The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia’s strong support and commitment to the Global Fund have played an important role in the fight against HIV, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria and in building a healthier, safer and more equitable world for all.

Health investments through the Global Fund have saved 59 million lives since 2002.

The Global Fund is a major actor and funder in the global fight against the three diseases as well as the world’s largest multilateral provider of grants for strengthening both formal and community health systems. In the current grant cycle, the Global Fund has allocated US$13.1 billion to over 100 countries to fight HIV, TB and malaria.

Over the next three years, the Global Fund is investing US$6 billion to support countries to strengthen their health and community systems. This is the most significant increase in investments in this area in our history.

Our partnership

Saudi Arabia has supported the Global Fund since 2004. Having pledged contributions totaling US$162 million, it is the largest Global Fund donor in the Middle East region. For the Global Fund’s Seventh Replenishment in 2022, Saudi Arabia pledged US$39 million, a 30% increase from its previous pledge of US$30 million for the Sixth Replenishment in 2019. Saudi Arabia’s support for the Global Fund is channeled through the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD), and senior representatives of SFD attend Global Fund Board Meetings as invited guests. Additionally, the Global Fund frequently engages and collaborates with other Saudi institutions and organizations. These include the Ministry of Health (e.g., in the context of the G20 Health Working Group), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center (KSrelief), and the Future Investment Initiative (FII).

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The delegation led by CEO of the Saudi Fund for Development H.E. Sultan Al Marshad came to Geneva, Switzerland, in May 2023 to co-sign the Multi-Year Contribution Agreement with Global Fund Executive Director Peter Sands.

The Global Fund/Vincent Becker
Priority areas of our partnership

Saudi Arabia’s development aid policies are rooted in its transformative Vision 2030 agenda. The Global Fund recognizes Saudi Arabia as a regional and global leader, including in the global health space. In the coming years, the Global Fund seeks to work with Saudi Arabia to further develop a strategic partnership in the pursuit of our shared mission of building a world with better health for all.

Investing in the Middle East and North Africa and across the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

Supported by donors like Saudi Arabia, the Global Fund is investing US$527 million in 16 countries in the Middle East and North Africa from 2024 to 2026. Since 2002, the Global Fund has invested more than $22 billion across member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to fight HIV, TB and malaria and strengthen countries’ overall health systems.

Strengthening health systems and preventing the next pandemic

Saudi Arabia and the Global Fund share a commitment to ensure that our resources are invested sustainably and in a way that maximizes impact in implementing countries globally. By strengthening disease surveillance, supply chains, local manufacturing capabilities and more, we are enabling countries to defeat today’s infectious diseases and to detect, prevent and respond to new pandemics.

Combatting antimicrobial resistance

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is one of the top 10 global public health threats facing humanity. AMR means that medicines that we rely on to save lives may stop working, making the fight against HIV, TB and malaria even more difficult. That is why the Global Fund strongly supports Saudi Arabia’s initiative to advance international cooperation against AMR by hosting the 4th Ministerial Meeting on AMR in November 2024.

Driving and scaling innovation for global health

Saudi Arabia has positioned itself as a leading champion of innovation, seeking to harness digitalization and new technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI), at home and globally. The Global Fund is a leading investor in the most promising and game-changing innovations for global health. We invest over US$150 million per year in initiatives that help countries to better capture, integrate, analyze and use data. Through its market-shaping abilities, the Global Fund is uniquely placed to rapidly take proven innovative solutions to scale to benefit as many people as possible. Through their collaboration in the coming years, the Global Fund, Saudi Arabia and other members of our partnership can work together to harness AI-powered health innovations to maximize their lifesaving potential while maintaining equitable access.

Providing global health thought leadership

With events like the summits of the Future Investment Initiative and the Riyadh International Humanitarian Forum, Saudi Arabia has created platforms to drive forward critical debates on global health and international development. The Global Fund welcomes the constructive and close engagement that participation in these events has facilitated.

Extending vital support to Sudan amid ongoing conflict

The conflict in Sudan has crippled the country’s health system, with devastating consequences for the most vulnerable communities. In May 2024, in response to this crisis, the Global Fund signed grant agreements with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for up to US$170 million from 2024-2026 to support people affected by HIV, TB and malaria and build resilient and sustainable systems for health.

The Global Fund has served as an essential source of support to the health system in Sudan since 2005. Today, Global Fund-financed programs supply essential medicines to public health facilities in the country, including 100% of antiretroviral medicines for people living with HIV; 100% of anti-tuberculosis medicines; 100% of malaria medicines; and 100% of insecticide-treated mosquito nets for the planned 2025 mass net distribution campaign in very-high and high-burden areas for malaria.

About the Global Fund

The Global Fund is a worldwide partnership to defeat HIV, TB and malaria and ensure a healthier, safer, more equitable future for all. We raise and invest more than US$5 billion a year to fight the deadliest infectious diseases, challenge the injustice that fuels them, and strengthen health systems and pandemic preparedness in more than 100 of the hardest hit countries. We unite world leaders, communities, civil society, health workers and the private sector to find solutions that have the most impact, and we take them to scale worldwide. Since 2002, the Global Fund partnership has saved 59 million lives.

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