

TRP Member Profile

August 2019

01 Background

The Global Fund is a partnership designed to accelerate the end of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria as epidemics. As an international organization, the Global Fund mobilizes and invests more than US\$4 billion a year to support programs run by local experts in more than 100 countries. In partnership with governments, civil society, technical agencies, the private sector and people affected by the diseases, we are challenging barriers and embracing innovation.

In 2017 in countries where the Global Fund invests, there were 17.5 million people on antiretroviral therapy for HIV, 5 million people treated for tuberculosis and 197 million mosquito nets for preventing malaria distributed. The Global Fund works in close collaboration with national stakeholders, other bilateral and multilateral organizations, communities and key populations networks to supplement existing efforts against the diseases.

The objectives outlined in the Global Fund 2017-2022 Strategy include:

- 1) Maximize impact against HIV, TB and malaria;
- 2) Build resilient and sustainable systems for health;
- 3) Promote and protect human rights and gender equality;
- 4) Mobilize increased resources.

The Global Fund Board relies on the recommendations of an independent panel of experts (the Technical Review Panel (TRP)) when making decisions on where investments will have the most impact. TRP members are recruited periodically as the need arises, usually coinciding with each new funding cycle. The recruitment is managed by the Global Fund's Board Strategy Committee using an open, transparent and criteria-based process, through a public call for applications.

02 Role of the Technical Review Panel

To deliver on the objectives of the Global Fund 2017-2022 Strategy, the panel's expertise includes:

- HIV
- Tuberculosis
- Malaria
- Resilient and Sustainable Systems for Health (RSSH)
- Human Rights and Gender (HRG)
- Strategic Investment and Sustainable Financing (SISF)

In addition, expertise in the following cross-cutting areas is highly desirable:

- Challenging Operating Environments
- Community Systems Strengthening
- Program Management

The Technical Review Panel fulfills its mandate under the oversight of Global Fund's Board Strategy Committee, performing the following key functions:

- i. **Reviewing funding requests:** the panel assesses the strategic focus, technical soundness and potential for impact of funding requests to the Global Fund. The panel reviews new requests and requests for reprogramming existing grants. It evaluates the manner in which the funding requests prioritize interventions, especially those that address gender-related and human rights barriers to health care. The panel makes funding recommendations to the Board on which programmatic elements should be financed.

The panel evaluates and recommends investments in new technologies and innovative approaches, ensures effectiveness of program design and implementation strategies, and analyses sustainable responses. Overall, its mandate is to ensure that funding requests are designed to achieve the greatest impact.

- ii. **Advisory input to the Board:** The panel is an advisory body to the Board; its Chair is an ex-officio member of the Board's Strategy Committee. It also provides critical input to the Global Fund's strategy and policy development process.
- iii. **Reporting on lessons learned:** While independent in their review process, the panel engages closely with the Secretariat and technical partners to ensure the Global Fund's mission and goals are achieved through effective collaboration and engagement of key stakeholders, including communities and civil society. The panel's input is highly valued as it builds on lessons learnt from their review of funding requests, supporting the continued effectiveness of Global Fund investments.

03 Membership of the Technical Review Panel

Members of the panel serve in their personal capacities only, and do not represent their employer, their government or the positions of Global Fund partners. In addition to sound and up-to-date technical expertise in their area, experts must have broad experience and understanding of program development, programming at the country level and of key issues that impact implementation capacity in developing countries. Diversity of individuals in areas of expertise, geographical and sectoral experience, gender and regional balance of the members are considered during the selection. This is to promote the overall ability of the panel to make technical and strategic investment recommendations.

The working language of the Global Fund is English. All panel members will have advanced English language skills; fluency in other languages like French, Arabic, Portuguese or Spanish is a major asset.

In execution of the role of the Technical Review Panel, the Global Fund Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy (found [here](#)), will apply with additional guidelines specific to the internal operations of the panel.

04 Skills, Experience, and Key Competencies

The membership of the TRP is diverse. Applications from candidates with different skills, experience, gender, and from all geographic regions and sectors are welcome.

Skills

Members of the TRP should have a minimum of ten years of relevant and recent work experience in relevant fields, including:

- Strong technical expertise in one or more of the following: HIV, TB, malaria, building resilient and sustainable systems for health, human rights and gender, and strategic investment and sustainable financing.
- Expert knowledge of international health issues, health and information systems, health financing, relevant national health and development policy development processes, national strategy processes and key challenges to achieving better health outcomes in developing countries.
- Knowledge of latest scientific evidence, up-to-date international guidelines and normative guidance, including new developments/technologies for HIV, TB or malaria.
- In-depth understanding and ability to use programmatic data and results from previous investments to inform strategic decision making, including:
 - Strategic focus of funding requests;
 - Appropriate mix of interventions and choices on prioritization for maximum impact;
 - Development of effective strategies to address health systems and service delivery challenges;
 - Improve yield in programmatic results, program quality, effectiveness and efficiency.

Candidates will also have proven experience in the following areas:

- Design, implementation, or monitoring and evaluation of health/disease programs in a developing country context; and experience in challenging operating environments (COE), community systems strengthening (CSS) and program management.
- Ability to articulate and communicate complex results and lessons learned effectively to key stakeholders including government, technical and development partners, community and civil society at national, regional and global levels.
- Development and review of costed and prioritized national strategic plans or investment cases, and experience in strategic investment for highest impact and sustainability in resource limited settings.
- Program reviews and evaluations.
- Reviews of funding applications in a national or regional context, and in making strategic recommendations to improve effectiveness and value for money of investments, and in making recommendations for funding.
- Fostering collaborative relationships with diverse partners and stakeholders including technical and development partners, and normative agencies.
- The role of civil society/communities and key populations in the fields of HIV, TB and/or malaria.

Competencies

- In-depth understanding of and personal commitment to the Global Fund principles, core values and mission.
- High-level judgment in complex situations.
- Recognized leader with capability of acting as a representative of a review panel in partnerships and governing bodies.
- A facilitative and consultative approach.
- Proven ability to work independently as well as in a multicultural team.
- Diplomatic, with policy-making and strategy skills.
- Proven communication skills.
- High ethical standards.
- Ability to adapt to changes.
- Strong analytical skills and skills on knowledge synthesis.
- Proven ability to translate evidence into policy.
- Strategic investment thinking.

Experience

- Core competencies in the Global Fund's Strategic Objectives (HIV, TB, Malaria, RSSH, HRG, SISF);
- Strong programmatic / country experience
- Forward thinkers who have a good grasp of global health
- Experience in innovation and new tools
- Minimum 10 years of current experience
- Geographic expertise and language skills (English, and desirable French, Spanish, Arabic or Russian)
- Desirable: Additional sub-set of expertise to deliver the aims of the Strategy (e.g. TB/HIV, HRG and CSS, COE, RSSH with Health Financing etc.)
- Experts willing to commit the time required to deliver TRP mandate

Responsibilities

- Read and understand all relevant policy and process documents prior to review meetings to ensure informed and effective participation in the review process.

- Read, understand and make recommendations on strategic focus, appropriate mix of interventions and choices on prioritization for maximum impact, development of effective strategies to address health system and service delivery challenges and improve yield in programmatic results, program quality, effectiveness and efficiency.
- Ability to read a large volume and different types of documentation contained in funding requests (national strategy documentation, reports, budgets, etc.) in a limited timeframe, synthesize information in a concise and clear manner, and draw conclusions.
- Present findings of the review group to the TRP plenary. Interact with applicants, the Secretariat, technical partners within the parameters discussed and agreed by the TRP under guidance from the TRP leadership (individual interactions, de-briefing sessions).
- Provide meaningful contributions and facilitate discussion among a small review group, report key findings, present consensus and different views to the TRP plenary in a constructive, respectful and accurate manner.
- Ability to present findings and recommendations in a clear, timely and concise manner in both written and oral form.
- Safeguard the integrity and independence of the Technical Review Panel. Adherence to confidentiality and conflict of interest policies. Be objective and provide an expert opinion based on technical merit. No bias towards certain countries, disease or control methods.
- Ability to adapt to changes.

05 Technical Review Panel Membership Commitments

The terms of reference of the TRP member can be found [here](#).

Panel members meet three to four times a year, usually in Geneva. The duration of each review meeting is seven to ten working days, depending on the number of applications received. Panel members are called to serve based on their expertise areas, regional experience and language skills. Not every panel member will be called to serve for every review meeting. The decision on who will be called to serve during each review session will be made by the Chair of the Technical Review Panel, based on the disease focus, countries, number and mix of funding requests received.

If called to serve during any 12-month calendar period, the expected minimum level of effort is five days per year for each in-person meeting and an additional six to ten days for remote activities (telephone briefings, desk-based application reviews, and follow-up clarifications undertaken through email exchange), depending on needs. Every activity is usually proposed in advance by the Global Fund Secretariat to allow appropriate time for planning, travel and/or remote work arrangements. Members can decline to participate in a meeting if they are not available. However, repeated unavailability might result in membership loss.

The term of service is for a maximum of four years, with a portion of Technical Review Panel members continuing and new members joining at various intervals.

Technical Review Panel members receive an honorarium, considered to be compensation for time spent, rather than a professional fee. The honorarium is calculated based on the estimated level of effort per work/task and currently stands at US\$700/day (subject to change). Travel expenses and per diem are paid by the Global Fund.

06 Additional Information

For additional information, see:

- Technical Review Panel section of the Global Fund website:
<https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/technical-review-panel/>
- Technical Review Panel Terms of Reference:
https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/3048/trp_technicalreviewpanel_tor_en.pdf
- Ethics and Conflict of Interest Guidelines for Technical Review Panel Members:
https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/3047/trp_coi_guidelines_en.pdf
- Technical Review Panel Recruitment FAQ:
https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/3101/trp_recruitment_faqs_en.pdf
- Interviews with Technical Review Panel Members:
https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/8614/trp_member_interviews_en.pdf

Some documents are available in multiple languages. See the Global Fund website for translations.