

# Belgium and the Global Fund

## A Smart Investment

In 2000, AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria appeared to be unstoppable. In many countries, AIDS devastated an entire generation, leaving countless orphans and shattered communities. Malaria killed young children and pregnant women unable to protect themselves from mosquitoes or access lifesaving medicine. Tuberculosis unfairly afflicted the poor, as it had for millennia.

The world fought back. Belgium had a leading role in this response. It joined with other governments, the private sector, civil society and people affected by the diseases to form the Global Fund, which pooled the world's resources to invest strategically in programs to end AIDS, TB and malaria as epidemics.



27  
MILLION

LIVES SAVED  
FROM AIDS, MALARIA  
AND TB



17.5  
MILLION

PEOPLE ON  
ANTIRETROVIRAL  
THERAPY FOR HIV



5  
MILLION

PEOPLE TESTED  
AND TREATED FOR  
TUBERCULOSIS



197  
MILLION

MOSQUITO NETS DISTRIBUTED  
TO PROTECT CHILDREN AND  
FAMILIES FROM MALARIA

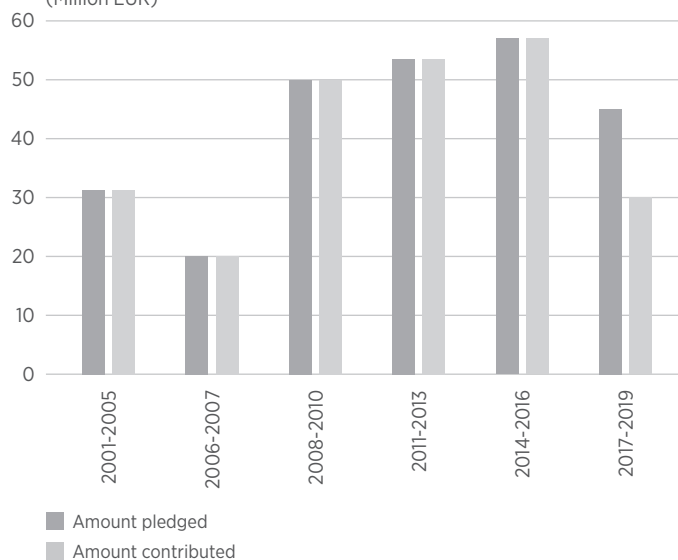
Lives saved are cumulative since 2002. All other results were achieved in 2017 in countries where the Global Fund invests.

## Saving Lives, Transforming Livelihoods

Nearly two decades later, Belgium's smart, effective health investments through the Global Fund have helped save more than 27 million lives. In 2016, Belgium signed a four-year framework arrangement with the Global Fund and pledged €60 million for the period 2017-2020. With contributions totaling €241.9 million as of December 2018, Belgium is the 16th largest public donor to the Global Fund.

### Pledges and Contributions

(Million EUR)



In addition to its funding, Belgium takes part in the governance of the Global Fund. It is represented by the European Commission on the Global Fund Board and by Italy in the Audit and Finance Committee. In addition, Belgium participates in Country Coordinating Mechanisms – the body that designs and oversees implementation of grants locally – in Benin and Burundi.

## Priority Areas of Partnership

To support the most vulnerable, Belgium is committed to spending at least half of its official development assistance in countries with the highest disease burden and lowest economic capacity, with a strong focus on human rights and sustainable economic growth, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

**Human Rights and Key Populations:** Belgian civil society has worked in partnership with the Belgian government and the Global Fund to reach people who are most vulnerable to diseases by removing human rights barriers to quality health care, allowing the partnership to reach more people and achieve greater impact. A significant component of this work involves support for key populations to respond appropriately to issues that predispose them to diseases and providing marginalized and vulnerable groups with the care and support they need to fight diseases.

**Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights:** The Global Fund partnership finances programs that ensure equitable access for all people to sexual and reproductive health services. Partners like Belgium are strong advocates for the Global Fund's approach of integrating sexual and reproductive health and rights with HIV interventions and more broadly, for linking reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health interventions with HIV, TB and malaria programs.

## Innovation

Belgium is a key Global Fund partner in advancing innovation. Scientific progress and innovative ideas driven by both public and private investment are unlocking improvements in disease prevention, treatment and care. The Global Fund partnership draws on the best innovations from across sectors while stimulating new innovations for more rapid progress and greater impact, particularly in areas like procurement and supply chain management, financial and risk management, and program quality. The role of digital technology as a vehicle and accelerator in reaching the last mile is of increasing importance in this endeavor.

## Stepping Up the Fight

With all the breathtaking progress in recent years, we have the end of the epidemics within our reach, but not yet firmly in our grasp. The world is falling off the track to end these diseases. The Global Fund's fundraising target for the next three-year cycle is at least US\$14 billion. These funds will help save 16 million lives and cut the mortality rate from HIV, TB and malaria in half by 2023, while building stronger health systems. The Global Fund is also mobilizing partners toward ending HIV, tuberculosis and malaria by 2030 in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals. The effort comes at a crucial moment. After years of remarkable progress in the fight against these diseases, new threats such as shortfalls in funding and increasing insecticide and drug resistance have slowed progress and enabled the diseases to gain ground. But if we pull together and step up the fight against these diseases, we can end them as epidemics once and for all.



The Global Fund / Sarah Holbak

Three-year-old Zeinabou is held in the arms of Amina, one of the supervisors from the health center, during the malaria chemoprevention campaign. Zeinabou receives her fourth month of three-day anti-malaria treatment to prevent her from catching malaria during the high transmission season in Niamey, Niger.

## About the Global Fund

The Global Fund is a 21st-century organization designed to accelerate the end of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria as epidemics. As a partnership between governments, civil society, the private sector and people affected by the diseases, the Global Fund mobilizes and invests nearly US\$4 billion a year to support programs run by local experts in more than 100 countries. By challenging barriers and embracing innovative approaches, we are working together to better serve people affected by the diseases.

April 2019  
theglobalfund.org