



The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

What is the Global Fund?

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is an independent multilateral public-private partnership that was first proposed by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan in 2001 and came into existence in 2002. Its goal is to raise funds from governments, businesses and individuals around the world and channel them into programs to fight AIDS, tuberculosis (TB), and malaria.

It is important to remember that the Global Fund does not actually implement HIV/AIDS, TB or malaria programs; it is only responsible for attracting and managing the financial resources to enable other organizations to implement programs in recipient countries. To date, the Global Fund has committed \$4.9 billion to 131 countries for the prevention, treatment, and care of people with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.

Who are the donors?

Approximately 50 countries have pledged money to the Fund so far. Many of these countries are wealthy western or Middle Eastern nations, but the Fund has also received pledges from countries directly affected by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria (Uganda is one example). Historically, the U.S. contribution has averaged 33% of total funds pledged yearly. However, this number is projected to drop below 30% in the coming years and falls far short of the need expressed by the Fund.

Which countries are recipients of Global Fund money?

So far, 131 countries are receiving Global Fund money. Currently, about 61% of funds go to Africa; 23% to Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa; and 16% to Latin America, the Caribbean, and Europe.

How do these countries get funding?

To receive money, a country's government or an organization within the country needs to apply. This application goes before the Global Fund's Technical Review Panel, which reviews the applications. The Panel is made up of independent health development experts who examine the technical aspects of every application. They can then propose to the Board that a grant be approved without conditions, that it be approved with conditions, that it be rewritten and resubmitted, or that it be rejected.

An important part of every country's application process is the interaction and negotiations that take place with each country's Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM). In every country that requests money, a CCM is set up to help submit grant applications and monitor grant implementation. A CCM is generally made up of representatives from government, NGOs, the private sector, local community and faith-based organizations, people affected by the diseases and individuals working in the field.

When the grant is approved and the money arrives, it is given to a country's Principal Recipient, or PR. Often a government agency, the PR is the body legally responsible for distributing the money. The Global Fund is making a concerted effort to encourage non-governmental organizations to take on the PR role, so that control of implementation does not remain centralized in the government's hands.

How is the Global Fund run?

The Global Fund is a foundation registered under Swiss law. It is governed by an international Board of Directors made up of 19 voting members and four non-voting members. Voting members include government representatives from donor and recipient countries, representatives from affected communities, private and business sector representatives, philanthropic foundations, and non-

governmental organizations (NGO). Non-voting members include representatives from UNAIDS, the World Health Organization, and the World Bank. The day-to-day operation of the Fund is carried out by a Secretariat (administrative division) based in Geneva, Switzerland.

How is the Global Fund different from PEPFAR?

The Global Fund and PEPFAR (the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief) are two of the biggest funding instruments for global HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, and care. However, the programs are somewhat different in nature. While the Global Fund is a multilateral public-private partnership and is funded by governments, businesses, and philanthropies around the world, PEPFAR is a bilateral initiative, a U.S. government entity funded solely by the United States.

The Global Fund only gives money to those countries who apply for it, which helps to ensure that money is used in the ways that will most benefit people in the countries receiving it, since grants are written and implemented by the people themselves. PEPFAR, on the other hand, actively seeks out suitable recipient nations and offers them money that must be spent according to US law and guidance issued by the US Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC).

Another difference between the two organizations often relates to the types of programs they are willing to fund. The Global Fund’s policy states that money pledged comes with “no strings attached.” This means that donor countries and organizations cannot decide where their money goes—it may be used in any country where it is needed and for any purpose. Therefore, programs that may be viewed as “controversial,” such as programs relating to sex work or harm reduction strategies are eligible to receive funding. However, PEPFAR, which is based on the ideals of the Bush administration, generally does not fund programs which may be viewed as controversial.

The Global Fund works

Result	December 2004	December 2005	1 Year Increase
People Treated for HIV/AIDS (ARVs)	130,000	384,000	195%
Bed Nets Distributed to Fight Malaria	1.35 million	7.7 million	470%
TB Treatments (DOTS)	385,000	1 million	160%
Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT)	1 million +	3.9 million	290%
Community HIV/AIDS Prevention	N/A	7 million	N/A
Malaria Treatments Distributed	1.1 million	3.9 million	255%

The Fund’s resources have been used to provide over 400,000 children with medical, educational, and social support. The Fund is the world’s leading donor in the fight against TB and malaria, providing 2/3 of all TB funding and over half of all malaria funding. To date, every \$1 that the U.S. has donated to the Global Fund has leveraged \$2 in contributions from other donors. U.S. leadership is essential and critical to Global Fund success and the world’s ability to effectively fight these three diseases that kill 6 million people a year.

To get involved in supporting the Global Fund and generating the political will to end the HIV/AIDS pandemic and its socio-economic and political root causes, join the Global AIDS Alliance Grassroots Network. Sign up at <http://www.globalaidsalliance.org/getinvolved.cfm> or email grassroots@globalaidsalliance.org.

Resources
<http://www.theglobalfund.org>
<http://www.theglobalfight.org/>
<http://www.avert.org/global-fund.htm>
http://www.usaid.gov/about_usaid/presidential_initiative/aids.html