Biography

Françoise Vanni, Head of External Relations and Communications

Françoise Vanni heads the Global Fund’s External Relations and Communications Division and led efforts toward the Sixth Replenishment, a resource mobilization that culminated in 2019 with US$14 billion in pledges for the Global Fund’s three-year funding cycle. Her division includes four areas: Donor Relations, Private Sector Engagement, Political and Civil Society Advocacy, and Communications.

Vanni has more than 20 years of leadership experience in resource mobilization and advocacy, most recently as Director of External Relations and Communications for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency in the Middle East.

Vanni has extensive field experience in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East, and a stellar track record leading advocacy and fund-raising campaigns in politically complex environments. In her most recent role, she oversaw a broad portfolio that included dozens of institutional and private donors.

Early in her career, Vanni served as country representative in Angola and in Cuba for Médecins du Monde. For eight years, she served as Executive Director of a non-governmental organization in France called Agir Ici, which she transformed into Oxfam France. Vanni served as Communications Chief for UNICEF in Mexico, before serving Oxfam GB as a regional director and then as Campaigns and Policy Director, based in the United Kingdom.

Vanni’s experience developing and delivering high-profile advocacy campaigns has built upon her passion for humanitarian work, and she has thrived in culturally-diverse organizations with a strong sense of mission. Vanni earned a master’s degree in international cooperation, development and humanitarian affairs at La Sorbonne, and completed an advanced management and leadership course at Oxford University’s Said School of Business.