

# COVID-19 Situation Report #22

21 July 2020

## 1. Situation Overview

**Global cases:** 14,348,858 confirmed. **Global deaths:** 603,691 deaths confirmed. **Countries, areas or territories with cases:** 216 (as of 20 July, [WHO](#)). As COVID-19 cases and deaths continue rising globally, WHO expressed deep concerns about [COVID-19 impact on indigenous people](#), especially at risk. WHO also warned of a [decline in vaccinations](#) due to disruptions in delivery caused by the pandemic. On a positive note, WHO announced more than one million patients had [recovered from COVID-19](#) in the Eastern Mediterranean Region since 29 January, and reported [increased deliveries of PPE, diagnostics and biomedical equipment](#) to countries facing the greatest need. On 20 July, an [experimental vaccine](#) being developed against the new coronavirus produced an immune response in early-stage clinical trials, preserving hopes it could be in use by the end of the year. On 21 July, EU leaders agreed a [€750 billion \(US\\$858 billion\) recovery deal](#) to fight the aftershocks of the COVID-19 outbreak.

## 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\$489 million is approved for 99 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\$311 million in immediate funding is approved for 56 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.
- **COVID-19 Response Mechanism Funding Request:** an updated supplementary template for applicants can be downloaded [here](#).

### 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 ending. Submitted and registered funding requests are 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**.
- The Global Fund has opened a [new channel through wambo.org](#), the Global Fund's procurement tool, for Principal Recipients to access quality-assured health products including personal protective equipment as part of their response to COVID-19.

#### 4. Messaging and Advocacy

- [Mitigating the Impact of COVID-19 on Countries Affected by HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#): Executive Summary of the report is now available in three languages [[عربي](#) | [Deutsch](#) | [Español](#)]

#### 5. Media and Communications

- **Stories and case studies:**
  - Video: [The Fight Continues Against Malaria](#)
  - Blog: [Strengthening Data Systems to Save Lives](#)
  - [On the Front Lines: Responding to COVID-19](#) (*updated with new stories*)
  - [Unite to Fight: COVID-19](#) (*updated with new stories*)
- **In the news:**
  - [In African Villages, Coronavirus Sparks Fears of a Spike in Malaria Deaths](#), Thomson Reuters Foundation, By Sally Hayden, 15 July 2020
  - [What the U.S. Congress Might Do Next in Funding Global COVID-19 Response](#), Devex, By Adva Saldinger, 15 July 2020
  - [New Funds Proposed to Prevent Pandemics](#), The Lancet, By Ann Danaiya Usher, 18 July 2020
  - [Fears of HIV Spike in Jamaica As Pandemic Hits Prevention Efforts](#), Thomson Reuters Foundation, By Kate Chappell, 20 July 2020
- **On social media:**
  - [The Fight Continues against Malaria](#)
  - [In Sierra Leone, health workers shared COVID-19 prevention information and distributed 4.6 million mosquito nets in 16 districts.](#)

#### 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.

#### 7. Key Resources

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