

COVID-19 Situation Report #18

23 June 2020

1. Situation Overview

Global cases: 8,936,337 confirmed. **Global deaths:** 468,308 confirmed. **Countries, areas or territories with cases:** 216 (as of 23 June, [WHO](#)). “It seems that almost every day we reach a new and grim record,” the WHO Director-General said, [reporting the most new COVID-19 cases in a single day](#) on 21 June. [WHO welcomed initial clinical trial results](#) showing a steroid can be lifesaving for critically ill COVID-19 patients, while the hydroxychloroquine arm of the Solidarity Trial seeking an effective COVID-19 treatment [is being stopped](#). The Coronavirus Global Response hosted by the European Union, with [€9.8 billion in pledges](#) so far, culminates this week with a final summit on 27 June. The Global Citizen [Global Goal: Unite for Our Future](#) fundraising concert and summit premieres the same day. See the [WHO Situation Reports](#) for detailed updates.

2. Global Fund COVID-19 Response

The Global Fund is providing up to US\$1 billion and operational flexibility to help countries fight COVID-19, shore up health systems and mitigate the impacts on lifesaving HIV, TB and malaria programs. Emergency funding is available through the US\$500 million [COVID-19 Response Mechanism](#) and additional [grant flexibilities](#) of up to US\$500 million. Application materials for the COVID-19 Response Mechanism are available [here](#).

As part of the global response to COVID-19, the Global Fund is working with health leaders, partners and governments to ensure the global response to COVID-19 includes lessons learned from the fight against HIV, TB and malaria: protect human rights and address stigma and discrimination, particularly among key and vulnerable populations; fight gender barriers to health; engage communities in the response; and fairly allocate limited COVID-19 resources and new tools so that no one is left behind. Our [Focus On COVID-19 \(Español | Français\)](#) provides an overview.

The [Global Fund is a founding partner](#) of the [Access to COVID-19 Tools \(ACT\) Accelerator](#), a global collaboration of organizations and governments working to accelerate the development, production and equitable access to new COVID-19 technologies. As part of ACT-A, we are a co-convenor of both the [Diagnostics Partnership](#) (with FIND) and the Health Systems Connector (with the World Bank), and we are a procurement and deployment partner in the Therapeutics Partnership. We also co-lead the WHO Diagnostics Consortium along with UNICEF to negotiate pricing and procure molecular diagnostic tests for COVID-19, and we have opened our innovative online sourcing portal, [wambo.org](#), to all countries and organizations so they also can benefit from the Global Fund’s economies of scale for health products. See [COVID-19 Key Messages and Talking Points](#) for more detail.

Latest updates:

- **Immediate funding:** To date, US\$357 million is approved for 95 countries and 8 multicountry programs through the COVID-19 Response Mechanism and grant flexibilities. All approved requests follow WHO guidance on preparedness and early response. Our

[report](#) details approved funding by country. Our new [map](#) visualizes the countries and can be inserted in presentations.

- **COVID-19 Response Mechanism:** More than US\$185 million in immediate funding is approved for 37 countries through the [COVID-19 Response Mechanism](#). Country Coordinating Mechanisms continue to submit funding requests, and the Global Fund reviews them within 10 business days. Countries are currently being notified of their funding request outcomes. After countries are notified, they are added to our full list of countries with funding approved.
- **COVID-19 grant flexibilities:** US\$172 million is approved for 91 countries and 8 multicountry programs through [grant flexibilities](#). The source of funds is almost exclusively from savings from existing grants, thus no negative impact on ongoing Global Fund-supported programs. The majority of countries implementing Global Fund grants are using grant flexibilities.
- **Survey showing majority of HIV, TB and malaria programs face disruption:** The [latest survey results](#) of Global Fund-supported programs across 106 countries show widespread disruptions to HIV, TB and malaria service delivery as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, impacting approximately three-quarters of HIV, TB and malaria programs.
 - 85% of HIV programs reported disruption to service delivery (18% with high or very high disruptions);
 - 78% of TB programs reported disruption to service delivery (17% with high or very high disruptions);
 - 73% of malaria programs reported disruption to service delivery (19% with high or very high disruptions).

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, the Global Fund updated the [funding request submission dates](#) in 2020.
- The review of nearly 40 funding requests from windows 2a and 2b is underway. More than 40 additional funding requests are expected by the next submission date, 30 June, in window 2c. The progress of submitted and registered funding requests is captured in our [tracker](#).

3.2 Operational Guidance for Countries

- The Global Fund incorporated [flexibilities for current and upcoming grants](#) and shares guidance notes on adapting processes.
- Updated: [guidance summary for Country Coordinating Mechanisms](#)

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

- The Global Fund maintains a list of relevant [WHO and technical partner guidance](#).
- Global Fund investments and advice to implementers, shared through a series of [information and guidance notes](#), strictly follow WHO guidelines.

3.4 Procurement and Supply Chain

- As of 16 June, the Global Fund's [product and delivery outlook](#) shows the overall impact of COVID-19 on health product supply chains for Global Fund grants remains at **moderate**.

4. Messaging and Advocacy

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

5. Media and Communications

- **Stories and case studies:**
 - [The Fight Continues Against HIV](#): Video with community and civil society partners who fight HIV share their experiences and challenges
 - [The Fight Continues](#): A series of videos from health workers, leaders and advocates speaking about their fight against AIDS, TB and malaria
 - [On the Front Lines: Responding to COVID-19](#): A collection of stories and case studies, by country
- **In the news:**
 - [Millions of Lives at Risk Due to Projected Shortage of HIV Medication: UNAIDS](#): CGTN Africa, By Jerry Omondi, 22 June 2020
 - [Covid-19: World Leaders Summit and Concert Line-Up Announced for 27 June](#): European Commission, 22 June 2020
 - [Understanding the Impact Of COVID-19 On Essential Medicine Supply Chains](#): Center for Global Development, By Anthony McDonnell, Kalipso Chalkidou, Prashant Yadav and Dan Rosen, 17 June 2020
- **On social media:**
 - [The Fight Continues Against HIV](#)
 - [The Fight Continues](#)
 - [Global Fund Survey: Majority of HIV, TB and Malaria Programs Face Disruptions as a Result of COVID-19](#)

6. External Coordination

- The Global Fund is participating in the 27 June Global Citizen [Global Goal: Unite for Our Future](#) fundraising drive.
- The Global Fund is part of the [Access to COVID-19 Tools \(ACT\) Accelerator](#) to accelerate the development, production and equitable distribution of vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics for COVID-19.
- 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 participating in a WHO-led consortium on procurement with public and private sector partners to help deliver health products to countries in need.

7. Key Resources

- [Global Fund COVID-19 webpage](#)
- [Global Fund Unite to Fight webpage](#)
- [WHO Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) pandemic webpage](#)