VISION

Our vision is one in which the crushing burden of infectious disease no longer prevents billions of people in the developing world from seeking the level of prosperity and longevity now common in the industrialized world.
MISSION

We facilitate international partnerships that bring Japanese innovation, investment, and leadership to the global fight against infectious diseases and poverty in the developing world.
The Japan-based GHIT Fund is an international public-private partnership fund for global health R&D that mobilizes Japanese industry, academia, and research institutes to create new drugs, vaccines, and diagnostics for malaria, tuberculosis, and neglected tropical diseases, in collaboration with global partners.
The international community has made significant progress in partnering against devastating infectious diseases since the launch of the Millennium Development Goals in 2000 and the subsequent Sustainable Development Goals in 2015. Initiatives that expand access to treatment and improve public health in low- and middle-income countries have saved millions of lives. However, even as we celebrate progress, we must stay committed to the goal of eliminating and when possible eradicating, these diseases. To do so will require continued investment in global health Research & Development (R&D) and the development of new drugs, vaccines, and diagnostics.
Huge unmet medical needs exist for neglected diseases, but the near total lack of market incentives means that proactive investment in their R&D is incredibly rare. Here, GHIT, together with the private and public sectors, accelerates investment in R&D for neglected diseases by utilizing Japan’s science and pharmaceutical technologies in partnership with global entities.
Japan’s Flagship Initiative for Global Health R&D

Our Funding Partners and Sponsors

Full Partners

GHIT is a Japan-based international public-private partnership fund for global health R&D. We invest in nonprofit product development for malaria, tuberculosis, and Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs). GHIT’s sponsor companies provide in-kind services in support of GHIT’s mission.
Full Partners

Astellas

CHUGAI

Eisai

SHIONOGI

Takeda

Associate Partners

FUJIFILM

Otsuka

Sysmex

Affiliate Partners

gsk

Johnson & Johnson

Kyowa Kirin

Merck

Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma

Ono

Sumitomo Dainippon Pharma

Sponsors

ANA

BCW

Mori

Morrison Foerster

Salesforce

Yahoo Japan
Business Model

1. Innovative financing for global health R&D

GHIT is an innovative “matching fund,” with 50% of its funding coming from the private sector and civil society (25% Industry + 25% Foundations), which is matched by in full will the other 50% of funding coming from the Government of Japan. Our funding partners, including the Government of Japan, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Wellcome, and global life sciences companies, have committed more than $200 million for the second phase of GHIT’s operations (FY2018- FY2022).

2. Investing in international open innovation

GHIT catalyzes open innovation between Japanese and non-Japanese entities across the globe to accelerate product development for individuals suffering from neglected diseases. We do this by integrating Japan’s science and pharmaceutical technologies and capabilities with global networks and resources.

Review by GHIT External Reviewers

Each eligible proposal is assessed by three external reviewers, including experts in the discovery and development of global health technologies. All proposals are evaluated based on the following criteria: 1. Scientific and technical merit, 2. Potential Impact (e.g., how it will address a global health priority), and 3. Partnership and project management.
GHIT provides strategic guidance to product development partners on their launch strategies for clinical candidates, in collaboration with domestic and international partners. Specifically, GHIT ensures that strategies carefully consider such issues as demand forecast, regulatory, finance, manufacturing, procurement, supply chain management, and policy and advocacy.

Interactive interview and funding request approval by Selection Committee

Based on aggregated External Reviewer results and a subsequent evaluation by the GHIT Fund Selection Committee (SC), proposals are ranked by evaluation score, with top-tier applicants invited for an interactive interview with the SC. The SC then critiques each proposal, assesses the quality of each product development plan, and recommends funding to the Board.

Application review and funding approval recommendation by GHIT Board

Proposals selected by the SC are passed to GHIT’s Board of Directors whose members review and approve investment award decisions. The Board directs portfolio strategy and awards funding using a milestone-based approach to ensure return with minimal risk.

Access & delivery strategy appraisal

GHIT provides strategic guidance to product development partners on their launch strategies for clinical candidates, in collaboration with domestic and international partners. Specifically, GHIT ensures that strategies carefully consider such issues as demand forecast, regulatory, finance, manufacturing, procurement, supply chain management, and policy and advocacy.
Investment Scope: Diseases

Malaria

219 Million 435,000
Infected in 2017  Deaths in 2017

Malaria is caused by parasites that are transmitted to people through the bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes. Malaria is caused by Plasmodium parasites, and of those, five parasite species that cause malaria in humans, and two of these species – P. falciparum and P. vivax – pose the greatest threat.

Source: https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/malaria

Tuberculosis

10 Million 1.6 Million
Infected in 2017  Deaths in 2017

Tuberculosis (TB) is one of the top 10 causes of death worldwide. TB is caused by bacteria (Mycobacterium tuberculosis) that most often affect the lungs. TB is spread from person to person through the air. TB is a leading killer of HIV-positive people. Multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) remains a public health crisis and a health security threat.

Source: https://www.who.int/en/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/tuberculosis
Neglected Tropical Diseases: NTDs

1 Billion Infected

Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)—a group of twenty of communicable diseases prevalent in tropical and subtropical conditions in 149 countries—affect more than one billion people and cost developing economies billions of dollars every year. Populations living in poverty, without adequate sanitation, and in close contact with infectious vectors and domestic animals and livestock are those worst affected.

Source: https://www.who.int/neglected_diseases/diseases/en/
### Investment Scope: Development Stage

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug Development</th>
<th>Vaccine Development</th>
<th>Diagnostic Development</th>
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<td><strong>Target Research Platform</strong></td>
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<td>Drug Identification</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hit Identification</td>
<td>Technology Platform Identification</td>
<td>Development Feasibility</td>
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**Product Development Platform**

- Lead Optimization
- Preclinical Development
- Phase 1 Clinical Development
- Phase 2 Clinical Development
- Phase 3 Clinical Development
- Registration

**Phase 1 Clinical Development**

**Phase 2 Clinical Development**

**Phase 3 Clinical Development**

- Product Design
- Product Development
- Product Validation
- Registration

GHIT’s investments range from target research to product registration for drugs, vaccines, and diagnostics. To learn more about our Request for Proposals (RFPs) and their schedule, please visit our website.
R&D: Investments in Product Development

Further leverage innovations from Japanese biopharma and academia

- 5 Innovative diagnostic technologies identified and funded

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<tr>
<th>Target Research</th>
<th>Hit Identification</th>
<th>Lead Identification</th>
<th>Preclinical</th>
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<tr>
<td>5 Leads</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five hit-to-lead programs</td>
<td>Five hit-to-lead programs</td>
<td>Eight preclinical candidates identified</td>
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Advance R&D investment pipeline and prioritize late-stage candidates

- Phase I: 5 First in Human (FIH) clinical trials conducted
- Phase IIa: 3 Three clinical candidates with Proof of Concept (POC) achieved
- Phase III: 2 Products approved by a stringent regulatory authority

Design of clinical trials (e.g., PhIa/b, PhIIa/b) and point of testing for proof of concept depends on regulatory science; depiction above is only representative.

GHIT Strategic Plan 2018-2022 sets the target for every R&D stage, which enables strategic investment. Our Strategic Plan also includes other important pillars: Access and Delivery, Finance, and Governance. To learn more, please visit our website.
We believe medicine is invaluable with access, valueless without access.
GHIT’s direct investments focus on R&D, however, GHIT facilitates strategic partnerships for Access and Delivery. For example, GHIT provides strategic guidance to product development partners on their launch strategies for clinical candidates, in collaboration with domestic and international partners. Specifically, GHIT ensures that strategies carefully consider such issues as demand forecast, regulatory, finance, manufacturing, procurement, supply chain management, and policy and advocacy. Furthermore, GHIT, the Government of Japan, and the UNDP-led Access and Delivery Partnership (ADP) co-launched “Uniting Efforts for Innovation, Access and Delivery” in 2019, a new global platform that aims to bring together and promote global dialogue among key stakeholders to accelerate and improve the innovation and access and delivery. Please visit https://www.unitingeffortsforhealth.org/ to learn more.

1. UNDP-led ADP: United Nations Development Program-led Access and Delivery Partnership
GHIT and its partners’ efforts to accelerate global health R&D and promote Access and Delivery for people in low- and middle-income countries aligns with SDG’s driving force of “No One Left Behind” and directly contributes to attaining Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and “Health for All”. GHIT drives and catalyzes cross sectoral partnerships domestically and internationally to save millions of neglected patients around the globe.
Health is a right, not an option.