

RESULTS Canada

the power to end poverty

An Opportunity for Canadian Leadership: Invest Boldly in the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria

Canada's investments in the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria are some of the most positive and high-impact contributions that Canada makes in the health and well-being of people around the world, especially those living in the poorest and most vulnerable conditions. Since its inception the Global Fund has directly contributed to saving 27 million lives. Beyond lives saved, the Global Fund is a development 'best-buy', yielding \$19 (USD) in health and economic gains for every dollar invested.

Few investments are as impactful as the Global Fund when it comes to saving lives, preventing infections and creating strong and resilient health systems. This year, the Global Fund is calling for funding in its Sixth Replenishment. We are now at a critical moment, one that calls for a bold pledge to the Global Fund—anything less may not be enough to prevent us from sliding back and losing the massive progress we've made so far in ending these preventable diseases.

Canada's Leadership is Critical

We are calling on Canada to meet the need and demonstrate leadership in the fight against the epidemics by committing \$1B to the Global Fund for 2020-2022.

- A \$1 billion (CAD) investment represents approximately 5.5% of the total \$14 billion (USD) minimum outlined in the Global Fund Investment Case – a share equivalent to Canada's 2016 contribution¹.
- A \$1 billion (CAD) investment is a 24% increase from Canada's investment in 2016 - a level of Canadian increase that is consistent with our past commitment in 2016.

A bold Global Fund investment is aligned with Canada's commitment to multilateralism, to the Sustainable Development Goals, and to the government's own development priorities, including the Feminist International Assistance Policy.

A strong commitment to the Global Fund would help realize the Thrive Agenda, a bold vision for the next phase of Canadian leadership in global health. Thrive is a comprehensive approach to health and rights that places the women, adolescent or child at the centre and unlocks her access to the full spectrum of interventions needed throughout her lifecycle to reach her full potential.

What will an increase achieve? If Canada steps up as it has in the past it can make an extraordinary impact. For every additional \$100 million (USD) Canada commits, it will:

- Save 114,000 lives;
- Provide medicine to 20,000 mothers to prevent HIV transmission to their babies;

- Distribute 5.3 million mosquito nets to protect children and families from malaria;
- Save 1.7 million people from the epidemics of TB, HIV and malaria;
- Provide treatment to almost 7000 people suffering from drug resistant tuberculosis; and more.

Now is the time to step up – not back.

Without a bold investment, we will continue to see massive unnecessary loss of life, overburdened health systems, and threats to global health security. In 2019 Canada can lead – and show the world the way by making a bold investment in global health and a bold bet that the world can and will see an end to AIDS, malaria and TB in our lifetime.

If we don't step up – we will slip back

It is estimated that the total funding need for AIDS, TB and malaria rests at around \$46 billion (USD) annually. Of this, the *Get Back on Track to End the Epidemics*ⁱⁱ report by the Global Fund Advocates Network (GFAN) recommends \$16.8-\$18 billion (USD) should be invested through The Global Fund's Sixth Replenishment. The Global Fund itself has set a minimum goal of \$14 billion (USD) for this replenishmentⁱⁱⁱ. However, this total is the minimum required to maintain current programming, but does not allow for scaled-up responses to the three epidemics. It represents the floor, not the ceiling. We must raise our level of ambition.

Our investment should be equal to the need

Without a bold investment, we risk falling behind. Our progress is being jeopardized – by demographic shifts, including a youth surge in sub-Saharan Africa, increasing fragility and migration, urbanization, insecticide resistance against malaria, and rising rates antimicrobial drug resistance. With these challenges, comes an increasing obligation to step up the fight against these epidemics or risk losing essential ground that has been gained.

- Every day more than 1000 young women and adolescent girls are becoming infected with HIV – without action we will see a resurgence in HIV among women and girls not seen since the early 2000s.
- HIV is the leading global cause of early death among women ages 15-49.
- Every day more than 4000 people die from tuberculosis.
- Drug resistant tuberculosis is the deadliest of all drug resistant infections, claiming 1/3 of all deaths attributed to the global health security threat of antimicrobial resistance.
- One child dies every two minutes from malaria, it remains a major killer of children under five.
- After years of incredible success and steady decline, malaria rates have begun to rise. This is partly due to mosquitos developing resistance to the most common insecticide used on nets.

Our investment in the Global Fund is critical to advancing the health, rights, and empowerment of women and girls

The Global Fund works to ensure that key and vulnerable populations who are too often neglected and marginalized by health systems are reached with the life-saving treatment they need. This includes migrants, transgender people, men who have sex with men, indigenous peoples, and a disproportionate number of women and girls, who can be double marginalized by gender and poverty.

- In the hardest-hit countries, girls account for more than 80% of all new infections among adolescents, and are up to eight times more likely to be living with HIV than their male peers.
- Harmful gender norms, discrimination, violence, limited access to education and a lack of tailored services inhibit women's and girls' access to health care and fuels new infections.
- The 15-24-year-old population is expected to double in the next decade in sub-Saharan Africa, so addressing the staggering HIV rates among adolescent girls and young women is critical to preventing a catastrophic epidemic.
- Together with partners, the Global Fund has set a bold target to reduce the number of new HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women by 58% in 13 African countries over the next five years.

Personal impact stories^{iv}:

"We have an opportunity to eliminate TB. In Kenya, 60% of the TB response and almost all multidrug resistant TB programming is funded by the Global Fund. Without a successful replenishment, the Kenya TB program would collapse. With a fully funded Global Fund, more can be done to address the catastrophic costs associated with TB care." – Evaline Kibuchi, Stop TB Partnership Kenya

"One of the most important innovations the Global Fund facilitated was the CCM. For the first time, community and key populations are at the same table as health officials, ministers, academics, and the private sector, and are invited to articulate their needs. Without the Global Fund, I would have been six feet under. My TB was diagnosed by a machine (GeneXpert) provided through funding from the Global Fund. The [drugs] procured within the Global Fund grant kept me alive; they also gave me an undetectable viral load, which meant that my wife could become a mother without any risk to her health or the health of our children. Without the Global Fund, this interview would not be happening." – Timur Abdullaev, TB People

ⁱⁱ Global Fund Advocates Network 2018 *Get Back on Track to End the Epidemics* <http://www.globalfundadvocatesnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Get-back-on-Track-Full-Report-FINAL.pdf>

ⁱⁱⁱ Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria 2019 *Step Up the Fight Investment Case Sixth Replenishment* https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/8279/publication_sixthreplenishmentinvestmentcase_report_en.pdf?u=6368520208300000

^{iv} Global Fund Advocates Network 2019 *TB Key Populations and the Global Fund's 6th Replenishment* <http://www.globalfundadvocatesnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/TB-Key-Populations-and-the-Global-Fund's-Sixth-Replenishment-Full-Report-FINAL.pdf>