



THE FIVE-YEAR EVALUATION OF THE GLOBAL FUND

Evaluation Brief No. 5
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THE GLOBAL FUND'S BOARD-APPROVED MONITORING AND EVALUATION STRATEGY CALLS FOR:

"...a first major evaluation of the Global Fund's overall performance against its goals and principles after at least one full grant funding cycle has been completed (five years)"

The Five-Year Evaluation is a major effort to review the functioning and performance of the Global Fund as an institution and a partnership, and identify areas of strength and weakness that will lead to improved day-to-day operations. As informed by stakeholders worldwide and as mandated by the Global Fund Board, the Five-Year Evaluation focuses on the three key study areas outlined below.

THREE STUDY AREAS FOR THE FIVE-YEAR EVALUATION

Question 1: Organizational efficiency and effectiveness of the Global Fund

Does the Global Fund, through both its policies and its operations, reflect its critical core principles, including acting as a financial instrument (rather than as an implementation agency) and furthering country ownership? In fulfilling these principles, does it perform in an efficient and effective manner?

Question 2: Effectiveness of the Global Fund partner environment

How effective and efficient is the Global Fund's partnership system in supporting HIV, tuberculosis and malaria programs at the country and global level? What are the wider effects of the Global Fund partnership on country systems?

Question 3: Impact of the Global Fund on the three diseases

What is the overall reduction of the burden of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria and what is the Global Fund's contribution to that reduction?

The independent Technical Evaluation and Reference Group (TERG) of the Global Fund that guides and directs the overall design and implementation of the Five-Year Evaluation made the following recommendations:

- A.** The evaluation focuses on a set of **three overarching questions** related to Global Fund organizational efficiency, the partner environment and impact on the diseases.
- B.** The evaluation report on the first overarching question on Global Fund organizational efficiency and effectiveness was to be presented to the Board in November 2007.
- C.** The evaluation report on the effectiveness of the Global Fund partner environment will be presented to the Board in November 2008.
- D.** Recognizing that impact cannot be measured before grants reach their full five-year term, a **concluding synthesis report on health outcomes and disease impact** will be presented to the Board in May 2009.
- E.** In many countries, the Global Fund is one of several major international investors. It should not, therefore, attempt to evaluate impact of its efforts alone but should **recognize the contributions of all relevant partners**.
- F.** For the purposes of the Five-Year Evaluation, the **Global Fund defines "impact" as the measurement or estimation of overall program impact on disease morbidity and/or mortality brought about by all control initiatives and programs combined**, irrespective of their financing source(s), in a country or region.
- G.** The early phase of the evaluation should **contribute to the development of the Global Fund strategy** for the period 2007 to 2010.



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To Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

A COLLECTIVE PARTNER EFFORT TO EVALUATE IMPACT

The priority questions and issues for the Five-Year Evaluation have been developed with **extensive stakeholder consultation**. The evaluation aims to provide a **comprehensive review of the impact of the Global Fund**, recognizing the contributions of other partners from a wide range of perspectives, and to contribute to the development of strategic directions to combat the three diseases.

The **combined forces of technical partners** including UN agencies, the U.S. President's Emergency Program for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the Roll Back Malaria (RBM) and Stop Tuberculosis partnerships, the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) and others has been critical to the success of both the planning and the implementation of impact evaluation activities. The Global Fund shares publicly the data and results so that external stakeholders including policy makers, program managers, researchers and the international community can benefit from the knowledge gained.

IMPACT EVALUATION ACTIVITIES

The **Impact Evaluation** focuses on 18 countries. Among these, **eight countries are carrying out an in-depth analysis** (including primary data collection) and **10 countries will assess impact based on existing data**. The Global Fund is collaborating with major stakeholders throughout the planning and implementation of the Five-Year Evaluation.

"**Impact Evaluation Task Forces**" to coordinate impact evaluation activities in each of the 18 countries have been established. These task forces draw from local expertise and institutions to the greatest extent possible, including government representatives, civil society representatives, technical partners, local universities and research institutions.

The Five-Year Evaluation aims to **evaluate impact on diseases** and to **strengthen in-country capacities and systems**, especially health management information systems. By design, the Five-Year Evaluation investment is being used to build and strengthen systems and capacities including routine data collection, data analysis and survey methodology. Impact data will be assessed alongside important results from questions 1 and 2 on the Global Fund, on partners and on countries systems.

The Global Fund was not set up just to sign grants or disburse funds, but to achieve impact in the fight against AIDS, TB and malaria. There is encouraging evidence that the scale-up of services and the sum of country efforts has the potential to show impact over the coming three to five years.

FIVE-YEAR EVALUATION GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 1 Clear focus and sense of priority
- 2 Building on available information
- 3 Focus on gender and populations in greatest need
- 4 Building country capacity
- 5 Linked to strategy development
- 6 Ensure involvement of partners, in particular in countries
- 7 Coordinate efforts to reduce evaluation burden on all involved

TECHNICAL EVALUATION REFERENCE GROUP (TERG)

The Technical Evaluation Reference Group (TERG) is an advisory body providing independent technical advice to the Board of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. The TERG advises the Global Fund on evaluation approaches and practices, independence, reporting procedures and other technical and managerial aspects of monitoring and evaluation at all levels. Membership of the TERG is drawn from a range of stakeholders, including practitioners, research institutions, academics, donor and recipient countries and nongovernmental organizations.

FIVE-YEAR EVALUATION OF THE GLOBAL FUND

The Five-Year Evaluation is being planned and implemented under the guidance of the TERG. The first major report on organizational efficiency and effectiveness was published in late 2007 and the final synthesis report, including a strong focus on impact on the three diseases, will be published in May 2009. Each element of the evaluation is designed to generate actionable findings. The Global Fund is committed to learning from and making concrete improvements based on evaluation findings.

TO ACCESS THE FULL REPORT:

www.theglobalfund.org/terg

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The Global Fund



Year Evaluation

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