

ACTION PLAN

Government of Spain & Gates Foundation

19 January 2026

Executive summary

Alignment with the Memorandum of Understanding that the Government of Spain and the Gates Foundation signed in July 2024, both parties have strengthened and increased their political, technical, and financial collaboration to accelerate progress toward their shared objective: ending preventable maternal and child mortality globally over the next two decades.

Central to this collaboration is the **development of a global coalition focused on reducing preventable maternal and child deaths**, alongside a shared commitment to strengthening health financing and sustaining public support for global health. This effort will focus not only on maternal and child health services, but on the broader determinants of survival—including infectious diseases, nutrition, immunization, health systems, and access to essential commodities—while reinforcing ongoing commitments to global health multilateral institutions.

Key achievements and priority areas

This partnership met today to advance three complementary pillars:

Pillar 1 – Global Health: Reduce Preventable Maternal and Child Mortality

- Spain and the Gates Foundation will support the formation of a global coalition to reduce preventable maternal and child deaths including stillbirths to mobilize likeminded countries committed to advancing this agenda.
- In support of the Seville Health Initiative, promote evidence-based policy dialogue and recommendations that address the drivers of maternal and child mortality and stillbirths, including infectious diseases, nutrition, immunization, and health system strengthening, **to** sustained support for global health multilateral institutions such as Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the Global Fund, the Global Financing Facility (GFF), IDA, UNFPA Supplies, and the Child Nutrition Fund or collaborative philanthropy initiatives such as the Beginnings Fund.
- Joint collaboration on Gender Equality and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), including access to services, representation, and quality care.

Pillar 2 – Financing for Development and Innovative Finance

- Proactively explore collaboration on debt swap transactions that can support critical global health spending such as maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH) and infectious disease programs in low-income countries.
- Advance development and innovative finance approaches that address key global Health challenges.
- The Gates Foundation will support and participate in the Sevilla Forum on Debt and endorse the Global Hub on Debt for Development Swaps that the World Bank is supporting in partnership with the government of Spain. Those two initiatives can help emphasize how innovative debt approaches can support global health.

Pillar 3 – Citizen Mobilization

- Jointly develop a Spanish public mobilization plan: in partnership with national and global Spanish institutions, strengthen public understanding of and support for efforts to reduce preventable maternal and child deaths globally.
- Launch “quick win” exhibition series in partnership with La Caixa Foundation.

Roles and Contributions

Government of Spain

- High-visibility political leadership within the Coalition on Maternal and Child Health
- Diplomatic reach across the EU, Latin America, and Africa
- Commitment to health financing (health systems, immunization, childbirth, nutrition,)
- Strong domestic scientific and research ecosystem
- Global leadership on gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)
- Leadership on a citizen mobilization campaign with Spanish partners.

Gates Foundation

- Global technical leadership on MNCH roadmaps, scorecards, and accountability frameworks
- Evidence, analytics, and policy expertise
- High impact innovations and R&D capacity (including malaria, immunization and MNCH product development) and enabling AI to maximise health impact.
- Support for innovative financing mechanisms
- Global communications, advocacy, and convening power
- Engagement in the Seville Global Health Initiative

Throughout this period, the two parties commit to expand and deepen its capabilities, expand its scope of collaborations, and leverage evidence, financing, and partnerships to sustain momentum and deliver lasting results.