WHAT COMMUNITIES WANT

INFORMING THE GLOBAL FUND'S COMMUNITY, RIGHTS AND GENDER STRATEGIC INITIATIVE IN ANGLOPHONE AFRICA

Results from the annual needs assessment survey among civil society and community groups conducted by the Regional Platform for Communication and Coordination for Anglophone Africa, hosted by EANNASO
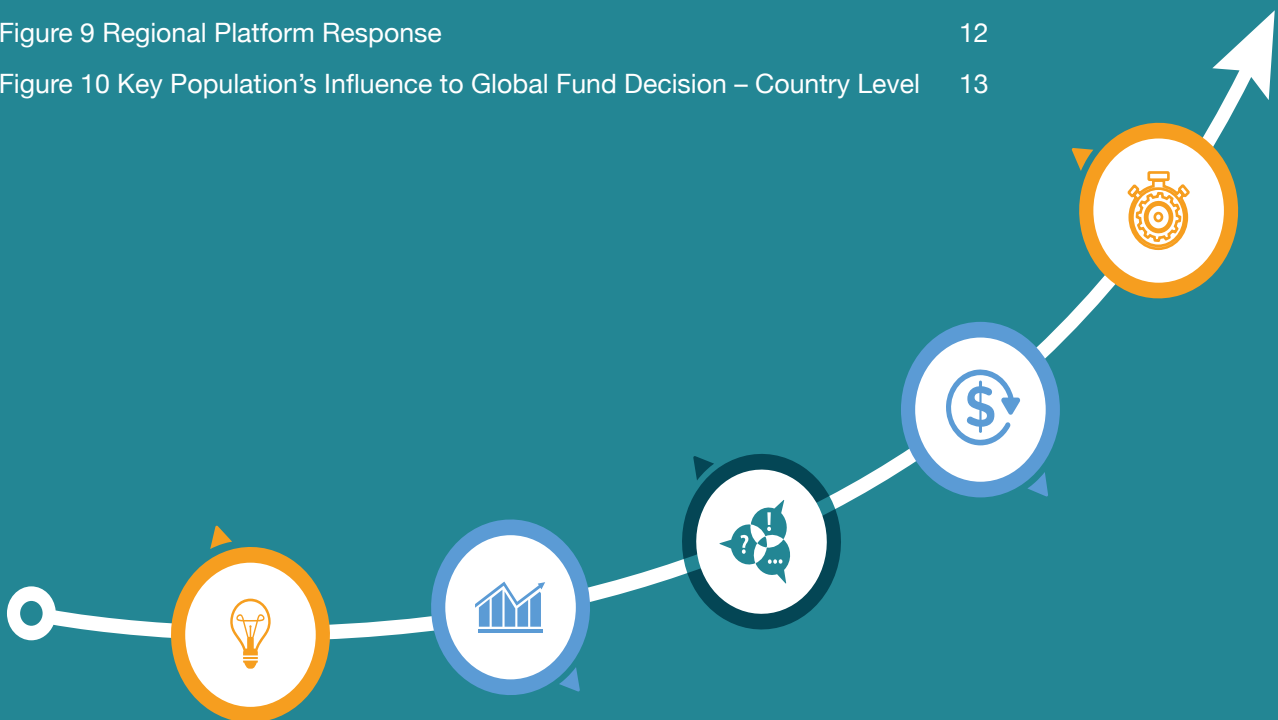
MARCH 2018

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RESPONDENTS CHARACTERISTICS

45 responses from 18 African countries: Cameroon (n=1), DRC (n=1), Ethiopia (n=1), Ghana (n=14), Kenya (n=2), Lesotho (n=1), Liberia (n=1), Malawi (n=3), Mozambique (n=2), Namibia (n=1), Nigeria (n=1), Rwanda (n=3), South Africa (n=1), Swaziland (n=4), Uganda (n=3), Zambia (n=1), Zanzibar (n=1) and Zimbabwe (n=4).

- 20% of respondents were from East Africa (n=9), a 50% drop from previous meeting
- 38% of respondents were from Southern Africa (n=17)
- 2% of respondents were from Northern Africa (n=1)
- 2% of respondents were from Central Africa (n=1)
- 38% of respondents were from West Africa (n=9)

Figure 1: Respondent Characteristics
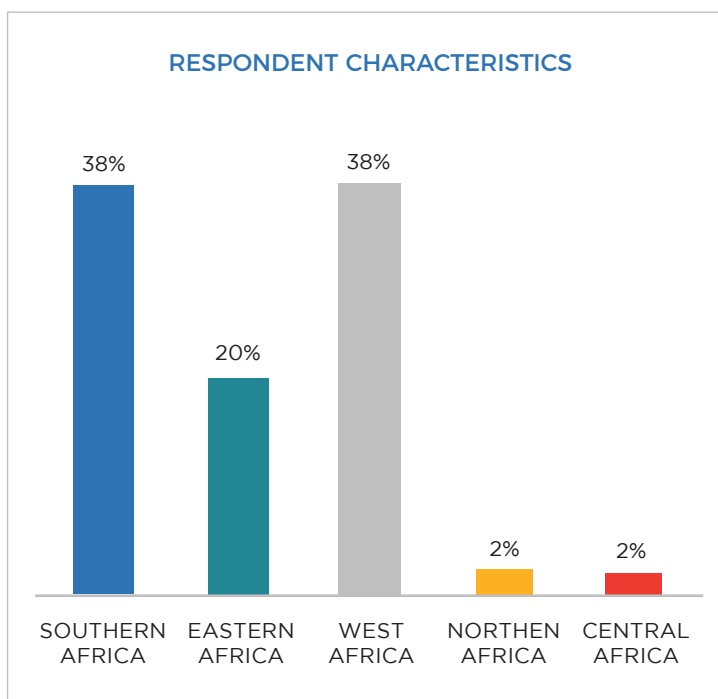
53% of respondents identified as male (n=24), and 40% as female (n=18). 2% (n=1) of respondents identified as transgender and 4% (n=2) preferred not to specify their gender.

40% (n=18) of respondents described themselves as representing civil society organizations (CSOs), while 11% (n=4) said they represent community-based organizations (CBOs), twice the number of those who attended in the previous meeting. 11% (n=5) of respondents were from key populations (KP) organizations, 9% (n=4) were from networks of people living with HIV (PLHIV), 9% (n=4) were from women's organizations and 9% (n=4) were from youth organizations. 4% (n=2) represented faith-based organizations (FBOs). One respondent 2% (n=1) said they were solely a TA provider, and 2% (n=1) describing themselves as TA provider/ multi-lateral/bi-lateral (ML/BL) partner and the final respondent chose not disclose which organizations he was representing.
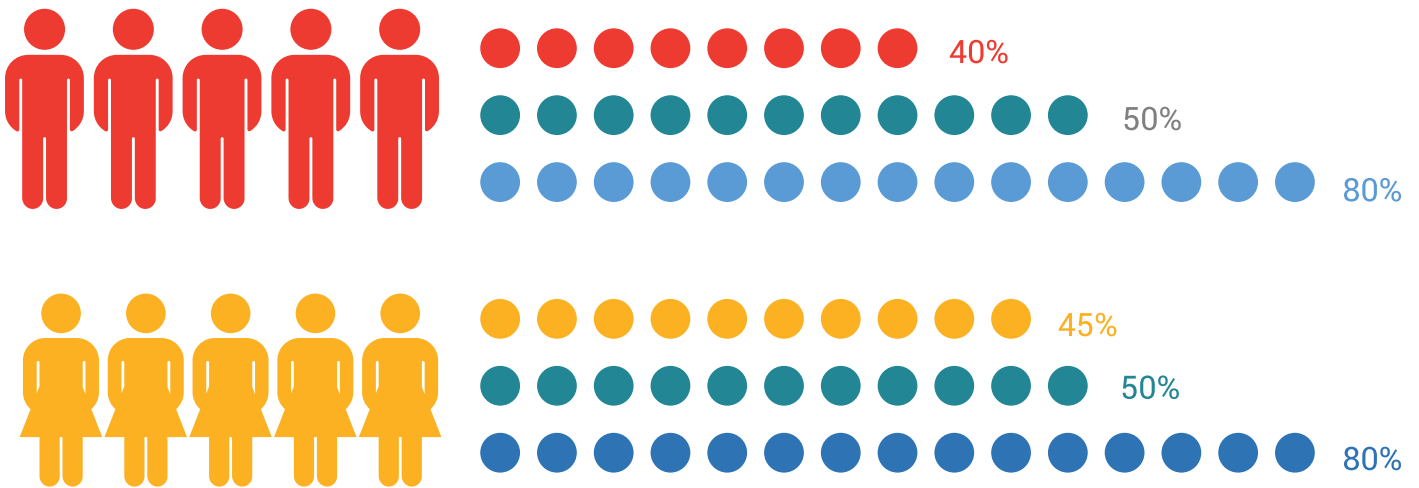
LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE

EXISTING KNOWLEDGE

47% (n=21) had heard about the Global Fund Community, Rights and Gender (CRG) Special Initiative (2014-2016), while 51% (n=23) had not heard about it before (1 respondent did not answer).

By comparison, there is 10% drop over the 2017 needs assessment, where 57% (n=31) knew about the CRG Strategic Initiative (2017-2019), 63% did not know about the CRG Strategic Initiative (2017-2019) (1 respondent did not answer).

71% (n=32) of respondents had heard of the Regional Platform already, compared to 27% (n=12) who had not heard of it (1 respondent did not answer). This is a slight drop to the 2017 needs assessment survey, where 76% of respondents had heard of the Regional Platform.

40% (n=18) knew that they could request TA from the Global Fund CRG department and its partners, which is a slight drop over the 56% who had this knowledge at the time of the 2017 needs assessment survey.

82% of men surveyed knew about the Regional Platform, compared to 56% of women. This means that men are still more likely to have knowledge of the Regional Platform compared to women – a consistent finding from the 2017 survey. The percentage of women has dropped by almost 18% from 2017 need assessment.

By contrast, the only transgender person who attended this year's event, had had knowledge of the Regional Platform (67%)

Conversely, women were more likely to know they could access TA from the Global Fund and its partners compared to men (44% compared to 39%). The transgender respondent didn't know she could access Global Fund TA.

KNOWLEDGE - GLOBAL FUND TA ACCESS

Figure 2 Knowledge - Global Fund TA Access
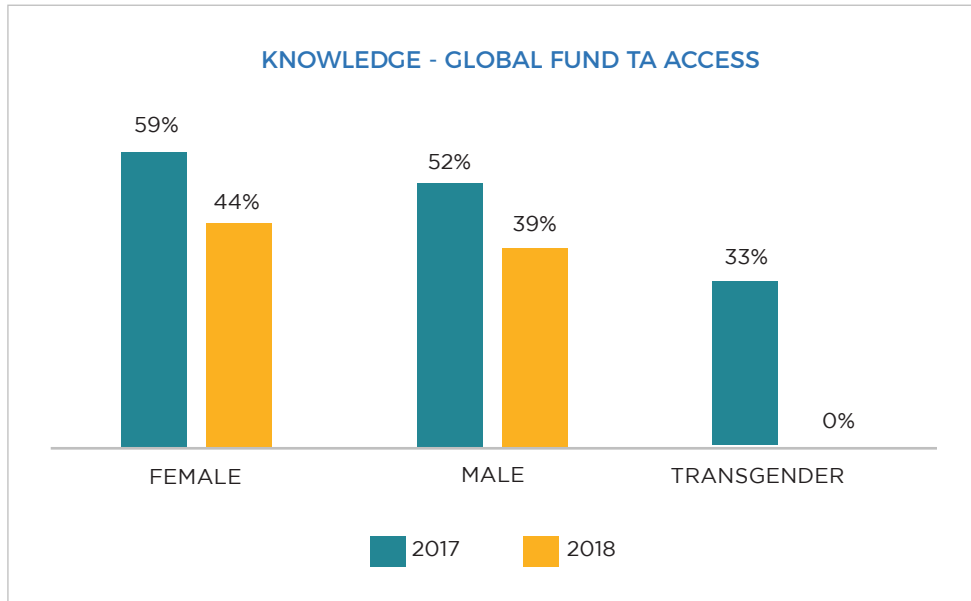
20% of respondents who came from key populations organizations knew they could access Global Fund TA, compared to 47% of respondents who come from CSOs, 100% of respondents who come from youth organizations. This is a consistent funding from the 2017 survey, with the gap between the two remaining largely the same. These results underscore the continued need to increase knowledge of Global Fund TA among key populations organizations.

Figure 3 KP's Knowledge - Global Fund TA Access

KP'S KNOWLEDGE - GLOBAL FUND TA ACCESS
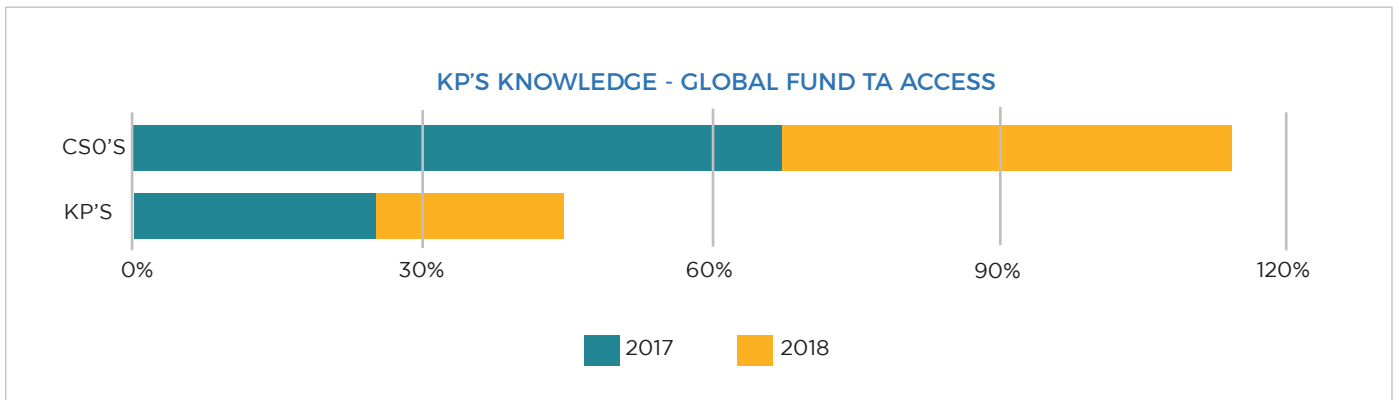
DEVELOPED KNOWLEDGE

Knowledge improved the most about the overview on the Community Rights and Gender Strategic Initiative and how CRG working is working for us, Civil society panel experiences on innovative CRG approaches for policy/program design. 18% (n=8) of respondents said that their knowledge improved the most about these two elements after the annual Regional Platform meeting. Overview of the different types of TA available and highlight the process for obtaining TA was the next biggest knowledge improvement, with 16% (n=7) of respondents citing this as their biggest learning curve.

Figure 4 Developed Knowledge

KNOWLEDGE IMPROVED THE MOST ABOUT...

- ■ Overview on the Community Rights and Gender Strategic Initiative
- ■ How CRG working is working for us.Civil society panel experiences on innovative CRG approaches for policy/program design
- ■ Overview of the different types of TA available and highlight the process for obtaining TA
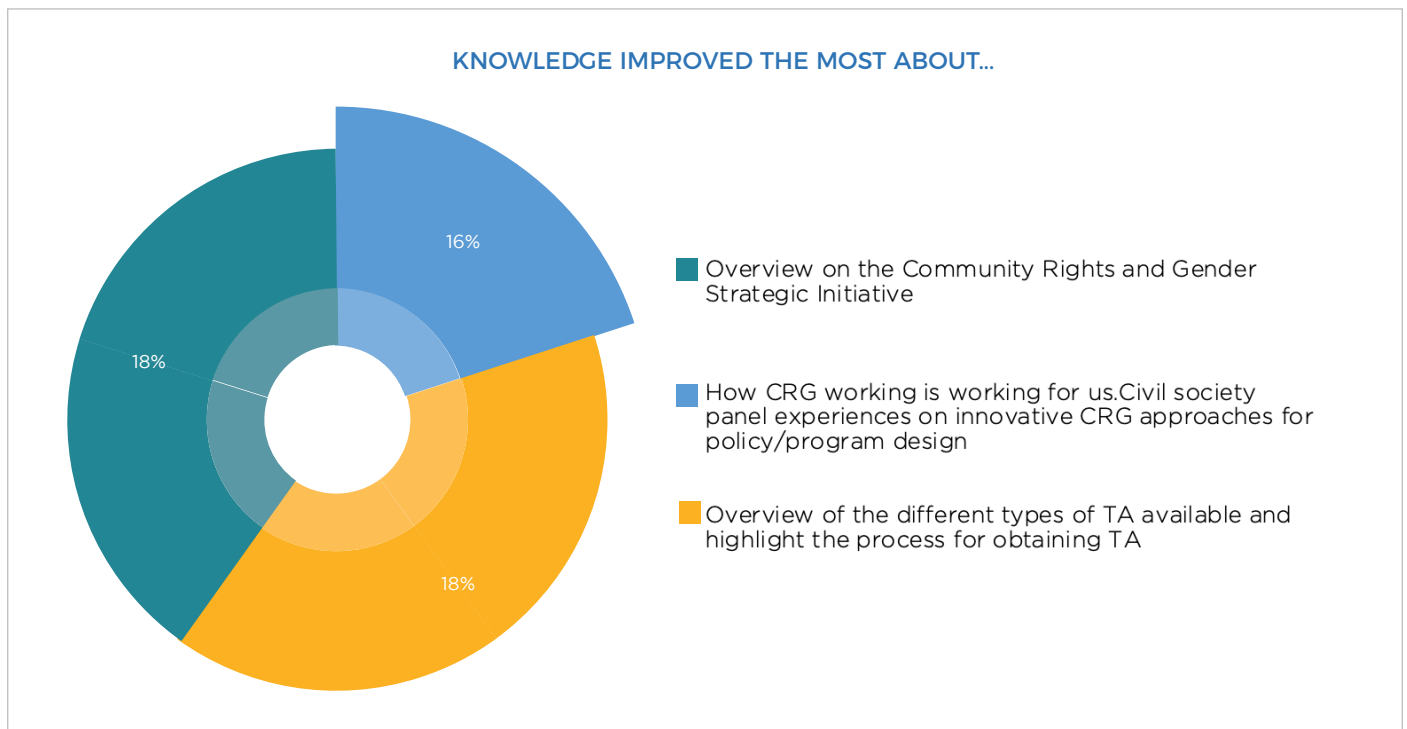
Knowledge improved the least about how to request for capacity building technical assistance and grant implementation support. 13% (n=6) of respondents said their understanding about these two components remained as a knowledge gap after the annual meeting closed. Following the two components, 11% (n=5) cited engagement with NGOs to the Global fund board as their largest persisting knowledge gap after the meeting.

According to survey respondents, the Regional Platform has improved their knowledge on:
- Snapshot of the epidemics in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Action Plans for integrating community, rights and gender-based approaches into implementation and monitoring
- Understanding of experiences and lessons learned from TA provision across the region
- Availability of TA and the various platforms to engage
- Presentation of key areas of work for 2017-2019
- Learning about new GF strategies
- Networking and the Her voice Fund Ambassador's programme

Survey respondents also articulated areas they hoped to gain, but did not get from the meeting:
- CCM and Civil Society plans for transition and its advocacy plans for domestic funding
- Fill CRG technical assistance request form
- Qualities or technical support in writing a long-term proposal writing

GRAND IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

IDENTIFICATION OF PATHWAYS FOR MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY, RIGHTS AND GENDER INTERVENTIONS IN GLOBAL FUND GRANTS

When asked "Do you have clearly identified pathways for monitoring the implementation of community, rights and gender interventions in Global Fund grants in your country?"

64% (n=29) of the survey respondents reported to have clearly identified pathways, 13% (n=6) reported they haven't identified, while 15% (n=7) said they don't know. Three respondents didn't answer anything.

CONFIDENCE ON COMMUNITY MONITORING ABILITY

When asked "How confident are you that you can hold Global Fund implementers accountable for grant implementation through community monitoring or watchdogging":

- 53% (n=24) of survey respondents reported feeling "very confident"
- 36% (n=16) reported feeling "somewhat confident", this is slight improvement from 30% (n=16) in the 2017 survey
- 9% (n=4) of survey respondent reported feeling "not at all confident", worse by 9 percentages from 2017 survey.

Figure 5 Community Monitoring Ability

CONFIDENCE ON COMMUNITY MONITORING ABILITY

9%

36%

53%

■ Very Confident ■ Somewhat confident ■ Not at all confident
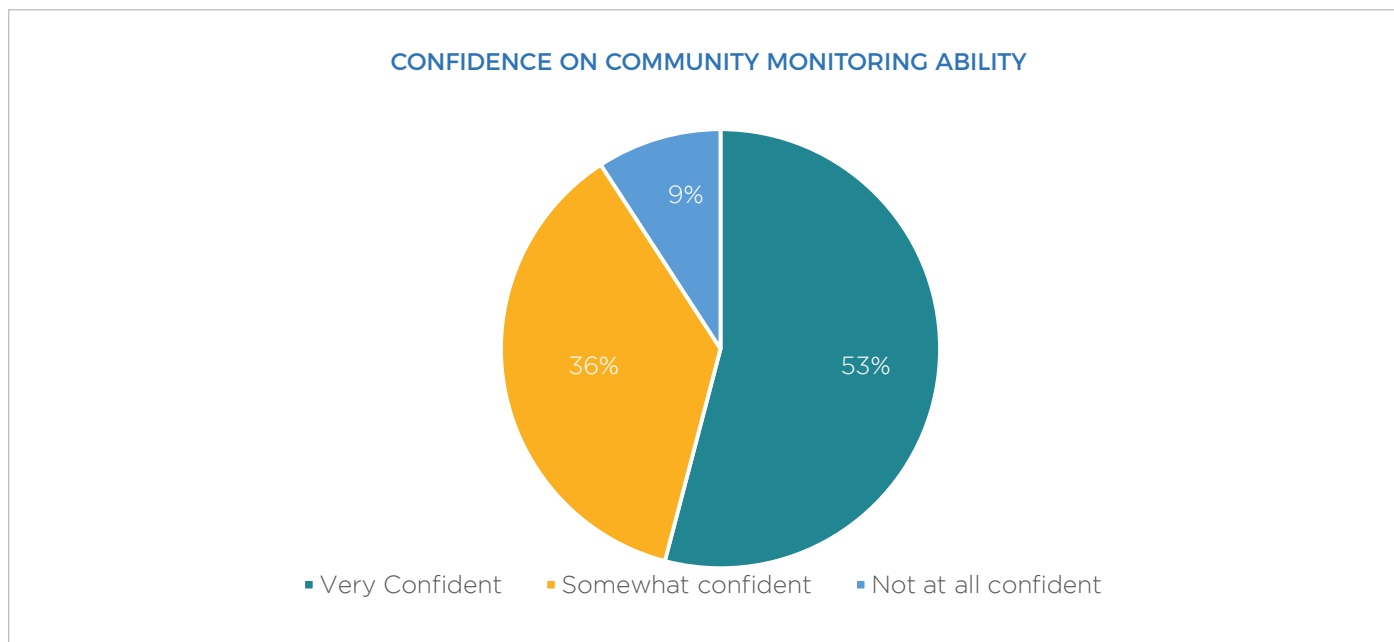
44% (n=20) of respondents said they had performed some kind of community monitoring work in the past, down from 69% (n=37) in 2017 survey. 51% said they have never done community monitoring work and 2% (n=1) were unsure if they had.

WHAT IS NEEDED TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY MONITORING AND ACCOUNTABILITY WORK?

The majority of respondents said "Learning from the success stories of community monitoring in other countries", and "Technical assistance and/or tools on how to do effective watchdogging", both cited by 26% (n=12), would be the most helpful thing for improving their ability to perform effective community monitoring and accountability work.

The second most popular response was "More information about the Global Fund grant architecture and where the entry points are for community monitoring" which 20% (n=9) of respondents cited as the top factor which would improve their community monitoring work.

33% (n=15) said that national-level investments (i.e. country allocations), and strategic initiatives (including the CRG strategic initiative) are the most transparent and open for civil society and community groups to perform community monitoring/ watchdogging. This is a huge drop from 2017 survey where both elements were cited by more than 40% of respondents.

Just 4% felt that multi-country investments (regional grants) are the most transparent and open to community monitoring.

Figure 6 Community Monitoring and Accountability

TRANSPARENCY FOR MONITORING

	National investments (country allocations)	Multi-country investments (regional grants)	Strategic initiatives (i.e. the CRG Strategic Initiative)
2017	48%	9%	44%
2018	33%	4%	33%
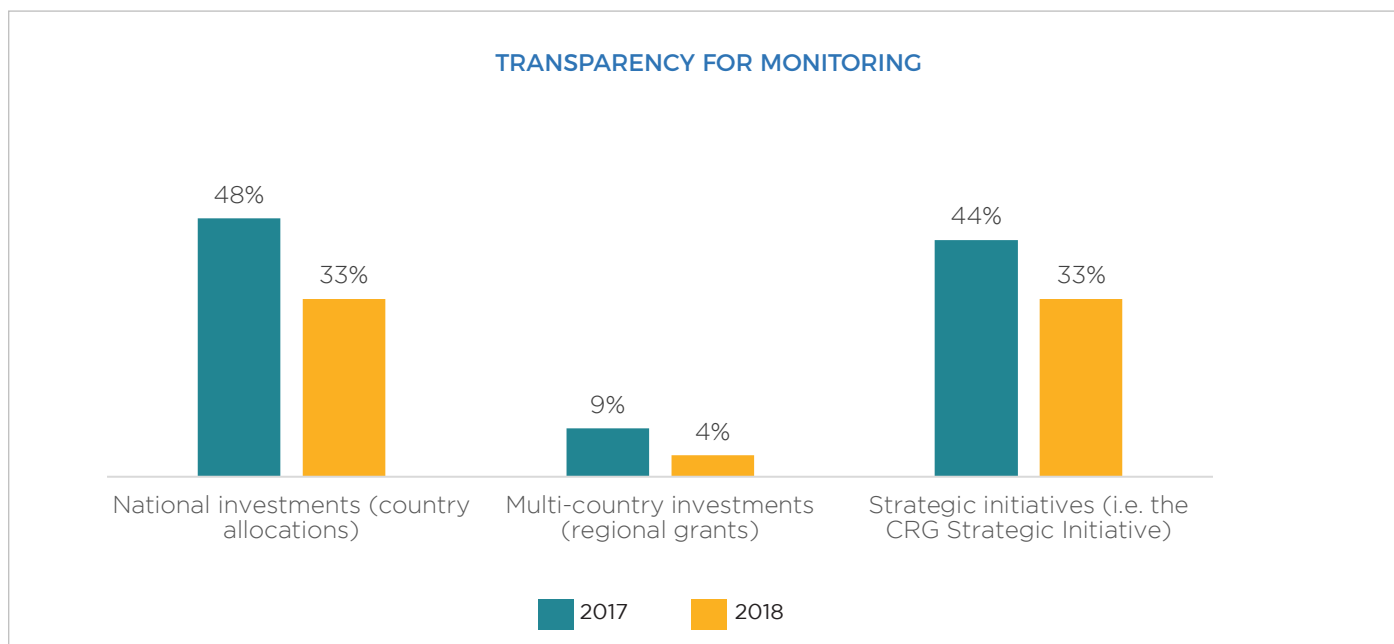
ENGAGEMENT IN GLOBAL FUND GRANT DESIGN, DELIVERY AND MONITORING

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE 2017-2019 FUNDING CYCLE PERSPECTIVES ON ENGAGING IN THE FUNDING MODEL

42% (n=19) said that country dialogue was the most open part about the funding model for civil society and community groups to engage, followed by 36% (n=16) who said development of national strategic plans (NSPs). This is a change from the 2017 survey, where respondents said NSP development was the most open part, followed by country dialogue. Just 7% of respondents said development of funding requests and grant implementation were the most open part of the funding model.

The greatest number of respondents (33%, n=15) said that the grant making process was the most closed part of the funding model for civil society and community groups to engage, followed by selection of partners to implement grants 31% (n=14. More must be done to ensure that meaningful engagement can continue through the principal recipient (PR) and sub-recipient (SR) selection process.

PERSPECTIVES ON CATALYTIC INVESTMENTS

Respondents said that the biggest opportunity with catalytic investments (specifically, multi-country approaches and strategic initiatives) was that they create a way for civil society and communities to access funding directly from the Global Fund (37%, n=17), and they fill gaps in programming left out of national Global Fund programs (29%, n=13). Fewer people (17%, n=11) said not being restricted by legal and policy environments at national level was the biggest opportunity.
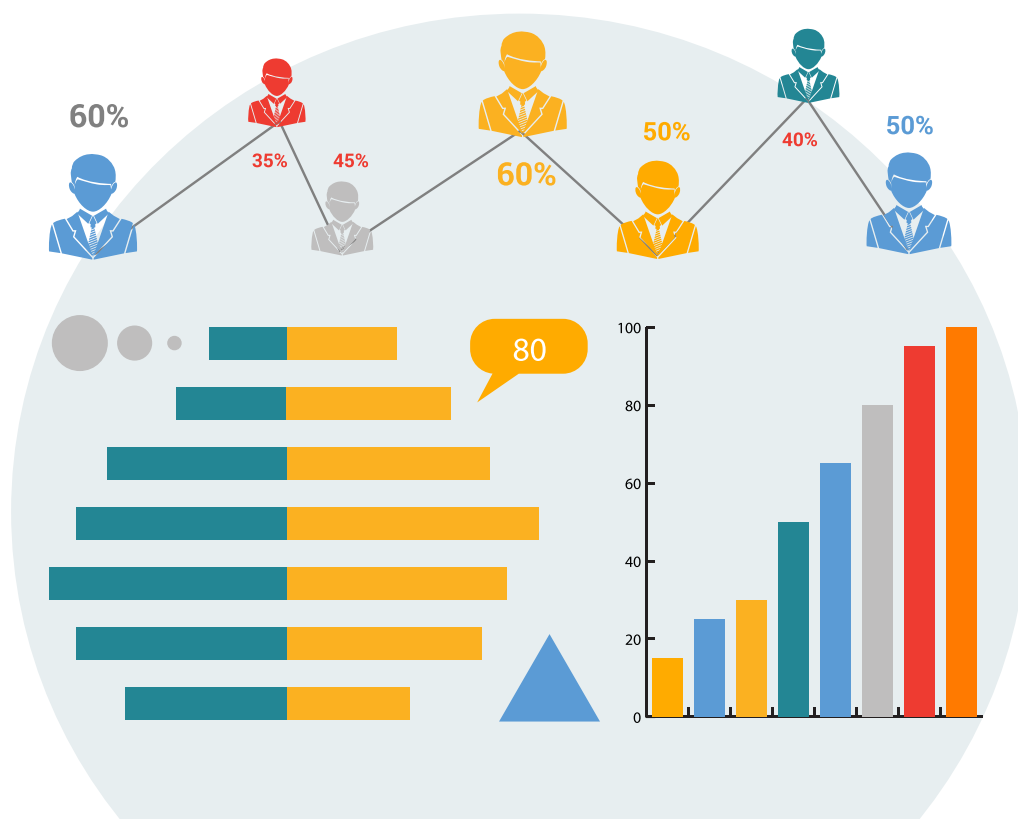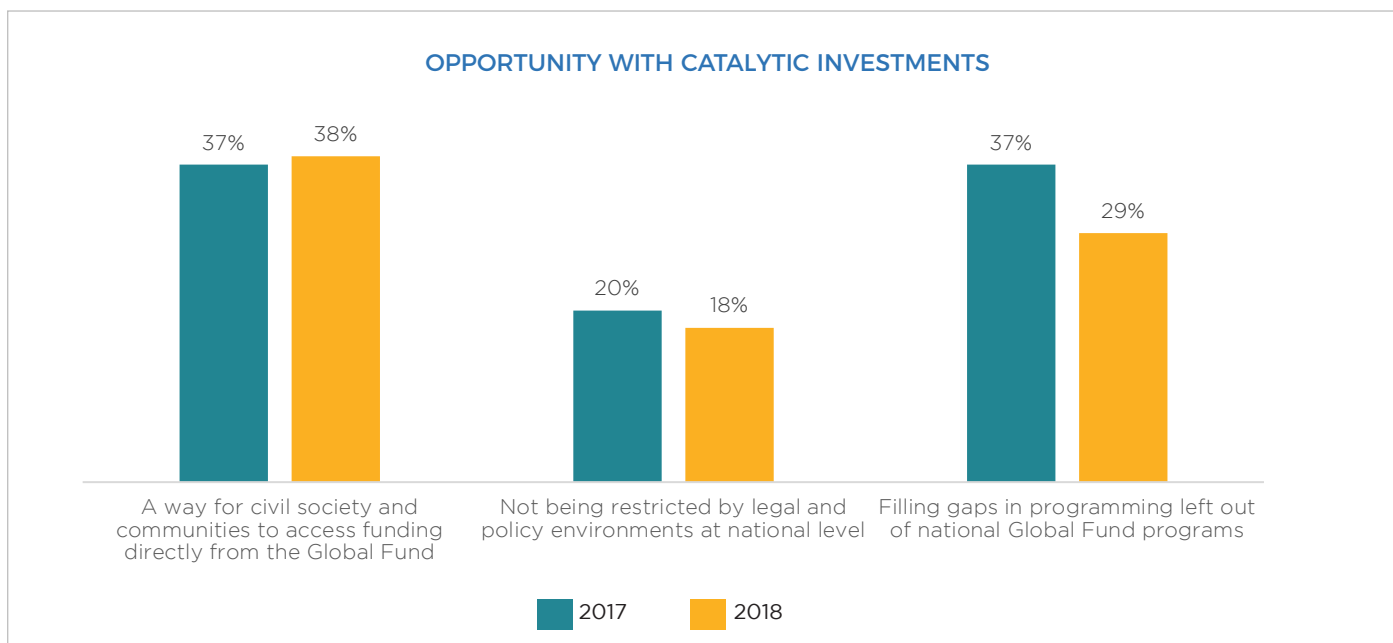
Figure 7 Perspectives on Catalytic Investments

OPPORTUNITY WITH CATALYTIC INVESTMENTS

	A way for civil society and communities to access funding directly from the Global Fund	Not being restricted by legal and policy environments at national level	Filling gaps in programming left out of national Global Fund programs
2017	37%	20%	37%
2018	38%	18%	29%

■ 2017 ■ 2018

However, the largest proportion (40%, n=18) said that the biggest challenge with catalytic investments was the limited information from the Global Fund and its partners on how to access funding outside of the country allocation. This is a slight drop from 43% (n=23) from 2017 survey.

PERSPECTIVES ON CIVIL SOCIETY IMPLEMENTERS (PRS AND SRS)

The vast majority of respondents (84%, n=36) said that the biggest opportunity with having civil society implementers (PRs and SRs) was that civil society know how to reach people on the ground with services better than government sometimes. The biggest challenge was cited to be that Civil society organizations are often SSRs, receiving much less money than the PRs (42%, n=19).

PERSPECTIVES ON CIVIL SOCIETY CCM MEMBERS

The vast majority of respondents said that the biggest opportunity with having civil society CCM members was to make sure community voices inform Global Fund decision-making (67%, n=38). Fewer respondents said that the biggest opportunity was to coordinate with other partners, including multilaterals and government (13%, n=6).

The biggest challenge with civil society CCM members was cited to be constituency consultation and feedback of information to communities, according to 49% (n=22) of survey respondents. Following this, 28% (n=11) said the biggest challenge with civil society CCM members was having their voices heard and being listened to in meetings. Only 11% (n=6) said the biggest challenge was representing their constituency and not their organization or personal beliefs. This is a change from the 2017 survey, where respondents said Civil society does not always have the capacity to implement large grants.

PERSPECTIVES ON GLOBAL FUND TA (ALL FORMS)

47% (n=21) of respondents said that the biggest opportunity with having Global Fund TA is that it helps make sure that civil society and communities are able to participate fully in Global Fund process, this is a slight drop from the 2017 survey, where 61% (n=33) cited the same opportunity. This is followed by (38%, n=17) who said that it builds the capacity of civil society and community groups. Just 7% (n=3) said that quick support is available, even at the last minute. Four participants did not respond.

53% (n=24) said that the biggest challenge with Global Fund TA was that Information is not available on the kinds of TA that is out there and how communities can access it. Following this, 33% (n=15) said the biggest challenge was that Consultants do not always build the capacity of local organizations.

WHERE HAVE CIVIL SOCIETY AND COMMUNITY GROUPS IN ANGLO- PHONE AFRICA ACCESSED GLOBAL FUND TA?

49% (n=22) of civil society and community groups reported accessing Global Fund TA from at least one provider in the region. 7% (n=3) of respondents reported accessing Global Fund TA from more than one provider. 29% (n=13) of respondents reported to never accessed Global Fund TA from any of the listed provider, seven participants did not respond.

22% (n=10) have access TA through the UNAIDS Technical Support Facility (TSF).

46.7% (n=3) have accessed short-term TA through the Global Fund's CRG Special Initiative,

8.9% (n=4) have accessed TA through the GIZ BACKUP health initiative

11% (n=5) have accessed TA through the United States Government (PEPFAR/USAID)

2% (n=1) have accessed TA through Women4GlobalFund

18% (n=8) have accessed TA through the Stop TB Partnership

2% (n=1) have accessed TA through the Alliance Technical Support Hub

Others cited receiving TA through EANNASO (n=1) and Expertise France (n=1).

*Figure 8 Global Fund TA to Civil Society and Community Groups*

SOURCE OF GLOBAL FUND TA TO CIVIL SOCIETY AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

■2017 ■2018

	2017	2018
UNAIDS Technical Support Facility (TSF).	31%	22%
Global Fund's CRG Special Initiative,	24%	47%
GIZ BACKUP health initiative	19%	9%
United States Government (PEPFAR/USAID)	17%	11%
Women4GlobalFund	9%	2%
Stop TB Partnership	9%	18%
Alliance Technical Support Hub	7%	2%
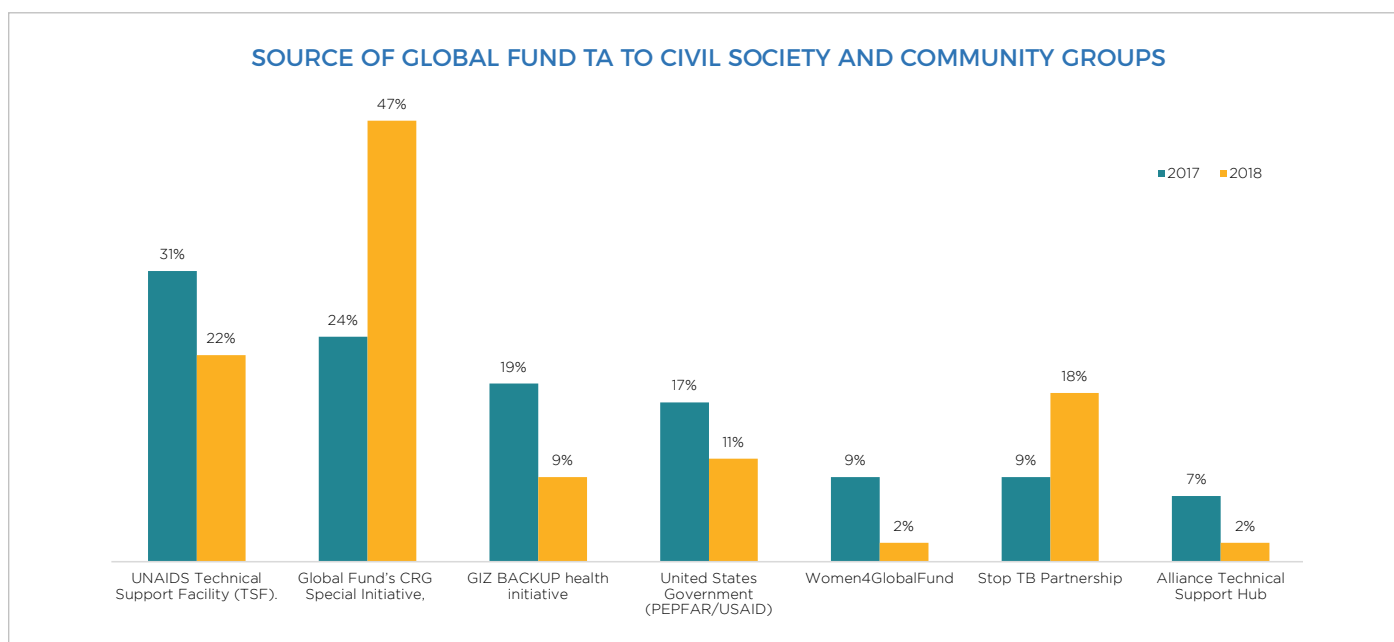
ANGLOPHONE AFRICA REGIONAL PLATFORM
HOW SHOULD THE REGIONAL PLATFORM RESPOND?

The majority of respondents (24%, n=11) said that the most useful kind of information they receive from the Regional Platform is community guides on Global Fund policies and processes. This was followed by 22% (n=10) who said that tools and toolkits on how to engage in Global Fund processes are the most useful. 16% (n=7) cited opportunities to participate in meetings and dialogue forums as the most useful contribution of the Regional Platform.

Figure 9 Regional Platform Response
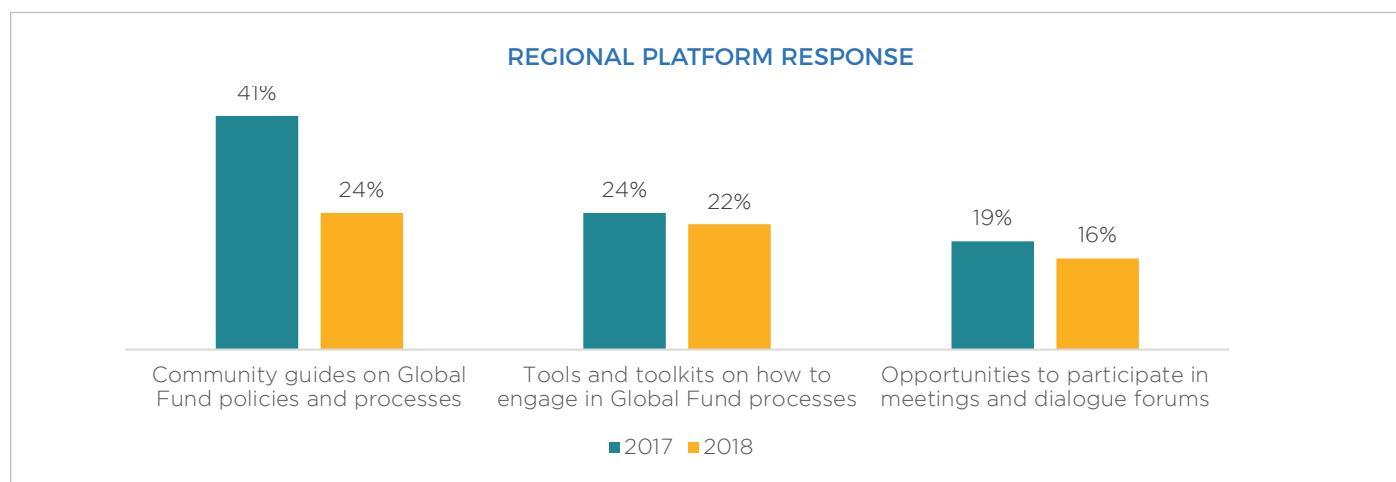
Respondents cited research reports and in-depth analysis and newsletters or emails on opportunities for accessing technical assistance (9%, n=4) as less useful, in terms of the information they have received from the Regional Platform.

CATALYTIC / MATCHING FUNDS

The majority of respondents 36% (n=16) said critical community, rights and gender activities were contained in the main allocation request. This was followed by 9% (n=4) who said that CRG tools were prioritized above allocation request.

42% (n=19) said of all the Key and vulnerable populations, adolescent girls and young women is the ablest group to influence Global Fund decision making at country level. This is followed by 27% (n=12) who mentioned sexy-worker. Other groups were mentioned as; MSM 22% (n=10), and PWID 20% (n=9). The transgender population was mentioned as the least able to influence Global Fund decision making at country level at 33% (n=15).
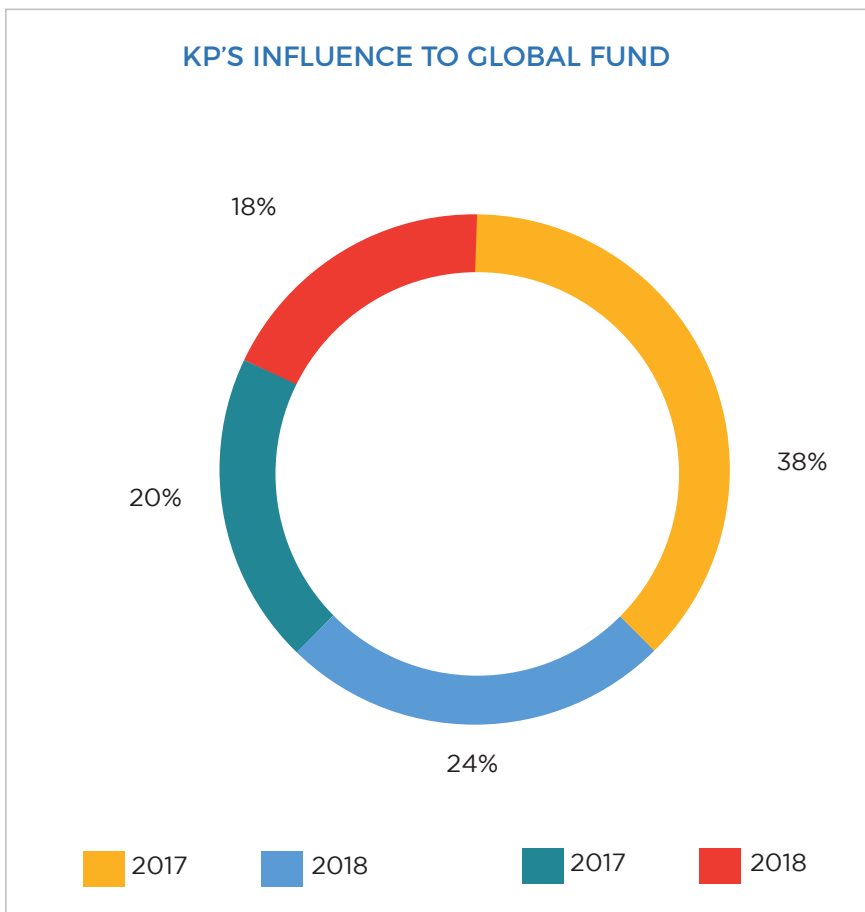
KP'S INFLUENCE TO GLOBAL FUND

18%
38%
20%
24%

Legend: 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018

When asked "which program area do they think would be most threatened in their country", 36% (n=16) of respondents mentioned community responses and systems, and key populations programming respectively. This is followed by programing for adolescent girls and young women at 13% (n=6).

49% (n=22) of respondent think that investments in community, rights and gender in their countries are having a moderate impact, followed by 24% (n=11) who think that investments in CRG is having high impact. Five participants didn't respond.

TB PROGRAMMING ENGAGEMENTS

The majority of respondents 60% (n=27) think that HIV, TB and malaria programs in your country do not adequately address gender-related drivers as well as barriers to access. This is a very high number. 44% (n=20) said they are moderately involved in in TB related programs in their country, citing hindering factors such as its Tb is a medicalized field and therefore hard to engage 22% (n=10), and Lack of information 16% (n=7).
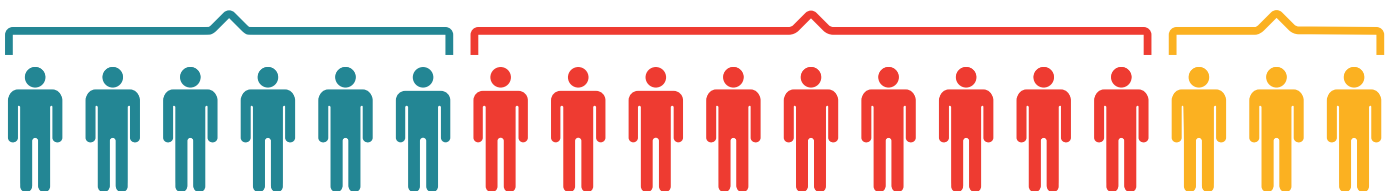
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