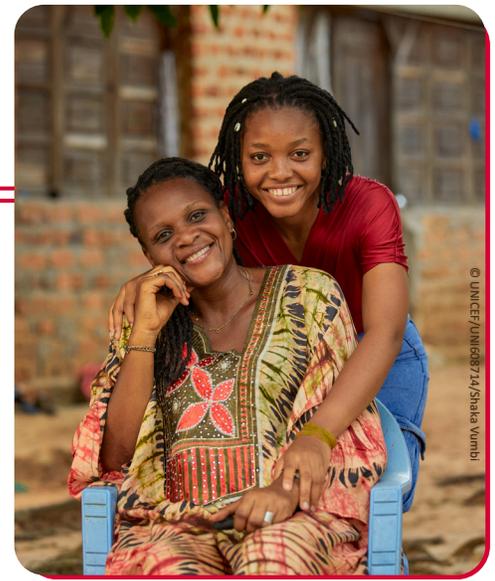


A STRATEGIC CANADIAN INVESTMENT FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S SURVIVAL

Global progress on child survival is reversing. In 2025, child deaths increased for the first time this century. With G7 international assistance projected to fall by 28% in 2026, **up to 16 million additional children could die by 2045 – putting the Sustainable Development Goals out of reach.**

Canada has a longstanding legacy in women's and children's health, and under the G8 Muskoka Initiative, helped launch the [Global Financing Facility for Women, Children and Adolescents \(GFF\)](#) in 2015, an innovative mechanism reducing preventable maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent deaths.

A renewed pledge to the GFF from Canada would **protect hard-won progress, advance gender equality, deliver measurable, lifesaving results, and unlock additional financing to maximize the impact of every Canadian dollar.**



WHAT IS THE GFF?



Hosted by the World Bank Group, the GFF strengthens primary health systems – the frontline services that keep women and children alive and healthy. It supports governments to prioritize and fund high-impact interventions while unlocking additional World Bank financing. The result: more resources, stronger health systems, and greater country self-reliance with clear, measurable impact.

DELIVERING MEASURABLE RESULTS

Before 2016, countries now supported by the GFF were reducing maternal and child mortality more slowly than the global average. Since the GFF's launch:

- All partner countries have outpaced the rest of the world: child mortality is now declining faster than the global average, and maternal mortality is falling at twice the global rate.
- All have expanded access to family planning and 75% have reduced childhood stunting.
- Following their progress on mortality indicators and wealth growth, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, and Vietnam will graduate from GFF financing.

The high-impact interventions GFF countries could deliver with a new pledge:

- Safe facility-based deliveries for 194 million women giving birth
- Diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis vaccination for 208 million children
- Modern contraceptives for 254 million women and adolescent girls
- Early antenatal care for 126 million pregnant women



STRETCHING CANADA'S DEVELOPMENT DOLLARS

The GFF's innovative financing model leverages donor contributions to unlock larger concessional loans and incentivize domestic investment. **For every \$1 contributed, the GFF mobilizes \$7 from the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA), \$6 in external financing, and \$9 in domestic resources for women and children's health.**

The GFF does not increase countries' debt because it builds on the low-cost IDA funding they already receive, and it encourages them to prioritize these resources for health.



Tanzania's Safer Births Bundle of Care

With GFF support, Tanzania scaled maternal and newborn care to 150+ facilities and trained 4,000 health workers. Between 2020 and 2023, maternal deaths fell by 75% and early newborn deaths by 40%.

SUPPORTING STABILITY, ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AND TRANSITION

Strong primary health systems reduce poverty, improve education outcomes, and build productive workforces. For less than \$100 per person per year, primary health care can prevent up to 90% of child deaths while reducing catastrophic health costs. As mortality declines and domestic financing grows, countries transition from aid recipients to trade partners, reinforcing more sovereign and equal partnerships.

In unstable and conflict-affected countries, maintaining essential services reduces instability and displacement. Fragile countries supported by the GFF have achieved faster service delivery gains than non-fragile contexts.

IMPROVING EFFICIENCY ACROSS GLOBAL HEALTH EFFORTS

The GFF aligns investments from other global health partners with national budgets, improving efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and accountability.



We urge Canada to continue its longstanding leadership with a **\$340 million pledge to the GFF over five years (2026-2030) at the 2026 World Bank-International Monetary Fund Spring Meetings.**

This commitment will signal Canadian commitment to global child survival at a time of rising need and shrinking aid, bolstering global stability, shared prosperity, and Canada's long-term economic and strategic interests

This campaign is organized and supported by Results Canada and the Canadian Partnership for Women and Children's Health.

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Women and Children's Health

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