Global Fund's COVID-19 Response Mechanism (C19RM) 2021: Application Materials

6 April 2021

Dear colleagues,

<u>As announced a few weeks ago</u>, the Global Fund's COVID-19 Response Mechanism, C19RM, will continue to support implementing countries in 2021 and we would like to share with you some materials that will help you prepare your funding requests.

Eligible countries will soon receive an allocation letter, indicating the amounts of funding they can apply for, both for C19RM Full Funding Requests and C19RM Fast-track Funding Requests.

Applicants are requested to carefully review the allocation letter.

Applications must be endorsed by all CCM members, and for COVID-19 control and containment interventions, the national COVID-19 response coordinating body's endorsement is required.

- C19RM Funding Request Form
- C19RM Funding Request Instructions

If you have any questions please visit our website or contact your Global Fund Country Team.

C19RM Submission Windows & Timelines

C19RM Fast-track Funding Requests can be submitted on a rolling basis starting on **7 April 2021.** Fast-track enables countries to expedite fulfillment of urgent procurement requirements for COVID-19, including PPE, diagnostics and therapeutics.

C19RM Full Funding Requests for prioritized programmatic needs can be submitted through four submission windows:

Submission Windows			
14 May 2021	31 May 2021	15 June 2021	30 June 2021
Deadline to use C19RM Funds			
31 December 2023*			

^{*}Countries are expected to use all C19RM funding (2020 and 2021) well before this deadline.

CCM Support

To support the preparation of funding requests and allow CCMs to ensure inclusive engagement and dialogue with civil society and community representatives and with national COVID-19 response bodies and other bilateral/multilateral actors in country, the Global Fund is immediately making available additional CCM funding of up to 25% of CCM's 2021 budget.

The additional funding will allow CCMs to deliver a more robust CSO process and ensure adequate community participation during C19RM Funding Request development, reflected in positive CSO and community feedback during and after this.

Accessing the Additional CCM funding resources

- **Step 1:** CCMs should request the additional funds through a simple email from the CCM Secretariat to the Global Fund's CCM Hub, copying the CCM Leadership and the FPM. This should also signal whether their country plans to apply to C19RM funding.
- **Step 2**: Using existing CCM Funding Agreements the Global Fund's CCM Hub calculates the additional amount based on the annual allocation of the CCM and a qualitative needs assessment, in close communication with FPM and the CCM Secretariat.
- **Step 3**: The Global Fund's CCM Hub will prepare an amended CCM Costed Workplan and Implementation Letter to add funds to the agreements, for CCM leadership signature. On receipt, the Global Fund's CCM Hub will disburse funds.
- Step 4: After the disbursement has been received, the CCM will seek approval of the actual use of these funds on a non-objection basis through email communication from the CCM Secretariat to the FPM/Global Fund's CCM Hub. The CCM will report to the Global Fund's CCM Hub on a regular basis on the implementation of the activities which are subject to usual financial verification rules.

On completion of **Step 2** above, CCMs will also be able to reallocate their existing 2021 CCM budget up to the amount agreed, to allow them to begin immediate activities in anticipation of the disbursement which will follow shortly.

Information on resources available to support inclusive and meaningful engagement of communities and civil society can be found at the following <u>link</u>.

Please contact the CCM Hub for further details.

C19RM Eligible Investments and Technical Guidance

C19RM will continue to fund the following areas:

- (1) COVID-19 Response:
- (2) COVID-19 related adaption of programs to fight HIV, tuberculosis and malaria; and
- (3) Strengthening health and community systems.

These three areas should also incorporate cross-cutting activities that bolster community responses to COVID-19.

Activities to be funded are aligned with relevant pillars of the WHO COVID-19 Response Pillar Framework.

More information is indicated in the following documents on the Global Fund website:

- C19RM Technical Information Note:
- HIV, TB and Malaria Information Note: Mitigation of COVID-19 Effects on HIV, TB and Malaria Services and Programs; and
- Technical Information Note on Community Systems and Responses.