

Private Sector Innovation Partners for the Global Fund's Sixth Replenishment

9 October 2019

On 9 October 2019, at the opening of the Global Fund's Sixth Replenishment Conference, business executives from a range of sectors will announce new partnerships with the Global Fund to accelerate the end of AIDS, TB and malaria.

Technology

The use of information and data has revolutionized many parts of the world. Making better quality information accessible to those who make health decisions or support patients can transform the quality of care. To harness the power of big data and digital and mobile technology, the Global Fund is joining forces with leading technology companies and the Rockefeller Foundation.

GOOGLE CLOUD

A Global Fund's priority is to find as many of the missing TB cases as possible. Activities focused around detecting more TB cases are critical. The Global Fund and Google Cloud are partnering to leverage Google Cloud's expertise in Artificial Intelligence, data analytics and visualization to help identify the missing cases of TB in India, a country which has the highest TB burden worldwide. Together with India's Central TB Division, Google aims to develop a system that continuously searches for missing high-burden areas of TB not yet identified across the country, ultimately resulting in the provision of timely treatment.

MASTERCARD

The Global Fund and Mastercard are partnering to improve the delivery of health programs in a number of African countries over the next three-year period. Mastercard will bring its expertise on data and deploying technology to improve the delivery of front line health services.

Building on their experience of building and running a global payments network, Mastercard have designed and built a number of digital platforms and products to help the most marginalized individuals and communities get access to critical services, such as education and agriculture. This is known as Community Pass. Mastercard is now applying this approach in the health sector. Wellness Pass, a platform which enables the digitization and safe storage of patient records, is currently being piloted with Gavi, helping patients to access their records more easily and health workers to deliver a more consistent continuum of care. The Global Fund and its partners will leverage Mastercard insights and technology to support national digital health strategies as relevant and appropriate.

MICROSOFT

The Global Fund and Microsoft collaboration will explore and develop solutions focusing on innovation in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) to support the fight against TB. Ending the TB epidemic by 2030, will need new solutions including accelerating identification of missing TB cases and enhancing treatment adherence. AI and ML approaches offers the potential to, for example, improve prediction of population groups having a high probability of active TB, or individuals more at risk of dropping out of treatment. Ensuring that patients take their medication is critical to curing TB, reducing transmission and preventing the emergence of resistance to TB drugs.

The partnership will focus initially in India but will seek to identify tools and solutions that could have application worldwide.

ORANGE

By tapping into the immense potential of mobile phone technology, the partnership will leverage Orange's expertise and technology to develop e-health programs that will improve access to health services and build stronger health data systems in Africa.

Orange will make an in-kind contribution valued at \$2.5 million over the next three years to benefit at least three countries. This will translate into the provision of technical assistance, IT technologies and access to mobile carrier's infrastructure.

Morocco will be the first country to benefit from the partnership. Orange will develop a tailored digital app for the use of health professionals on digital devices (laptops, tablets, mobile phones) that will leverage the mobile carrier's infrastructure. This app will enable health professionals to connect directly with patients, will help improve the quality of services, ensure patients stay on treatment, and prevent resistance to medicines, which is critical to accelerating the end of epidemics.

It is expected that the Global Fund and Orange will expand their partnership in 2020 to additional countries including the Ivory Coast and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Focus areas for collaboration also include health product management and supply chain, disease prevention, and data management to better inform health policies.

PHARMACCESS

The Global Fund has partnered with PharmAccess Foundation to support African countries accelerate progress toward universal health coverage by harnessing digital technology. PharmAccess is a Dutch non-governmental organization with presence in Africa, dedicated to championing the development of mobile and digital technology platforms to expand access to affordable healthcare in sub-Saharan Africa. Kenya, Rwanda, Nigeria and Ethiopia have been identified by the Global Fund as potential key pilot countries given their commitment to achieving universal health coverage and focus on digital technology. PharmAccess' customized digital platform CarePay has been successfully rolled out in Kenya and is a key building block for national health insurance schemes in Lagos and Kwara State, Nigeria.

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

The Global Fund is partnering with The Rockefeller Foundation to set up a Data Science Catalytic Fund to accelerate the use of data science in the aim of improving community health in low-income countries. To this end, The Rockefeller Foundation intends to make an investment of up to US\$15 million to capitalize the fund. This support will accelerate the scale and sustainability of digital health systems in key countries to transform the effectiveness of community health service delivery and achieve impact on universal health coverage. This investment will also support countries with the development of national policy frameworks, support capacity building and develop a scalable and sustainable business model for health information systems. In addition, The Rockefeller Foundation and the Global Fund will leverage the contribution to engage private players, particularly technology firms.

ZENYSIS

Better data to inform health program decisions is essential to eliminating the diseases. However, data fragmentation is a barrier to delivering efficient and equitable health care. Zenysis, a data and artificial intelligence company, has built an online platform that can integrate data from any number of systems into a single unified view, allowing decision-makers to make better health decisions. Zenysis has already invested more than US\$2.5 million in five African countries since it partnered with the Global Fund in 2018. For example, in South Africa, Zenysis has helped NACOSA (Networking HIV/AIDS Community of Southern Africa) increase its effectiveness in reaching more than 200,000 sex workers with prevention services.

Zenysis will invest an additional US\$3.5 million by the end of 2021 to help five more Global Fund-supported countries harness the power of big data and AI to transform their health systems.

Supply chain

THE COCA-COLA COMPANY/PROJECT LAST MILE

African governments and other donors are investing billions of dollars to strengthen health systems and make affordable medicines available. Yet supply chains often struggle to get medicines and supplies to health facilities and people who need them most. To address this challenge, the Global Fund and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation joined with The Coca-Cola Company in 2010 to form Project Last Mile (PLM), the partnership was further expanded in 2014 with the addition of USAID.

PLM leverages Coca-Cola's logistical, supply chain management and marketing expertise to support African governments in delivering lifesaving medicines and supplies to the hardest-to-reach communities. The Coca-Cola Foundation also contributes financial resources to the project.

Following an initial commitment of more than US\$21 million by partners in 2014, Project Last Mile has provided support to 10 countries in Africa. The partners announced an additional US\$20 million in in-kind and financial support over the next five years in September 2019, allowing them to deepen their investment in existing countries and launch at least five new projects.

GBC HEALTH

Building on the successful model of Coca Cola Project Last Mile, the Global Fund is partnering with GBCHealth to leverage a network of over 200 companies committed to investing their resources and capabilities to strengthen supply chain management across Africa. The new platform, coordinated by GBCHealth and intended to grow to include a diverse range of sectors, will enable the engagement of the great range and depth of corporate core competencies such as cold chain, route to market optimization, and last mile delivery contributing to increase medicine availability and improving supply chain efficiencies.

Finance

SOCIETE GENERALE

Societe Generale, a leading international bank with a strong presence in Africa, will partner with the Global Fund to support women's empowerment and gender equity in West and Central Africa. Recognizing the importance of access to health services and that the role of women is at the core of Africa's transformation, the bank has committed to put its expertise and resources at work to strengthen women's financial and entrepreneurship skills, as well as support empowerment and engagement in health programs.

Societe Generale will also provide its expertise in impact finance to support the development of innovative financial mechanisms, mobilizing private and public financing. Focus countries for the partnership include Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mauritania and Senegal.

INDIA HEALTH FUND/TATA TRUSTS

Tata Trusts and the Global Fund have collaborated since 2014 on the creation and implementation of the India Health Fund (IHF), a pooled and privately funded financing mechanism aiming to leverage the power of collective impact to eliminate TB and malaria from India by 2030.

Seed-funded with US\$15 million by Tata Trusts - and working in conjunction with the Indian Government and other key in-country TB actors - the IHF catalyzes innovation and entrepreneurship by raising financial resources from the Indian private sector and applying them towards grants to organizations developing new scalable tools, technologies, products and systems to strengthen the fight against the epidemics. The IHF works by launching periodic Quests for Innovations, each an ambitious nationwide search for innovators working towards solutions to eliminate the epidemics.

The IHF has undertaken launched three Quests to date, each attracting approximately 50 applicants, and will have 10 funded grantees by the end of 2019. Grantees may additionally benefit from strategic support and mentoring from IHF specialists. Quests are envisioned as a means to fast-track adoption and scale-up of innovative platforms or practices. These innovations should have strong potential to strengthen and transform key aspects of the TB or malaria care ecosystem in a nonlinear and disruptive manner.

Sports

MANCHESTER CITY

The Global Fund recognizes the potential of sport as an impact booster for wider development interventions, particularly with vulnerable youth. It has joined forces with Manchester City's global foundation to build in-country capacity in blending football and health for greater programmatic efficiency and reach. The partnership aims to:

- Use the positive power of football to promote behavior change and disease prevention, including prevention, access to health services and adherence to treatment initiatives geared towards youth (including adolescent girls and young women) under the umbrella of sport-based HIV prevention approaches
- Promote leadership development and training in support of young women and adolescent girls

Following a successful pilot in Tanzania this past June, the health ministry and local partners are working with ManCity Football Foundation on adapting the content and rolling out the program across Tanzania. The football bonanzas aim to reach 14,500 young boys and girls and train up to 180 youth leaders in Tanzania.

Human rights

THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION

The Thomson Reuters Foundation is the corporate foundation of Thomson Reuters, the global news and information services company. The Foundation works to advance media freedom, human rights, and inclusive economies. Through its pro bono legal network, media development, global news coverage and its convening power, it seeks to inform, connect and empower people around the world. Its mission is to inspire collective leadership by building global awareness of the challenges facing humanity, and empowering others to shape free, fair and open societies. With significant human rights-related barriers fuelled by stigma and discrimination, gender inequality, punitive laws and violence, those most in need of health services often cannot access them. The Thomson Reuters Foundation will partner with the Global Fund to support its innovative "Breaking Down Barriers" initiative, with a focus on gender, LGBT+ human rights related-barriers. The Foundation will facilitate pro bono legal research and legal capacity-building for civil society partners in key countries supported by the Global Fund. It will also train journalists in Eastern and Southern Africa on human rights and health issues, and support awareness raising on human rights-related barriers to health.

Pharmaceutical

ViiV HEALTHCARE

ViiV Healthcare (ViiV) through its Positive Action programs committed up to GBP3 million to strengthen and expand the HER Voice Fund over three years starting in 2019 (co-investment, no direct funding to the Global Fund). Through HER Voice ViiV focuses on financing and capacity building among adolescent girls and young women groups to improve programmatic effectiveness, strengthen participation in Global Fund country processes and build the capacity of organizations and networks of young women. The RFP and selection process for the implementing partner of "HER Voice 2.0" is currently ongoing, with launch of the next phase of the fund planned at ICASA in Kigali, Rwanda in December 2019.

Private sector engagement

AFRICA HEALTH BUSINESS

Africa Health Business, a health consultancy based in Nairobi, announced it will support the Global Fund by working with businesses in Africa to increase their engagement in health. The aim is to stimulate more public-private partnerships in Africa, build the voice and advocacy of business leaders, mobilize resources, and find innovative solutions to fight the three diseases.

CIAN

The French Business Council for Africa (Conseil français des investisseurs en Afrique - CIAN) has launched its initiative for better health in Africa, known as “Santé Entreprise Afrique” programme.

This large-scale program will leverage the CIAN's extensive membership of over 180 French companies to scale-up disease prevention and expand access to health services in West and Central Africa. By focusing on workplaces, the programme will mobilize companies' resources to scale up occupational health programmes to benefit the worker community, their families and surrounding communities. Supported by a large group of French multinational companies, the program has been recently launched in Côte d'Ivoire in collaboration with Global Fund implementing partners with the aim of increasing screening for HIV/TB and other diseases. Ensuring that young workers between 20-40 years of age know their HIV/TB status is critical to expand access to treatment and accelerate the end of the epidemics.

CIAN's “Santé Entreprise Afrique” program is expected to be rolled out to more countries in 2020, including Cameroon, Guinea and Senegal, with the aim of reaching up to 300,000 people over the next three years.