

David Nabarro Biography

David Nabarro serves as Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Climate Change. He works with Governments and other stakeholders to galvanize action on implementation of both the 2030 and Climate Action agendas. He also oversees the Secretary-General's special initiatives, including Every Woman Every Child, Global Pulse and Zero Hunger Challenge, and the UN Office for Partnerships.

David Nabarro has more than 30 years' experience of public health, nutrition and development at country, regional and global levels, and has held positions in non-governmental organizations, universities, national Governments and the United Nations (UN) system.



David Nabarro was born in London in 1949 and qualified as a physician in 1973. He started his career with four years in the United Kingdom National Health Service. He then contributed to the health and nutrition of mothers and children, through community development and humanitarian relief programmes, particularly in Iraq, South Asia and East Africa.

David Nabarro has held positions in the London and Liverpool Schools of Tropical Medicine, served as Chief Health and Population Adviser to the United Kingdom Overseas Development Administration and has been a Director for Human Development in the UK Department for International Development.

David Nabarro joined the UN system in 1999, leading the Roll Back Malaria initiative at the World Health Organization (WHO). He was appointed as a WHO Executive Director in 2001 and led WHO's Department for Health Action in Crises from 2003. Between 2005 and 2014 he served as the UN System's Senior Coordinator for Avian and Pandemic Influenza. Since 2009 he has been the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Food Security and Nutrition, a position he continues to hold. From 2011 to 2015 he served as Coordinator of the Movement to Scale Up Nutrition. From September 2014 until December 2015 he was Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General on Ebola, providing strategic and policy direction for the international response.