

The Global Fund's vital work

Let's show the new Secretary of State there is public support for the Global Fund.

The Global Goals, agreed by the international community in 2015, commit us to achieving health for all. This involves ending the HIV, TB and malaria epidemics by 2030. But progress has been insufficient, and the diseases continue to kill millions of people each year. UK aid contributes significantly to combating these and other public health threats around the world, and contributes to countries' ability to provide universal health coverage for their populations. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria is one of a number of vital global health institutions which help us toward the goal of health for all. It is the biggest external funding source for the fight against the three diseases, helping to save 27 million lives since 2002. It strengthens countries' health systems and reaches the most marginalised groups. But its current funding runs out this year, and at least \$14 billion is needed for the next three year funding cycle. This process will culminate in a replenishment conference this October, being hosted in Lyon, France. Donors including the UK must make bold financial commitments to the Global Fund to prevent us slipping back in the fight against the three diseases. Alongside our commitments to other global health funds, the UK's pledge will play a critical part in achieving health for all, brick by brick. Please ask new Secretary of State Rory Stewart to invest £1.4 billion in the Global Fund to maintain the UK's contribution to the fight against the three diseases.

The three epidemics

TB is the world's most deadly infectious disease, [killing 1.6 million people in 2017](#), despite its being both preventable and curable. Rising rates of drug-resistance pose a real threat to individuals and communities around the world, with multidrug-resistant TB set to cost the global economy an estimated US \$16.7 trillion by 2050. In 2017, [36.9 million people](#) were living with HIV. The infection rate remains stubbornly high, and hasn't declined amongst adults since 2010, with nearly one million people dying of AIDS-related illnesses in 2017. Since 2000, significant progress has been made to tackle malaria, dramatically reducing the total number of malaria cases and deaths. However, since 2015, malaria cases have increased. In 2017, there were [219 million cases of malaria](#) and 435,000 deaths, 61% of which were children aged under five.

Progress towards the Global Goals

The Global Goals, agreed by the international community in 2015, commit us to [ending the three epidemics by 2030](#) (target 3.3). But progress to date is insufficient, and HIV, TB and malaria continue to kill millions of people each year, stifling economic development and limiting the life chances of the most vulnerable people. The need to make progress against TB has been particularly neglected. However, the first ever [UN High-Level Meeting on TB](#) ('HLM') in

September 2018 saw world leaders committing themselves to taking action to end the disease. The [Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria](#), created in 2002, provides the majority of international financing for TB programmes. Ensuring it is fully funded is a crucial part of achieving the aim of the HLM.

Ending AIDS, TB and malaria as epidemics is critical to reaching the Global Goal 3, health and well-being for all, and is one of the most tangible ways to help achieve the Global Goals. Many low- and middle-income countries are stepping up their investments in health, but, as outlined in the [Global Fund's investment case](#), it will be impossible to reach Goal 3 without a Global Fund replenishment of at least US \$14 billion. With rising rates of drug-resistance, a growing global population and persistent inequities in access to healthcare, this is the absolute minimum required to reach the Global Fund's strategic goals and to prevent us from slipping backwards and undoing years of hard-won progress.

Tangible achievements of the Global Fund

The Global Fund has helped to save 27 million lives since 2002. It strengthens countries' health systems, and works in partnership with governments and community groups to reach the most marginalised people. [It has been proven to offer the UK taxpayer excellent value for money](#). It pools resources, consolidates technical expertise, and has leveraged

increased investments from the private sector and from high-burden countries. The Global Fund is the single most important mechanism for donors, recipient countries, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders to unite their response to the three epidemics, helping countries expand their ability to find and treat TB patients, reach marginalised groups and manage increasing levels of drug resistance.

Multiple investments in global health

Over the next few years, the [Global Action Plan on Healthy Lives and Wellbeing](#) will see the Global Fund work more closely than ever before with other global health agencies, such as Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, to increase its impact on strengthening health systems sustainably to accelerate progress towards Global Goal 3 (good health and wellbeing).

The UK's aid programme supports the goal of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in multiple ways, including significant investments not only in the Global Fund, but also Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) and the 'Nutrition for Growth' (N4G) agenda. It is time to go further and faster in our efforts to improve global health. Over the next 18 months, we must ensure all the bricks of the global health infrastructure are fully financed and able to support each other. A successful Global Fund replenishment will be the first brick and absolutely integral in our ability to deliver on the Global Goals.

Investment in vaccination, nutrition, and TB services as core priority health interventions represent three of the best ways to save lives and prevent illness. They complement each other and, at the same time, will undermine each other if they are not all prioritised and supported. Health financing moments are an opportunity to drive new collaborations, innovations, and ways of working between multilateral partnerships and donors to ensure that health policies and

programmes deliberately tackle health and nutrition together, and collectively support sustainable and stronger health systems.

Continued UK leadership is needed

Campaigning by RESULTS and our allies around the world has led to significant advances in the fight against TB and the other diseases, and a continued focus on vaccinations and on nutrition. During the last replenishment cycle, the UK pledged £1.2 billion to the Global Fund, and last year made significant increases in its support for research and development into TB treatments at the UN HLM. With a proud history of supporting the Global Fund and other multilateral health institutions, leadership on antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and investing in research and development for better TB treatments, the UK should continue to play a leading role in the fight against the three epidemics.

We believe the UK should contribute £1.4 billion to the Global Fund during the next funding cycle. This would maintain the UK's proportional contribution to a Global Fund budget of US \$14 billion and clearly demonstrate what it means when a 'Global Britain' leads on tackling global challenges.

An early and ambitious UK pledge would help build momentum towards a successful replenishment and set a vital precedent to ensure the Global Fund secures at least US \$14 billion for the fight against AIDS, TB and malaria. Despite the ongoing political turmoil, a decision will very soon need to be made about the timing and size of the UK's pledge to the Global Fund. We believe it's vital that the new Secretary of State for International Development, Rory Stewart MP, is fully aware of both the importance and the opportunity of the Global Fund replenishment, and the public support that exists for the UK to make an ambitious £1.4 billion pledge to help achieve health for all.

Take action!

This month, please ask new Secretary of State Rory Stewart to invest £1.4 billion to maintain the UK's contribution to the fight against the three diseases. Please explain how much it achieves in the countries it works in, and explain how the Global Fund is a vital part of the UK's overall funding for global health for all.

Contact details: Rt. Hon. Rory Stewart, Secretary of State for International Development, DFID, 22 Whitehall, London SW1A 2EG. Email: DFIDCorrespondence@dfid.gov.uk

Please let the Campaigns team know that you've taken action by emailing Dela at delanderson@results.org.uk.