

COVID-19 Situation Report #21

14 July 2020

1. Situation Overview

Global cases: 12,929,306 confirmed. **Global deaths:** 569,738 deaths confirmed. **Countries, areas or territories with cases:** 216 (as of 14 July, [WHO](#)). As COVID-19 infections and deaths toll continues to rise globally, WHO Director-General called to [reinforce leadership and unity](#), and launched the [Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response \(IPPR\)](#) to evaluate the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic. While [WHO experts will travel to China](#) to prepare with their Chinese counterparts scientific plans for identifying the zoonotic source of the SARS-COV-2 virus, and researchers around the world race to find protection against the virus, [WHO called for equitable access to future COVID-19 vaccines in Africa](#), where confirmed COVID-19 cases [passed 600,000](#). The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation [echoed WHO's call](#), saying relying on market forces would prolong the pandemic.

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. 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. Our [Focus On COVID-19](#) ([Español](#) | [Français](#)) provides an overview.

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-convenor 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 [COVID-19 Key Messages and Talking Points](#) for more detail.

Latest updates:

- **Immediate funding:** To date, US\$466.6 million is approved for 96 countries and 10 multicountry programs through the COVID-19 Response Mechanism and grant flexibilities. All approved requests follow WHO guidance on preparedness and early response. Our [report](#) details approved funding by country.

- **COVID-19 Response Mechanism:** US\$288.6 million in immediate funding is approved for 50 countries and 3 multicountry programs through the [COVID-19 Response Mechanism](#). Country Coordinating Mechanisms continue to submit funding requests, and the Global Fund reviews them within 10 business days. Countries are currently being notified of their funding request outcomes. After countries are notified, they are added to our list of countries with funding approved.
- **COVID-19 grant flexibilities:** US\$178 million* is approved for 90 countries and 10 multicountry programs through [grant flexibilities](#). The source of funds is almost exclusively from savings from existing grants, thus no negative impact on ongoing Global Fund-supported programs. The majority of countries implementing Global Fund grants are using grant flexibilities.

** The total approved is lower than last week: Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) requested to finance all previously approved grant flexibilities through the COVID-19 Response Mechanism; the DRC reduction of US\$4.7 million is only partially offset by approximately US\$1 million of other approvals since 9 July.*

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

- The review of nearly 40 funding requests in window 2c is ongoing. The progress of submitted and registered funding requests is captured in our [tracker](#).
- To provide additional flexibility for applicants, the Global Fund updated the [funding request submission dates](#) in 2020.

3.2 Operational Guidance for Countries

- The Global Fund incorporated [flexibilities for current and upcoming grants](#) and shares guidance notes on adapting processes.
- Updated: [guidance summary for Country Coordinating Mechanisms](#)

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

- The Global Fund maintains a list of relevant [WHO and technical partner guidance](#).
- Global Fund investments and advice to implementers, shared through a series of [information and guidance notes](#), strictly follow WHO guidelines.
- The [COVID-19 Guidance Note on Community, Rights and Gender](#) is also available in [Spanish](#), [French](#) and [Russian](#).
- Country-based Local Fund Agents, who monitor grant implementation and progress on behalf of the Global Fund, complete a biweekly [Local Fund Agent survey](#) online to help identify potential risks and disruptions to programs.

3.4 Procurement and Supply Chain

- As of 6 July, 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**.

4. Media and Communications

- **Stories and case studies:**

- [AIDS 2020: Fighting HIV in the Shadow of COVID-19](#)
- [Fighting HIV in India during COVID-19](#)
- [Disruptions in HIV, TB and Malaria Programs due to COVID-19](#)

- **In the news:**

- [Unlocking HIV/AIDS financing during COVID-19](#), Devex, By Jenny Lei Ravelo, 06 July 2020
- [Mothers, Children, and the Terrible Choice Between COVID-19 and Other Infections](#), Think Global Health, By Chip Lyons and Chris Collins, 07 July 2020
- [U.S.: House Boosts Foreign Aid Funding, Adds \\$10B for COVID-19 Response](#), Devex, By Adva Saldinger, 07 July 2020
- [While We Are Fighting the Corona - Three Diseases Can Cost Well Over A Million Extra Lives](#), Nyheder TV (Denmark), By Christoffer Løvstrup Bagge, 07 July 2020
- [HIV Funding Is Dwindling. Who Will Fill the Gap?](#), Devex, By Jenny Lei Ravelo, 08 July 2020
- [Peter Sands Breaks Down The 'Huge Amount at Stake' for HIV Progress](#), Devex, By Teresa Welsh, 13 July 2020
- [Potential Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic On HIV, TB, and Malaria in Low- and Middle-Income Countries](#), The Lancet Global Health, By Alexandra B. Hogan et al., 13 July 2020
- [HIV, Tuberculosis, And Malaria: How Can the Impact Of COVID-19 Be Minimised?](#), The Lancet Global Health, By Peter Sands, 13 July 2020
- [How the Covid-19 Pandemic Is Making Malaria and HIV More Deadly](#), New Scientist, By Adam Vaughan, 13 July 2020

- **On social media:**

- [AIDS2020 – Connie Mudenda](#)
- [AIDS2020: Fighting in the Shadow of COVID-19 \(Peter Sands\)](#)
- [Peter Sands joins Devex Conversation](#)
- [Peter Sands in The Lancet Global Health](#)

5. 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.

6. Key Resources

- [Global Fund COVID-19 webpage](#)
- [Global Fund Unite to Fight webpage](#)
- [WHO Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) pandemic webpage](#)