

# Italy

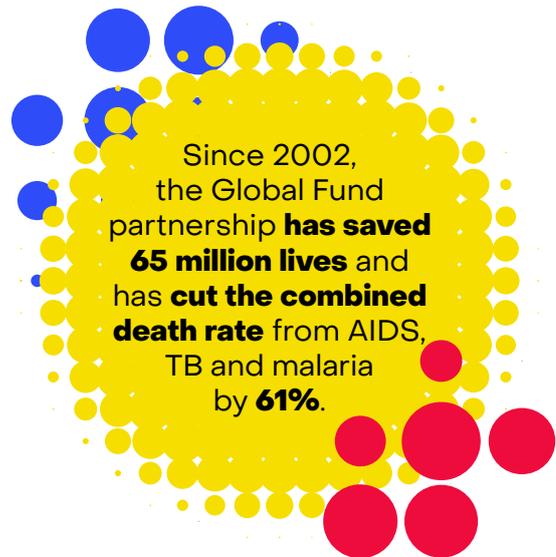
## and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

Italy's strong support and commitment to the Global Fund since our inception in 2002 has played an important role in the fight against HIV, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria and in building a healthier and safer world.

### Our partnership

Italy has been a strong supporter and advocate of the Global Fund from the outset, playing a key role in our creation at the G8 Summit in 2001, and in hosting our first Replenishment conference in 2005. Italy is the Global Fund's ninth-largest public donor and is represented on our Board. The Global Fund collaborates with and benefits from the strength of the Italian global health ecosystem. Italian academia, faith-based and civil society organizations implement components of Global Fund grants and small-scale projects through Italy's set-aside to the Global Fund, contributing to reaching the last mile in the fight against HIV, TB and malaria and in building resilient systems for health.

We are committing  
approximately  
**US\$6 billion**  
from 2024-2026 to  
strengthen health and  
community systems – the  
most significant increase  
in investments in this  
area in our history.



### Investments through the Global Fund partnership yield exceptional returns

**Life expectancy has increased by 24% since 2002**, from 49 years to 61 years in 15 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Reduced mortality from HIV, TB and malaria account for one-half of this increase.

### US\$85 billion in cost savings from HIV investments

Global Fund and partner investments have freed up resources and capacities, helping countries to better respond to other diseases. As of the end of 2023, investments in HIV had freed up 1.7 billion HIV-related hospitalization days and averted 1.4 billion outpatient visits, generating US\$85 billion in cost savings.

### Investing in health to advance broader socioeconomic development

Global Fund disbursements of US\$63 billion made between 2002 and the end of 2023 are estimated to have generated health gains with a monetized intrinsic value of US\$1.2 trillion and direct productivity gains of US\$400 billion.

### \$2 to \$1 match

Every US\$2 contributed by Italy is matched by US\$1 from the United States.

### Unparalleled efficiency

In the current grant cycle, our operating expenses represent 6.2% of our total announced pledges from donors. This is one of the lowest percentages of operating expenses in the global health development space.

## Priority areas of our partnership

Italy's foreign policy priorities are strongly mirrored in the Global Fund's investments and Strategy. Our core principles of partnership, country ownership, integrity and transparency help us deliver equity and far-reaching impact.

### Focus on Africa

Over 70% of the Global Fund's resources are invested in Africa, the region that carries the highest burden of HIV, TB and malaria. Our efforts contribute to improving health outcomes, saving lives and building stronger health and community systems across the continent.

Over the 2024-2026 period, the Global Fund is investing US\$1.3 billion in human resources for health in Africa, with over 60% of this amount for the remuneration of the health workforce. We also engage with African institutions to support capacity building for sustainable regional manufacturing, including supporting regional regulatory framework harmonization, accelerated product approvals and strengthened regional procurement capabilities.

### Strong health and community systems

The Global Fund is the world's largest multilateral provider of grants for strengthening health and community systems. We invest in human resources for health; community systems; data systems and digital health; strengthening leadership and governance, financial management, procurement and supply systems; and surveillance. These investments are key building blocks in reinforcing pandemic preparedness and response and can be quickly mobilized by countries to confront outbreaks like mpox.

### Action on climate and health

The escalating climate emergency is affecting the spread of infectious diseases and causing mass displacement, creating fertile ground for new health threats. The Global Fund supports countries to adapt and respond to more frequent and extreme weather events by providing emergency funding after climate disasters and working to ensure more environmentally conscious supply management, climate-resilient health facilities and safe waste disposal. In the current grant cycle, 71% of Global Fund investments are dedicated to the 50 most climate-vulnerable countries. Thirty-four of these countries are in Africa – including Côte d'Ivoire, Congo (Brazzaville), Ethiopia and Mozambique.

### Support for children and adolescent girls and young women

A child dies of malaria every minute. The Global Fund supports the rollout of seasonal malaria chemoprevention – which can reduce malaria cases by more than 70% – to protect young children.

Many adolescent girls and young women continue to be at risk of acquiring HIV, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. In 2023, 3.9 million adolescent girls and young women were reached with Global Fund-supported HIV prevention services.

Integrating HIV, TB and malaria prevention into broader maternal, newborn and child health care is also a focus of Global Fund-supported programs. At Vihiga County Referral Hospital in Kenya, testing rates for HIV have increased by more than a third, and screenings for malaria and TB have increased by more than 164% and 117%, respectively, since these services were integrated into antenatal care in 2021.

### Humanitarian and emergency settings

When a country is in crisis, the Global Fund does not retreat. We adapt with agility and work with partners to ensure that our lifesaving programs continue. Countries affected by humanitarian crisis account for approximately one-third of the global disease burden for HIV, TB and malaria and over 34% of the Global Fund's funding allocation in the current grant cycle. Our Emergency Fund provides flexible financing to ensure the continuity of existing HIV, TB and malaria programs and services. Support has addressed emergencies triggered by conflict and climate-related disasters. In Mozambique, the Global Fund provided vital support in the wake of Cyclone Freddy in 2023, and in 2024 committed additional funding for a mass drug administration campaign for people affected by ongoing violence in the Palma District.

### Maximum value for money

Leveraging our scale and competitive tender processes, the Global Fund works with partners to reduce prices of lifesaving health products. Price reductions include:

- A decrease in the annual cost of antiretroviral therapy for HIV, from US\$10,000 per person per year when the Global Fund was created to less than US\$40 today.
- A 20% price reduction for molecular TB test cartridges and a 55% reduction for bedaquiline, the main treatment for drug-resistant TB.
- A 40% price reduction between 2014 and 2023 for artemisinin-based combination therapies used to treat malaria.



## Ethiopia: Investing for impact

Since 2003, Ethiopia and the Global Fund have made significant progress against HIV, TB, and malaria. HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths have decreased by over 80%, and TB treatment coverage reached 73% in 2022. Malaria control measures have reduced illness and death.

But conflict, drought and displacement are threatening health gains. Over 1 million people live with HIV, with young people and key populations disproportionately affected. Ethiopia also faces high rates of HIV-associated TB and rising malaria due to climate change and resistance.

Global Fund investments support Ethiopia's goal of achieving HIV epidemic control, ending TB and eliminating malaria. We also support laboratory systems strengthening, supply management, health commodity delivery, regulatory capacity, data systems and digitalization.

### About the Global Fund

The Global Fund is a worldwide partnership to defeat HIV, TB and malaria and ensure a healthier, safer, more equitable future for all. We raise and invest more than US\$5 billion a year to fight the deadliest infectious diseases, challenge the injustice that fuels them, and strengthen health systems and pandemic preparedness in more than 100 of the hardest hit countries. We unite world leaders, communities, civil society, health workers and the private sector to find solutions that have the most impact, and we take them to scale worldwide. Since 2002, the Global Fund partnership has saved 65 million lives.