

Finland and the Global Fund

A Smart Investment

In 2000, AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria appeared to be unstoppable. In many countries, AIDS devastated an entire generation, leaving countless orphans and shattered communities. Malaria killed young children and pregnant women unable to protect themselves from mosquitoes or access lifesaving medicine. Tuberculosis unfairly afflicted the poor, as it had for millennia.

The world fought back. Finland joined hands with other governments, the private sector, civil society and people affected by the diseases to form the Global Fund.

Seventeen years later, smart and effective health investments through the Global Fund have helped save more than 27 million lives. Finland has, as donor of the past, been part of this success, having invested EUR 25 million from 2006 to 2013.



27
MILLION

LIVES SAVED
FROM AIDS, MALARIA
AND TB



17.5
MILLION

PEOPLE ON
ANTIRETROVIRAL
THERAPY FOR HIV



5
MILLION

PEOPLE TESTED
AND TREATED FOR
TUBERCULOSIS



197
MILLION

MOSQUITO NETS DISTRIBUTED
TO PROTECT CHILDREN AND
FAMILIES FROM MALARIA

Lives saved are cumulative since 2002. All other results were achieved in 2017 in countries where the Global Fund invests.

Priority Areas of Partnership

The strategy of the Global Fund is strongly aligned with Finland's principles and objectives to support the effort of implementing countries to eradicate poverty and inequality and to promote sustainable development, with emphasis on the rights of women and girls and on the strengthening of countries' economy to promote employment, better livelihoods and well-being.

Resilient and Strong Health Systems: Robust systems for health are essential to ending HIV, TB and malaria as epidemics, and delivering health care in a sustainable, equitable and effective way. They also are essential for universal health coverage and global health security.

Global Fund invest in primary health care: linking reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health interventions with HIV, TB and malaria programs. The Global Fund dedicates 27% of investments to building stronger health systems, including training for community health workers, laboratories, data and supply chain management. With about US\$1 billion per year invested in strengthening health systems, the Global Fund is the largest provider of grants to build health systems among the multilateral institutions. Robust health systems that focus on prevention, detection and treatment are also a primary line of defence against outbreaks, helping countries prepare for emerging threats to regional and global health security.

Investing in Gender Equality, Key Populations and Human Rights: Too often, people most affected by diseases are the same people who do not have access to health care. Factors such as stigma, discrimination and criminalization are barriers that prevent people from accessing health services. Women and girls continue to be disproportionately affected by HIV, TB and malaria. Gender inequality, discrimination, violence, limited access to education and a lack of tailored services inhibit women's and girls' access to health care and fuel new infections.

The Global Fund is committed to supporting programs aimed at overcoming gender and human rights barriers so everyone can access the health services they need. The best way to get this right is to ensure that key populations have a role and voice in the design, implementation and monitoring of health services, as well as in policy decisions that affect them.

Globally, nearly 1,000 young women and girls are infected with HIV every day. The Global Fund has increased investments in reducing HIV incidence among adolescent girls and young women in 13 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The investments go into different areas of sexual and reproductive health and rights, such as keeping girls in school, comprehensive sexuality education programs, adolescent-friendly prevention programs and care and treatment.



The Global Fund / Alexia Webster

Kgantsho Makegata leads weekly meetings at the RISE Young Women's Club in South Africa. With support from the Global Fund, South Africa launched a national campaign in 2015 to address the high prevalence of HIV among this high-risk group.

Stepping Up the Fight

With all the breathtaking progress in recent years, we have the end of the epidemics within our reach, but not yet firmly in our grasp. The world is falling off the track to end these diseases. Wavering political commitment, shortfalls in funding, entrenched (and in some cases, worsening) gender inequalities and human rights related barriers to access to health services and increasing insecticide and drug resistance have slowed progress and enabled the diseases to gain ground. The human toll is unacceptable. The Global Fund's fundraising target for the next three-year cycle is at least US\$14 billion. These funds will help save 16 million lives and cut the mortality rate from HIV, TB and malaria in half by 2023, while building more resilient health systems. We can further yield a return on investment of 1,19 with every dollar invested resulting in US\$19 in health gains and economic returns.

The Global Fund / Vincent Becker



In Anastasia's home country of Belarus, nearly 38% of new TB cases are MDR-TB. By comparison, the global average is just over 4%. TB continues to be a major public health issue. Worldwide, deaths from multidrug-resistant TB account for about one-third of all antimicrobial resistance deaths. The Global Fund provides 65% of international financing for TB and is a major source of funding for the drug-resistant TB response in low and middle-income countries. Anastasia will beat MDR-TB, but the world must step up now to change the trajectory of TB and meet the goal of ending the epidemic by 2030.

About the Global Fund

The Global Fund is a 21st-century organization designed to accelerate the end of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria as epidemics. As a partnership between governments, civil society, the private sector and people affected by the diseases, the Global Fund mobilizes and invests nearly US\$4 billion a year to support programs run by local experts in more than 100 countries. By challenging barriers and embracing innovative approaches, we are working together to better serve people affected by the diseases.

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