



MOMENTS THAT DEFINE US...

#MoreNowThanEver



**WOMEN4
GLOBAL FUND**

Eliminate #CervicalCancer #GlowTeal

Act Now, Act Together to Eliminate Cervical Cancer!

On 17 November 2025, the world commemorates World Cervical Cancer Elimination Day — designated by the Seventy-eighth World Health Assembly as the first official world health day dedicated to eliminating a cancer — with the theme “Act Now: Eliminate Cervical Cancer”, a call for bold and coordinated action to ensure every woman and girl, in all of their diversity, is protected through human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination and has access to comprehensive prevention, screening, treatment, and healthcare.

Cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer in women with around 660,000 new diagnoses and 350,000 deaths reported globally in 2022¹. That same year, the WHO Western Pacific (WPRO) and South-East Asia (SEARO) regions accounted for over half of the global burden, at around 380,000 cases and 190,000 mortalities². It is no coincidence that the vast majority (94%) of cervical cancer deaths are in low- and middle-income countries, where access to HPV vaccination as well as screening and treatment services are often limited. Additionally, women living with HIV are 6 times more at risk of cervical cancer compared to women not living with HIV, with an estimated 5% of all cervical cancer cases attributable to HIV³.

Cervical cancer is one of the most successfully treatable forms of cancer when detected early and managed effectively. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund) in its 2023-2028 Strategy⁴ identifies cervical cancer as a key priority area and has committed to support the integration of HPV screening and early treatment of precancerous lesions into HIV comprehensive interventions, as part of its policy on co-infections and co-morbidities.

“With the technical, medical and policy tools we have today, no woman should die from cervical cancer. Still, the footprint of cervical cancer mirrors the impact of global inequity and inequality on the right to health for girls and women, so many of whom still lack adequate access to health services,” said Sita Shahi, Regional Coordinator of the International Community of Women living with HIV Asia Pacific (ICWAP). “Investments in health and community systems must prioritise the early prevention, screening, and treatment of HPV and cervical cancer, and also build capacity in key and affected populations to be frontliners in raising awareness, countering stigma, expanding services, and advocating for more inclusive, gender-transformative, and equitable health responses to cervical cancer.”

¹ World Health Organisation. [Cervical cancer fact sheet](#). Accessed: 5 November 2025.

² International Agency for Research on Cancer. World Health Organisation. [Absolute numbers, Mortality, Females, in 2022 - WHO South-East Asia region \(SEARO\) + WHO Western Pacific region \(WPRO\)](#). Accessed: 5 November 2025.

³ Stelze, Dominik et al. [Estimates of the global burden of cervical cancer associated with HIV](#). The Lancet. 2020.

⁴ The Global Fund. [Fighting Pandemics and Building a Healthier and More Equitable World](#). Accessed: 5 November 2025.





The Global Fund is the world's largest multilateral funder of global health grants in low- and middle-income countries, saving 70 million lives and disbursing over US\$69 billion since 2002 to more than 100 countries to fight against deadly infectious diseases, challenge the injustices that fuel them, and strengthen health and community systems. The Global Fund supports cervical cancer elimination efforts by supporting access to screening and treatment programmes, working in close collaboration with key partners such as Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Gavi). HPV vaccination supported by Gavi has amongst the highest impact of all Gavi-supported vaccines, with 17.4 deaths averted per 1,000 children vaccinated.⁵

“Eliminating cervical cancer as a public health issue is within reach and is a realistic goal, but we must act now and act together, more now than ever. Continued commitment, sustained funding, and a gender-transformative approach is needed from policymakers, donors, the private sector, technical experts, communities, and civil society. This is necessary to expand comprehensive healthcare services for women and girls, especially the ones at high-risk and impacted by HPV and cervical cancer,” said Ángela León Cáceres, Global Coordinator, Women4GlobalFund. “As a partnership united by a common goal, we must continue to invest and support the frontliners in this fight - the community and women health workers and organisations who play an essential role in reaching vulnerable women and girls with people-centred, gender-transformative care.”

In 2018, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced a global call to action towards the elimination of cervical cancer, setting forth three targets in its Global Strategy⁶ to be achieved by 2030:

- 90% of girls fully vaccinated with HPV vaccine by age 15 years
- 70% of women screened with a high-performance test by ages 35 and 45
- 90% of women identified with cervical disease receive treatment.

If successfully implemented, the Global Strategy would prevent 74 million cervical cancer cases and save the lives of 62 million women over the next century.

Therefore, as communities and civil society from Asia Pacific, we call on all stakeholders and duty-bearers to:

- **Strengthen domestic resourcing and international collaboration** to fight HPV and cervical cancer to meet the 2030 elimination targets and accelerate progress towards cervical cancer elimination.
- **Empower and support capacity building for community-based and women-led organisations** to ensure equitable, people-centred, human rights-based, & gender-transformative HPV and cervical cancer health responses are accessible to women and girls in all of their diversity, who are most vulnerable and impacted.
- **Support a successful Global Fund Eighth Replenishment** by raising US\$18 billion, ensuring HPV prevention and screening is fully integrated into community health responses and that countries are allocated sufficient resources to finally end HIV, TB and malaria – advancing the Sustainable Development Goals and Universal Health Coverage.

⁵ The Global Fund. [Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#). June 2023.

⁶ World Health Organisation. [Global strategy to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer as a public health problem](#). November 2020.

