg (\$3 million).

The funds will accelerate efforts to inoculate children globally with specific attention to programs in Pakistan and Afghanistan—the only countries where polio remains endemic—alongside strengthening health systems to protect children from other preventable diseases. With the latest commitments, GPEI’s 2022-29 program remains underfunded by an estimated \$440 million.

“We are on the cusp of eradicating polio and securing a historic win for humanity,” said [World Health Organization](#) director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. “But we need all countries, partners, and donors to step up now to get the job done.”

“We’re 99.9 percent of the way there—but the last stretch demands the same determination that got us this far,” said Gates Foundation chair [Bill Gates](#). “The fight to end polio shows what is possible when the world invests together in a shared goal.”

Note: We recognize the publication has listed the incorrect pledging amount for IFANCA. Press release source would need to reach out and make the correction.

ADFW Opens with Spotlight on Abu Dhabi's Global Ambition and Major Humanitarian Pledge

USD 1.9 Billion Polio Pledge at ADFW

In the afternoon, the global pledging, 'Investing in Humanity' panel, was hosted by the MBZ Foundation for Humanity, in partnership with the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI). Gates was joined on stage by Her Highness Sheikha Mariam bint Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Chair of the Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity and H.E. Dr. Mekdes Daba, Minister of Health, Ethiopia.

Pledges were made from a diverse group of donors and countries, including USD 1.2 billion from the Gates Foundation; USD 140 million from the Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity; USD 450 million from Rotary International; USD 100 million from Bloomberg Philanthropies; USD 154 million from Pakistan and USD 62 million from Germany; USD 46 million from the United States of America; USD 6 million from Japan; \$4 million from the Islamic Food & Nutrition Council of America (IFANCA); and USD 3 million from Luxembourg.

"The fight to end polio shows what is possible when the world invests together in a shared goal. We're 99.9 per cent of the way there – but the last stretch demands the same determination that got us this far," said Gates. "This renewed funding will help us cross the finish line and strengthen the systems that protect children from this terrible disease for good."

Global leaders pledge \$1.9 billion in Abu Dhabi to end polio, protect children worldwide

Funds will accelerate vital efforts to reach 370m children each year with polio vaccines

Last updated: December 08, 2025 | 16:30

Abu Dhabi: International leaders, philanthropists, and global health partners announced on Monday in Abu Dhabi a collective US\$1.9 billion to advance polio eradication. This includes approximately \$1.2 billion in newly pledged funds that will reduce the remaining resource gap for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative's (GPEI) 2022-2029 Strategy to \$440 million.

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...“Supporting children and protecting the most vulnerable is central to IFANCA’s mission,” said IFANCA President Dr. Muhammad Munir Chaudry. “We are proud to renew our commitment to the global effort to end polio and to help ensure every child is reached with lifesaving protection. The last mile is the hardest, but we stand with our partners across GPEI to finish the job and create a world finally free of polio.”

Abu Dhabi summit boosts Pakistan's push to end polio

Pakistan commits \$154m to strengthen nationwide vaccination campaigns

ABU DHABI: Pakistan has emerged as a central focus of a global polio funding drive after international donors pledged \$1.9 billion in Abu Dhabi to accelerate eradication efforts, with Pakistan remaining one of only two countries where the virus is still endemic.

Pakistan committed \$154 million to strengthen nationwide vaccination campaigns, surveillance and emergency response.

Pakistan's Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal represented the country at the event, which was also attended by Bill Gates, World Health Organisation Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, and members of the UAE leadership, including Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Sheikha Mariam bint Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Minister Ahsan Iqbal said the country was intensifying door-to-door immunisation drives, especially in high-risk districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Karachi.

Major international pledges included \$1.2 billion from the Gates Foundation, \$140 million from the Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity, \$450 million from Rotary International, \$100 million from Bloomberg Philanthropies, \$62 million from Germany, \$46 million from the United States, \$6 million from Japan, \$4 million from the Islamic Food & Nutrition Council of America (IFANCA) and \$3 million from Luxembourg, along with contributions from other partner countries.....



Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI)

2,541 followers

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\$1.9B committed to end polio! 🌍 Global leaders united at [#ADFW2025](#) to make a historic investment in health. This funding will help reach millions of children with life-saving vaccines and strengthen health systems, moving us one step closer to a polio-free world.

Huge thank you to [Gates Foundation](#), [Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity](#), [Bloomberg Philanthropies](#), [Rotary International](#), [Government of Pakistan](#), [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan](#), [Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development \(BMZ\)](#), [IFANCA \(Islamic Food and Nutrition Council of America\)](#). Your leadership is helping build a brighter, polio-free future for every child.

[#EndPolio](#)



Stephanie Chen Rainford and 87 others

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https://www.linkedin.com/posts/global-polio-eradication-initiative-gpei_adfw2025-endpolio-activity-7403792113777397760-dVSI/



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Today at Abu Dhabi Finance Week, global leaders and philanthropists reaffirmed their commitment to accelerating polio eradication — including our longstanding partner **IFANCA (Islamic Food and Nutrition Council of America)**, whose advocacy and support continue to strengthen immunization efforts in high-risk communities.

These commitments will help advance the **Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI)**, supporting efforts to reach 370 million children annually with polio vaccines and strengthen health systems in the world's highest-risk regions.

Polio remains endemic in only two countries — Afghanistan and Pakistan — but we know that polio anywhere is a threat everywhere. Today's funding, including IFANCA's pledge of \$4 million over four years, represents a crucial step forward in the final push to **#EndPolio** for good and protect future generations.

"The last mile is the hardest, but we stand with our partners across GPEI to finish the job and create a world finally free of polio," said IFANCA President Dr. Muhammad Munir Chaudry.

👉 Learn more: <https://lnkd.in/gy-nJsKE>

#ADFW #ADFW2025 #EndPolioNow

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/endpolio-adfw-adfw2025-share-7403902451906400258-Dcj0/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAADMWi7YBYKvNd3Fj_uS1UtE-WW1hVpxpsiw



Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity

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Today, global leaders joined in Abu Dhabi to announce a collective US\$1.9 billion to help end polio and protect children worldwide. We were proud to convene this moment with [Global Polio Eradication Initiative \(GPEI\)](#), and to stand with our partners in a demonstration of our shared resolve to achieve a polio-free world for children everywhere.

We warmly thank all those who joined us, and the many countries, communities, and colleagues around the world whose leadership is so essential to ending polio for good.

[Gates Foundation](#) | [UNICEF](#) | [World Health Organization](#) | [UNICEF Polio Eradication](#)
| [Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance](#) | [Rotary International](#) | [Bloomberg Philanthropies](#)
| [IFANCA \(Islamic Food and Nutrition Council of America\)](#)



https://www.linkedin.com/posts/mohammed-bin-zayed-foundation-for-humanity_today-global-leaders-joined-in-abu-dhabi-activity-7403808981250465792-79eI/



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Rotary International donates \$450 Million to support the fight against Polio.

ABU DHABI, UAE (8 December 2025) International leaders, philanthropists, and global health partners announced today in Abu Dhabi a collective US\$ 1.9 billion to advance polio eradication. This includes approximately \$1.2 billion in newly pledged funds that will reduce the remaining resource gap for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative's (GPEI) 2022-2029 Strategy to \$440 million. The funds will accelerate vital efforts to reach 370 million children each year with polio vaccines, alongside strengthening health systems in affected countries to protect children from other preventable diseases.

Pledges were made from a diverse group of donors and countries, including: \$1.2 billion from the Gates Foundation; \$140 million from the Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity; \$450 million from Rotary International; \$100 million from Bloomberg Philanthropies; \$154 million from Pakistan and \$62 million from Germany; \$46 million from the United States of America; \$6 million from Japan; \$4 million from the Islamic Food & Nutrition Council of America (IFANCA); and \$3 million from Luxembourg.

"Twenty million people are walking today because of polio vaccination, and we have learned, improved and innovated along the way. Rotary remains committed to seeing this fight through to the end," said Mike McGovern, Chair of Rotary International's International PolioPlus Committee.

<https://my.rotary.org/en/donate>

<https://polioeradication.org/.../global-leaders-pledge.../>



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/250157032442101/posts/2076854226439030/>



Global leaders announce \$1.9bn pledge in Abu Dhabi in push to eradicate polio



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Global leaders, philanthropists and health organisations gathered in Abu Dhabi to pledge \$1.9 billion towards the final push to eradicate polio, marking one of the most significant commitments in the decades-long fight against the disease.

The funding aims to protect 370 million children each year and close most of the remaining resource gap in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative's 2022–2029 strategy.

The announcement came during the Investing in Humanity event at Abu Dhabi Finance Week, hosted by the Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity, with senior figures including Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Bill Gates and Pakistan's Ahsan Iqbal.



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Gates Foundation

With Child Deaths Projected to Rise for the First Time in a Century, Gates Foundation and Mohamed Bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity Urge Action as World Faces Critical Turning Point

At Goalkeepers Abu Dhabi, global leaders outline a path to improve and save the lives of millions of children through lifesaving innovation and renewed investment

Partners announce \$1.9 billion to advance polio eradication

Event held in partnership with the Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity highlights urgency, honors leadership, and showcases champions advancing progress despite historic global funding cuts

ABU DHABI (December 8, 2025) – At Goalkeepers Abu Dhabi, leaders from government, philanthropy, business, and civil society issued a unified call to accelerate progress on child survival and infectious disease eradication. The appeal was anchored by US\$1.9 billion in commitments to advance polio eradication **announced** earlier in the day at Abu Dhabi Finance Week.

The Gates Foundation contributed US\$1.2 billion, reflecting its long-term commitment to a future where no mother, baby, or child dies from preventable causes, and where deadly infectious diseases like polio are eliminated forever.

Co-hosted by the Gates Foundation and the Mohamed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity, Goalkeepers Abu Dhabi brought together more than 500 global leaders. The leaders delivered a clear message: the world must act now to reverse rising child deaths, stop preventable maternal deaths and finish the job of ending preventable diseases, starting with polio.



REUTERS

Global leaders commit \$1.9 billion to eradicate polio amid funding cuts

Dec 8 (Reuters) - Global leaders pledged \$1.9 billion to advance polio eradication on Monday, accelerating efforts to protect 370 million children from polio each year amid significant funding cuts.

The budget of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, a partnership that includes the World Health Organization and the Gates Foundation, is expected to take a 30% cut in 2026 and has a funding gap of \$1.7 billion up to 2029.

The shortfall is largely due to a global pullback from foreign aid, led by the U.S., which is withdrawing from the WHO, although its future funding for polio is not yet final. Other wealthy donor governments like Germany and the UK have also made cuts.

The GPEI partners, in response, plan to focus more on surveillance and vaccination in areas with a high risk of polio transmission.

"The new support pledged in Abu Dhabi will be instrumental in helping the GPEI reach all children in the final endemic countries and stop variant polio outbreaks around the world," said Tedros Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization.