



# **Technical Review Panel (TRP) Member Testimonials**

## 2023-2025 TRP Recruitment

June 2022

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## **Dr. Jabu Nyenwa (Zimbabwe), TRP Chair**

**TRP resilient and sustainable systems for health and HIV expert**

**Program Director, UK's Support for Health in Nigeria Program, Palladium**



“I've found TRP a great place of tangibly applying the experience and expertise one has gathered, while also interfacing and networking with an incredibly talented group of colleagues from all over the world.”

My name is Jabulani Nyenwa. I am an international development professional, public health practitioner and medical doctor with more than 25 years of experience in designing, implementing and providing strategic and technical advisory on complex, multi-component health and poverty alleviation programs in sub-Saharan Africa and globally.

I first joined the TRP in 2010 as an HIV expert, rejoined in 2020 as an RSSH expert and focal point, and was elected as TRP Chair with effect from 1 August 2021. I have always had a deep desire to apply my professional experience and expertise in a way that tangibly touches, transforms and impacts the lives and wellbeing of millions of people living with the HIV and other key public health diseases through strengthened health systems. As a key part of the Global Fund partnership - which has proved to be an effective model for delivering impactful investments, saving more than 44 million lives in the past 20 years – the TRP has provided me an opportunity to fulfil my desire to contribute to measurable impact.

With 8 years to go until 2030, the sustainable goal of ending HIV, TB and Malaria has been significantly offset by the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuing global recession, making the role of the Global Fund partnership ever more critical. There could never be a more important time than NOW for public health experts who are looking for an opportunity to make a practical and meaningful difference to the lives of people living with the three diseases to consider joining the TRP.

By joining the TRP you will help to maximize people-centered integrated systems for health, including engagement and leadership of most affected communities and equity, gender and human rights. Not only is the TRP an amazing platform to contribute to the mission of the Global Fund, it is also a phenomenal learning and knowledge management platform which brings together some of the best minds and experts with lived experience from all over the world.

## **Dr. Farhana Amanullah (Pakistan)**

**TRP tuberculosis expert**

**Senior Consultant and Doctor at Indus Hospital**



“What impressed me the most [about the Global Fund] is its strategy and approach toward overcoming human rights and gender barriers [and] focus on vulnerable populations, strengthening health systems, and communities..”

I first read about the TRP in the 2019 Call for Applications forwarded to me by a TB colleague. I was aware of the Global Fund’s mission to end AIDS, TB and malaria, having worked to plan and implement a TB grant. What impressed me most was the organization’s strategy to overcome human rights and gender barriers, strengthen health systems and communities whilst raising resources for the three diseases and for equitable global health through innovative financing, leveraging domestic resources and engaging the private sector. The TRP mandate to assess funding requests for maximum impact, strategic focus, technical soundness, and program sustainability within the country and context of the Sustainable Development Goals – to which we desperately aspire for in Tuberculosis eradication efforts – further inspired me to be a part of this group.

I highly recommend joining the TRP, be it as a disease expert, health finance or systems expert or a human rights, communities and gender expert. It is a rewarding opportunity to work with and learn from world class experts. Country funding request reviews, although intense, lead to opportunities to contribute towards enhancing the overall quality, strategic focus, equity and impact of investments, which to me is the most fulfilling aspect of this work.

Despite the remote nature of the reviews that I have attended, mentors, members, the TRP Leadership and Global Fund Secretariat have been a constant source of guidance and have facilitated network building. My TRP membership experience will continue to shape my vision and future contributions to pandemic/epidemic eradication and global health, well beyond my term.

## **Dr. Daniela Belen Garone (Argentina)**

**TRP HIV expert**

**International Medical Coordinator at Médecins Sans Frontières**



“The TRP is a unique professional opportunity where field reality and global health guidance meet in the fight to eliminate HIV, TB and malaria.”

I am Daniela Garone, an Argentinean infectious diseases doctor with over 25 years of experience in HIV and TB programs in Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela, Bolivia, India, Zimbabwe, Malawi, South Africa, Mozambique, India and South Sudan, where I worked as medical doctor, program manager and country director.

I joined the TRP in 2018 as an HIV and HIV-TB integration expert and since then I have provided feedback on over 25 funding requests and I have been part of many working groups. Joining the TRP has been one of the most rewarding professional experiences in my career. It has allowed me to serve with my vast programmatic and strategic experience from a field and people-centered perspective to maximize the impact of the Global Fund’s resources to end HIV, TB and malaria epidemics.

The TRP serves as a collective intelligence rather than individual ones. We complement and learn among each other. We develop recommendations to each country toward improving HIV, TB and malaria program impact. As an independent group, we thrive through consensus-driven decision-making and complementarities across all the different areas of technical expertise.

I have learned so much from our finance and human rights experts in the TRP these last few years, lessons that help me to improve my current work performance in addition to championing feedback on funding requests to the Global Fund. The TRP is a unique professional opportunity where field reality and global health guidance meet in the fight to eliminate HIV, TB and malaria.

## **Dr. Anne Gasasira (Uganda)**

**TRP malaria expert**

**Senior Program Officer at the African Malaria Alliance**



“Every TRP member is encouraged to contribute, and every opinion is respected and well considered. Not only does this lead to truly collective ownership of all outputs but it also enables a rare opportunity for exchange and learning among a strong group of experts with diverse expertise, skills, and strengths.”

My name is Anne Gasasira. I am from Uganda and I've been a member of the TRP since 2020 serving as a malaria expert.

Having worked in different areas of malaria control in Africa for over 20 years, I have always been aware of the unparalleled role of the Global Fund in malaria control, particularly in Africa. I was therefore excited to apply to become a member of the TRP for the 2020-2022 cycle. I thought participating in the evaluation of funding requests and therefore influencing Global Fund funding decisions would provide a unique opportunity to contribute further to progress towards ending malaria – at a scale that I had no previous access. I was also very interested in knowing more about the Global Fund and, of course, I knew the opportunity would enrich my professional experience.

Serving on the TRP has been an immensely gratifying and enlightening experience and working in such an important role has been an honor. TRP work is very impactful, insightful, and enjoyable in many ways. Reviewing funding requests provides an opportunity to propose adjustments and make recommendations to better position country programs and grants for the greatest success. Further, reviewing funding requests and attending TRP plenary discussion sessions greatly expands one's knowledge of, and insight into diverse country health programs and contexts. The TRP advisory role offers additional opportunities to influence Global Fund investments, strategy and policy, while providing a better understanding of how the organization works.

The TRP culture is awesome. There is a collegial and warm ambience amongst a great group of colleagues. Every TRP member is encouraged to contribute, and every opinion is respected and well considered. Not only does this lead to truly collective ownership of all outputs but it also enables a rare opportunity for exchange and learning among a strong group of experts with diverse expertise, skills, and strengths.

I have immensely enjoyed serving the Global Fund Partnership through the TRP and can confidently say the experience has made me a stronger global health professional. I often draw on this experience and my widened network of phenomenal colleagues, in my day-to-day work.

I strongly encourage all those with the requisite qualifications and requirements to apply to join the TRP as part of the 2023-2025 allocation period.

## **Dr. Ben Karenzi (Rwanda)**

**TRP health financing and sustainability expert  
Independent health systems consultant**



“Within the TRP, you find that we exchange knowledge and experience and this leads to better funding applications and more impactful investments for the Global Fund.”

I am a medical doctor with training and experience in public finance management. I have had the privilege of serving as Permanent Secretary in both the Ministries of Finance and Health in Rwanda. I joined the TRP to make my modest contribution towards the Global Fund’s efforts of combatting the three epidemics of HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis.

The Global Fund provides badly needed financial resources to many countries to fight the three diseases with flexibility and commitment. This leads to release of investments in a timely and predictable manner to beneficiaries. In terms of its impact, as at end of 2020, health programs supported by the Global Fund partnership had saved 44 million lives. There is no better place to be associated with in terms of saving lives.

My time at the TRP has been a rich and rewarding experience. I have met and networked with passionate global experts that share similar goals of making the Global Fund’s efforts a success. There is a rich skills mix within the TRP. The exchange of knowledge and experience among TRP members leads to better funding application requests and more impactful Global Fund investments.

Being on the TRP makes me feel fulfilled. I highly recommend joining the TRP as a way of making a contribution towards the success of the Global Fund’s noble efforts towards global health security.

## Philippe Lepere (France)

**TRP resilient and sustainable systems for health and HIV expert**  
**Independent health systems and HIV consultant**



“Believe me, as a TRP member you can *really* make a difference bringing your expertise and your skills to improve funding requests.”

When I joined the UNAIDS regional support team for West and Central Africa in 2006, I initiated and coordinated the first multi-lingual peer review committee of draft proposals to be submitted to the Global Fund during the Global Fund’s rounds-based funding model. This was done within the regional partnership JURTA and included a “mock TRP”. When I left Dakar in 2010, this mock TRP was 45 experts from 16 organizations representing multi and bilateral cooperation, civil society, private sector and technical assistance providers peer reviewing proposals for the Round 10 funding cycle.

Between 2010 and 2018, I worked as a freelance consultant and as a senior advisor at UNAIDS. In these roles, I supported the implementation of Global Fund grants, contributed to data preparation for monthly Global Fund situation room meetings, and helped countries to develop their national strategic plans. After acting as a partner and as a consultant, I wanted to join the real TRP in order to support countries from a different perspective and ‘close the loop’.

When joining the TRP, I could not imagine the impact TRP members have to contribute towards improving the funding requests and increasing their impact. Funding requests can truly benefit from TRP member input, particularly since the TRP is an independent body.

The TRP is like a family – we are very motivated people all working together to deliver together, for the benefit of beneficiaries. I enjoy the multicultural dimension of the TRP. Serving members have such different backgrounds, areas of expertise and come from all around the world. We have powerful, enriching and respectful discussions, even when we disagree. At the end of the day, we always reach consensus and support the empowerment of Global Fund applicants.

## **Motoko Seko (Japan)**

**TRP human rights and gender equality expert**

**Professor at the Eikei University of Hiroshima**



“As a gender expert by training, I wanted to join the TRP because it gives me strategic opportunities to mainstream gender and human rights into important health programs.”

I joined the TRP because I spent about 15 years in African and Asian countries that receive Global Fund support, and got to see how much difference these grants can make in the lives of people. As a gender expert by training, I wanted to join the TRP because it gives me strategic opportunities to mainstream gender and human rights into those important health programs.

I recommend you join the TRP because we can contribute with various expertise to end the global epidemic of AIDS, TB and malaria, at the same time maximizing health equity, and advancing gender equality and human rights.

Imagine you can influence programs to do the most effective and right things for health equity in the majority of developing countries with billions of dollars! It is an opportunity you shouldn't miss if you care about these important global challenges of our time.

Also, TRP is the place that gather knowledgeable and experienced global health experts with such a variety of strengths and knowledge. It is a fantastic community of experts, where we learn so much from each other. In short, TRP is a very stimulating and exciting team to be a part of. So please join us!