

# Japan

## and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

Over 20 years of partnership between Japan and the Global Fund has played an important role in the fight against HIV, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria and in building a healthier, safer and more equitable world.

**Japan and the Global Fund share a common commitment to resilient and sustainable systems for health to ensure universal health coverage and prepare for current and future pandemic threats.**



Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio re-announced Japan's commitment of up to US\$1.08 billion at the Global Fund's Seventh Replenishment pledging conference in New York City on 21 September 2022.

### **Our partnership**

Japan introduced infectious diseases to the agenda of the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit in 2000, paving the way for the establishment of the Global Fund in 2002. Japan's leadership in global health was not only fundamental to the creation of the Global Fund, but it was also critical in rallying world leaders to combat the deadliest infectious diseases of the time: HIV, TB and malaria.

Japan is the Global Fund's fifth largest public donor, pledging US\$5.39 billion to date. Japan's long-standing investments in the Global Fund have helped the partnership save 50 million lives and build stronger systems for health over the last two decades.

Japan pledged up to US\$1.08 billion to the Global Fund's Seventh Replenishment – a 30% increase when compared to the previous three-year Replenishment period. This strong commitment to strengthening access to quality health care for all is based on the concept of human security – protecting families from preventable and treatable diseases and preparing for future health threats that may jeopardize peoples' lives, livelihoods and dignity.

## Universal health coverage

Universal health coverage, included in the Sustainable Development Goals, is a critical component of the mission to end epidemics.

The Global Fund supports programs in new or existing service delivery points – including primary health care facilities and within communities – that provide a range of services that are not just focused on HIV, TB and malaria. The aim of delivering integrated, people-centered health services is to address people's multiple health needs at different points in their lives, improving overall health with a more cost-effective and efficient approach.

The Global Fund also supports countries to establish systematic approaches to mobilizing and effectively deploying substantially increased domestic resources for health to defeat the three diseases and ultimately attain universal health coverage. The Global Fund's co-financing requirements have been a powerful catalyst for domestic resource mobilization. We will continue to build on proven tools, such as debt swaps, as well as blended finance, including joint investments.

## Resilient and sustainable systems for health

Resilient and sustainable systems for health are not just about government health systems, but also about services provided by communities, the private sector and other providers, which together should ensure that people's health needs are met wherever they seek care.

Recognizing the critical importance of strengthening health and community systems, the Global Fund is the largest

multilateral provider of grants for this purpose. We invest 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.

Tailoring health services to ensure they reach the most vulnerable and marginalized populations is essential to ensure a truly universal and equitable approach. The Global Fund focuses on strengthening community networks and systems, including the role of community health workers, who are critical in reaching the most vulnerable and marginalized populations and are the first line of defense to prevent, detect and respond to existing and new health threats. To improve human security sustainably and deliver on the promise of universal health coverage, investment in both formal health systems and corresponding community systems is critical.

## Pandemic preparedness and response

It is not a question of if, but when, we will face the next pandemic threat. Core components of formal and community health systems already funded through Global Fund grants significantly contribute to pandemic preparedness. We have seen this throughout the COVID-19 pandemic: Many low- and middle-income countries have used the same laboratories, supply chains, data systems, health workers and community systems built to fight HIV, TB and malaria as the foundation of their response to the new pandemic. For example, fully equipped laboratories and trained laboratory technicians that diagnose TB were repurposed to also test for COVID-19, enabling countries

like India and Bangladesh to test for both diseases at once. The same community health workers trained to deliver HIV, TB and malaria services also serve as the first line of defense to prevent, detect and respond to new disease outbreaks.

In the new grant cycle (implementation period 2024-2026), grant applicants are encouraged to build pandemic preparedness by investing in a broader array of laboratory-based surveillance activities; training health workers; surge capacity, specimen transport systems and diagnostic network optimization; and in medical oxygen and respiratory care supplies and services.

## Japan and the private sector

The private sector is an important partner in the fight against HIV, TB and malaria. Takeda Pharmaceutical has offered critical support to the Global Fund since 2010, with a total commitment of JP¥ 2 billion. They are currently supporting an integration of quality HIV, TB and malaria services in antenatal and postnatal care to improve maternal and child health. In 2022, Panasonic North America joined (RED) with five consumer electronic products and a US\$250,000 commitment to the Global Fund. Japanese companies such as Otsuka Pharmaceutical, Sumitomo Chemical, Meiji Seika Pharma, Olympus, Fujifilm, Toyota and Yamaha Motor are also major suppliers of innovative health products, including TB treatments, mosquito nets, diagnostic tests, portable X-rays and motor vehicles and motorcycles.



## Indonesia:

### Strengthening Early Diagnosis and Treatment of Disease

Arisda Yusmanti is a laboratory analyst at the Center for Environmental Health Engineering and Disease Control in Batam, Indonesia. Her work will be part of Indonesia's Biomedical and Genome Science Initiative, which is establishing a nationwide network of facilities that conduct whole genome sequencing to strengthen early diagnosis and treatment of deadly diseases including tuberculosis, COVID-19, cancer, metabolic disorders, brain diseases and genetic disorders. The Global Fund has invested \$US30 million in this initiative through its COVID-19 Response Mechanism. The funds are being used to purchase new machinery and train laboratory staff to help ensure facilities across the country can harness the new technology and transform the country's health system.

## About the Global Fund

The Global Fund invests more than US\$4 billion a year to defeat HIV, TB and malaria and ensure a healthier, safer, equitable future for all. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have invested an additional US\$4.4 billion to fight the new pandemic and reinforce systems for health. We unite the world to find solutions that have the most impact, and we take them to scale worldwide. It's working. Together, we have saved 50 million lives. We won't stop until the job is finished.