

THE GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS AND MALARIA

October 2018

A SMART INVESTMENT TO REACH UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

In a changing global order, EU political leadership is crucial to take forward Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals. In October 2019, in the midst of the post-EU election process, the French government will host the Sixth Replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. This provides a major opportunity to set the world on course to meet the health goal of Agenda 2030, scale up efforts to end all three diseases and contribute to achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

As a group of European global health advocates and implementers, we are calling on the EU to protect and deepen the global health gains of the recent decades and provide strong leadership by **increasing the EU's contribution to the Global Fund to €580 million for the years 2020-2022.**


Unquestionable progress: 27 million lives saved through the Global Fund



The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is one of the best performing global initiatives and the world's largest pool fund for global health.



As an innovative partnership between governments, civil society, the private sector and people affected by these diseases, the Global Fund mobilizes and invests nearly US\$4 billion every year to support programmes in more than 100 countries. Thanks in large part to the support of the EU and its Member States, the Global Fund has **saved 27 million lives since 2002**. In the most recent funding cycle, **27% of Global Fund investments went to building more resilient and sustainable health systems** in beneficiary countries. Finally, through its co-financing policy, the Global Fund catalyses further domestic investments: the latest data reveals that there has been a **40% increase in spending on health in supported countries** compared to the previous replenishment.

These numbers provide clear evidence that multilateral investments can achieve remarkable success in combatting the world's deadliest infectious diseases and strengthening health systems.

KEY RESULTS for 2017

 **17.5**
MILLION PEOPLE
ON ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY FOR HIV
9.4 MILLION PEOPLE REACHED WITH
HIV PREVENTION PROGRAMMES

5 MILLION 
PEOPLE WITH
TB TREATED 
102,000 PEOPLE WITH MULTIDRUG-
RESISTANT TB ON TREATMENT

197 MILLION
MOSQUITO NETS 
DISTRIBUTED 
108 MILLION CASES OF MALARIA TREATED

 **US\$ 205**
MILLION
SAVED THROUGH POOLED
PROCUREMENT

Why the European Union must continue to invest in the Global Fund

The EU played a crucial role in the Global Fund's establishment in 2002 and has supported it ever since, becoming its sixth-largest donor. With nearly half of the total resources of the Global Fund coming from the EU and its Member States, the presence of the European Commission on the Fund's Board, and the provision of technical expertise at country-level, the EU helps to ensure its good governance, transparency, efficiency and alignment with EU policy objectives and results.

The EU's continued leadership is now paramount to the ultimate aim of ending AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Combined, these three diseases killed over 3 million people last year and substantial challenges remain:

- Adolescents and young women are still at high risk for all three diseases
- Key populations for each of the epidemics continue to be neglected by health systems
- Despite their key role in achieving UHC, community-led and community-based programs remain severely under-resourced
- Human rights abuses, stigma and discrimination in many countries impair people's ability to seek health care and advocate for their health and rights
- Growing drug resistance - which all three epidemics are experiencing - presents a significant threat to global health security
- Access to medicines and health services are placed under threat by the lack of funding for public research and high prices of diagnostics, vaccines and treatments

The pace of progress is too slow, reversing gains made in certain regions. International development assistance for health from the world's wealthiest countries has plateaued, with damaging withdrawal of external aid from low- and middle-income countries. In order to sustain and revitalize the global response to these epidemics, international aid and domestic spending on health must be increased.

The Global Fund is a proven mechanism which has allowed the EU to advance its global health priorities, including strengthening health systems, spurring more government expenditure on health in implementing countries and addressing the health security agenda. In a continued spirit of leadership, we call on the EU to invest €580 million in the Global Fund for 2020-2022.

Why €580 million? US\$ 46 billion is needed annually to end HIV, TB and Malaria in low- and middle-income countries. Advocates around the world calculate that US\$ 16,8 – 18 billion should be channelled through the Fund in 2020-2022 – a 22% increase compared to current levels of pledges. To reach this target, all donors need to be ambitious and increase their pledges by 22%, which would bring the EU's fair share to €580 million. This is feasible: it would represent only 1,5% of the total budget of the draft Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument. In average, public donors to the Global Fund are currently investing 2,22% of their total official development aid through the Fund. An early pledge by the EU before the European elections would build momentum leading up to the Pledging Conference by galvanizing other European and international donors to scale up their investments.*

*Data used in this report come from the Global Fund 2018 Results Report and the GFAN's "Get Back on Track to End the Epidemics" report.

