

# Operational Update

## New September C19RM Window, Malaria Interventions, Health Product Supply Updates

1 July 2021

Dear colleagues,

Responding to a request from applicants and partners, the Global Fund has opened an **additional window** for submission of C19RM funding requests on **17 September 2021**. This window is in addition to the one that was recently announced for 16 July 2021. Please see important details below this message.

In addition, note that C19RM applicants with ongoing **malaria grants** are encouraged to prioritize COVID-19 mitigation activities for malaria in their C19RM funding requests. Malaria interventions are crucial to ensure that we do not lose ground on malaria control progress. A list of activities to be prioritized is included below.

Lastly, we are including a list of updated documents for your review, as they contain new information to be used when preparing C19RM Funding Request applications, including the Health Product Segmentation Framework, Interim Quality Assurance Requirements, and others.

We will also soon include a form for Laboratory Sequencing Capacity Needs Assessment. For applicants including oxygen investments, a reminder to use [this tool](#) to give further details on operational and technical specifications for this type of investment.

Please visit our website periodically as [new updates](#) are being posted on a regular basis and ensure to always download the latest version of [C19RM-related documents](#).

We thank you for your cooperation and look forward to continuing to support you in the fight against COVID-19, HIV, TB and malaria.

Best regards,

The Global Fund

## New C19RM Submission Window: 17 September 2021

The COVID-19 Response Mechanism, C19RM, continues to be a funding opportunity to respond to the COVID-19 emergency.

In recognition of exceptional circumstances that some countries are facing, the Global Fund Secretariat is opening a new window on 17 September 2021 responding to countries and partners' requests for flexibility.

While we have opened a new window in September, **we are still encouraging applicants to submit in the 16 July 2021 window**. CCMs can work with Global Fund Country Teams to review the approach and feasibility of submitting robust and high-quality full funding requests in the July window. If applicants cannot submit in the July window but most of their full funding requests are ready, there is an opportunity to submit the C19RM Full Funding Request in two parts.

The first part can be submitted in the 16 July window and can include the elements of the full funding request that are ready for submission, including for HIV, TB and malaria mitigation and urgent investments in RSSH and CRG interventions.

The second part that includes more complex interventions, especially those for medium to longer-term outcomes including pandemic preparedness, can be submitted in the 17 September window.

The C19RM Fast-track modality remains available throughout this period, and countries are invited to submit Fast-track funding requests in July, August and September to address urgent needs and ensure critical COVID-19 commodities are made available, while finalizing their C19RM Full Funding Requests. Applicants may submit multiple Fast-track requests in line with individual country contexts, COVID-19 dynamics and programmatic needs to ensure they have additional time to develop robust C19RM Full Funding Requests, as needed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your Global Fund Country Team.

## Malaria Interventions in C19RM Funding Request

C19RM applicants with ongoing malaria grants are encouraged to include and prioritize COVID-19 mitigation activities for malaria in their funding requests.

Malaria interventions are crucial to ensure that we do not lose ground on malaria control progress. The following activities must be prioritized within the C19RM base allocation, or clearly documented if covered by other resources:

1. PPE for health workers – including CHWs.
2. PPE for campaigns for each year through 2023: seasonal malaria chemoprevention (SMC), insecticide treated nets (ITN) and indoor residual spray (IRS). This excludes PPE for IRS spray personnel that is routinely needed and should already be funded in current malaria grants.
3. Costs for adaptations, particularly for campaigns, including any increases in transport costs, that are due to the COVID-19 context.

These activities apply to all settings.

The malaria community welcomes the inclusion of other activities that will ensure timely and effective malaria control efforts to continue, adapted to different settings.

The example table below can be included in the funding request itself or as supporting documentation, to outline the source of funding used for campaigns. Mark which source of funding will be used for each activity as follows:

<b>Interventions</b>	<b>Global Fund 2020-2022 grants</b>	<b>Global Fund C19RM</b>	<b>Other funding sources (domestic, PMI, etc.)</b>
PPE for health workers – including community health workers for delivery of routine malaria services			
PPE for SMC campaigns for 10 GF districts (2021, 2022, 2023)			
PPE for SMC campaigns for 7 PMI districts (2021, 2022, 2023)			
PPE for 2022 mass ITN campaign and other routine activities for the entire country			
Additional operational costs related to the C19RM project interventions for the 2022 ITN campaign and routine activities for 20 districts in the GF zone			
Additional operational costs related to the C19RM project interventions for the 2022 ITN campaign and routine activities for 18 PMI zone districts			

# Updated Health Product Segmentation Framework

The [Health Product Segmentation Framework](#) has been updated to reflect:

- Clarifications on reporting requirements for health products procured outside of PPM/wambo. The link to the [C19RM Procurement Progress Reporting Template](#) has been included.
- Removal of cold chain equipment for vaccine delivery that are not covered by the Global Fund, in alignment with the C19RM Technical Information Note.
- Clarification on compatibility of molecular test assays, extraction kits and amplification equipment.

Clarifications on the distinction between optimal and limited use/specialized for some PPE.

Updated Health Product Segmentation Framework [EN](#) | [ES](#) | [FR](#)

## Interim Quality Assurance Requirements

The Global Fund has published two new documents outlining interim quality assurance requirements for the procurement of COVID-19 [medical devices](#) and [pharmaceuticals](#).

All COVID-19 Medical Devices are to be consistent with current national or institutional standard treatment guidelines or with the World Health Organization (WHO) treatment guidelines or guidance or information notes released by the Global Fund. Additional requirements apply to certain higher risk products, as described in the guidance.

All pharmaceutical products procured with Global Fund resources are to be compliant with:

- current national or institutional standard treatment guidelines or essential medicines list (“National or Institutional STGs or EML”); or
- the World Health Organization (WHO) Standard Treatment Guidelines or Essential Medicines List (“WHO STG or EML”); or
- any technical guidance, as stated in Section 3 of the Global Fund’s Quality Assurance Policy.
- For COVID-19 Pharmaceutical Products, they must also either be prequalified by WHO, authorized for use by a Stringent Regulatory Authority (as defined in the Global Fund’s Policy) or recommended for use by the Expert Review Panel.

These COVID-19 Pharmaceutical Products cure or prevent COVID-19 and are exclusive of essential medicines used for the management of patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19. Although no such products are yet eligible for procurement, the QA requirements are in place in anticipation.

Interim Quality Assurance Requirements for [medical devices](#) and [pharmaceuticals](#)

## **Updated Guide to Global Fund Policies on Procurement and Supply Management of Health Products**

The [Guide to Global Fund Policies on Procurement and Supply Management of Health Products](#) has been updated, in particular to incorporate the two interim QA requirements described above. Spanish and French versions will be made available [here](#).

## **Purchasing COVID-19 Health Products with Domestic Funding Using Wambo.org**

Wambo.org is currently available to both Global Fund implementers using Global Fund resources and to governments and other eligible organizations using domestic or other donor funding that would like to secure products through the Pooled Procurement Mechanism and other procurement channels available through wambo.org.

Eligible buyers, regardless of funding source, have [access to all products, services and functionalities in wambo.org](#), including framework agreements for HIV and malaria products, in addition to certain TB and COVID-19 products. For more information on wambo.org, please visit [this page](#).