

Edition #3 — April 2024

Key L'Initiative data

Focus on

**L'Initiative support to
the fight against HIV,
tuberculosis and malaria
in sub-Saharan Africa**

2011-2022



L'INITIATIVE
sida, tuberculose, paludisme

Despite undeniable progress made in the fight against HIV, tuberculosis and malaria pandemics in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), the region continues to be heavily impacted by these diseases. SSA therefore receives significant support from the Global Fund and L'Initiative, combined with support for health systems to countries in the region.



1 • Key data from the three pandemics in sub-Saharan Africa



HIV Sub-Saharan Africa accounted for **60% of deaths from HIV-related causes in 2022¹**: 630,000 people died from HIV-related causes worldwide, of which around 380,000 were in sub-Saharan Africa.



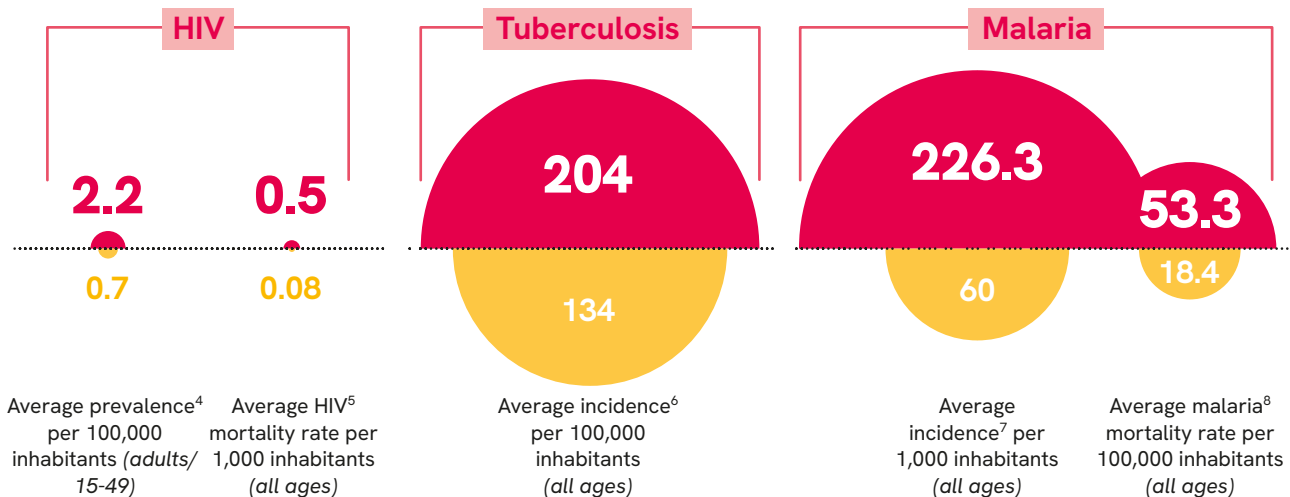
Tuberculosis In 2022, **33% of TB deaths occurred in the Africa region²**: 424,000 people died from TB-related causes in Africa compared to 1.3 million worldwide.



Malaria In 2022, **94% of malaria cases and more than 50% of deaths due to the disease were recorded in 4 African countries: Nigeria, DRC, Niger and Tanzania**. Children under the age of 5 accounted for approximately 80% of malaria deaths in the³.

Key epidemiological data on the three pandemics in SSA, compared to globally (2021 data)

■ L'Initiative-eligible countries in SSA
 ■ Global data



¹ Fact sheet — Latest global and regional statistics on the status of the AIDS epidemic, ONUSIDA (unaids.org)

² “Global Tuberculosis Report 2023”, World Health Organization

³ “The 2023 WHO World Malaria Report”, The Lancet

⁴ “HIV Prevalence - Adults (15-49)”, UNAIDS (unaids.org)

⁵ “HIV Prevalence - Adults (15-49)”, UNAIDS (unaids.org)

⁶ “Incidence of TB (per 100,000 people)”, World Bank

⁷ “Malaria incidence (per 1,000 people at risk)”, World Bank

⁸ “Estimated malaria mortality rate (per 100,000 population)”, World Health Organization

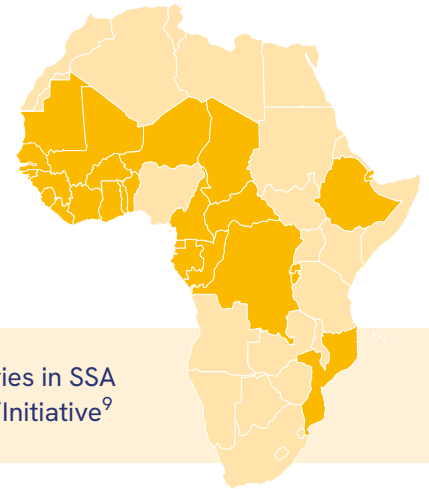


2 · Comprehensive overview of support to the fight against the three pandemics

L'Initiative has increased and scaled up its investment in Africa



L'Initiative's commitments in sub-Saharan Africa have been on an upward trajectory since it was established, both in terms of volume of interventions (projects and technical assistance (TA)) and financial volume. This trend increased between 2017 and 2022, and even more strongly from 2023 onwards.

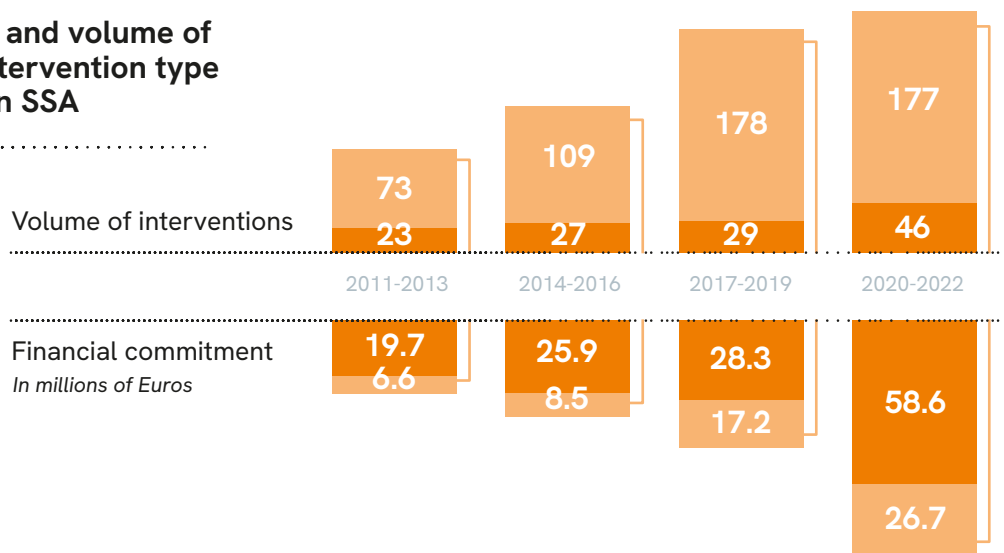


In 2022, 25 countries in SSA were eligible for L'Initiative⁹

Evolution of commitments and volume of interventions funded by intervention type and by three-year period in SSA

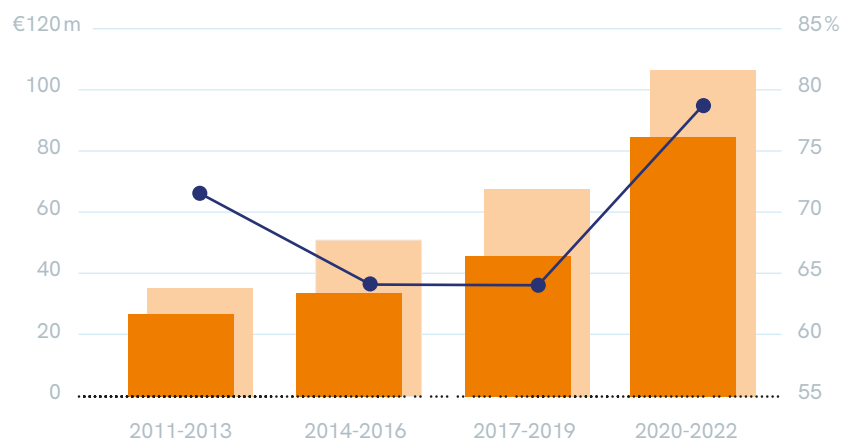
- Projects
- TA

There has been a higher level of financial investment for enhanced TAs in countries over the last two 3-year periods.



Evolution of funding allocated by 3-year period to SSA, compared to level allocated by L'Initiative overall

- Total SSA.
- Three-year budget
- Allocation to SSA.

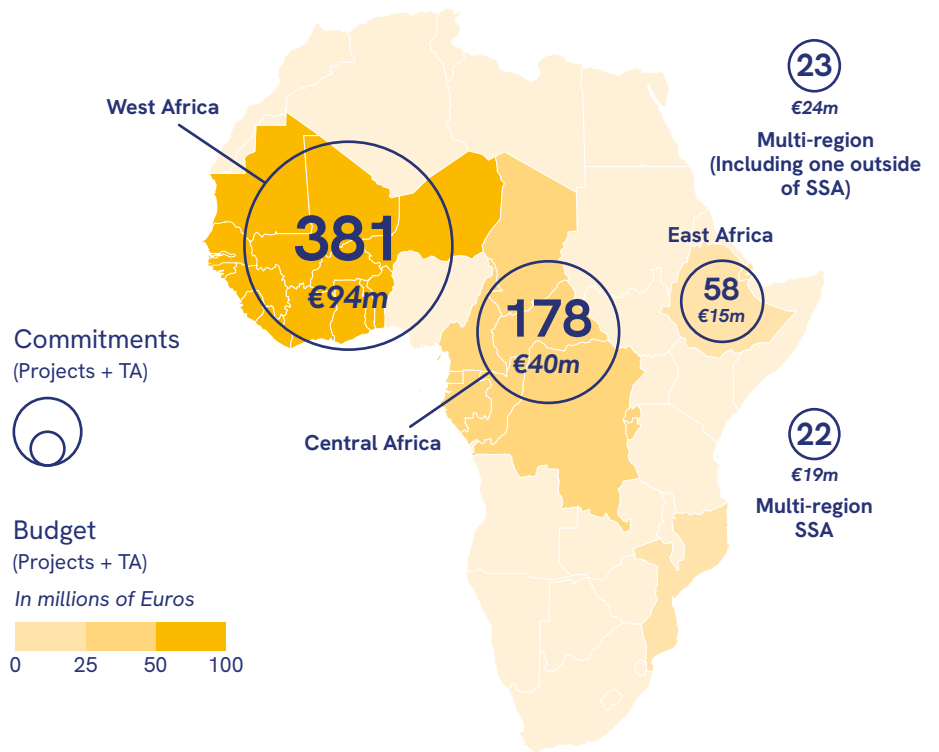


⁹ Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo.

Particularly high level coverage in the West Africa region – the region with the highest concentration of projects and TA

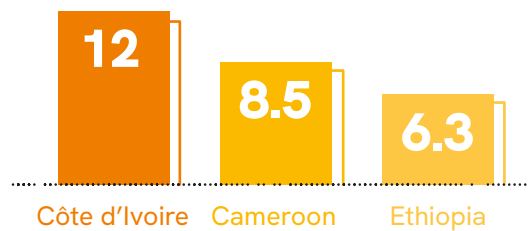
Regional distribution of L'Initiative interventions (volume and commitments in SSA between 2012 and 2022)

The high number of L'Initiative interventions in SSA countries is coupled with a significant number of regional interventions: **33 multi-country projects** supported only in SSA for more than **41 M€ committed**.



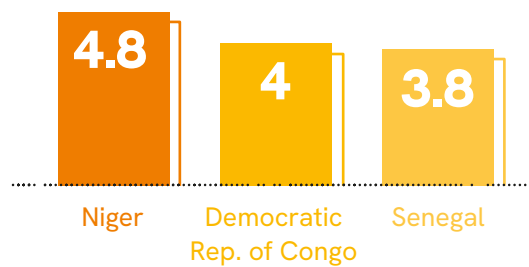
The 3 SSA countries with the most project commitments from L'Initiative (excluding multi-country)

In millions of Euros



The 3 SSA countries with the most TA commitments from L'Initiative (excluding Planned technical assistance¹⁰)

In millions of Euros



FOCUS ON THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES¹¹ (LDCs)



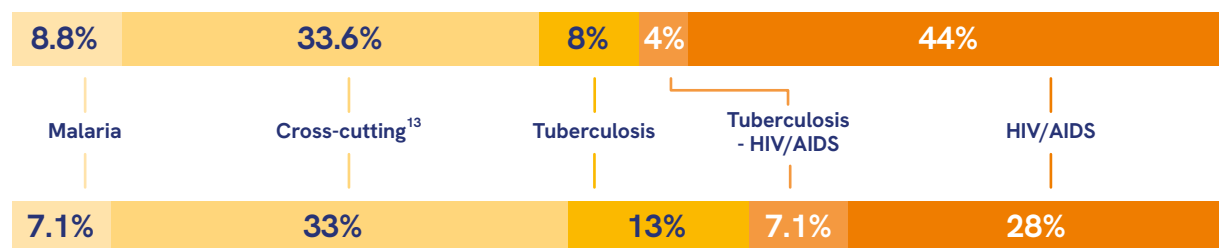
Over the last three-year period (2020-2022), **20 African LDCs¹² (including 13 French-speaking countries)** were supported by L'Initiative through one of its intervention channels. This included **131 TAs (74% of TAs in SSA) and 32 projects supported** (nearly 70% projects in SSA) by L'Initiative totalling **€46.6 million** which were implemented in African LDCs between 2020 and 2022.

¹⁰ Planned technical assistance are support mechanisms designed to sustainably strengthen grant implementation capacities.

¹¹ In 2024, the UN identified 45 countries as Least Developed Countries (LDCs), 33 of which are in Africa.

¹² Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo.¹³ NGOs that have received L'Initiative project funding support more than twice.

Percentage of **projects** by pandemic in SSA (since 2012)



Percentage of **TA** by pandemic in SSA (since 2012)



Key information

Between 2011 and 2022, in sub-Saharan Africa, L'Initiative:



Committed more than €191.4m

across all intervention mechanisms combined



Supported 125 projects

for an amount of €132.4m, representing nearly 72% of projects supported by L'Initiative



Delivered 537 technical assistance (TA) assignments

representing more than 70% of all assignments carried out under the Expertise Channel, with a total commitment of €59m



Increased financial support in the region

under all intervention mechanisms, financial support increased threefold between the first (2011-2013) and the last 3-year period (2020-2022), from €26.2m to €85.2m

¹³ TA and project that do not focus on a specific pandemic, but rather on the thematic areas, such as health systems strengthening, training human resources, laboratories, procurement and supply management...



3 • A sustainable and innovative partnership with civil society (CS) in SSA in the response to the 3 pandemics

NGOs in SSA: L'Initiative's historic and sustainable support to NGOs rises to the challenge of innovation



More than 7 out of 10 projects funded by L'Initiative in SSA are implemented by civil society organizations (local NGOs, including community-based organizations and French NGOs working internationally).

€100m have been committed to support initiatives by civil society organizations (CSO) in SSA between 2012 and 2022.

Out of the 58 NGOs supported in SSA through L'Initiative-funded projects, 19 have gone on to receive further support from L'Initiative, including 6 local NGOs.

39 NGOs were first-time recipients of L'Initiative grants, which included 21 local NGOs.

Number of projects and amounts by type of civil society organization (2012-2022)



French NGOs that received the most funding from L'Initiative between 2012 and 2022 in SSA¹⁴

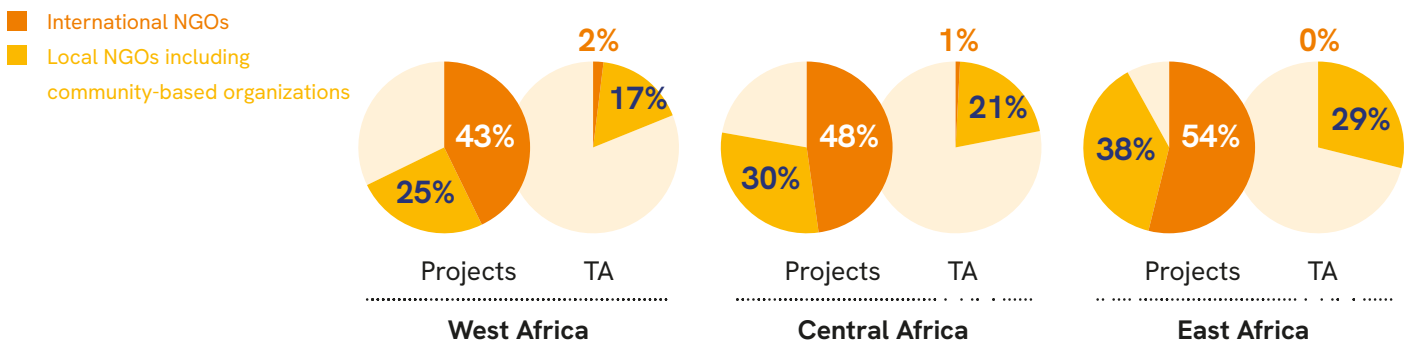


Sustained yet disparate efforts across regions of Africa

Across the different intervention mechanisms, **support for civil society (focused on NGOs) stands out in East Africa**, where more than **92% of projects** are led by civil society (local NGOs including community-based organizations and international NGOs) compared to **78%** in Central Africa and nearly **68%** in West Africa. **Almost 30% of TAs** in East Africa have also benefitted local NGOs (compared to 14% in West Africa and 17% in Central Africa).

¹⁴ NGOs that have received project funding from L'Initiative on more than two occasions.

Percentage of projects and TAs implemented by and benefitting civil society (NGOs) in SSA by type of organization supported and by geographic region (2011-2022)



FOCUS

Results achieved by projects¹⁵ implemented in SSA in 2022¹⁶



L'Initiative's active projects have contributed to facilitating access to care, strengthening the capacities of health facilities and their staff, and changing health and institutional environments in SSA countries.

In total, in 2022 L'Initiative projects in SSA enabled **more than 169,651 people** to benefit from care interventions (treatment and testing), prevention (awareness-raising workshops) and legal assistance and support.

ACCESS TO CARE

31,744

Beneficiaries (patients, service users, public) of health service interventions, including testing, and/or treatment and/or prevention interventions in SSA, of whom:

16,240 Men (51%)

12,917 Women (41%)

2,588

Non-specified beneficiaries

AWARENESS-RAISING

99,499

Beneficiaries (patients, service users, public) of awareness and/or prevention activities in SSA

RIGHTS & JUSTICE

1,464

Beneficiaries of legal support interventions

CAPACITY AND SKILLS BUILDING

693

Facilities supported, including **348 CSOs** and **345 public facilities** (hospitals/health centers/universities/prisons) in the context of projects in SSA in 2022

¹⁵ Indicators from THEMA indicator data covering 41 projects in SSA that were implementing during the year 2022.

¹⁶ The data presented are from results recorded during 2022 only (data relating to a clearly defined period) and not results since the start of the project (cumulative data over the entire project period).

3,131

Facility staff benefitted from capacity building in 2022 including **1,798 health staff from CSOs** and **1,333 health staff from public facilities**

CATALYTIC EFFECT OF PROJECTS AT COUNTRY LEVEL

71

Binding and non-binding documents have been adopted/amended in SSA countries through project support.

In Senegal: the VIHeillir project

Following a request from the National AIDS Committee, the VIHeillir project team coordinated group called "Screening for chronic diseases and care for PLHIV over 50", as part of drafting the National Strategic Plan 2023-2030.

In Côte d'Ivoire: consolidation and scale up of integrated and accessible adapted health care provision for people who use drugs in risky and vulnerable situations, in relation to the three pandemics.

The **Médecins du Monde (MdM)** project participated in the drafting committee for a bill combatting the trafficking and illicit use of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors (promulgated by the President of the Republic in 13 June and published in the Official Journal on 4 July 2022). The lead organization, MdM, reviewed the latest shared version of the law with other CSOs and people who use drugs.

A dynamic partnership with local civil society (NGOs) in SSA

Overall, and during the period in question, a third of projects supported by L'Initiative were implemented by local NGOs, including community-based NGOs, and half by French NGOs that work internationally. In 2022, **the ratio changed with more local NGOs being supported:** out of the 14 projects supported by L'Initiative, 8 projects in SSA, or more than half, were led by local NGOs and 3 projects were led by international NGOs.

This is also reflected in the TAs provided over the last two 3-year periods (2017-2022): **1 in 5 TAs supported national civil society at country level.** This TA support is part of a dynamic to strengthen civil society structures through skills and/or capacity building (1 out of 3 TAs).

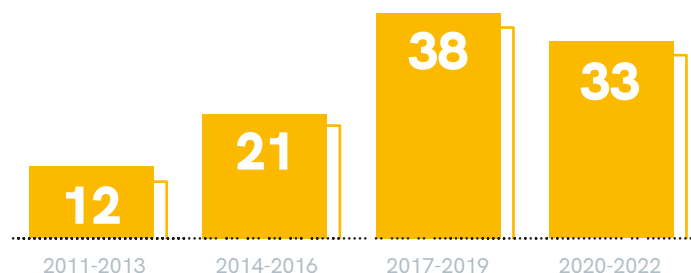


**over 80
expert roles
mobilized**



**over €2m
committed
by L'Initiative**

Evolution of TA provided to local civil society (local NGOs) by 3-year period



In 2023, with SOFIA, the partnership between CSOs in SSA and L'Initiative, was redefined. SOFIA complements L'Initiative's existing support and is integrated into the Accelerator mechanism. It is an unprecedented fund that provides financing and support to strengthen the structures of local CSOs, in order to promote their active participation in health systems strengthening and the response to the three pandemics. The partnership has 5 target countries: Benin, Djibouti, Chad, Togo and Guinea.

TOTAL BUDGET FOR SOFIA: €6,039,969



4 · L'Initiative support to Global Fund grants

In line with its mandate, L'Initiative has been supporting access to and implementation of Global Fund grants in SSA since its inception. In the last GC7 funding round, L'Initiative supported 36 countries, of which almost 2 out of 3 were in SSA. In addition to its core work, L'Initiative has delivered enhanced long-term technical support to 7 countries to improve their performance and to take action to strengthen the capacity of funding in the response to the three pandemics.

Enhanced L'Initiative support to Program Management Units (PMUs) managing grants from the Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria



In 2022: **1 unprecedented L'Initiative support** to the P4H¹⁷ network focal point in Niger to improve the management of health financing for an amount of **€182,616**

L'Initiative's support to access Global Fund financing under GC7 (Grant Cycle 7) in Sub-Saharan Africa (2022-2023)



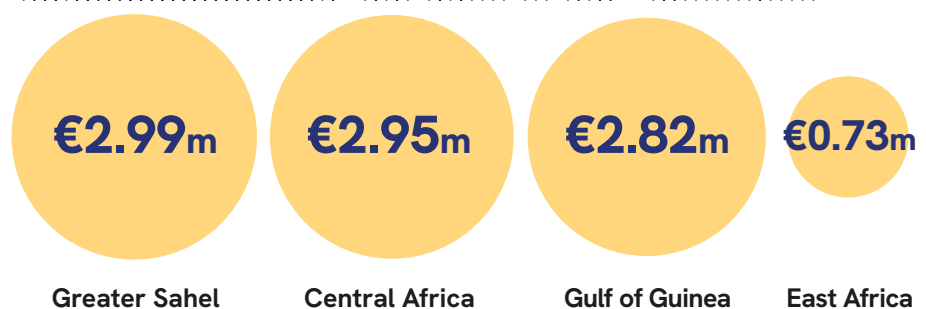
23 out of the 25 eligible L'Initiative countries in SSA benefited from GC7 TA. This mainly related to support with writing funding requests.

41 TAs relating to GC7 for a total amount of €9.5m (70% of the total amount committed to GC7 TA) focused mainly on the Greater Sahel and Central Africa.

Level of allocations granted by the GF for funding requests that have received support from L'Initiative in SSA

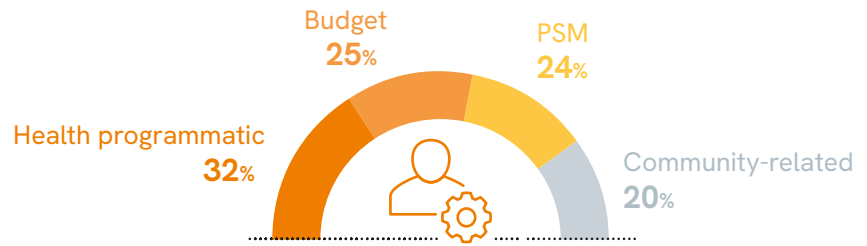
€2.9bn

L'Initiative's financial commitment to GC7 by SSA region



¹⁷ The P4H Network is a global network of institutions and experts that promotes, develops and strengthens exchange and collaboration to advance universal health coverage through equitable systems of social protection and health financing.

The 4 most common areas of expertise delivered by L'Initiative to support access to GC7 grants



5 • Targeted efforts on priority thematic areas in sub-Saharan Africa

Increased investment in human resources for health (HRH) training, including community-based staff

Why focus on HRH?

One of the factors that weakens health systems in SSA countries is shortages of trained staff (doctors, paramedical staff, including nurses...).

Globally, there are an average of 16 doctors per 10,000 inhabitants, with large disparities : 33 doctors in France compared to 2 doctors in L'Initiative SSA countries¹⁸. L'Initiative therefore prioritizes strengthening all HRH through the support it delivers in the region.

63 projects

(VP, HSS, OR and The Accelerator) funded by L'Initiative being implemented in 2023 had an HRH component, totaling **€103.7 million**.

842 HRH

trained in 2022 as part of these projects (in public facilities, such as hospitals, health centers or community facilities)

Strengthening HRH under The Accélérateur in 2023

- **The "TB Masterclass" project** aimed at strengthening human resources for health through training young researchers from French-speaking Africa on tuberculosis. This multidisciplinary training, ranging from basic research to social sciences, will contribute to building a network of young TB researchers.
- **Masters in Field Epidemiology led by the University of Lomé, Centre for Training and Research in Public Health:** project that aims to strengthen the skills of health workers focusing on human, animal and environmental health in 10 West African countries and strengthening a French-speaking, active and connected community of practitioners in field epidemiology in West Africa in the areas of prevention, surveillance, investigation and response to public health emergencies.
- **The Aurum Foundation project** aimed to improve the health of human resources for health in Mozambique, by reducing the burden of tuberculosis among care providers, who are a vulnerable group, according to WHO criteria. **4,000 health workers will be screened in 155 health facilities in Mozambique.**



BUDGET
€148,517



BUDGET
€3,000,000



BUDGET
€1,368,397

¹⁸ "Doctors (per 1,000 people)", World Bank

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and gender: reducing inequalities and promoting gender equality

Why focus on gender and SRHR in sub-Saharan Africa?



Women and girls accounted for 63% of new HIV infections in 2022¹⁹.



Every week, 4,000 adolescent girls and young women aged 15-24 contracted HIV worldwide in 2022. 3,100 of these infections occurred in SSA²⁰.



In 2018, the negative impact of gender-related issues on the epidemic was felt more than elsewhere: in this region, adolescent girls and young women had a 2.4 times higher risk of HIV infection than boys and men of the same age²¹.



Infants, children under 5, pregnant women are at higher risk of severe malaria infection²².



It was against this backdrop that L'Initiative decided to prioritize SRHR in its work



→ 23 projects funded

accounting for 50% of projects in SSA, over the 2020-2022 period by L'Initiative, totaling €28.1 million, have a central focus on strengthening SRHR. Of these, 15 projects are focused on HIV/AIDS and 2 on cervical cancer.

→ 26 TAs funded

over the 2020-2022 period, totaling €5.8 million, also have a significant SRHR component. Of these, 12 TAs had a particular focus on the health of women, adolescent girls and young girls.

→ 20,693 people

Benefited from care, testing and the continuum of care (prevention, testing and care provision) activities through these projects in 2022.

SRHR under the Accelerator in 2023: a project to combat cervical cancer

BUDGET: €5m

The SUCCESS (Scale Up Cervical Cancer Elimination with Secondary Prevention Strategy) project, funded by Unitaid and implemented since December 2019, aims to strengthen secondary prevention through HPV screening and the treatment of precancerous lesions by thermal ablation in 4 countries: Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guatemala and the Philippines. The project target is to screen 175,000 women, 40% of whom are living with HIV. In 2023, the project received scale-up funding of 5 million Euros, in Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, Benin, Togo and Burundi.

¹⁹ Fact Sheet — Latest statistics on the State of the AIDS Epidemic, UNAIDS (unaids.org)

²⁰ Fact Sheet — Latest statistics on the State of the AIDS Epidemic, UNAIDS (unaids.org)

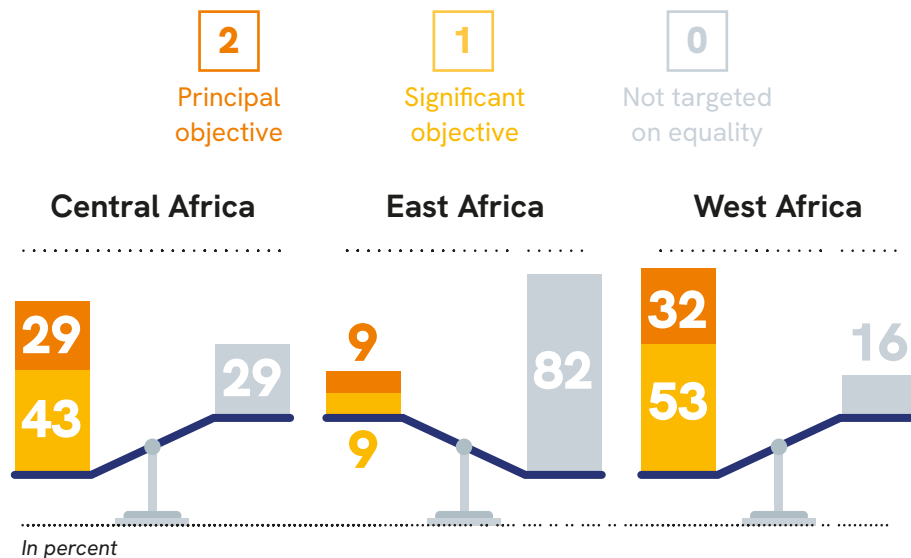
²¹ "Adolescent girls and young women in sub-Saharan Africa more than twice as likely to acquire HIV", UNAIDS (unaids.org)

²² "Malaria", World Health Organization

Gender mainstreaming in SSA projects between 2020 and 2022

L'Initiative's strategy, which is aligned with feminist diplomacy, mainstreams gender throughout its interventions: 59% of projects funded in SSA integrate gender in a principal or significant way (projects marked DAC 1 or 2²³). This is based on a three-point scoring system (0: not targeted gender equality / 1: significant objective / 2: principal objective).

Between 2020 and 2022, **60% of funds allocated in SSA related to DAC 1 or 2 projects**, therefore achieving the set gender objectives at a minimum of 50% of funding under France's international strategy 2018-2022 for equality between men and women.



²³ DAC gender equality policy marker, OECD

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