



2023 Year in Review



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Impact Investment in Global Health Security Innovation

Investment Gone Viral

WHY WE EXIST

We are a Geneva-based nonprofit that supports impact investment in global health security innovation. We build innovation ecosystems dedicated to identifying and scaling equitable, sustainable solutions to our most critical health security challenges.

We bring together traditional philanthropy with entrepreneurship and venture capital investment principles to enable both private and public sector support for scaling equitable, financially sustainable solutions to our most pressing health security challenges.



“Local innovators are best equipped to create solutions for their own communities but often lack resources outside of mature innovation ecosystems, most notably access to early stage capital. The private sector can’t just sit back and watch. We need to support these innovators by actually investing while building confidence for other impact investors to do the same.”

- Andrew Nerlinger, MD,
Executive Director, Global
Health Security Fund

FOCUS AREAS:

- Health equity and access
- Mental health
- Community resiliency
- Public health solutions
- Infectious disease surveillance and response
- Public policy and communication
- One Health: environmental health and animal health
- Vaccine development and distribution
- Biosafety and biosecurity
- Diagnostics and therapeutics
- Future health security threats



CAPITAL. CREATION. COMMUNITY

What We Do

We combine the three pillars of capital, creation, and community to identify the most promising global health security innovations based on a common impact assessment framework, help match these solutions to country-defined needs, and organize the funding necessary to scale these solutions. We lower the barriers to scaling equitable, financially sustainable innovations focused on impact in the Global South while building confidence in impact investment in emerging technology ecosystems.



Capital

We provide grant funding for non-profit global health security activities and promote equity investment in startups developing innovative global health security solutions.

Creation

We work with a pipeline of innovations capable of providing equitable, financially sustainable, and scalable solutions to our most challenging health security threats.

Community

We are a global health security innovation ecosystem, a community of practice that brings together each of the components necessary to successfully launch and scale innovative solutions to health security challenges.

STAKEHOLDERS IN THE GHS COMMUNITY

Who We Are

We are a diverse group of innovators, investors, technologists, philanthropists, and global health practitioners coming together with the same goal – solving health security challenges through innovation and impact investment.



MEASURING SUCCESS

SDG Impact x Innovations Scaled

We focus on achieving sustainable development goals in parallel with economic development goals by combining traditional philanthropy with entrepreneurship and venture capital investment principles. We develop and validate common impact assessment frameworks for health security innovations that help lower the barriers to impact investing.





PROGRAMS

UNODA Youth for Biosecurity Fellowship

The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) Youth for Biosecurity Fellowship (Y4B) provides a unique learning and networking experience built around multilateral discussions taking place in the framework of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BWC) in Geneva. The GHS Fund, alongside the European Commission, sponsored the 2023 Y4B Fellowship and organized a one-day seminar on innovation for the 20 selected participants from the Global South during their in-person programming in Geneva at the Palais des Nations. This seminar included a communications workshop presented by Geneva-based Infinity Communications and a human-centered design workshop presented by Swiss consultancy All Systems Go.



Key Figures:

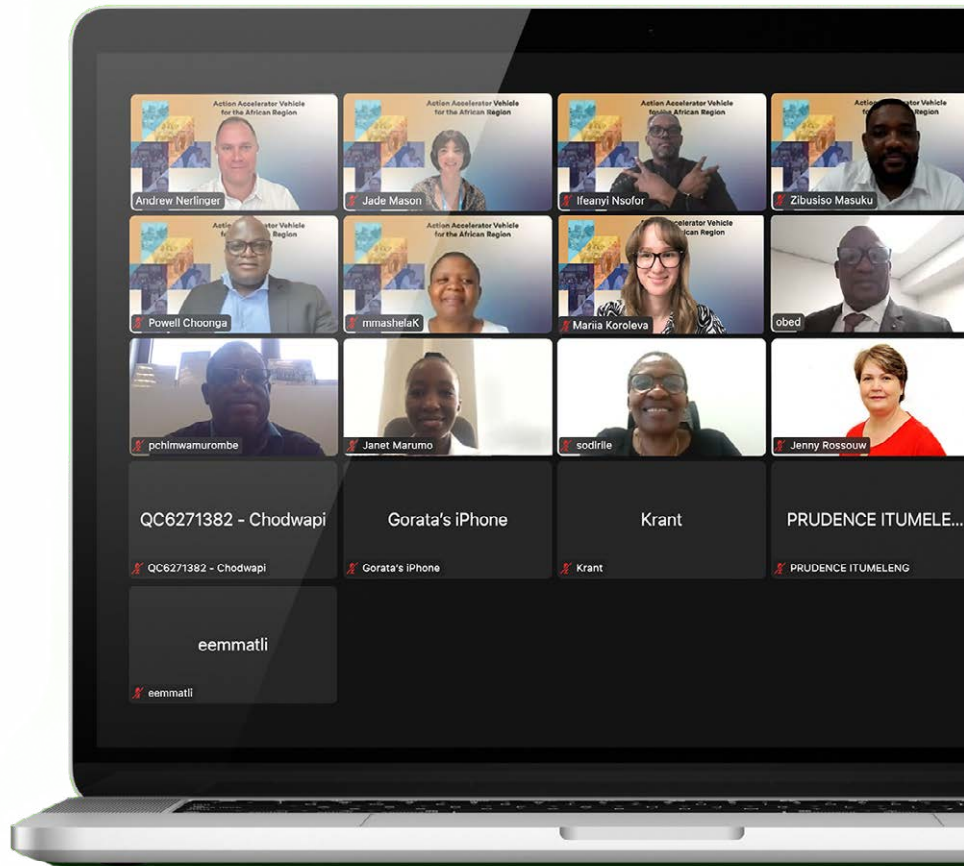
- 20 emerging youth leaders in biosecurity participated in GHS Fund sponsored and organized programming
- 6 fellows directly supported with travel bursaries for in-person programming in Geneva
- CHF 30'000 in grant funding provided
- 2 Switzerland-based consulting firms engaged

Action Accelerator Vehicle

Presented in collaboration with South Africa's National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD), the Action Accelerator Vehicle introduces technical experts from the Africa CDC-designated Regional Center for Excellence in Biosafety and Biosecurity to concepts of innovation, human-centered design, and effective communication through a year-long program sponsored and co-organized by the GHS Fund.

Key Figures:

- 10 African Subject Matter Experts in biosafety trained
- CHF 60'000 in grant funding provided
- 7 participants sponsored to attend design thinking workshop in Cape Town
- Two in-person workshops and four virtual workshops organized
- 3 final projects presented





No One is Coming, It's Up to Us: Building a Health Innovation Ecosystem

(A World Health Assembly side event)

The Global Health Security Fund (GHSF) and Health Innovation Exchange (HIEx) presented a systems design workshop to coincide with the 2023 World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland. The invitation-only high level session brought together a hand-selected group of changemakers who have the perspective, influence, and courage to enable a real systemic shift. During the workshop, experienced facilitators provoked attendees to identify the unaddressed gaps and challenges in the existing global health innovation ecosystem, pinpoint opportunities for change, and develop action plans to address them. This unique cohort of innovators, investors, leaders, and experts helped to shape creative design-led strategy for a new collaborative effort in global health innovation.

Innovation for Change

Innovation for Change (I4C), was born in 2016 from a joint collaboration between Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire (CERN) and Collège des Ingénieurs (CDI), together with other partners, for enabling corporates, institutions and multidisciplinary postgraduate talents to work together to develop disruptive solutions for ESG related global challenges. GHS Fund was a nonprofit sponsor organization in 2023.



PandemicTech Biosafety Journal Club

Launched in 2022, the PandemicTech Biosafety Journal Club takes a community-driven approach towards building biosafety and biosecurity capacity by providing locally-relevant training in diverse languages. Launched by ecosystem partner PandemicTech and originally providing Spanish-language virtual training sessions tailored for Latin America-based experts, the Biosafety Journal Club has attracted hundreds of participants from around the globe.

Key Figures:

- Over 110 average expert participants per session
- 55 countries represented as of 2024
- 20 hours of virtual programming delivered





WiNFUND

WiNFUND is a non-profit initiative launched by the Geneva-based nonprofit Health Innovation and Investment Exchange (HIEx) that supports female-led health innovations with real-world impact. Its approach combines grassroots movements, tech innovation, and the expertise of frontline workers. It uses innovative NFTs (non-fungible tokens) to fund its projects, complimented by traditional funding routes. The GHS Fund is a proud sponsor of WiNFUND.

Key Figures:

- CHF 15'000 in grant funding provided



GHS Fund Senior Fellowship

The GHS Fund Senior Fellowship program enables experienced health security professionals to explore new opportunities for engagement with the innovation community while contributing to the GHS Fund's mission and growth. Senior Fellows receive funding and programmatic support for up to three months, during which they work alongside the GHS Fund team on a specific project aligned with their own experience and tailored to their professional development goals. The Senior Fellows program is particularly well suited to officials of international organizations during gaps or changes of assignment and to mid-to-late career professionals exploring career transitions. Senior Fellows are competitively selected on a rolling basis.

Photo: Jade Mason, Senior Fellow

EVENTS



Building Bridges

“Global Health Impact Investment Ecosystem”

The GHS Fund brought together the global health impact investment ecosystem during Building Bridges 2023 to connect around supporting innovators changing the equitable delivery of healthcare worldwide, particularly in the Global South. Session partners included GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance; the Geneva Graduate Institute; the World Economic Forum; and HIEx



Connect in Pharma

Republic and Canton of Geneva

The GHS Fund was selected by the Canton of Geneva as its designated nonprofit representative for the 2023 Connect in Pharma Conference.



Greater Geneva Bern Area (GGBA) Night

Republic and Canton of Geneva Office of Economic Development, Research, and Innovation

Recognition: The GHS Fund was nominated by GGBA for the William Tell Award, bestowed annually by the Swiss government to companies who have made a meaningful impact in Switzerland.

Photo: GHS Fund Executive Director with Michael Kleiner and Denis Cavin, Canton of Geneva



Wilton Park Sustainable Laboratories Conference

Wiston House, United Kingdom



Nuclear Threat Initiative BioFunders Compact Conference

Cambridge, United Kingdom



United Nations Biorisks, Biosecurity, and Biological Disarmament Conference

Geneva, Switzerland



United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot INITIATE Demo Day

Brindisi, Italy



GHS Fund at South by South by Southwest 2023

Austin, Texas

MEMBERSHIPS

Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention

Official NGO observer to the BWC



“At the 2023 UN HLM on UHC, Member States and stakeholders must recognize that investing in equitable, accessible healthcare for all is essential to ensuring our future health security.”

Andrew Nerlinger
Executive Director, Global Health Security Fund

#UHCHLM
#HealthForAll

uhc2030



▲ World Health Organization
UNC2030 Campaign



WORLD
ECONOMIC
FORUM

COMMITTED TO
IMPROVING THE STATE
OF THE WORLD

Global Health Equity Network
Zero Health Gaps Pledge

World Economic Forum
Health Equity Network



PRESS

“Why the Global Health Security Fund chose Western Switzerland”

Link: <https://ggba.swiss/en/why-the-global-health-security-fund-chose-western-switzerland/>

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024



BioPREVAIL

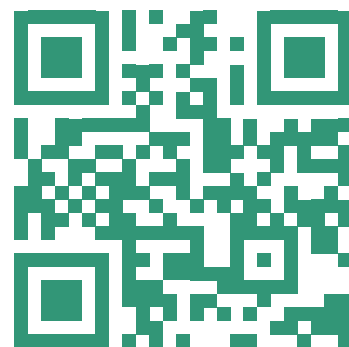
BioPrevail (Biological Preparedness and Resilience through Evolution and Innovation of Laboratories) is a health security innovation initiative for sustainable laboratories hosted by the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) and launched by a consortium of partners led by the G7 Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction (Global Partnership).

Diagnostic laboratories play a critical role in global efforts to prevent, detect and respond to infectious disease outbreaks. To date the adaptability of laboratories for sustainable operation in low-resource environments remains challenging. BioPrevail aims to generate innovative solutions for labs suited to local requirements, with the objective of meaningfully and sustainably strengthening global health security.

The GHS Fund will assume a leadership role in organizing BioPrevail in 2024.



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT SCAN THE QR CODE ► OR FOLLOW [THIS LINK](#)





Find out more about the GHS Fund:



www.ghsfund.org



Ecosystem hub, hosted by Startup Tree

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