

Daniel Thornton

Daniel Thornton is a senior global health and international development executive with more than thirty years of experience in multilateral institutions, government, and civil society. He has played a central role in raising over \$27 billion for global health and held senior advisory positions at the highest levels of the UK government and at the Institute for Government. His work spans pandemic preparedness, vaccine financing, health systems strengthening, and innovative finance for development.

EXPERIENCE

Visiting Professor in Practice, Department of Health Policy, London School of Economics 2025–Present

Teaching and supervising on geopolitics and financing of global health

Consultant, | Various international organisations | 2025–Present

Leading design and capitalisation strategy for an innovative multi-hundred-million-dollar financing mechanism, global health security strategy

Director (D2), Coordinated Resource Mobilisation | World Health Organization | 2024–2025

Led WHO's first Investment Round, securing over \$2 billion from member states, foundations, and private sector, increasing flexible and long term funding.

Director of Replenishments (previously consultant) | Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance | 2019–2024

Orchestrated Gavi's 2020 replenishment (\$8.8 billion). Launched and led three COVAX Advance Market Commitment replenishments raising \$12 billion — the largest collective global vaccine financing effort in history.

Programme Director | Institute for Government | 2015 – 2018

Advised, coached, and trained government ministers; supported change management and leadership team development at several government departments

Director, Strategic Initiatives / Chief of Staff | Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance | 2009–2015

Chief of Staff to successive CEOs; co-led 2011 London Pledging Conference (\$4.3 billion). Led CEO-mandated supply chain reform improving vaccine availability across 100,000+ health facilities in lower-income countries.

Senior Roles | UK Civil Service — No. 10, HM Treasury, DCLG | 2001–2009

Private Secretary to Prime Minister Tony Blair; Senior Policy Adviser at HM Treasury; Director of Local Economic Development (team of 80, budget of £2.5 billion).

Other experience

Director of External Relations | Ark | Sept 2018 – Dec 2019

Committee Specialist | Foreign Affairs Committee, House of Commons, 1999–2001

Senior Credit Analyst | Enron Europe, 1998

Diplomat | Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 1991–1997

Desk Officer, North America and International Economics | Oxford Analytica, 1990–1991

EDUCATION

MSc International History | London School of Economics and Political Science, 1992

BA Philosophy, Politics and Economics | University of Oxford (Wadham College), 1990

Languages: Maternal English | Fluent French