

40th Board Meeting

# Report of the Technical Evaluation Reference Group

For Board Information

GF/B40/08

Geneva

14-15 November 2018

# Content Overview

1. Key Activities in 2019
2. Update on TERG Thematic Reviews
  - Selection of future thematic reviews
3. Update on Prospective Country Evaluations (PCE)
  - PCE next steps
4. Strategic Reviews
5. Annexes & Background Materials

# Key activities

As per the TERG Evaluation Plan 2017-2022, in 2019, the TERG aims to:

- >Further emphasize implementing the Prospective Country Evaluation (PCE) in the eight countries;
- >Conduct three to four thematic reviews;
- >Hold three meetings and proactively implement its learning and advisory functions; and
- >Launch and complete another TERG renewal and recruitment process.

# Thematic reviews

- TERG provided substantial inputs to the RSSH deep dive session at SC meeting.
- Thematic reviews on RSSH, partnership model, and STC policy are underway.
- TERG reviewed and discussed the SC's suggestions for thematic reviews and is engaged in a consultative process to agree on the priority themes.
- TERG noted that some suggested themes may be best reported on by the Global Fund Secretariat, or are already planned for review by the Secretariat or key partners, while others may be covered by on-going/planned TERG thematic reviews or prospective country evaluations.
- Consideration will be given to which topics would most benefit from independent assessment.

# Possible Thematic Review items proposed by SC

	Proposed Topic/Area	Through other work	Independent viewpoint	Possible timing
	The concept of 'country ownership'	Possible	Important	2018/19
	Access to health services	Possible	No	2019
	Global Fund in the SDG landscape	No	Maybe	2020
	Innovative financing and its impact on health	No	No	
	Market shaping strategy	No	Yes	TBD
	Accelerating transfer of recurrent costs to domestic resources	Possible	No	2019
	The Global Fund in the context of middle-income countries	Possible	Important	2019
	Country absorptive capacity	Possible	Maybe	2019/20
	Review of Catalytic Investments	No	Important	2020
	Key and vulnerable populations, and accountability	Possible	No	2019
	HIV prevention in the context of highly commoditized grants	Possibly	No	2019
	Investments in malaria elimination vs. saving lives	No	Important	2020
	Community workers role in optimization and delivery of results	Partial	Important	2020/21
	Country adoption of WHO guidelines (e.g. optimal ART regimens)	No	No	

Note: ■ indicates global health topics; ■ indicates Global Fund investments and business model topics; and ■ indicates technical topics.

Next step: TERG will share a rationalized short list after further consultations with the SC, Secretariat and OIG.

# Prospective Country Evaluations (PCE)

Reminder

At the end of the PCEs (3 years/6 years) we will expect:

- Improvements in national programmes and Global Fund operations in the eight countries.
- Better understanding of how Global Fund policies and processes play out in countries and how they can be improved.
- Progress towards more robust and data-based estimates of outcomes and impact.
- Lessons learned that can inform a more thorough Global Fund approach to evaluation.
- Capacity to have been developed in country.

## **Eight countries selected**

- Congo (DRC)
- Cambodia
- Guatemala
- Mozambique\*
- Myanmar
- Senegal
- Sudan
- Uganda\*

**\*Collaboration with Gavi.**

# PCE progress overview

- The PCEs are following grant implementation in the eight countries from this year, using disease-specific results chains as the analytical framework to address various evaluation questions.
- The TERG discussed the progress of the eight countries at its meeting from 5 to 7 September in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, one of the PCE countries.
- The results chain approach provides:
  - a more holistic understanding of how Global Fund investments translate to impact at the country level, while tracking progress on the six year strategy.
  - a common framework, allowing synthesis across the 8 countries.
  - a platform for analysis and discussion among key partners (MoH, PRs, implementers, development partners....) with an independent facilitator.

## Next steps for the PCEs

- Completion of the initial results chains, while advancing work for the other diseases, for each country by end 2018.
- Deeper analysis to maximize use of descriptive information: more of the “why” behind the observed findings.
- Work with the Country Teams and CCM to improve data availability (including accessing country grant investments on data).
- Develop country annual reports and a synthesis report to discuss at TERG meeting Jan 2019.
- Deliver TERG position paper with PCE synthesis report to Q1 SC meeting 2019.
- Completion of analysis along additional results chains and update existing ones in all countries in 2019.
- Deliver TERG position paper with PCE synthesis report to Q1 SC meeting 2020.



# Strategic Reviews (SR)

## SR2020

- Launch in late 2019 to provide timely inputs to the development process of the next Global Fund strategy.
- Scope of the SR2020 will be developed in a consultative manner.

### Reminder:

#### SR2015 objectives:

- Review the progress in implementation of the 2012-2016 Strategy.
- Assess the impact on the three diseases over the past 10-14 years.

→ Provided significant and timely inputs to the current strategy.

#### SR2017 objectives:

- Review the Global Fund response to TERG recommendations, and progress in delivering the 2012-2016 Strategy.
- Assess the Global Fund's readiness to implement the new 2017-2022 Strategy.

→ Found the vast majority of recommendations have been addressed.  
Identified seven areas for additional attention.

# Annexes & background materials

The following items can be found in Annex:

- Annex 1: Summary of Committee Input
- Annex 2: Relevant Past Decisions
- Annex 3: Links to Relevant Past Documents & Reference Materials

## Annex 1 – Summary of Committee Input

### Key relevant discussion from the 7<sup>th</sup> Strategy Committee Meeting (July 2018):

1. The SC and TERG Chairs reiterated the importance of ensuring that TERG reviews are structured to address the questions which the Board would like to see answered from an independent review perspective. The Committee provided guidance to the TERG on planned thematic reviews, and considered a number of new areas for future TERG reviews.
2. The Committee noted the need for future discussion of the TERG’s next Strategic Review, which will most likely occur in 2020, to feed into the development of the next Global Fund strategy.

### Key relevant discussion from the 8<sup>th</sup> Strategy Committee Meeting (October 2018):

1. The TERG enhanced and presented the list of potential topics for future thematic reviews suggested by SC members, but needs to conduct further consultations and to situate the work of the TERG into a broader monitoring and evaluation structure or framework or action. There was an agreement that before the 9<sup>th</sup> SC meeting, the TERG Chair will report back on the proposed thematic reviews for 2019, based on the inputs received.
2. The Committee reiterated the importance of independent evaluation, as well as predictable and adequate resources for the TERG to fulfil its mandate. It was noted that there is a discussion ongoing regarding where the TERG (and PCE) budget should sit in the longer-term. The SC leadership will continue the discussion with the Coordinating Group regarding the budget for independent evaluation.
3. The Global Fund Secretariat confirmed that the TERG’s next Strategic Review would be well timed for 2020.
4. SC members recognized the value of the PCEs – in particular their ability to provide real-time information that can be used for programming. TERG Chair and SC members emphasized that the PCE further focus on analysis which adds value and “explanatory power” to the already collected baseline data.
5. The Committee approved TERG’s 2019 Work plan.

## Annex 2 – Relevant Past Board Decisions

Relevant past Decision Points	Summary and Impact
<b>A. Prospective Country Evaluations</b>	
<b>GF/B36/DP06: Catalytic Investments for the 2017-</b>	Based on the recommendation of the Strategy Committee and the amount of sources of funds for allocation recommended by the Audit and Finance Committee, the Board decides that USD 800 million will be available for catalytic investments over the 2017 – 2019 allocation period for the priorities and associated costs presented in Table 1 of GF/B36/04 – Revision 2, including USD 22 million for TERG PCEs.

Relevant past Decision Points	Summary and Impact
<p><b>2019 Allocation Period (November 2016)<sup>1</sup></b></p>	
<p><b>B. Current Thematic Reviews</b></p>	
<p>Review of the Global Fund Country Level Technical Support Partnership Model</p>	
<p><b>GF/B36/DP06: Catalytic Investments for the 2017-2019 Allocation Period (November 2016)<sup>2</sup></b></p>	<p>The Board approved technical assistance support for Sustainability, Service Delivery and Health Workforce, as well as for Community, Rights and Gender (CRG) at country level, for a combined amount of 29 million, as part of the catalytic funding initiative.</p>
<p><b>GF/B31/DP06: Special initiatives (March 2014)<sup>3</sup></b></p>	<p>Based on the recommendation of the Strategy, Investment and Impact Committee (the “SIIC”), the Board decided that up to USD 100 million will be available over the 2014 – 2016 allocation period for a number of Special Initiatives, including USD 15 million on Technical Assistance on CRG.</p>
<p>Review to Assess the Current Approach to Investments into Resilient and Sustainable Systems for Health</p>	
<p><b>GF/B36/DP06: Catalytic Investments for the 2017-2019 Allocation Period (November 2016)<sup>4</sup></b></p>	<p>The Board allotted 166 million to RSSH initiatives (comprised of sustainability, service delivery, health workforce; data; procurement and supply management; and CRG areas), as one of the five catalytic investment priority areas.</p>
<p><b>GF/B35/DP04: The Global Fund Strategy 2017 – 2022: Investing to End Epidemics<sup>5</sup></b></p>	<p>Based on the recommendation of the SIIC, the Board approves the Global Fund Strategy 2017 - 2022: Investing to End Epidemics, as presented in Annex 1 to GF/B35/02- Revision 1. One of the four core areas of the strategy is to build Resilient and Sustainable Systems for Health.</p>
<p>Review of the Sustainability, Transition and Co-financing Policy</p>	
<p><b>GF/B35/DP08: Sustainability, Transition and Co-financing Policy (April 2016)<sup>6</sup></b></p>	<p>Based on the recommendation of the Strategy, Investment and Impact Committee, the Board approved the Sustainability, Transition and Co-Financing Policy, as set forth in Annex 1 to GF/B35/04 - Revision 1.</p>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.theglobalfund.org/board-decisions/b36-dp06/>

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.theglobalfund.org/board-decisions/b31-dp06/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.theglobalfund.org/board-decisions/b36-dp06/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.theglobalfund.org/board-decisions/b35-dp04/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.theglobalfund.org/board-decisions/b35-dp08/>

## Annex 3 – Relevant Past Documents & Reference Materials

### **Prospective Country Evaluations**

[GF/B39/13](#) – Update from the Technical Evaluation Reference Group