The partnership between Italy and the Global Fund has played an important role in the fight against HIV, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria and in building a healthier, safer and more equitable world.

**Ending AIDS, TB and malaria**
Health investments through the Global Fund have saved more than 44 million lives since 2002, strengthening entire communities and improving economies. Between 2002 and 2020, the number of deaths caused by the three diseases has declined by 40%.

In 20 years, unprecedented global cooperation has resulted in deaths decreasing by:

- **61%** from HIV
- **25%** from tuberculosis
- **46%** from malaria

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**Our partnership**
Italy has been a strong supporter and advocate of the Global Fund from the outset, playing a key role in its creation at the G8 Summit in 2001. The First Replenishment conference was held in Rome in 2005. Italy has contributed more than €1.1 billion to the partnership since it was created in 2002, making it the Global Fund's ninth-largest public donor.

For the Sixth Replenishment in 2019, Italy pledged €161 million for 2020-2022. This pledge represents a 15% increase over the Fifth Replenishment of €140 million.

In both the Fifth and Sixth Replenishments, Italy’s pledge included 5% of the funds to be set aside for technical assistance provided by Italian non-governmental organizations and research centers.

**Italy’s pledges and contributions to the Global Fund, 2014-2022 (in € million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Pledge</th>
<th>Contribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014-2016</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-2019</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-2022</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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In 20 years, unprecedented global cooperation has resulted in deaths decreasing by:

- **61%** from HIV
- **25%** from tuberculosis
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The Global Fund invests more than US$4 billion a year to defeat HIV, TB and malaria and ensure a healthier, safer, equitable future for all. We unite the world to find solutions that have the most impact, and we take them to scale worldwide. It’s working. Together, we have saved 44 million lives. We won’t stop until the job is finished.

Priority areas of our partnership

Resilient and sustainable systems for health
The Global Fund is the largest multilateral provider of grants to build resilient and sustainable systems for health, investing more than US$1 billion a year toward this purpose. Global Fund investments in the treatment and prevention of HIV, TB, and malaria also improve countries’ overall health and community systems. Through these investments and thanks to contributions from donors such as Italy, our partnership has supported countries to build capacities to fight today’s infectious diseases and prepare for future pandemics.

Human rights and gender equality
Adolescent girls and young women remain a key focus of the Global Fund's HIV response. In the 2018-2020 implementation period, Global Fund investments in HIV prevention and testing for this group increased 107% within the 13 priority countries where HIV burden is highest among adolescent girls and young women: Botswana, Cameroon, Eswatini, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. New HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women in these countries have dropped by 41% since 2010. We continue to invest in social support programs to fight gender-based violence, provide peer support and peer education, address harmful gender norms, and improve education about sexual health and HIV prevention.

Humanitarian settings and migration
The Global Fund reacts quickly to humanitarian crises and uses emergency funding to respond to the urgent needs of the people affected. In the last few years, the Global Fund has contributed to mitigating the impact of humanitarian emergencies in a number of countries, including Afghanistan, Myanmar, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Malawi, and Ukraine. Key populations – including many migrants, refugees and internally displaced people – are particularly at risk of infectious diseases, including HIV, TB and malaria. They also often experience significant marginalization, human rights violations and decreased access to quality health services.

The Global Fund asks countries to prioritize key populations in their funding requests, as well as through domestic commitments.

For TB, the Global Fund focuses on countries with the highest proportion of key populations, including people living with TB/HIV co-infection, migrants, refugees and displaced people, miners, prisoners, children in contact with people who have TB, and people who inject drugs.

For malaria, the Global Fund puts a particular focus on an innovative regional approach to reach populations who have difficulties in accessing care, such as undocumented migrants in the Greater Mekong, who are at risk of drug-resistant malaria.

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.

HIV self-testing is a vital tool to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the fight against HIV and scale up efforts to protect services from future pandemics or other disruptions. HIV self-testing empowers people who otherwise may not get tested with an option that is safe, confidential and convenient. Between 2021 and 2023, the Global Fund will invest US$60 million in HIV self-testing – a fourfold increase compared to what was invested in the previous three years.

To fight TB, the Global Fund has supported the roll-out of bidirectional testing, where people are simultaneously screened and tested for TB and COVID-19. Identifying people with TB and COVID-19 is a crucial step toward ending these diseases as public health threats. In the future, it is likely this approach will be expanded to other diseases.

To respond to malaria, the Global Fund and Unitaid have each invested US$33 million from 2018 to 2022 to introduce new insecticide-treated nets to fight malaria-carrying mosquitoes. The New Nets Project is meant to safeguard the gains we have made against malaria and use new tools to reach the goal of ending the disease as a public health threat.

Fight for what counts
Thanks to unwavering support from partners like Italy, we have proven we can force HIV, TB and malaria into retreat. But we can’t stop now. With millions of lives still at risk, we must move faster to end the three diseases as public health threats and build resilient and sustainable systems for health. The Global Fund is proud to have Italy by our side as we fight for what counts.

Mozambique: Transforming the National Laboratory System in Response to COVID-19

When COVID-19 hit, Mozambique’s public health laboratory was able to conduct only 600 COVID-19 tests a day for a population of 30 million people.

Through the Global Fund's COVID-19 Response Mechanism funding, Mozambique's Ministry of Health gained access to international stockpiles of COVID-19 PCR and rapid antigen tests that significantly increased testing capacity, expanded access to testing and strengthened the laboratory network’s ability to respond to increasing demand.

During the country’s fourth wave of COVID-19, Mozambique’s laboratory network was able to conduct 12,000 tests a day – 20 times as many compared to the first wave.

The government also used COVID-19 Response Mechanism support to equip, renovate or rebuild four provincial public health laboratories.

These investments will further increase the country’s laboratory capacity for all infectious diseases and strengthen the health system to respond to current pandemics while preparing for future health emergencies.

About the Global Fund
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