COVID-19 Situation Report #16

9 June 2020

1. Situation Overview

Global cases: 6,931,000 confirmed. Global deaths: 400,857 confirmed. Countries, areas or territories with cases: 216 (as of 9 June, WHO). Global Citizen launched Global Goal: Unite for Our Future, a new campaign to support COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines for all. Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, raised US$ 8.8 billion for its five-year replenishment. Gavi launched the Gavi Advance Market Commitment for COVID-19 Vaccines (Gavi Covax AMC) for access to COVID-19 vaccines. An independent WHO Foundation will be established to broaden WHO’s donor base and work towards more sustainable and predictable funding. WHO has published new guidance on: the use of masks for the control of COVID-19; integrating digital tools into contact tracing methods; and maintaining essential health services during the pandemic. WHO reports that a record number of countries have contributed data revealing disturbing rates of antimicrobial resistance, with fears that COVID-19 might worsen the situation. Currently over 120 candidate vaccines have been mapped and sites in 40 countries have expressed an interest to join the Vaccine Solidarity Trial. See the WHO Situation Reports for detailed updates.

2. Global Fund COVID-19 Response

The Global Fund is providing up to US$1 billion and operational flexibility to help countries fight COVID-19, shore up health systems and mitigate the impacts on lifesaving HIV, TB and malaria programs. Emergency funding is available through the US$500 million COVID-19 Response Mechanism and additional grant flexibilities of up to US$500 million (Español | Français). Application materials for the COVID-19 Response Mechanism are available here.

As part of the global response to COVID-19, the Global Fund is working with health leaders, partners and governments to ensure the global response to COVID-19 includes lessons learned from the fight against HIV, TB and malaria: protect human rights and address stigma and discrimination, particularly among key and vulnerable populations; fight gender barriers to health; engage communities in the response; and fairly allocate limited COVID-19 resources and new tools so that no one is left behind.

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 the development, production and equitable access to new COVID-19 technologies. As part of ACT-A, we are a co-convener of both the Diagnostics Partnership (with FIND) and the Health Systems Connector (with the World Bank), and we are a procurement and deployment partner in the Therapeutics Partnership. We also co-lead the WHO Diagnostics Consortium along with UNICEF to negotiate pricing and procure molecular diagnostic tests for COVID-19, and we have opened our innovative online sourcing portal, wambo.org, to all countries and organizations so they also can benefit from the Global Fund’s economies of scale for health products. See the COVID-19 Key Messages and Talking Points for more detail.
Latest updates:

- **COVID-19 grant flexibilities:** Funding has been approved for 87 countries and six regional grants (247 individual decisions) for a total of nearly US$156 million through COVID-19 grant flexibilities. The full list of countries and funding approved is available [here](#). All requests follow WHO guidance on preparedness and early response. Source of funds almost exclusively from savings from existing grants, thus no negative impact on ongoing Global Fund-supported programs. The majority of all countries implementing Global Fund grants are now using the COVID-19 grant flexibilities.

- **COVID-19 Response Mechanism:** The Global Fund has received over 30 funding requests for the COVID-19 Response Mechanism totaling more than US$300 million from all regions where the Global Fund invests. Funding requests through the COVID-19 Response Mechanism will be reviewed and processed within 10 days. Rwanda is the first country to receive approval for funding through the COVID-19 Response Mechanism, for a total of US$7.6 million.

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.

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](#).

3.4 **Procurement and Supply Chain**

- As of 25 May 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.
- NEW: [Procuring COVID-19 Diagnostics through the Global Fund’s Accelerated Order Mechanism (AOM)](#) | EN | FR

4. **Messaging and Advocacy**

- **COVID-19 Key Messages and Talking Points:** updated regularly.

5. **Media and Communications**

- **Stories and case studies:**
  - [Sex Workers in Africa Are More Vulnerable During COVID-19](#)
  - [On the Front Lines: Responding to COVID-19](#) – Collection of stories and case studies, by country
• In the news:
  o Video: Peter Sands’ ‘Nightmare’ Coronavirus Scenario, Devex, By Raj Kumar, 01 June 2020
  o Lockdown Poverty Exposes African Sex Workers to More Violence, Thomson Reuters Foundation, By Nita Bhalla, 04 June 2020
  o En Côte d’Ivoire, le coronavirus ralentit la lutte contre le paludisme, Le Monde, By Youenn Gourlay, 27 May 2020
  o Old Epidemics Revived in Africa as the Pandemic Drains Resources, Bloomberg Law, Pauline Bax & Antony Sguazzin, 02 June 2020
  o Asset Managers Ignored Pandemic Risk and Now Must Learn from Their Mistakes – The Times -UK, By David Wighton, 29 May 2020
  o Lessons from Liberia — what we learned from the fight against Ebola, Devex, By Marion Subah, & Dr. Bernice Dahn, 28 May 2020
  o The Multilaterals Funding the COVID-19 Response in Southeast Asia And Pacific, Devex, By Joel Buan & Patricia Sarmenta, 05 June 2020
  o Health Diplomacy in Africa: Competition and Opportunity, Law Fare, By Mark P. Lagon & Rachel Sadoff, 07 June 2020
  o COVID-19 Threatens to Derail Fight Against HIV, TB and Malaria, Relief Web, By Peter Sands, 27 May 2020
  o COVID-19 threat to fight against HIV, TB, Malaria, says The Global Fund, The Sun (Nigeria) 07 June 2020
  o COVID-19 Threatens to Derail Fight Against HIV, TB and Malaria, LinkedIn, by Peter Sands, 27 May 2020

• On social media:
  o Global Fund Advocates Network Asia Pacific (Story from India)
  o Global Fund Executive Director Peter Sands, Devex interview clip
  o Launch of Global Citizen campaign
  o Global Fund Board Chair Donald Kaberuka joins World YMCA Youth Voices event, interview clip

6. External Coordination

• The Global Fund is part of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator to accelerate the development, production and equitable distribution of vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics for COVID-19.
• 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 participating in a WHO-led consortium on procurement with public and private sector partners to help deliver health products to countries in need.

7. Key Resources

• Global Fund COVID-19 Response web page
• Global Fund Unite to Fight web page
• WHO Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Pandemic web page