Global Overview

TOTAL DEATHS: 1,270,930
TOTAL CASES: 51,251,715

as of 11 November – Source: WHO

Increased incidence was reported in Europe, America and the Eastern Mediterranean region. In Europe, Denmark ordered a national mink cull because of an outbreak of coronavirus infections in minks. South-East Asia reported a decline in new cases and deaths, while case incidence in Western Pacific regions remained fairly steady. In some parts of Africa, cases were accelerating. Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) urged governments to prepare for a second wave. The COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to push an additional 88 million to 115 million people into extreme poverty this year (World Bank), and may cost up to US$28 trillion in lost output by 2025 (IMF).

Sweden contributed SEK 100 million (US$11.57 million) to the Global Fund to counteract the effects of the pandemic, with a focus on Africa. The ACT-Accelerator Facilitation Council met to discuss concrete ways to increase support for and equitable access to new COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines. Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, signed a statement of intent to procure 200 million doses of Sanofi-GSK COVID-19 vaccine candidate for the COVAX Facility. The Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovation (CEPI) committed up to US$328 million the development of a COVID-19 vaccine candidate by Chinese company Clover. Pfizer announced its experimental COVID-19 vaccine was more than 90% effective. The United Nations will hold a summit on the COVID-19 pandemic on 3 and 4 December to press for action on the global spread of COVID-19. In the U.S., President-Elect Joe Biden said coordination with WHO was “essential to coordinating a global response during a pandemic”, and seeks to re-launch and strengthen U.S. Agency for International Development’s pathogen-tracking program (PREDICT).

Global Fund Response: At a Glance

- Total funds approved to date: US$812.2 million
- Fundraising target: An additional US$5 billion over 12 months
- Countries receiving Global Fund support for COVID-19: 107 countries and 14 multicountry programs

How countries are using COVID-19 Response Mechanism support:
- 55%: Reinforcing national COVID-19 response
- 34%: Mitigating COVID-19 impact on HIV, TB and malaria programs
- 11%: Urgent improvements in health and community systems

How countries are using grant flexibilities*:
- 59%: Reinforcing national COVID-19 response
- 32%: Mitigating COVID-19 impact on HIV, TB and malaria programs
- 9%: Urgent improvements in health and community systems

* NOTE: Percentages based on data from 15 countries which cover more than 50% of the total amount of grant flexibilities.
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. The initial US$500 million the Global Fund made available through the COVID-19 Response Mechanism has now been fully deployed; however, country needs are continuing to increase as the pandemic worsens in many low- and middle-income countries. Countries can still access some funding through grant flexibilities; however, as most countries have already used their program savings or are unable to shift funds from HIV, TB and malaria programs, it is expected this source of funding will soon be exhausted.

The Global Fund is working with donors and partners to urgently mobilize an additional US$5 billion to help countries continue to fight COVID-19, mitigate the impact on HIV, TB and malaria, protect health workers and reinforce systems for health. Germany’s additional contribution of EUR150 million (US$177.26 million) to the COVID-19 Response Mechanism is being deployed. Sweden’s contribution of SEK 100 million (US$11.57 million) will help counteract the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in low- and middle-income countries. More funds are urgently needed to avoid a critical funding gap in the world’s poorest countries in the coming weeks.

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 human rights and 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 tests, treatments and vaccines once available. As part of the ACT-Accelerator, 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 can also benefit from the Global Fund’s economies of scale for health products.

The Global Fund responded quickly and at scale to the COVID-19 pandemic and we are playing a critical role in the global response to COVID-19 in the poorest and most vulnerable countries. To date, the Global Fund has approved a total of US$812.2 million to support the COVID-19 response across 107 countries and 14 multicountry programs. Requests for funding have been approved within 5-10 days in the majority of cases. The timeline for award of funds from the Global Fund’s COVID-19 Response Mechanism (C19RM) has been extended to 15 April 2021.

### Funding Approved

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>US$218 million</th>
<th>US$594.2 million</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total approved</strong></td>
<td><strong>US$812.2 million</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- **Grant flexibilities**
  - Use of funds remains mostly from grant savings, focused mainly on infection control, diagnostics activities & products, and lab equipment; reprogramming requests approved in small number of cases.

- **COVID-19 Response Mechanism**
  - 94 funding requests have been approved.
  - Demand for funding has exceeded available funds.
  - To date, approved contingent on additional funding totals US$172 million, with countries continuing to submit funding requests.

**NOTE:** Full list of countries with approved funding is available [here](#). The totals in the online table may differ from the table above because countries are only added to the online list once they have been officially notified of funding approval.

The Global Fund is leveraging its extensive health and community networks and its well-established health procurement and distribution system to distribute new COVID-19 tools, medical supplies and training at scale.

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1. This has been corrected from the previous sitrep, which mistakenly stated 96 funding requests had been approved.
Protecting Front-Line Health Workers: The Global Fund is providing funding to countries to purchase personal protective equipment such as masks, gloves and gowns. Countries can purchase equipment locally or can place orders for price-assured quality health products through our Pooled Procurement Mechanism or on wambo.org, the Global Fund’s online sourcing portal.

- US$201 million of COVID-19 Response Mechanism funds have been allocated for the provision of personal protective equipment (PPEs)
- 42 countries have purchased PPEs on wambo.org

Additional Resources:
- Personal Protective Equipment Procurement
- Key Personal Protective Equipment: Frequently Asked Questions
- List of Personal Protective Equipment and Oxygen Products Available for Procurement via Wambo.org
- Category and Product-Level Procurement and Delivery Planning Guide: Indicative Lead Times

Diagnostics: The Global Fund is the co-lead of the ACT-Accelerator Diagnostics Pillar, along with FIND. We also co-lead the WHO Diagnostics Consortium along with UNICEF to negotiate pricing and procure molecular diagnostic tests for COVID-19. To scale up Ag RDTs, the Global Fund has made available an initial US$50 million from its COVID-19 Response Mechanism to enable countries to purchase at least 10 million of the new rapid tests for LMICs at the guaranteed price. Cost of an Abbott PCR test was reduced by US$4 a test, to US$15. The Global Fund is supporting countries and partners to develop and implement national testing strategies using a combination of PCR and Ag RDT tests.

- US$117 million of COVID-19 Response Mechanism funds have been allocated for the provision of diagnostics tests. To date, 3.3 million requisitions for diagnostics tests (PCR and Ag RDT) have been placed across a total of 78 countries, including:
  - 2.3 million requisitions have been placed for automated PCR diagnostic tests across 78 countries
  - 1.04 million requisitions have been placed for Ag RDT tests across 11 countries

Additional Resources:
- Ordering COVID-19 Diagnostics through the Global Fund: Frequently Asked Questions
- List of SARS-CoV-2 Diagnostic Test Kits and Equipment Eligible for Procurement
- PPM Reference Price List for COVID-19 Diagnostics

Treatment: Following WHO recommendation, the Global Fund is supporting the use of corticosteroids for COVID-19. Global Fund implementers can include corticosteroids for COVID-19 in COVID-19 funding requests. No orders have been placed to date; corticosteroids are a standard medication in most countries and available for local purchase, and many countries and partners had existing stock.

ACT-Accelerator:
By the end of next year, the ACT-Accelerator aims to deliver 500 million diagnostic tests, 245 million courses of treatment and 2 billion doses of vaccine to low- and middle-income countries.

- Diagnostics Pillar update:
  - 50 million PCR tests have been made available to enhance testing in low- and middle-income (LMICs).
  - The ACT-Accelerator Diagnostics Pillar has secured 120 million affordable, quality COVID-19 rapid tests for low- and middle-income countries, but the Diagnostics Pillar only has enough funding to purchase 16 million of those tests.
  - Over 50 diagnostic tests are currently being evaluated.

- Therapeutics Pillar update:
  - Access to Dexamethasone to treat severe COVID-19 cases has been expedited through an Emergency Use Listing (EUL) procedure, publication of treatment guidelines, and establishment of a stockpile for emergency use.
  - Manufacturing capacities are reserved for scale-up of monoclonal antibodies.
  - Approximately 20 treatments – new medication in development and existing medication repurposed to treat COVID-19 – are under close review, and more are in the development pipeline.

- Health Systems Connector Pillar update:
  - The ACT-Accelerator Health Systems Connector Pillar is looking at addressing country specific bottlenecks to enhance readiness for the delivery of new tools, and at scaling up essential health system commodities and tools (Personal Protective Equipments; Medical Oxygen (O2); Related innovation, policies, guidance, training & management).
  - US$200 million worth of personal protective equipment (PPE) has been procured for LMICs.
ACT-Accelerator funding update:
Out of the US$38 billion needed, just US$4.7 billion has so far been committed to the ACT-Accelerator (through the Vaccines, Therapeutics, and Diagnostics pillars and the Health Systems Connector) and US$4.9 billion committed to COVAX.

As of 9 Nov 2020, US$4.6 billion is urgently needed to accelerate immediate progress. Now is the pivotal moment to move fast for the mass rollout of these tools. Manufacturing capacity needs to be rapidly reserved, regulatory pathways accelerated, and delivery systems secured. All of this must happen now to avoid long delays in future and corresponding delays to the end of the crisis, but the urgent financing gap threatens the world’s ability to tackle the virus.

Diagnostics pillar:
The Diagnostics Pillar requires total funding of US$6 billion. To date, US$675 million has been raised. The Diagnostics Pillar total gap is US$5.3 billion, of which over US$ 1.1 billion is needed urgently to:
- **Accelerate the diagnostic innovation needed to rebuild lives and restore economies** by driving development of transformative, low-cost self-tests and digital solutions (US$ 146 million);
- **Catalyze equitable deployment** by ensuring countries, businesses and people can take up these products effectively (US$ 218 million);
- **Support countries that cannot shoulder the costs alone** by providing procurement funding (US$ 761 million).

Beyond March 2021, the focus will be on making a mass-produced, US$ 0.50 test available to everyone, everywhere, with 500 million tests deployed to LMICs by the end of 2021.

Therapeutics Pillar:
The Therapeutics Pillar requires a total of US$6.6 billion through end-2021. To date, US$440 million has been raised. The total funding gap is US$ 6.1 billion, of which US$750 million is needed immediately. The Therapeutics Pillar investment case beyond March 2021 is built to enable flexible support for R&D, market preparation, and deployment at-scale for any therapeutics assets with positive clinical data.

Health Systems Connector:
The Health Systems Connector requires a total of US$9.5 billion. To date, US$302 million has been raised. The Health Systems Connector total funding gap is US$ 9.1 billion, of which US$ 1.7 billion is needed urgently to facilitate access to PPE and oxygen. As country readiness is an absolute prerequisite to the equitable scale-up of other COVID-19 tools, US$89 million is needed urgently to support these health systems activities.
As of 6 November 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.

Country-based Local Fund Agents, who monitor grant implementation and progress on behalf of the Global Fund, complete a biweekly survey online to help identify potential risks and disruptions to programs. The tool identifies potential risks and disruptions to programs but is not meant to be a rigorous assessment of the country situation. The data is based on in-country stakeholder views but not on verified data. Key insights as of 1 November 2020:

**Countries in lockdown:** After 20 weeks improving trends on national lockdown, the situation is starting to move in the opposite direction. We see an increase in countries with nation-wide restrictions in place (+2% points) and a decrease in countries with no restrictions (-4% points from 1 October). 38% of countries are in lockdown, down from 70% on 15 May, but up from 36% on 15 October.

**Costed national plans:** 82% of countries have costed response plans in place for their COVID-19 response. This is the highest percentage reported since May.

**Disruption to health service delivery:** In all three diseases, more than half of countries report moderate to high level disruptions to health services delivery.

- **HIV:** Prevention, testing and support for people living with HIV are still the most impacted. Nearly 20% of countries are still experiencing high or very high level disruption in HIV service delivery.
- **TB:** Three quarters of countries are experiencing disruptions in TB service delivery, with nearly 15% of countries reporting high disruption.
- **Malaria:** More than half of countries are experiencing disruptions in malaria service delivery, with 13% of countries reporting high disruption.

### Lockdown Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Low Risk</th>
<th>High Risk</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 June</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 June</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 July</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>31%</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 July</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>29%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Aug</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>28%</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Aug</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>32%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Sep</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Oct</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Oct</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Nov</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Service delivery disruption

Average Score of Countries

- HIV: High Risk
- TB: High Risk
- Malaria: High Risk

### Latest Answer Distribution (1 Nov)

- HIV: 26% High Risk, 17% Very High Risk
- TB: 25% High Risk, 14% Very High Risk
- Malaria: 44% High Risk, 13% Very High Risk

**Global Fund COVID-19 Country Monitoring**

**Global Fund Response**
Disruption to supply of key medicines: 8% of countries still report shortages of HIV medicines. For all three diseases, around 50% of countries report they have at least a 6-month supply of key medicines.

Lab services: Lab services continue to be disrupted by the COVID-19 epidemic, as laboratory staff and resources are diverted to the COVID-19 response. But fewer countries experience high or very high disruption in lab services (11% on 1 November, down from 13% on 15 October and from 20% on 1 June).
Health supply chain challenges in low and middle-income countries are nothing new. They include poor information systems, shortage of trained personnel, lack of appropriate equipment to store medicines, and poor roads and infrastructure leading to inadequate transport between central warehouses and local distribution points, a multitude of hard-to-reach rural villages, etc. The COVID-19 pandemic and the associated public health measures such as lockdowns and transport restrictions have made the situation even more challenging, affecting key materials and medicinal ingredients, finished health products, logistics and shipping.

In Sudan, COVID-19 restrictions threatened to limit access to HIV and TB health supplies and services. Fuel shortages, inflation and movement restrictions meant transport costs increased significantly and reliability plummeted.

Through Global Fund supported grants, partners including UNDP, the Federal Ministry of Health, and the National Medical Supplies Fund deployed a fleet of World Food Program trucks carrying 17 containers of HIV and TB medication and laboratory supplies providing five-months of supplies to Sudan’s eight most in-need states: Kassala, Gedarif, South, North and West Kordofan, Blue Nile, Sennar and East Darfur.

Global Fund grants have also been reallocated to provide personal protective equipment for health workers across the country.

Lockdowns and other COVID-19 restrictions have made accessing antiretroviral therapy difficult for vulnerable groups, including transgender people. In response, the Global Fund in partnership with government authorities and civil society groups deployed community health workers to go door-to-door ensuring key populations receive medicine and care.

This work includes providing specific services to the transgender community. Transgender outreach workers check to see if members of the community living with HIV are getting their supply of ARV medication and deliver food to those who have no means of earning money during the crisis.

Despite increased challenges due to COVID-19, the Global Fund and partners, including UNDP, have ensured people living in remote communities on islands in the Western Pacific have had reliable access to vital HIV, TB and malaria services.

In Samoa, this work has included providing remote HIV health services through video calls, text messages and social media to key populations such as men who have sex with men and transgender people. In Vanuatu, health workers provide door-to-door TB testing and contacting tracing as well as mosquito net distribution. Global Fund grant flexibility funds have also been used to provide health workers with personal protective equipment.
In the fight against COVID-19, it all starts with testing. By making medical solutions like rapid tests widely available, we could shorten the COVID-19 crisis and generate $9 trillion in increased global income by 2025. We must #UniteToFight.

Right now, testing is our best tool in the fight against COVID-19. We need investment to deliver tests to the people who need them now, and produce easier-to-use and more affordable rapid tests to beat COVID-19 and save lives. #UniteToFight.

The ACT-Accelerator coalition has reserved 120 million rapid COVID-19 tests for low- & middle-income countries, but only has funding to deliver 16 million. We must invest to secure & deliver rapid tests for all who need them now, to fight COVID-19 & save lives. #UniteToFight.

The ACT-Accelerator coalition has reserved 120 million rapid COVID-19 tests for low- & middle-income countries. If the tests are used at the same rate as European countries, they will last only 8 days. We must invest to deliver tests to the people who need them now. #UniteToFight.

In the News

- Devex – 28 October 2020 – At the World Health Summit, global south representatives had a message for donors
- The Telegraph – 3 November 2020 – Behind the Covid-19 vaccine is a hidden arsenal of diagnostic tests
- Nikkei – 5 November – Infectious diseases, developing countries need urgent support
- Forbes – 9 November 2020 – Community health workers are the key to fighting Covid-19 and rebuilding health systems

On Social Media

- @Telegraph – “Vaccines are only one part of the solution, and diagnostic testing is a near-invisible but essential enabler of their development”
- @DrTedros – “Compelling piece in @Telegraph about the importance of #COVID19 testing from ACT-A lead”
- @GlobalFund – “In the fight against #COVID19, it all starts with testing”
- @GlobalFund – “Tusen Tack Sverige!”
- @AusAmbRHS – Australia is proud to support @FINDdx and @GlobalFund to help make safe, effective and affordable diagnostic tests available for all
Global Fund Response
Communications, Media and Events

Upcoming Events
- 9-14 November: 73rd World Health Assembly (resumed session)
- 11-13 November: Paris Peace Forum
  - ACT-A COVID-19 Vaccines and Therapies, the Global Public Good Solution (12/11)
  - A multi-actor response to the pandemic: Current situation and prospects for the ACT-A (12/11)
- 14 November: The Global Health Festival Padua
- 15-19 November: Wish Summit
- 16 November: G20 Summit
- 16-17 November: Concordia Africa Initiative
- 16-18 November: Geneva Health Forum
- 18 November: HIV Prevention Coalition
- 18-24 November: World Antimicrobial Awareness Week
- 21-22 November: G20 Summit
- 1 December: World Aids Day
- 3-4 December: UNGA COVID-19 Summit
- 10 December: Human Rights Day

Partners Publications
- 9 November: Women in Global Health (WGH) and FIND released Health in Their Hands: Testing & Women’s Empowerment Means Better Health For All
- 9 November: Joint WFP-IOM report “Populations at Risk: Implications of COVID-19 for Hunger, Migration and Displacement”
- 16 October: The IMF World Economic Outlook Report “A Long and Difficult Ascent”. Chapter 2 of the report dissects the nature of the economic crisis in the first seven months of the COVID-19 pandemic
- 14 October: WHO Global tuberculosis report 2020 includes a provisional assessment of how the COVID-19 pandemic will affect the TB epidemic