

COVID-19 Situation Report – 3 April 2020

1. Situation Overview

Global cases: 1.03 million confirmed. **Global deaths:** 54,368 deaths (as of 3 April, [Johns Hopkins University](#)). WHO has released a [scientific brief on the off-label use of medicines for COVID-19](#); and a [Medical Product Alert](#) that warns consumers, healthcare professionals, and health authorities against a growing number of falsified medical products. WHO operations support and logistics continues to monitor critical markets and in partnership with the Pandemic Supply Chain Network, has increased engagement and coordination with private companies. A common platform for private-sector donations of [critical items](#) in support of the COVID-19 response will be announced shortly. The Global Fund is coordinating with the WHO, which is leading the global response. [WHO Situation Reports](#) have detailed updates on the global response.

2. Global Fund COVID-19 Response

To fight COVID-19 and mitigate the impact the pandemic will have on programs to fight HIV, TB and malaria, the Global Fund is [enabling countries to use up to 5% of approved grant funding](#). Approximately US\$500 million is available to help protect and treat vulnerable communities around the world. Latest updates:

- Funding has been approved for 41 countries and two regional grants (71 individual decisions: this means countries distribute the COVID investment between different grants or come back with repeat requests for the same grant) for a total of nearly US\$51 million. The 41 countries include (new countries are in bold): Afghanistan, Albania, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, **Cuba**, El Salvador, Eritrea, Georgia, **Ghana**, Honduras, India, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, **Mali**, Moldova, Myanmar, Nepal, **Nigeria**, Pakistan, **Panama**, Philippines, Romania, Rwanda, **Sudan**, Tajikistan, **Tanzania**, Thailand, **Uganda**, Ukraine, **Zambia** and **Zimbabwe**. The two regional grants are: *ALCO HIV/AIDS prevention project targeting key and vulnerable population along the Abidjan-Lagos Corridor*, and *Middle East Response - Ensuring continuity of treatment and essential services for people affected by HIV, TB and malaria in Yemen, Syria, Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon*.
- Most countries have requested less than the 5% permitted. All requests follow WHO guidance on preparedness and early response. Almost all funds approved to date have come from savings from existing grants.
- The number of requests, and the dollar amount of each request, have increased greatly in the past week. The amount approved in the first 2 days in April is equal to one-third of the total approvals from all of March. Requests are now coming in from all Global Fund regions.

3. Business Contingency Planning for Existing Global Fund Grants

Business Contingency Planning focuses on protecting the Global Fund's ability to deliver its core mission, prioritizing the continued delivery of impact from the current grant cycle and the

development of funding requests and grants to deliver maximum impact in the 2020-2022 allocation period.

3.1 2020-2022 Allocations

- To provide additional flexibility for applicants to submit their funding requests as soon as they are ready, the Global Fund has updated the [funding request submission dates for 2020](#).

3.2 Operational Guidance for Countries

- The Global Fund is adapting processes for current grants and will share guidance notes as they are developed. Over the coming weeks, the Global Fund will issue further communications to partners on the following topics: disbursements, supply chain and procurement. Please visit our website for further updates.
- For Principal Recipients, [extended submission timelines and minimum requirements](#) for completion and validation of defined progress updates and disbursement requests are now in place.
- A [detailed Questions and Answers document](#) on Global Fund processes during the pandemic was published 2 April and is regularly updated.
- An Operational Update was distributed to implementing partners and CCMs 3 April with all available guidance, Q&As and resources.

3.3 COVID-19 Impact on HIV, TB, Malaria, Communities, Rights and Gender

- **WHO and technical partner guidance** relevant to Global Fund work is available [here](#).
- **Global Fund Guidance Notes:** [Key messages on Global Fund guidance](#) on HIV, TB and RSSH are available, as is a guidance note on malaria in: [English](#) | [Español](#) | [Français](#) | [Português](#). Global Fund investments and advice to Principal Recipients and implementers strictly follow WHO guidelines.

3.4 Procurement and Supply Chain

- As of 3 April, the overall impact of COVID-19 on health product supply chains for Global Fund grants remains as “**moderate**”. For detail, see the latest [COVID-19 Impact on Health Product Supply: Assessment and Recommendations](#).
- As of 3 April, 9% of Pooled Procurement Mechanism (PPM) orders face delays of more than 30 days. By mid-April we should have visibility on deliveries expected in 2020, which will help us mitigate delays and facilitate timely support to Principal Recipients and Country Teams to the extent possible. We continue to proactively engage with suppliers and dynamically allocate each PPM order to the best supply option, in coordination with partners.
- Principal Recipients should review the WHO’s list of [COVID-19 Critical Items](#) and [Forecasting Tool](#) to source necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other emergency COVID-19-related medical supplies through national or regional channels as early as possible. If Principal Recipients face significant challenges sourcing PPE through local channels, [UNICEF Procurement Services](#) maintains a [catalogue](#) of these products and is best placed to provide support, with expertise in emergency procurements. TB Programs can also reach out to [StopTB’s Global Drug Facility](#). Extended lead times should be expected due to the current high global demand for these products.

4. Messaging and Advocacy

- [COVID-19 Key Messages and Talking Points](#): updated regularly.

5. Media and Communications

- [Todo lo que el coronavirus va a frenar: la lucha contra las epidemias que más matan](#), by Patricia Peiró, El País, 3 April 2020
- [COVID-19 Conversations: Donor and Funding Challenges for LMICs Hospital Readiness – EU-wide](#), Irish Global Health Network, 27 March 2020

6. External Coordination

- The Global Fund continues to work closely with WHO and global health partners at global, regional and country levels on COVID-19 preparedness and response, particularly key issues such as supply chain, technical guidance and in-country coordination.
- The Global Fund is closely collaborating with numerous governments and organizations including the World Bank; Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; many UN agencies; the Africa CDC; as well as private sector manufacturers, to advance a global response.

7. Key Resources

- [Global Fund COVID-19 Response web page](#)
- [WHO Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) Pandemic web page](#)