

FOCUS ON COVID-19

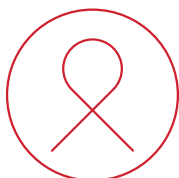


The Global Fund / John Rae

The COVID-19 pandemic threatens us all and could destroy years of progress against HIV, TB and malaria.

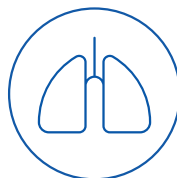
New studies show that if health systems collapse or treatment and prevention services are interrupted, the death toll from HIV, TB, malaria and other diseases will be far higher than deaths from COVID-19 itself. This means millions more lives lost.

To defeat COVID-19, protect progress against HIV, TB and malaria, and save lives, we must unite to fight.



AIDS-related **deaths could more than double in sub-Saharan Africa alone**, setting us back close to 2008 levels and eliminating a decade of progress.

Source: [WHO, UNAIDS](#)



Lockdowns and interruptions to treatment could lead to an **additional 1.4 million TB deaths globally** and an additional 6.3 million cases over the next five years.

Source: [Stop TB Partnership](#)



Malaria **deaths could more than double in sub-Saharan Africa alone**, setting us back to around 2000 levels and eliminating nearly 2 decades of progress.

Source: [WHO](#)

OUR EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The Global Fund quickly provided up to US\$1 billion to help countries fight COVID-19, shore up critical systems for health, and ensure lifesaving HIV, TB and malaria programs continue.

In early March 2020, the Global Fund enabled countries to use up to US\$500 million in grant flexibilities to purchase protective equipment, diagnostics and medical supplies, and to deploy prevention campaigns.

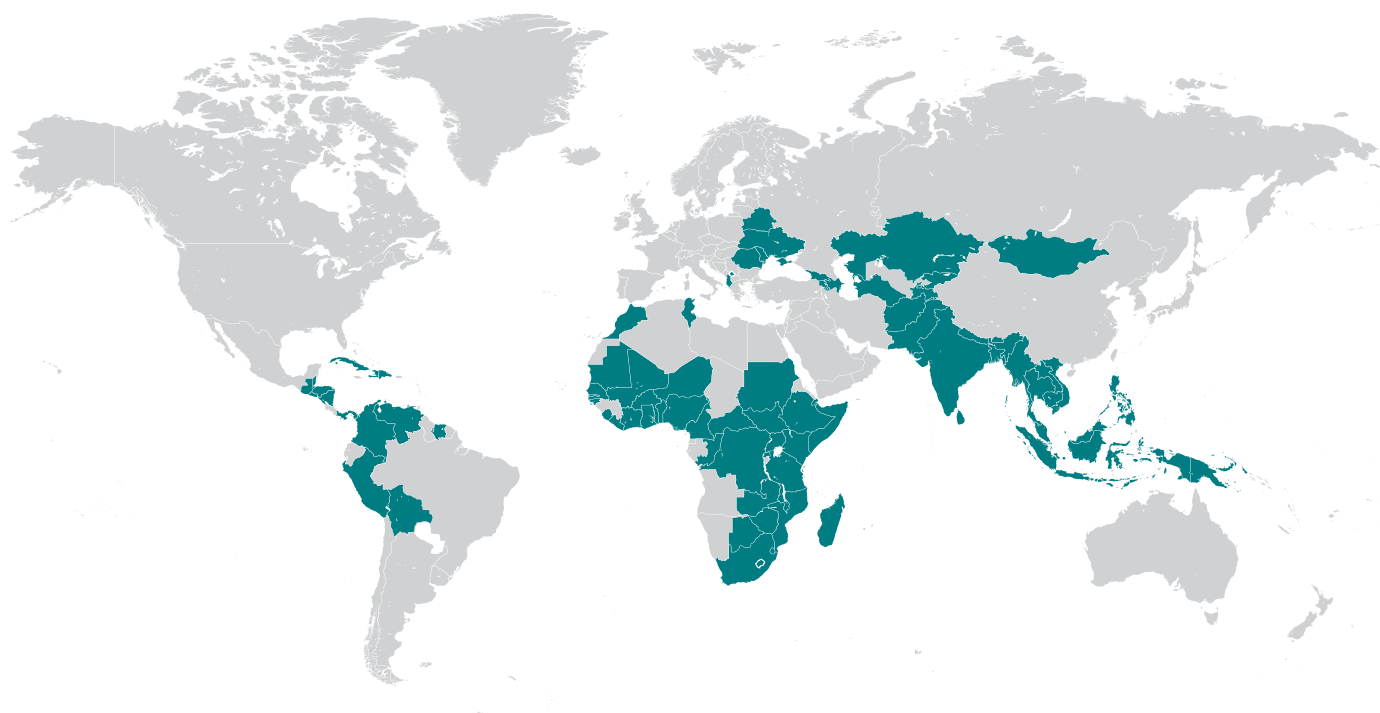
In April, we launched the COVID-19 Response Mechanism with an additional US\$500 million.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Over **US\$146 million** approved to **84 countries** and **6 regional grants** through COVID-19 grant flexibilities
- ▶ Countries are **adapting HIV, TB and malaria programs to safely continue** during the pandemic - including delivering **multiple months of antiretroviral treatment** to people with HIV, conducting **additional outreach** to those with TB, and hiring **more community health workers** equipped with **personal protective equipment** to deliver mosquito nets and services door to door
- ▶ **2 million COVID-19 tests** secured and being delivered
- ▶ Systems for health supported by the Global Fund – including a global network of **11,000 diagnostics machines** and laboratory support already in place for HIV, TB and malaria – are being used to also fight COVID-19
- ▶ Community-led systems for health and community health workers are contact tracing for COVID-19, educating communities and reaching the most vulnerable

COUNTRIES ACCESSING GLOBAL FUND SUPPORT TO FIGHT COVID-19

For an up-to-date list of countries accessing Global Fund support to fight COVID-19, visit theglobalfund.org/COVID-19



Additional funding for the COVID-19 Response Mechanism is immediately needed to:

- ▶ **Support the emergency response**
- ▶ **Shore up health systems to ensure they don't collapse**
- ▶ **Help countries adapt HIV, TB and malaria programs**

Private sector support – particularly rapid deployment of supply chain and information technology solutions – is critical to help low-income countries quickly strengthen their capacities to fight COVID-19.

OUR ROLE IN THE GLOBAL RESPONSE

The Global Fund was created in response to the last major pandemic to hit humanity: HIV and AIDS.

With 20 years' experience fighting infectious disease, the Global Fund is working with health leaders, partners and governments to ensure the global response to COVID-19 reflects lessons learned from the fight against HIV, TB and malaria.

For example:

- ▶ **Protect human rights and address stigma and discrimination, particularly among key and vulnerable populations**
- ▶ **Remove gender and human rights barriers to health**
- ▶ **Engage communities in the response**
- ▶ **Fairly allocate limited COVID-19 resources and new tools to ensure no one is left behind**

The Global Fund brings its well-established procurement system, existing agreements with suppliers and extensive supply chain networks to support the global response to COVID-19.

The Global Fund is a founding partner of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator – a global collaboration of organizations and governments working to accelerate development, production and equitable access to new COVID-19 technologies.

As part of ACT-A, we are a co-convenor of both the Diagnostics Partnership (with FIND) and the Health Systems Connector (with the World Bank). We are also a procurement and deployment partner in the Therapeutics Partnership.

Along with UNICEF, the Global Fund co-leads the WHO Diagnostics Consortium to negotiate pricing and procure molecular diagnostic tests for COVID-19. We have also opened our innovative online sourcing portal, wambo.org, to countries and organizations so they can benefit from the Global Fund's economies of scale for health products.



AVSI Foundation in Uganda

Protecting Mothers and Babies from HIV during the COVID-19 Pandemic

In Uganda, the lockdown and transport restrictions are a barrier to accessing health services for mothers and pregnant women living with HIV.

If access to antiretroviral treatment is interrupted, the mother risks passing the virus to her baby, and risks developing health issues herself.

The Global Fund is providing US\$4.5 million in Uganda to fight COVID-19, shore up critical health systems, and ensure lifesaving HIV, TB and malaria programs continue.

The initial response has prioritized the purchase of personal protective equipment such as masks and gloves for health workers and diagnostic tests for COVID-19.

AVSI Foundation, a local nongovernmental organization in the region, is building the capacity of health facilities to deliver antiretroviral treatment and health services door to door.

A PROVEN PARTNERSHIP TO FIGHT INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Diseases do not respect borders. The COVID-19 pandemic makes clear that our global health security is only as strong as the world's weakest health system.

Investments in global systems for health are critical to keep citizens safe from infectious disease – including HIV, TB and malaria – and to help fight new health threats like COVID-19.

The Global Fund partnership is the largest multinational funder of grants for prevention, diagnostics and treatment of infectious diseases.

We mobilize and invest US\$4 billion a year to support programs run by local experts to fight HIV, TB and malaria, and build resilient and sustainable systems for health in more than 100 countries.

In partnership with governments, civil society, technical agencies, communities, the private sector and people affected by the diseases, the Global Fund is a proven multisectoral model to drive infectious diseases into retreat and save lives.

“The battle against infectious disease is not against one virus. It’s a commitment to keep everyone safe. It’s about winning the fight against HIV, TB and malaria. It’s about winning the fight against COVID-19. And above all, it’s about leaving no one behind. We must unite to fight.”

Peter Sands, Executive Director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria