The partnership between the Global Fund and eight Lusophone countries – Angola, Brazil,\(^1\) Cabo Verde, Equatorial Guinea,\(^2\) Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, and Timor Leste – has saved over 2 million\(^3\) lives since 2002. The Global Fund also has a long-standing partnership with Portugal, a dedicated donor since 2004 with a cumulative contribution equivalent to US$17.2 million. In September 2022, Portugal pledged €1.5 million to the Seventh Replenishment, a 50% increase over its Sixth Replenishment pledge.

Lusophone countries have been strong advocates for increased resources in the fight against HIV, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria. Their sustained commitment, coupled with strategic partnerships and increased domestic financing, has led to transformative results.

The Global Fund has invested close to US$2.5 billion in these eight Lusophone countries since its inception in 2002. In addition to strengthening health systems to better prevent current and future pandemics, in 2021 these investments contributed to the enrollment of more than 1.8 million people on antiretroviral therapy (ART), the treatment of almost 160,000 people with TB and the distribution of over 2 million mosquito nets to prevent malaria.

**Turning the Tide on HIV, TB and Malaria in the Lusophone Countries Where the Global Fund Invests**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>People on antiretroviral therapy for HIV in 2021</th>
<th>People with TB treated in 2021</th>
<th>Mosquito nets distributed in 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>127,763</td>
<td>56,289</td>
<td>348,337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabo Verde</td>
<td>2,847</td>
<td>185</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea-Bissau</td>
<td>17,609</td>
<td>2,486</td>
<td>73,488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>1,698,486</td>
<td>97,410</td>
<td>1,632,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sao Tome and Principe</td>
<td>899</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>4,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timor-Leste</td>
<td>774</td>
<td>3,268</td>
<td>52,886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,848,378</td>
<td>159,718</td>
<td>2,111,686</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Brazil has not been eligible for Global Fund grants since 2011. Between 2002 and 2011, the Global Fund invested US$38.6 million in the country.
3 Estimates are provisional and subject to revision following the reception of final estimates from WHO TB and malaria departments in November/December 2022.

**Guinea-Bissau**

The Global Fund is Guinea-Bissau’s largest financial partner for health, having invested more than US$100 million since 2003 to achieve significant results.

Efforts in the country’s fight against malaria have led to large reductions in prevalence of the disease. Between 2012-2017, the prevalence rate for children aged 6-59 months fell by 93% and by 65% for people aged 5 years and older. Increased malaria diagnosis and treatment, in addition to the scaling up of vector control and community case management, helped to reduce malaria deaths by 55% and malaria cases by 64% between 2000-2020.

Since 2010, there has been a significant increase in the number of people living with HIV who know their status and who are on ART, as well as in the number of pregnant women tested and on ART to prevent mother-to-child transmission of the virus. Guinea-Bissau has also made strong progress in reducing HIV incidence and mortality rates. While turning the tide on TB cases and deaths has proven challenging (and remains a key focus of current Global Fund investments), there has been a rapid improvement in the percentage of people co-infected with HIV and TB who are receiving lifesaving ART. Progress has also been made in the TB treatment success rate, which has remained high and stable for a decade.

For the 2021-2023 implementation period, the Global Fund has allocated approximately US$52 million to Guinea-Bissau, a 73% increase from the previous allocation. This increase aims to support continued reductions in malaria-related morbidity and mortality, strengthen diagnosis and treatment of TB, and reach more key populations with high-impact prevention, testing and treatment activities. The Global Fund’s collaboration with Guinea-Bissau extends to supply chain strengthening, with the construction of a new “warehouse-in-a-box” solution expected to be finalized in 2022.
Portugal is a member of Guinea-Bissau’s Country Coordinating Mechanism.

**RESULTS**

- **17,609** people on antiretroviral therapy for HIV in 2021
- **2,486** people with TB treated in 2021
- **73,488** mosquito nets distributed in 2021

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**Sao Tome and Principe**

The Global Fund has been working with Sao Tome and Principe to fight HIV, TB and malaria since 2005. For the 2020–2022 funding cycle, the Global Fund increased its funding allocation for the country by 130%. This increase aims to ensure progress toward the elimination of malaria; an increased focus on the burden and needs for key and vulnerable populations; and improvements in the diagnosis, care and treatment of multidrug-resistant TB.

Since 2005, there has been a marked increase in the number of people living with HIV who know their status and who are on ART, as well as in the number of pregnant women tested and on ART to prevent mother-to-child transmission of the virus. In 2020, 100% of patients infected with both HIV and TB were enrolled on ART, and TB preventive therapy among people living with HIV increased from 8.7% in 2018 to 30% in 2019.

Sao Tome and Principe is one of the countries potentially set for malaria elimination in Africa, and the government is committed to malaria elimination by 2025. In February 2020, with the support of the World Health Organization, the country hosted a high-level event to share the main findings from the malaria program review and define key steps to achieve malaria elimination by 2025. In July 2022, Sao Tome and Principe and Cabo Verde began a south–south cooperation initiative that supports the former in learning from the latter’s experience in malaria reduction and is helping to bolster Sao Tome and Principe’s progress toward malaria elimination.

To support resilient and sustainable systems for health, the Global Fund, along with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and other partners in the country, supported the deployment of an integrated District Health Information Software (DHIS2). The roll-out was finalized in early 2021 and the system is functional. The Global Fund also supports community health systems strengthening. Community health workers and community-based organizations play an important role in providing integrated services to the population, including tracing TB and HIV patients who are lost to follow-up and to ensure a robust COVID-19 response.

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Portugal is a member of Sao Tome and Principe’s Country Coordinating Mechanism.

**RESULTS**

- **899** people on antiretroviral therapy for HIV in 2021
- **80** people with TB treated in 2021
- **4,485** mosquito nets distributed in 2021
Mozambique

Mozambique has made significant progress in fighting HIV, TB and malaria, despite devastating cyclones in recent years and disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since 2013, the country has rapidly expanded HIV treatment, increasing the number of people on antiretroviral therapy from 300,000 in 2012 to almost 1.7 million in 2021. Between 2006 and 2019, AIDS-related deaths reduced by 29%. In 2021, 97,410 people were treated for TB and 1.6 million mosquito nets were distributed. Investments in malaria prevention have led to malaria deaths decreasing by 87% between 2007 and 2019.

In 2020-2022, the Global Fund has allocated US$751.5 million to Mozambique, a 49% increase from the previous allocation. This new funding means that HIV prevention programs for key populations and in- and out-of-school adolescent girls and young women are expanding. Mozambique also aims to increase TB treatment coverage from 60% in 2019 to 80% in 2023, better integrate TB and HIV treatment and prevention services, and increase multidrug-resistant services by linking them to the overall interventions related to finding missing people with TB. This grant will also continue to support the country’s priority to provide universal access to quality malaria diagnostics and treatment tools.

Mozambique is one of the countries included in the Breaking Down Barriers initiative, which provides support to 20 countries to vastly scale up evidence-based programming to reduce human rights-related barriers to accessing HIV, TB and malaria services.

Through the Global Fund’s COVID-19 Response Mechanism (C19RM) funding, Mozambique was able to expand PCR testing capacity in 2021 to all provinces and began rolling out rapid tests. During the country’s fourth wave of COVID-19 caused by the omicron variant, Mozambique’s laboratory network was able to conduct 12,000 tests a day – 20 times as many compared to the first wave.

The government also used C19RM support to equip, renovate or rebuild four provincial public health laboratories. These investments will further increase the country’s laboratory capacity for all infectious diseases and strengthen the health system to respond to current pandemics while preparing for future health emergencies.

RESULTS

1,698,486 people on antiretroviral therapy for HIV in 2021

97,410 people with TB treated in 2021

1,632,130 mosquito nets distributed in 2021
In Cabo Verde, a strong and stable political environment, a climate of trust between the government and its citizens, and a robust health system have resulted in significant gains in the fight against HIV, TB and malaria. The country has been a leader in eliminating vertical transmission of HIV – when the virus passes from a mother to her child during pregnancy – and is the only country in West and Central Africa to be close to achieving this goal.

Cabo Verde has also gone three consecutive years without local malaria transmission, becoming eligible to apply for the World Health Organization certification for malaria elimination. Furthermore, with more than 70% of its adult population fully vaccinated, Cabo Verde has the third highest vaccination coverage against COVID-19 in sub-Saharan Africa.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic risks jeopardizing the public health gains achieved in the country. In this context, Global Fund support to Cabo Verde is as crucial as ever to recover from the negative effects of the pandemic and regain momentum in achieving unprecedented results in the fight against the three diseases.

**RESULTS**

- **2,847** people on antiretroviral therapy for HIV in 2021
- **185** people with TB treated in 2021

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Angola and the Global Fund have adopted a new approach to tackle longstanding challenges through more focused and prioritized investments at the sub-national level.

The new Global Fund grant for 2021-2024 covers two priority provinces, Benguela and Cuanza Sul. It has the ambitious goal of keeping HIV prevalence at approximately 1.1% in the general population, reducing new infections, increasing ART coverage, and reducing transmission of HIV from mothers to their babies to below 4% by 2023. The grant has a special focus on reaching key populations, including men who have sex with men, female sex workers and adolescent girls and young women to reduce the number of new HIV infections in these groups.

It is critical that all people with TB are found early and treated, as this is one of the main ways to cut the chain of transmission in the community and end the TB epidemic for good. The grant in Angola aims to reduce the number of “missing” people with TB – people who go undetected, untreated, or unreported – including people with multidrug-resistant TB, and to help improve the treatment success rate for all forms of the disease. For malaria, the grant aims to ensure that at least 90% of the population in two priority provinces use long-lasting insecticidal nets, and that 100% of suspected cases of malaria receive testing and treatment.

**RESULTS**

- **127,763** people on antiretroviral therapy for HIV in 2021
- **56,289** people with TB treated in 2021
- **348,337** mosquito nets distributed in 2021

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Timor-Leste

With the support of the Global Fund and partners to build a strong and resilient health system, Timor-Leste dramatically reduced malaria cases from 223,002 in 2006 to zero indigenous cases in 2021. There have been no malaria deaths since 2015. However, it remains uncertain if these hard-won gains will hold: Timor-Leste faces significant risks of malaria resurgence along the border with Indonesia, a malaria-endemic country. Joint efforts are underway to implement prevention of reintroduction of malaria and prepare for malaria-free certification by 2025.

TB continues to be a major public health problem in Timor-Leste, with an incidence of 508 per 100,000 and a death rate of 106 per 100,000. In 2021, due to COVID-19-related disruptions, the National TB program witnessed an approximately 21% decline in the TB case notification rate. To get back on track, the Ministry of Health is galvanizing in-country partnerships to execute the accelerated catch-up plan to end TB, endorsed by the Prime Minister of Timor-Leste.

With US$5.7 million through C19RM, Timor-Leste implemented several adaptive interventions to mitigate the knock-on impact of the pandemic on HIV, TB and malaria. The additional award supported the Ministry of Health to procure essential health products, deliver personal protective equipment and implement trainings for front-line health workers in national laboratory and supply management divisions.

**RESULTS**

- **774** people on antiretroviral therapy for HIV in 2021
- **3,268** people with TB treated in 2021
- **52,886** mosquito nets distributed in 2021

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4 Cabo Verde only distributes nets to at-risk populations or during epidemics.
Cumulative Global Fund Disbursement in Lusophone Countries

As of May 2022

- Cabo Verde: US$22,704,733
- Guinea-Bissau: US$183,981,880
- Sao Tome and Principe: US$39,566,342
- Angola: US$351,690,289
- Mozambique: US$1,734,060,229
- Brazil: US$38,574,184 (2002-2011)
- Timor-Leste: US$81,593,743
COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a catastrophic impact on the most vulnerable communities around the world and threatens our hard-won gains against HIV, TB and malaria.

Through C19RM and our leadership in the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-Accelerator), we have also demonstrated how effective the Global Fund can be in responding to pandemic threats.

Thanks to generous support from our donors, including Portugal, total support to countries’ COVID-19 responses through C19RM and grant flexibilities amounted to more than US$4.4 billion across 108 countries and 22 multicountry programs as of June 2022. This includes over US$219 million for Lusophone countries to support them in procuring personal protective equipment for health workers, strengthening laboratory surveillance and sample transportation capacity, and purchasing laboratory testing materials for COVID-19 preparedness and response.

Today, the Global Fund is the largest provider of grants to low- and middle-income countries for everything other than vaccines, including diagnostic tests, personal protective equipment and treatments such as medical oxygen, plus urgent enhancements to critical health system components.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>Angola</td>
<td>6,210,035</td>
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<td>Mozambique</td>
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<td>Sao Tome and Principe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timor-Leste</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,712,224</td>
<td>4,712,224</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>70,895,264</td>
<td>148,582,460</td>
<td>219,477,724</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Resilient and Sustainable Systems for Health

The Global Fund is the largest multilateral provider of grants for strengthening systems for health. Over the 2021-2023 funding cycle, we are investing US$4.9 billion, or US$1.5 billion a year, in formal and community health systems through our core grants and our COVID-19 response – about one-third of our total investments. As the leading multilateral agency in the fight against the world’s deadliest infectious diseases – HIV, TB, malaria and COVID-19 – the Global Fund partnership is uniquely placed to work with partners to support countries to prevent, prepare for and respond to pandemics.

The government of Mozambique used the COVID-19 Response Mechanism support to equip, renovate or rebuild four provincial public health laboratories. These investments will further increase the country’s laboratory capacity for all infectious diseases.

The Global Fund/Karin Schermbrucker
Fight for What Counts

Thanks to unwavering support from partners like Portugal, we have proven we can force HIV, TB and malaria into retreat. But we can’t stop now. With millions of lives still at risk, we must move faster to end the three diseases as public health threats and build resilient and sustainable systems for health, and thus reinforce pandemic preparedness.

For the Seventh Replenishment, the Global Fund needs at least US$18 billion

In the Sixth Replenishment, we reached our US$14 billion target. The increase of almost 30% for the Seventh Replenishment – amounting to US$18 billion – reflects the stark fact that because of COVID-19, global resource needs for HIV, TB and malaria have significantly increased.

With this renewed commitment and investment, between 2024 and 2026, our partnership estimates it will be able to save 20 million lives, avert more than 450 million infections or cases, and yield a return on investment of 1:31 with every dollar invested in fighting HIV, TB and malaria, resulting in US$31 in health gains and economic returns.

Together, we can protect everyone, everywhere from infectious diseases and build a healthier, more equitable world. The Global Fund is proud to have Portugal and the Lusophone partner countries by our side as we fight for what counts.