

TEMPLATE – SIDE EVENTS SUMMARIES

TWO PAGES MAXIMUM

Summary of Side Event Better together: the values and key points of the Vaccine Alliance in the context of Covid-19:

In the context of the COVID-19 crisis, vaccines are the world's safest and most cost-effective investment to protect lives, especially children, from life-threatening diseases. They save more than five lives every minute preventing up to three million deaths a year, even before the arrival of COVID-19.

This side-event showed how long-term and multisectoral partnerships, with allies from the public and private sectors, with a detected, analysed and concrete cause, can favour a greater impact and favour systemic changes, in this case in the field of childhood vaccination.

2 February 2022, 1 pm – 1.50 pm (EST)

Background on the event (one paragraph)

Since 2008, the "la Caixa" Foundation has been promoting the Child Vaccine Alliance, together with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, to save children's lives by increasing the equitable use of vaccines in low-income countries. Its aim is to give companies the opportunity to join in the fight against child mortality as part of their Social Responsibility, to customers and employees of the "la Caixa" group, as well as to society in general through micro-donations. The contributions go entirely to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, for child vaccination. ISGlobal - Barcelona Institute for Global Health is a scientific and academic partner of the Alliance.

Key Issues discussed (5- 8 bullet points)

- The main challenges in the field of vaccination, especially nowadays with COVID-19, from the perspective of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.
- The importance of alliances and how they work with both public and private actors to meet their objectives, in terms of funding and the implementation of their strategy on the ground.
- The effort working through innovation and through innovative financing mechanisms to cover actions.
- "la Caixa" Foundation's commitment in the area of Global Health and Research and especially the collaboration with Gavi focused on the fight against pneumonia and the role of the entity as a leading private sector agent at European level, especially as a catalyst for initiatives such as the Alliance for Childhood Vaccination.
- The relevance of how research centers, such as IsGlobal, are facing such important challenges as COVID-19, their role and their connection with initiatives such as Gavi to join forces in the fight for improving overall health.

Key recommendations for action (5 - 6 bullet points)

- Contribution to systemic change by long term and stable commitment.
- Joining forces with different partners who bring their expertise and knowledge.
- Specific focus to budget allocation funds.
- Keeping your goal simple (child vaccination saving lives).
- Create incentives and social business products for companies.