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. Canada 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.

Saving Lives, Transforming Livelihoods

Sixteen years later, Canada’s smart, effective health investments through the Global Fund have helped save more than 27 million lives. With contributions totalling US$2.3 billion as of December 2018, Canada is the 7th largest public donor to the Global Fund. As host of the Global Fund’s Fifth Replenishment Conference in September 2016, Canada brought leaders from around the world to Montréal to raise funds and support the Global Fund’s efforts to end HIV, TB and malaria as epidemics. At the conference, Canada pledged CAD804 million, a 20 percent increase from its previous pledge.

The Canadian government is represented on the Global Fund’s Board and is a dynamic contributor in shaping governance policies, especially those that support better investments for key populations, gender equality and human rights, as well as resilient and sustainable systems for health.

Global Fund Disbursements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disbursement (US$ Billion)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

In the past 16 years, the Global Fund and our partners have achieved what was once considered impossible. We have cut the number of AIDS-related deaths by more than half, from 1.9 million people at the peak of the crisis in 2004 to 940,000 in 2017. Eighty percent of HIV-positive mothers now receive treatment to prevent transmission of the virus to their babies, bringing us closer to the goal of a generation born free of HIV. Nearly 22 million people are on lifesaving antiretroviral therapy – 80 percent of those in countries where the Global Fund invests. While it is right to celebrate successes, another 15.2 million people need ARV therapy. Infections are on the rise among vulnerable groups such as adolescent girls and young women and key populations such as men who have sex with men. One out of four people infected with HIV doesn’t know they have it.

Tuberculosis

Global TB treatment programs averted 53 million deaths between 2000 and 2015, including 10 million HIV-positive people. Progress has been steady but not fast enough. In 2017, TB killed 1.6 million people (including 0.3 million people with HIV) – surpassing HIV as the deadliest infectious disease globally. Every year, approximately 40 percent of TB cases are “missed” – not diagnosed, treated or reported. This is significant, because one person with active, untreated TB can spread the disease to as many as 15 other people in a year.

How it works

We raise the money

The Global Fund raises and invests more than US$4 billion a year to support programs run by local experts in more than 100 countries. About 95 percent of the money comes from donor governments and 5 percent from the private sector and foundations.

Countries make investment decisions

A Country Coordinating Mechanism made up of representatives of people whose lives are affected by the three diseases, medical experts, government and civil society meets and develops a plan to fight the diseases in their community.

We review and approve

An independent panel of experts reviews the plan to determine if it will achieve results. The panel may request changes to the plan. Once finalized, it goes to the Global Fund’s Board for approval.

Local experts implement

Local experts and partners use grant money to deliver programs. Impact is continuously monitored and evaluated.

Oversight in action


Where the programs are

**4%** Eastern Europe and Central Asia

**8%** North Africa and the Middle East

**4%** Latin America and the Caribbean

**19%** Asia and the Pacific

**65%** Sub-Saharan Africa

First responders meet at Rape Crisis Cape Town Trust, a nongovernmental organization whose counsellors see rape survivors and support them through medical steps, including preventative treatment for HIV. The initiative is supported by the Global Fund partnership.

Syrian refugees in Zaatari, Jordan, receive prevention education, diagnosis and treatment for TB through a special initiative that is financed by the Global Fund. These services are available free of charge to people living in the camp.
Malaria

The fight against malaria is one of the biggest public health successes of the 21st century. The malaria death rate has dropped by 60 percent since 2000, including for the most vulnerable: children under 5. But in recent years, global investment has plateaued and progress has stalled. In 2017, an estimated 219 million cases of malaria occurred worldwide compared to 217 million cases in 2016.

To safeguard progress made and avoid a resurgence of the disease, the Global Fund is working with partners including Unitaid, WHO, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, on innovative approaches such as new mosquito nets to combat insecticide resistance and the pilot introduction of a new malaria vaccine. We support a comprehensive approach that combines education about symptoms, prevention and treatment.

Stronger Health Systems

Robust health systems are not only essential to ending HIV, TB and malaria as epidemics, but they yield broader outcomes, delivering health care in a sustainable, equitable and effective way. The Global Fund invests in areas that are critical for stronger health systems, including community health workers, laboratories, data management and supply chains. The Global Fund increasingly provides HIV, TB and malaria prevention and treatment programs through community service delivery points that offer a variety of services, improving overall health and resulting in a more cost-effective, efficient and person-centered approach.

Investing in Gender Equality, Key Populations and Human Rights

To achieve maximum impact to end the three diseases, the Global Fund invests in evidence-based interventions with a focus on the highest burden countries with the lowest economic capacities. Sixty-four percent of the programs supported by the Global Fund are in low-income countries with a high-burden of disease in sub-Saharan Africa. The Global Fund invests in interventions among key and vulnerable populations that are disproportionally affected by the diseases to guarantee that no one is left behind.

Working with partners such as Canada, the Global Fund has been an important investor in improving the health of women and girls and is striving to make further advances to address the human rights barriers to health. The Global Fund is focusing sharply on women and girls, making strategic investments to improve their health and supporting country-driven processes grounded in equity and inclusiveness. These investments are making a difference. There is strong evidence that keeping adolescent girls and young women in school not only reduces their vulnerability to HIV infection but can yield healthy, educated and financially independent women who make well-informed choices about their lives. Reaching adolescent girls and young women with services that span health and education is an emerging priority for the Global Fund. The Global Fund also invests in programs to prevent gender-based violence and provide care to survivors.

The Global Fund is committed to supporting programs aimed at overcoming human rights barriers so that everyone can access the health services they need. All Global Fund-supported programs are required to meet minimum human rights standards aimed at guaranteeing that Global Fund investments do not infringe upon human rights, that they increase access to quality services and maximize the potential impact of interventions.

Driving Innovation to Bring New Solutions

Canada is a key Global Fund partner in advancing innovation. Scientific advances, innovative ideas and private sector savvy are unlocking improvements in disease prevention, treatment and care – from faster delivery of essential medicines to more effective methods to reach the people most in need. 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.
Stepping Up the Fight

With all of the breathtaking progress in recent years, we are on the right side of the tipping point to control HIV, tuberculosis and malaria. But 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, cut the mortality rate from HIV, TB and malaria in half, and build stronger health systems by 2023. The fundraising target comes at a crucial moment. The global community committed through the Sustainable Development Goals to end the epidemics of HIV, TB and malaria by 2030. But 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.

It’s All Connected

A person-centered approach is at the heart of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs state that the fabric of humanity is made of diverse yet interconnected threads. A child fleeing Syria or Somalia needs food, education, shelter, health. More important, that child and her family and community need investment in systems that provide elements of basic human dignity, and that help stabilize a society so that fewer people need to flee in the first place. To serve the person, we must make smart long-term investments in health and support efforts in connected disciplines.

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.

January 2019
theglobalfund.org