

Frequently Asked Questions

2017-2019 Multicountry Approaches

September 2017

What is new about multicountry approaches for the 2017-2019 funding cycle?

In April 2016, the Global Fund Board adopted a refined allocation methodology to increase the impact of its investments. Under the refined methodology, funds were set aside for [catalytic investments](#). Catalytic investments serve the critical objective of catalyzing country allocations to ensure delivery against the 2017-2022 Global Fund Strategy. They aim to do so by investing in priorities that are unable to be addressed through country allocations alone, yet are deemed crucial to ensure Global Fund investments are positioned to deliver against its strategic aims.

Catalytic investment priorities are funded with a set-aside amount of US\$800M for the period 2017-2019¹.

The Global Fund's Board identified three distinct modalities for the operationalization of catalytic investments: matching funds, multicountry approaches and strategic initiatives.

Multicountry approaches target a limited number of key, strategic multicountry priorities deemed critical to meet the aims of the Global Fund Strategy.

The multicountry priorities are:

Malaria: Malaria elimination in low burden countries;

TB: Finding the missed people with TB;

HIV: Sustainability of services for key populations.

Are multicountry grants replacing regional grants?

During the 2014-2016 funding cycle, the Global Fund made a distinction between multicountry grants (typically groups of small island economies funded through country allocations) and regional grants (which brought together a number of countries and were funded through a separate pool of funds). For the 2017-2019, we refer to both cases as multicountry grants.

How much money is available for multicountry grants for 2017-2019?

US\$260 million has been designated to multicountry grants for the 2017-2019 funding cycle and is divided as follows: Malaria US\$145 million, Tuberculosis US\$65 million, HIV US\$50 million.

Why has only US\$50 million been designated for HIV multicountry grants for 2017-2019 allocation period?

Catalytic investment funding includes multicountry approaches as well as matching funds and strategic initiatives. While HIV has received proportionately less than TB and malaria in multicountry, it has received

¹ Please refer to [36th Board Meeting report GF/B36/04](#)

more within matching funds. The total funding for HIV within the catalytic funding is US\$200M. The available US\$800 million was divided as follows across the three diseases, Resilient and Sustainable Systems for Health (RSSH) and broader strategic investments:

| Component | Amount available | Overall strategic priorities in catalytic funding |
|-------------------|------------------|--|
| HIV | \$200m | Key Populations; Human Rights; Adolescent Girls & Young Women |
| TB | \$190m | Finding missing TB cases |
| Malaria | \$202m | Malaria Elimination; Drug and LLIN Resistance; Piloting first Malaria Vaccine |
| RSSH | \$166m | Program Sustainability; Service Delivery & Health Workforce; Supply Chain Strengthening; Data Systems & Use for Program Quality; Community Rights & Gender |
| Broader Strategic | \$42m | Prospective Country Evaluations; Emergency Fund |

What is the length of a multicountry grant?

Multicountry grants are for a three-year period. All the multicountry grants to be funded by the 2017-2019 catalytic investment funding need to be Board-approved by 31 December 2019.

What is the funding application process for multicountry approaches?

There are 14 separate strategic priority areas within the Board-approved multicountry priorities. For some priority areas, applicants will be pre-identified and for other priority areas there will be a competitive process.

Pre-identified applicants will be contacted by the Global Fund and invited to develop a funding request that addresses the defined priority area and regional focus.

For priority areas with a competitive application process, a Request for Proposal (RFP) will be published on the Global Fund website. These RFPs will include specific Terms of Reference (TORs) that the applicant will need to address in their funding request. RFPs will be published 4 to 6 months prior to the expected submission window in order to allow for robust regional dialogue. After a TRP review, limited proposals per priority/region will be selected to proceed to grant making. See table below for an indication of the maximum number of grants expected for each priority area.

Application approach for each priority area:

| Disease | Priority | Indicative Funding US\$ | Application approach | Expected number of grants |
|----------------|---|--------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Malaria | Elimination of malaria in Mesoamerica and Hispaniola | 6 | Pre-identified | 1 |
| | Elimination of malaria in South Africa | 20 | Pre-identified or RFP (<i>tbc in Q1 2018</i>) | 1-2 |
| | Elimination of malaria multi-drug resistance (RAI) | 119 | Completed | 1 |
| TB | TB in mining | 22.5 | Pre-identified | 1 |
| | Supranational labs in Eastern and Southern Africa | 4.5 | Pre-identified | 1 |
| | Improving the quality of care and prevention for MDR-TB in Eastern Europe | 5 | RFP | 1 |
| | Support LAC countries transitioning from GF TB financing | 4.5 | RFP | 1 |
| | Interventions among refugees in Eastern Africa | 7.5 | RFP | 1 |
| | Supranational laboratory in Western and Central Africa | 6 | RFP | 1 |
| | Interventions among migrant and mobile population in Asia | 15 | 2 RFPs | 2 |
| HIV | Sustainability of services for key populations in LAC region | 17 | 2 RFPs | 2-3 |
| | Sustainability of services for key populations in EECA region | 13 | RFP | 1-2 |
| | Sustainability of services for key populations in SEA region | 12.5 | RFP | 1 |
| | Sustainability of services for key populations in MENA region | 7.5 | RFP | 1 |
| TOTAL | | 260 | | 16-19 |

Who can apply for funding?

In general, suitable civil society, and community-based organizations, international organizations, regional networks, and regional co-ordination mechanisms are eligible to apply for funding under multi-country priorities. However, certain multicountry priorities might set limitations as to what type of organizations is eligible. Proposals from both new and existing multicountry grants will be assessed to ensure they meet the aims of the Global Fund Strategy and focus on activities that cannot be addressed through the country allocation alone.

How can I be considered for one of the pre-identified applicant invitations?

The pre-identified applicants will be defined in a regional dialogue process led by the Secretariat, involving key stakeholders. The pre-identified applicants will be existing and regionally recognized organizations having the highest potential to achieve impact in the designated priority areas. Organizations with or without current grants from the Global Fund might be pre-identified as multicountry applicants.

Do applicants need to prepare an above allocation request?

Applicants are encouraged to prepare a prioritized above allocation request that can be assessed for unfunded quality demand. This ensures multicountry programs have 'pre-approved' interventions to integrate into grants when savings or efficiencies are found during grant-making, or to include via reprogramming during implementation if additional funding becomes available. Private sector or approved public mechanisms can also be a source of funding for the above allocation request. The prioritized above allocation request is submitted with the funding request and can be updated during grant-making or implementation.

Multicountry applicants are encouraged to present a realistic prioritized above allocation request that takes into consideration limitations of funding available for multicountry priorities.

How should the prioritized above allocation request be calculated?

The general guidance is that prioritized above allocation request should represent approximately 30-50 percent more than the funding amount (unless otherwise advised by a regional team). However given that the funds allocated to multicountry approaches are limited, applicants are strongly encouraged to submit focused and realistic prioritized above allocation request with clear potential for impact at the regional level.

What role does regional dialogue play in multicountry grants?

Multicountry approaches emphasize a strong multi-stakeholder and multi-sectorial dialogue beyond the Regional Coordinating Mechanism (RCM)/Regional Organization (RO) during all stages of the grant cycle. A regional dialogue that is open, inclusive, and participatory ensures that the adopted strategies and plans reflect a multi-stakeholder response and critical engagement of key populations and community-based organizations.

How do I participate in regional dialogue?

In most cases there will be 4 to 6 months between the publication of RFPs and the submission date for the funding request. Eligible applicants are strongly encouraged to start regional dialogue as soon as the TORs have been published. Inclusive dialogue remains an essential feature of the Global Fund application funding process and are an eligibility requirement for multicountry applicants. Inclusive dialogue should continue

throughout the grant lifecycle.

Is there any funding set aside to support regional dialogue for 2017-2019?

Multicountry applicants are invited to use funds from existing regional grants or from RCMs/ROs funding to support regional dialogue processes. In the case that none of these sources of funding are available, applicants may be able to apply for funding through the Community, Rights and Gender Strategic Initiative. The Global Fund will take an active role in supporting the meaningful engagement of partners, key and vulnerable populations and networks in Global Fund-related dialogue. For more details please contact the Secretariat focal point responsible for each of the multicountry priorities (see list below).

Whom should I contact to get more information about each of the multicountry priorities?

For more information on each of the multicountry priorities please contact the following Secretariat focal points.

| Disease | Priority | Secretariat Contacts |
|---------|---|---|
| Malaria | Elimination of malaria in Mesoamerica and Hispaniola | Annelise Hirschmann. (Annelise.Hirschmann@theglobalfund.org) |
| | Elimination of malaria in South Africa | Michael Byrne (Michael.Byrne@theglobalfund.org) |
| | Elimination of malaria multi-drug resistance (RAI) | Urban Weber (Urban.Weber@theglobalfund.org) |
| TB | TB in Mining | Michael Byrne (Michael.Byrne@theglobalfund.org) |
| | Supranational Labs in Eastern and Southern Africa | Linden Morrison (Linden.Morrison@theglobalfund.org) |
| | Improving the quality of care and prevention for MDR-TB in Eastern Europe | Dumitru Laticevschi (Dumitru.Laticevschi@theglobalfund.org) |
| | Support LAC countries transitioning from GF TB financing | Annelise Hirschmann. (Annelise.Hirschmann@theglobalfund.org) |
| | Interventions among refugees in Eastern Africa | Linden Morrison (Linden.Morrison@theglobalfund.org) |
| | Supranational laboratory in Western and Central Africa | Tina Draser (Tina.Draser@theglobalfund.org) |
| | Interventions among migrant and mobile population in Asia | Luca Occhini (Luca.Occhini@theglobalfund.org) Urban Weber (Urban.Weber@theglobalfund.org) |
| HIV | Sustainability of services for key populations in LAC region | Annelise Hirschmann. (Annelise.Hirschmann@theglobalfund.org) |
| | Sustainability of services for key populations in EECA region | Dumitru Laticevschi (Dumitru.Laticevschi@theglobalfund.org) |
| | Sustainability of services for key populations in SEA region | Luca Occhini (Luca.Occhini@theglobalfund.org) |
| | Sustainability of services for key populations in MENA region | Joseph Serutoke (Joseph.Serutoke@theglobalfund.org) |

For more information about the process please contact: AccessToFunding@theglobalfund.org