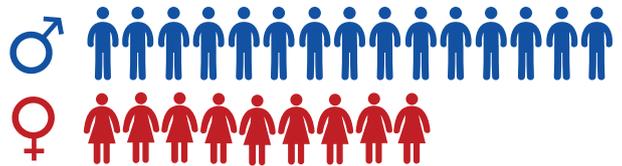


A Community Guide to the Global Fund's Gender Equality Strategy



Regional Platform
for Communication and Coordination
on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
For Anglophone Africa

SOME BACKGROUND



The Global Fund is a financing institution. It focuses on promoting gender as an essential topic to address in the fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

The Global Fund Gender Strategy consists of the **Gender Equality Strategy** and the **Sexual Orientation and Gender Identities (SOGI) Strategy**. Here we deal with the Gender Equality Strategy, but you can check out our Community Guide on the Global Funds SOGI Strategy for information!

The Global Funds Gender Equality Strategy is all about **gender equality in the response to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria**.

The Global Fund wants to make sure that its grants support equal and equitable access to prevention, treatment, care and support for all who need it. In order to do this, it is clear that issues of gender equality need to be addressed.

Inequalities fuel the spread of disease and affect access to health care

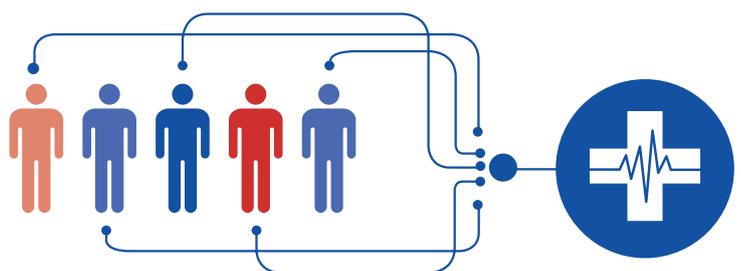
In many societies, women do not have the same rights, opportunities and access to services as men.

The Gender Equality Strategy looks at how the Global Fund can encourage a positive bias in funding towards programs and activities that address gender inequalities and improve the impact of interventions for women and girls.

HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria affect women, girls, men and boys. However, we can see the increased vulnerability of women and girls when it comes to the three epidemics:

HIV/AIDS	TUBERCULOSIS	MALARIA
In sub-Saharan Africa, 75% of the people living with HIV between 15 and 24 are young women.	In sub-Saharan Africa, because of the co-epidemic of HIV and TB and because rates of HIV are higher in women, more TB cases among women are being reported.	Gender roles and issues make women more vulnerable than men when it comes to vulnerability to malaria and access to treatment.
Most often women and girls need to care for sick family members and children orphaned by AIDS.	In a number of sub-Saharan African countries, the majority of TB cases are now in women.	Women, especially pregnant women, are at the greatest risk of contracting and dying of malaria.
Women and girls face economic, educational legal and political discrimination.		Women are most often expected to care for sick family members.

The Global Fund will support proposals that include public health interventions that address social and gender inequalities, as well as behaviour practices that fuel the spread of the three diseases.



TO DO THIS, THE GLOBAL FUND PROMOTES THREE AREAS:



HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

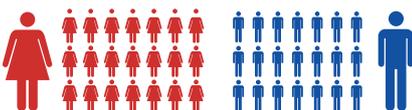
Better information can help in seeing what the epidemics look like in terms of gender dimensions and can also ensure the most appropriate interventions are initiated.

COMMUNITY SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

Community-based organizations are essential to supporting those infected and affected with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

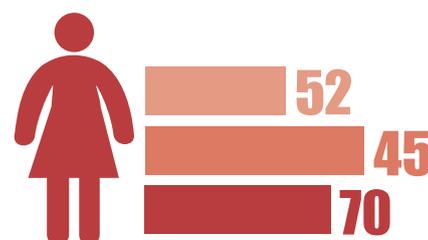
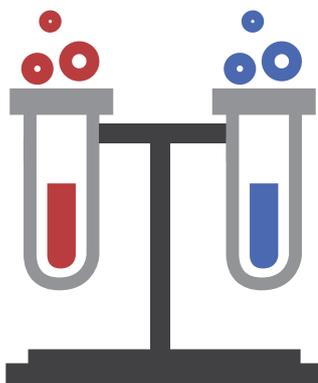
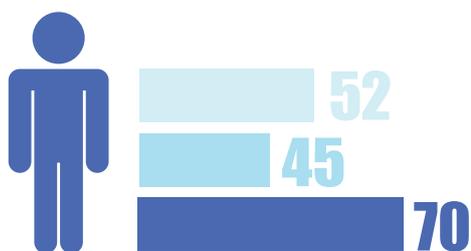
DUAL-TRACK FINANCING

This provides an opportunity for civil society and community health organizations to receive funding.



THE GLOBAL FUND WILL SUPPORT AND FUND PROPOSALS THAT:

- improve services and interventions that reduce gender-related risks and vulnerabilities to infection
- decrease the burden of disease for those most at risk
- lessen the impact of the three diseases and
- address structural inequalities and discrimination



THE STRATEGY HAS FOUR OBJECTIVES TO MAKE SURE GLOBAL FUND GRANTS ADDRESS GENDER INEQUALITIES:



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?



WHAT ABOUT US?

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?	WHAT ABOUT US?
1. Ensure that the Global Fund's policies, procedures and structures effectively support programs that address gender inequalities	1. The principles of gender equality need to be at the basis of all decision-making. Gender equality is the key component of the grant cycle.	<p>When developing and submitting proposals for funding, Country Coordinating Mechanisms must address gender and include civil society groups.</p> <p>Attention will be given to building a network focused on activities that tackle gender inequality. The Global Fund can provide resources to enable expanding activities.</p> <p>Partner engagement should include capacity building that helps women's organizations and networks to be recipients of funding.</p>
2. Establish and strengthen partnerships that effectively support the development and implementation of programs that address gender inequalities and reduce women's and girls' vulnerabilities, provide quality technical assistance, and build the capacity of groups who are not currently participating in Global Fund processes but should be.	2. Partners receive support to ensure gender equality is part of their Global Fund grants.	
3. Develop a robust communications and advocacy strategy that promotes the Gender equality strategy and encourages programming for women and girls and men and boys.	3. Make sure that everyone has access to all the necessary information regarding gender equality.	
4. Provide leadership, internally and externally, by supporting, advancing and giving voice to the Gender Equality Strategy.	4. Make sure those at the Global Fund are equipped with the necessary skills and support to tackle gender inequality.	

CONTACT THE REGIONAL PLATFORM

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