More than 230,000 lives saved: Measuring the impact of Global Fund-supported programs to fight HIV, TB and malaria in Mali

In Mali, health programs supported by the Global Fund partnership have saved more than 230,000 lives.

The Global Fund has served as a source of support to those affected by HIV, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria in Mali, investing more than US$551 million in programs to fight the three diseases and build resilient and sustainable systems for health.

Together with Mali's Ministry of Health, the Association pour la Résilience des Communautés vers l'Accès au Développement et à la Santé Plus, Catholic Relief Services and key technical and financial partners, the Global Fund is supporting interventions that aim to halve incidence rates for HIV and malaria, reduce TB incidence by 30%, and achieve a 50% reduction in mortality rates for the three diseases in the coming years. Global Fund investments also support Mali to strengthen pandemic preparedness and to enhance systems that will help the country withstand future health threats.

A mother puts up a mosquito net in N'Tabakoro, Kulikoro, on the outskirts of Bamako. Mali was one of the first countries in Africa to pilot new mosquito nets to combat insecticide-resistance.

Ⓒ Catalina Martin-Chico/Panos/The Global Fund


*TB cases notified include all forms TB cases notified between 2017-2021 and smear-positive TB cases detected between 2005-2016, due to data availability.
**HIV**

- UNAIDS estimated that around 106,000 people were living with HIV in Mali.
- Almost two-thirds of people living with HIV (59%) were tested for HIV and knew their HIV status.
- 53% of people living with HIV were on antiretroviral therapy (ART), which corresponds to 89% of people who knew their HIV status being on ART. 77% of people on ART had a suppressed viral load.
- 560,000 pregnant women knew their HIV status. 2,100 mothers living with HIV received medicine to keep them alive and prevent transmitting HIV to their babies.
- 24,500 people from key populations were reached with HIV prevention programs, and 12,600 adolescents and youths were tested for HIV.

Mali has made gains against HIV: New infections halved between 2002 and 2021, while AIDS-related deaths decreased by 52% over the same period.

Despite the downward long-term trend in AIDS-related deaths and new HIV infections, ongoing challenges and significant health system constraints have hampered progress toward the 95-95-95 HIV testing and treatment targets. The Global Fund partnership is focused on continuing efforts to improve ART retention among those living with HIV, increase access to viral load testing to everyone living with HIV on ART, and increase viral load suppression among all those living with HIV and who are on ART.

**TB**

- 11,000 people were diagnosed with TB. 7,300 of these people were put on first-line treatment, which corresponds to 66% coverage.
- The TB treatment success rate was estimated to be 82% (in 2020).
- 1,000 people who were exposed to TB received TB preventive therapy.
- 27% of people with TB with drug susceptibility received a testing result for at least Rifampicin.
- 38 people with drug-resistant TB were put on second-line treatment.
- The treatment success rate for drug-resistant TB was estimated to be 76% (in 2019).
- 96% of people with TB who were co-infected with HIV were receiving ART.

In the face of immense disruption to its health services, Mali has achieved increases in the TB treatment coverage and success rate. However, TB remains a major public health threat. Finding the thousands of people with TB who are missed by health systems after not being diagnosed, treated or reported each year is critical to reducing Mali’s TB burden. The Global Fund partnership is focused on addressing this challenge by supporting interventions that tackle TB and HIV in community settings with locally led strategies delivered by key populations, community networks and peer educators.

**Malaria**

- 4.5 million people with suspected malaria received a parasitological test.
- 93% of suspected malaria cases were tested.
- Population coverage for mosquito nets was estimated to be 85%.
- Usage of mosquito nets was estimated to be 74%.
- 370,000 pregnant women attending antenatal clinics received intermittent preventive treatment for malaria.
- Almost 6,000 children under 5 received seasonal malaria chemoprevention.

Compared to a decade ago, a significantly higher percentage of people in Mali now have access to and use long-lasting insecticidal nets. The percentage of people with suspected malaria who receive a diagnostic test has also increased considerably, sitting at 93% in 2021.

Malaria continues to be the leading cause of morbidity and mortality in Mali, with an estimated 7.7 million people diagnosed with the disease in 2021. Current Global Fund support prioritizes high-impact interventions that expand on the prevention and case management activities of previous investments. This includes a digitalization component to improve the quality and efficiency of interventions, which will be critical in achieving the objectives set by the national strategic plan to fight malaria.

**COVID-19**

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the provision of health services in Mali. To mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the three diseases and to support health and community systems, the Global Fund has approved more than €37 million since 2021 through our COVID-19 Response Mechanism. This funding has supported the purchase of personal protective equipment, diagnostic tests and tools, and also supported the strengthening of laboratory, surveillance and health systems.

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**About the Global Fund**

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria invests US$4 billion a year to defeat HIV, TB and malaria and ensure a healthier, safer, equitable future for all. We unite the world to find solutions that have the most impact, and we take them to scale worldwide. It's working. We have saved 50 million lives. We won't stop until the job is finished.

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