Position Statement

of the Global Health Hub Germany Steering Committee

The unprovoked and unlawful attack on Ukraine initiated by the Russian leadership has unleashed a humanitarian catastrophe with immeasurable suffering and torment for the people of Ukraine, inducing a major forced migration. Beyond the direct effects on Ukraine, within a matter of weeks the war has also severely exacerbated existing crises such as the global food security crisis, the debt crisis in the Global South and supply chain distortions. The effects on international efforts to transform the energy system in order to reach net zero emissions are yet unclear.

The Steering Committee of the Global Health Hub Germany is concerned that the fallout from the war in Ukraine could dramatically worsen the prospects for achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and goals related to Global Health in particular. This applies equally to the ongoing wars in the Global South, in Yemen, Syria, Afghanistan and several countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. In all of these countries, global health is now more than just at risk, with deplorable numbers in all health indicators and insecure health systems.

Immediate and acute crises bear the danger of falling back into short term local reactions. However, in an era of repeated and highly interlinked international crises, it is of utmost importance that national or regional short term crisis reactions remain aligned with medium to long term goals such as the SDGs. Against this backdrop we must even increase our ambitions to making our one and only planet a place worth living on, capable of sustaining a healthy life for all.

About the Global Health Hub Germany

The Global Health Hub Germany is committed to increasing Germany's contribution to global health by bringing together diverse non-state actors to exchange perspectives, engage in joint learning and share our knowledge. To find out more about our Communities of Practice, their activities and how you can contribute to addressing these multiple crises, please click here.

List of Hub Communities:
- Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)
- Climate Change and Health
- Global Child Health
- Global Health & Migration
- Global Mental Health
- Global Urban Health
- Global Women's Health
- Implementation of the Global Digital Health Agenda
- Neglected Tropical Diseases – Outbreak, Warning and Response
- Non-Communicable Diseases
- Partnerships for Global Health
- Snake Bite Poisoning