
Funding Request Instructions Global Fund COVID-19 Response Mechanism

Introduction

These instructions guide applicants through how to complete the funding request form for the Global Fund COVID-19 Response Mechanism (C19RM).

Eligible applicants include those countries that directly receive Global Fund financing. All funding requests must be coordinated and submitted by the Country Coordinating Mechanism. Current regional/multicountry recipients are also eligible for C19RM support.

The development of this funding request should build on the most recent data available and be guided by relevant national strategic preparedness and response plans, Global Fund technical guidance, and WHO recommendations.

Applicants are encouraged to submit their funding request as quickly as possible and ideally by 31 May 2020. Submissions should be sent to C19RM@theglobalfund.org with a copy to the relevant Country Team.

The Global Fund accepts application documents in English, French or Spanish. The Global Fund is committed to completing these reviews quickly and each applicant should receive a written response within 10 working days following submission. Once awards are communicated to applicants, the grant revisions process can commence immediately.

The Global Fund may publish or share information submitted as part of this funding request.

For questions, please contact a member of your Country Team.

Completing the Funding Request

Summary Information

This information is used for data purposes:

	Requested Information
Country	Country of funding request (or list of countries, if multicountry request)
Funding for COVID-19 response already accessed with Global Fund grant flexibilities	Amount of Global Fund funding already designated for the COVID-19 response from existing grant flexibilities through savings or reprogramming. https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/covid-19/grants/
Priority 1 funding request	Amount of funding requested in question 1.2 This should represent no more than 3.25% of total 2020-2022 allocation.
Priority 2 funding request: contingent on additional sources of funding	Amount of funding requested in question 1.3. This should represent no more than 10% of the 2020-2022 allocation <u>minus</u> the funding accessed through grant flexibilities and the funding requested in the priority 1 funding request. ¹

Section 1: Funding Request

1.1 Context

- Applicants are encouraged to briefly describe the current context and attach any document that describes the outline or detail of the COVID-19 national strategic preparedness and response plan. This documentation is not mandatory but would be helpful if available, even if it is in very early draft form.
- The funding request submission must be coordinated and submitted by the CCM (or relevant RCM/RO in the case of multicountry applicants). All CCM members are required to endorse this funding request using the [standard endorsement form](#). CCM Eligibility Requirement 1 applies to this funding request submission.

To answer question 1.1(b) the applicant should summarize how stakeholders were involved in the development and decision-making on the priorities in the funding request. It is essential that civil society and key populations are engaged.

1.2 Priority 1: Primary Funding Request

To enable decisions to be made rapidly and on a rolling basis as countries make their requests, countries are asked to separate their requests into two priority levels:

- Priority 1, which should not exceed 3.25% of the 2020-2022 allocation.
- Priority 2, which, when combined with Priority 1 and funds accessed through grant flexibilities, should not exceed 10% of the 2020-2022 allocation. The Global Fund will make decisions on Priority 2 according to need and the availability of funds. It is possible that some elements of Priority 2 requests may be approved with Priority 1. Applicants may update their Priority 2 requests following the award of Priority 1 funding, if needed.

¹ For countries and multi-country grants with no fixed 6th replenishment allocation, support will be up to 10% of the current grant allocation minus amounts accessed through grant flexibilities.

- a) To complete the table, indicate the total allocation for 2020-2022 and calculate 3.25% of the total allocation. This is the upper ceiling for the Priority 1 funding request, for immediate award if considered technically sound.
- b) To complete the table, indicate the amount of funding requested in grant currency, and the proposed activities with a rationale describing the need and the link to the national strategic preparedness and response plan. The applicant should also indicate how this funding would complement other sources of funding (national or from international donors).

There are three categories of eligible programming supported by C19RM:

- i. interventions to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on HIV, TB and malaria disease programs;
- ii. actions to reinforce the response to COVID-19; and
- iii. initiatives to make urgent improvements in health and community systems, including laboratory networks, supply chains and engagement with vulnerable communities.

While Priority 1 requests can include all three types of programming, the Global Fund expects the immediate interventions required to maintain current HIV, TB and malaria programs to be included in Priority 1, unless already funded through grant flexibilities.

Interventions to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on HIV, TB and malaria programs should be informed by the COVID-19 Technical Guidance Pages published and regularly updated on the Global Fund website www.theglobalfund.org/en/covid-19/technical-guidance/.

These pages include Global Fund information notes on HIV, TB, malaria and RSSH, plus complementary guidance from partners providing specific recommendations on how to ensure the continuity of disease programs and people's access to essential services through the COVID-19 crisis.

Actions to reinforce the response to COVID-19 should be consistent with WHO technical guidance and form part of the country's strategic preparedness and response plan, if already available. Given the immediate availability of C19RM funding, we anticipate that the focus will be on immediate response priorities, which can be supplemented when additional funds become available from other partners. Early response investments must be in line with WHO recommendations and could include, but are not limited to:

- COVID-19 response planning, preparation and surveillance (Technical Assistance, in-country planning missions, meetings, M&E investments)
- Protection of front-line health workers including those working for Global Fund programs (PPE, hospital infection control products, set up of isolation and quarantine wards)
- Diagnosis of infection (lab equipment and lab consumables, lab staff, specimen transportation)
- Treatment (ancillary treatment, equipment, hospital beds, systems for home-based care)

Initiatives to make urgent improvements in health and community systems should focus on interventions required to adapt to COVID-19, enabling the maintenance and impact of existing HIV, TB and malaria programs, and supporting the country's COVID-19 response. These interventions should draw on the appropriate COVID-19 Technical Guidance Pages.

Requests for centrally-procured COVID-19 diagnostic tests should be included in Priority 1 requests. These requests will be channeled through the Diagnostics Consortium led by the WHO. Since demand for such tests significantly exceeds supply, countries should be aware that the Global Fund may not be able to access certain types of test, and that those tests that are available will be allocated according to principles agreed by the Diagnostics Consortium. Note, the Global Fund will focus primarily on funding automated rather than manual tests.

If requesting COVID-19 diagnostic tests, the applicant should additionally complete Annex 2.

- c) If countries request COVID-19 diagnostic tests that use instruments currently used for TB testing and HIV viral load testing, they must provide a plan to mitigate the impact on these crucial activities. This might include purchase of additional instruments, running double shifts in laboratories and hiring additional laboratory technicians.

1.3 Priority 2: Additional Funding Request

The applicant is requested to describe additional prioritized investments in this second funding request table, up to a total of 10% of the 2020-2022 allocation minus the funding accessed through grant flexibilities and the funding requested in the Priority 1 funding request.

The Global Fund strongly encourages countries to complete this section to ensure the Global Fund can fully assess demand. As decisions on Priority 2 requests are contingent on additional sources of funds becoming available, in the interim countries are encouraged to exhaust all flexibilities under grant savings and reprogramming, following guidance available on the Global Fund website <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/covid-19/grants/>.

To complete the table, indicate the amount of funding requested in grant currency, and the proposed activities with a rationale describing the need and the link to the national strategic preparedness and response plan (if available). The applicant should also indicate how this funding would complement other sources of funding (national or from international donors).

1.4 Implementation

Describe planned implementation arrangements, including Principal Recipient(s) and Sub-recipient(s). These must be existing Global Fund implementers, who are implementing a Global Fund grant at the time of the application².

To complete the table, indicate which activity would be undertaken by the selected Principal Recipient and Sub-recipient(s), covering all the activities in the Priority 1 and the Priority 2 requests. Indicate for each activity into which grant(s) the requested funding will be integrated, and the planned year of implementation. **Note that C19RM funds are intended to be spent by 30 June 2021.**

Section 2: Coordination

The Global Fund must ensure that all C19RM funding awarded is coordinated with, and complementary to, funding from other partners.

List any applications for funding for the COVID-19 response you have made, or intend to make, to international donors.

If the funding applications are completed, please attach the applications.

To complete the table:

- Indicate the name of the international donor and the focus of the funding request submitted or currently being developed
- Indicate if the application is completed or still in progress
- Indicate if the application has been approved [Yes or No] and if Yes, indicate the amount of funding that was approved and for what activities

Annex 1: Documents Checklist

The applicant should ensure that they submit the following documents:

- Completed funding request form
- Completed [CCM Endorsement of the Funding Request](#) available on the Global Fund website³

² This includes recipients of funding under the approach for engagement with non-eligible countries in crisis approved by the Board through GF/B39/DP04.

³ <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/funding-model/applying/materials/>

The Global Fund requires evidence of endorsement of the final funding request by all CCM members, or their designated alternate(s), if the respective CCM member(s) is not available. CCM members unable to sign the endorsement of the funding request may send an endorsement email to their

- The national strategic preparedness and response plan or a draft document describing the national COVID-19 response plan (if available)
- Any funding applications submitted to international donors (as relevant)

Annex 2: COVID-19 Diagnostic Tests

As relevant, Annex 2 seeks an indication of the volume and cost of diagnostic tests and sample collection kits that are needed by platform in order to execute the COVID-19 testing strategies.

In addition, as needed, Annex 2 will allow for comments on (and if possible quantification of) any needs for additional platforms, other diagnostic-related products and technical assistance that may be required to support the diagnostic testing strategy – please make sure this is consistent with what has been detailed in the overall funding request.

Listed in Annex 2 are the instrument models across 4 automated platforms, Abbott, Cepheid, Roche and Thermo Fisher and the models that can run COVID-19 diagnostic tests.

- For each row in Column C, please fill out column D with the number of instruments that are available for COVID-19 testing
- Calculating total cost of tests
 - No input needed for Column E; it has a conservative estimate for cost per test, which we will update on a rolling basis.
 - Then in Column F, please provide the total number of tests requested across those instruments.
 - In Column G, multiply the inputs for columns E and F to calculate total estimated cost.
- Calculating total cost of sample collection kits
 - No input needed for Column H; it has a conservative estimate for cost per sample collection kit, which we will update on a rolling basis.
 - Then in Column I, please provide the total number of tests requested across those instruments.
 - In Column J, multiply the inputs for columns H and I to calculate total estimated cost.
- Total cost
 - In Column K, take the sum of columns G and column J to arrive at the total cost of tests and sample collection kits for each instrument model where COVID-19 tests are required

Below the Annex table are three optional short answer questions. In each, please provide 2-3 bullets commenting on relative need for the additional support item outlined, in line with the overall rationale and needs in the overall funding request.

CCM Secretariat to be submitted to the Global Fund as an attachment. In cases where a CCM member is unwilling to endorse the funding request, that member should inform the country's Fund Portfolio Manager, stating the reason for not endorsing the funding request, so the Global Fund can understand the member's position.