

Operational Update: Grant Entity Data and C19RM Updates

1 June 2021

Dear colleagues,

Today we are launching Grant Entity Data. Formerly known as Master Data, this is information that the Global Fund uses to actively manage grant-life cycle activities. This includes organization names, banking information, grant signatory names and other essential information.

In addition, we are bringing you some important updates on C19RM, as follows:

- Ensuring Complete Submissions of C19RM Funding Requests: Screening Checklist
- Key Considerations for CCMs Preparing C19RM Funding Requests
- Strengthening Laboratory Directorate Participation in C19RM Funding Requests
- Technical Note: Leveraging C19RM Investments for Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Best regards,

The Global Fund

Grant Entity Data Now on a New and Enhanced Partner Portal

Global Fund Grant Entities include Principal Recipients, Country Coordinating Mechanisms, Local Fund Agents and other organizations, who are expected to own and keep their entity data up-to-date and accurate. Entities that sign grants with the Global Fund provide organization data that is crucial for the successful execution of grants. The absence of updated Grant Entity Data may delay approvals, stop grants from starting on time or prevent funds from reaching a country.

The process to create, update and deactivate Grant Entity Data has been streamlined and enhanced functionalities are now available for PRs, LFAs¹ and CCMs through the Partner Portal. The Partner Portal will also be made available in French and Spanish by Monday 7 June 2021.

[Watch the video](#)

[Visit the Global Fund website](#)

What is New?

- **Grant Entities will now own the data** they provide to the Global Fund with the responsibility of ensuring it is kept up-to-date. The Global Fund will no longer enter data on behalf of grant entities, (except in a limited number of exceptional circumstances).

¹ The LFA Coordination Team will be in contact with LFAs directly regarding access to the Partner Portal.

- Grant entities will now undertake at least **annual reviews of data** they provide to the Global Fund and the Global Fund will perform regular clean-ups and due diligence reviews.
- PR types and sub-types have now been standardized, Annex 4 of the Grant Entity Data [Operational Policy Note](#) includes definitions which will ensure the right category is selected when submitting the supporting documentation for the creation of a new PR.
- Principal Recipients are now required to follow additional steps to **confirm banking information**. These include new security checks to guard against the growing risk of fraud.
- All CCM processes are now performed online, including the mass editing of contacts. CCMs can create, update and/or deactivate multiple contacts in a single change request, directly in the Global Fund Partner Portal.

Access Verification Code: Updated Mobile Phone Number Required

To safeguard the Global Fund's grant entity information, access to the Global Fund Partner Portal is granted through a verification code sent via SMS to the mobile number of the designated contact. For this purpose, the mobile number of the designated contact(s) with access to the Global Fund Partner Portal must be kept updated in the Portal at all times. If the mobile number is outdated, an Update Contact change request must be made, as soon as possible.



Ensuring Complete Submissions of C19RM Funding Requests: Screening Checklist

As the Global Fund Secretariat receives C19RM Fast-track and Full Funding Requests, CCMs should ensure that all mandatory documents are submitted with their requests.

Reviews cannot be initiated if a submission is incomplete, undermining the need to respond fast during an emergency response. For example, a delayed review hampers the possibility to order COVID-19 health commodities in an urgent manner.

Missing information on CCM endorsement has been the major factor of delays and some funding requests do not include the budget, which means the secretariat cannot initiate the review.

When submissions are complete including budgets and evidence provided on CCM endorsement, the C19RM Secretariat is usually ready to initiate the review within 2 to 3 days. Incomplete submissions have resulted in delays of up to three weeks.

We hereby provide CCMs with a [checklist](#) of documents to ensure an applicant's submission has all the documents needed.

Key Considerations for CCMs Preparing C19RM Funding Requests

Mitigation of COVID-19 on HIV, TB and Malaria

The Global Fund encourages applicants eligible for Global Fund funding for HIV, TB and malaria programs to equally include all program representatives in discussions about the preparation of C19RM funding requests. The three disease programs should have their priorities considered for COVID-19 related financing. This includes mitigation of COVID-19 in programs for the three diseases, when applicable. For more information please review the [“Mitigating the Impact of COVID-19 on Countries Affected by HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria.”](#)

Health Product Supply

To better secure supply, we strongly encourage Principal Recipients to submit requisitions as soon as possible for products needing to be delivered over the next 10-11 months, through the end of March 2022. To support your planning, we suggest:

- PRs to urgently submit all outstanding requisitions to wambo.org as soon as possible.
- PRs to accelerate approvals for requisitions already placed.
- Requests for customized labeling requests will not be accepted. The Global Fund will no longer accept customized labeling to ensure that products can be quickly manufactured and efficiently deployed to all countries.

Category and Product-Level Procurement and Delivery Planning Guide: Indicative Lead Times download in [English](#) | [Français](#)

Strengthening Laboratory Directorate Participation in C19RM Funding Requests

On 12 May 2021, the African Society for Laboratory Medicine held a webinar in partnership with the Global Fund to provide overall guidance on the Global Fund’s C19RM to Laboratory Directorates of the continent. The meeting gathered 361 participants representing 64 countries. A feedback poll done during the webinar revealed that 49% of 90 respondents were not currently engaged with CCMs to participate in the development of C19RM funding requests.

The Global Fund encourages active participation of a broad range of in-country stakeholders to ensure success in the fight against COVID-19. The involvement of laboratory leadership and National Laboratory Directorates in C19RM funding request development is highly important, considering that around 15% of C19RM investments are dedicated to laboratory commodities and consumables.

The Global Fund encourages CCMs to proactively reach out to Laboratory Directorates and other key opinion leaders within Ministries of Health and relevant partners, to solicit their participation in the consultative process for developing funding proposals.

In addition, participation of these stakeholders in round-table discussions and debates is essential to foster intra- and inter- agency dialog, prioritizing and operationalizing workplans, and ensuring that future proposed interventions are well aligned with National Strategic Plans.

Lab representatives’ participation is particularly critical during the current response to the COVID-19 crisis, where strengthening diagnostic testing capacity is central to control and containment efforts, enhancing pandemic preparedness systems and optimizing the use of the resources.

Technical Note: Leveraging C19RM Investments for Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

WHO and UNICEF have issued a [technical information note](#) (see the 'Reference Documents' section to access the *Technical note on Global Fund C19RM Funding*) on leveraging C19RM funds to invest in GIS/spatial data with the aim of optimizing national COVID-19 responses and mitigating the impact of COVID-19 on the three diseases and on health and community systems strengthening.

The guidance maps eligible C19RM investments in spatial data (e.g. georeferenced master lists of facilities and CHWs) and support to capacity building / institutionalization of the use of spatial data against the WHO COVID-19 pillars and relevant Global Fund technical guidance to support countries in the development of their C19RM funding requests, including:

- optimizing the COVID-19 response (e.g. GIS-based microplanning to optimize deployment of testing, treatment, oxygen/respiratory care, vaccine rollout, PPE, Risk Communication and Community Engagement);
- mitigation of the effects of COVID-19 on the three diseases (e.g. GIS-based microplanning for optimizing malaria campaigns, HIV testing and testing services, active case detection for TB) and
- health & community system strengthening.

See [this website](#) for more information.