

COVID-19 Situation Report – 14 April 2020

1. Situation Overview

Global cases: 1,776,867 confirmed. **Global deaths:** 111,828 confirmed. **Countries, areas or territories with cases:** 213 (as of 14 April, [WHO](#)). The first COVID-19 case was reported in Yemen. WHO has published '[Target Product Profiles for COVID-19 Vaccines](#)', which describes the preferred and minimally acceptable profiles for human vaccines for long term protection of persons at high risk of COVID-19 infection, such as healthcare workers. WHO has updated its [Q&A on COVID-19](#) to provide information of how the virus spreads and how it is affecting people worldwide. The Global Fund is coordinating with the WHO, which is leading the global response. [WHO Situation Reports](#) have detailed updates.

2. Global Fund COVID-19 Response

On 9 April, the Global Fund Board approved a new [COVID-19 Response Mechanism](#) and operational flexibilities to support countries to respond to COVID-19 and mitigate the impact on programs to fight HIV, TB, malaria and systems for health. The COVID-19 Response Mechanism authorizes funding of US\$500 million and comes in addition to up to [US\\$500 million in grant flexibilities](#) that were previously announced by the Global Fund on 4 March. This effectively brings total Global Fund support available to up to US\$1 billion. Latest updates:

- Funding has been approved for 55 countries and two regional grants (103 individual decisions) for a total of nearly US\$72 million. The 55 countries include (**new countries are in bold**): Afghanistan, Albania, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, **Congo**, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, El Salvador, Eritrea, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Moldova, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Romania, Rwanda, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The two regional grants are: *ALCO HIV/AIDS prevention project targeting key and vulnerable population along the Abidjan-Lagos Corridor*, and *Middle East Response - Ensuring continuity of treatment and essential services for people affected by HIV, TB and malaria in Yemen, Syria, Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon*.
- Most countries have requested less than the 5% permitted. All requests follow WHO guidance on preparedness and early response. Almost all funds approved to date have come from savings from existing grants.
- The number of requests, and the dollar amount of each request, have increased greatly since March. Requests are now coming in from all regions.

3. Business Contingency Planning for Existing Global Fund Grants

Business Contingency Planning focuses on protecting the Global Fund's ability to deliver its core mission, prioritizing the continued delivery of impact from the current grant cycle and the development of funding requests and grants to deliver maximum impact in the 2020-2022 allocation period.

3.1 2020-2022 Allocations

- To provide additional flexibility for applicants to submit funding requests as soon as they are ready, the Global Fund has updated the [funding request submission dates for 2020](#).

3.2 Operational Guidance for Countries

- The Global Fund is adapting processes for current grants and will share guidance notes as they are developed. Please visit our [website](#) for updates.
- **NEW:** [COVID-19 Guidance Note on Virtual Inclusive Dialogue](#)

3.3 COVID-19 Impact on HIV, TB, Malaria, Communities, Rights and Gender

- WHO and technical partner guidance relevant to Global Fund work is available [here](#).
- Global Fund COVID-19 Information Notes: Global Fund investments and advice to Principal Recipients and implementers strictly follow WHO guidelines. Global Fund COVID-19 Information Notes on HIV, TB, malaria, health systems and human rights are available [here](#).
- **NEW:** [Guidance Note: Human Rights in Times of COVID-19](#)

3.4 Procurement and Supply Chain

- As of 14 April 2020, the Global Fund's product and delivery outlook shows the overall [impact of COVID-19 on health product supply chains](#) for Global Fund grants remains at **moderate**.
- The pharmaceutical, mosquito net, and diagnostics supply situation has production challenges and delays expected over the next few months due to national responses in India and Vietnam. We continue to monitor this situation directly with suppliers and dynamically allocate each order to the best supply option, in coordination with partners including the U.S. Government, WHO and the Stop TB Partnership.
- Suspended operations, flight delays and cancellations are contributing to air freight routing and capacity constraints. Disrupted global supply networks have resulted in some reduced ocean freight capacity. Freight costs are increasing. Our Procurement Services Agents are tracking the rapidly changing status of origin and destination airport, sea port and land options in real time to propose the best delivery option. Re-routing shipments, changing transit countries to catch "cargo-only" aircraft and consolidating airfreight and converting to ocean freight, which may be more reliable once departed, are increasingly necessary. Rapid decisions on freight proposals (within days) need to be taken to secure the best available slot, which if lost could contribute several weeks delays. Slow action by Principal Recipients to secure necessary in-country waiver requirements may also lead to missed opportunities, further delays and cost increases.
- Today, 9% of Pooled Procurement Mechanism face delays of more than 30 days, including 17% of orders in transit. As of 10 April, we now have volume visibility for most deliveries expected in 2020 which will enable us to manage expectations, minimize delays and facilitate timely support to Principal Recipients and Country Teams to the extent possible. We will share a framework for Principal Recipients to channel concerns linked to delayed orders so we can jointly evaluate mitigation options.
- The Board-approved COVID-19 Response Mechanism will finance COVID-19 control measures consistent with WHO guidance, including personal protective equipment (PPE), diagnostics, treatment, communications and other measures. The Board agreed that these funds may be used to procure COVID-19 health products approved under the WHO Emergency Use and Listing procedures or under other emergency procedures set up by Stringent Regulatory Authorities as defined in Global Fund Quality Assurance policies. For COVID-19 diagnostics, the Global Fund is best strategically positioned to procure these based on our established relationships with diagnostic manufacturers, and we are working through the WHO-led consortium to operationalize the procurement process and will provide an update in the coming days.
- Principal Recipients are strongly encouraged to procure PPE through local channels given the high global demand for these products. Only if Principal Recipients face severe challenges should they reach out to [UNICEF Procurement Services](#) to order through their

[catalogue](#). TB programs can also reach out to [StopTB's Global Drug Facility](#) to procure PPE.

4. Messaging and Advocacy

- [COVID-19 Key Messages and Talking Points](#): updated regularly.

5. Media and Communications

- [“US think tanks push ahead on proposed health security fund. ‘Last thing health ministers need,’ says Global Fund chief,”](#) By Ann Danaiya Usher, Development Today, 8 April 2020
- [“Zimbabwe Decentralises Covid-19 Testing as Global Fund Releases US\\$5 Million”](#) by Kuda Bwititi, The Sunday Mail – Zimbabwe, 12 April 2020

6. External Coordination

- The Global Fund continues to work closely with WHO and global health partners at global, regional and country levels on COVID-19 preparedness and response, particularly key issues such as supply chain, technical guidance and in-country coordination.
- The Global Fund is closely collaborating with numerous governments and organizations including the World Bank; Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; many UN agencies; the Africa CDC; as well as private sector manufacturers, to advance a global response.

7. Key Resources

- [Global Fund COVID-19 Response web page](#)
- [WHO Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) Pandemic web page](#)