TRP Debrief: Windows 3-5

20 June 2024

Agenda
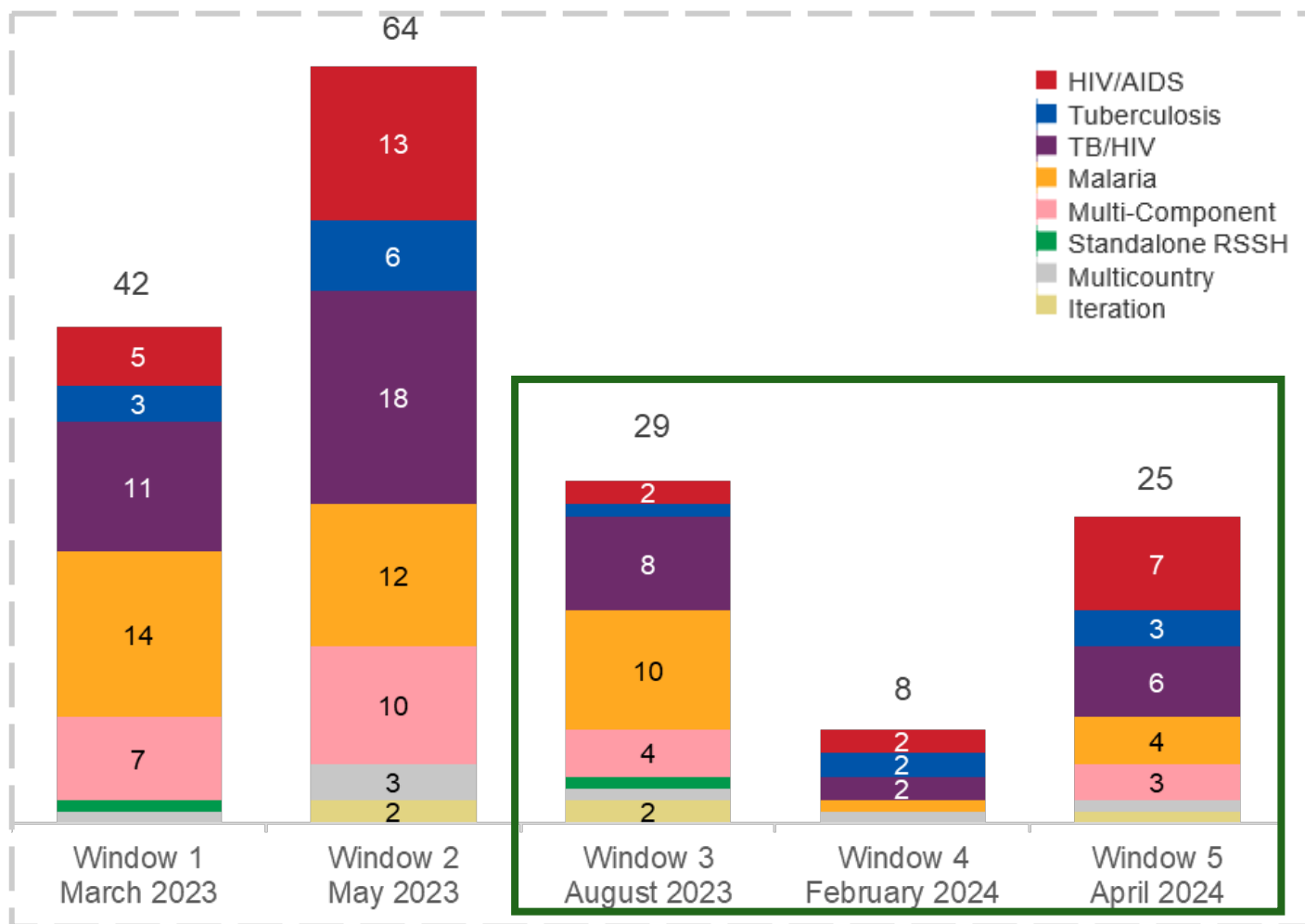## TRP Debrief Windows 3-5

1. Introduction and key data Windows 3-5

2. Reminder from previous Grant Cycle (GC) 7 TRP Windows

3. Urgency of Sustainability Planning

4. Challenging Operating Environments (COEs)

5. Refugee and Migrant populations

6. Potential for better integration of malaria interventions between Global Fund and Gavi

7. Q&A

Grant Cycle 7 Funding Requests Reviewed by TRP

Approximately 190 funding requests are expected to be reviewed in the 2023-2025 allocation period (also known as Grant Cycle 7 or GC7). 163 out of 168 funding requests reviewed in Windows 1-5 were recommended for grant-making

Review completed

Legend:
- HIV/AIDS
- Tuberculosis
- TB/HIV
- Malaria
- Multi-Component
- Standalone RSSH
- Multicountry
- Iteration

Window 1 — March 2023 (42): HIV/AIDS 5, Tuberculosis 3, TB/HIV 11, Malaria 14, Multi-Component 7

Window 2 — May 2023 (64): HIV/AIDS 13, Tuberculosis 6, TB/HIV 18, Malaria 12, Multi-Component 10, Multicountry 3, Iteration 2

Window 3 — August 2023 (29): HIV/AIDS 2, TB/HIV 8, Malaria 10, Multi-Component 4, Iteration 2

Window 4 — February 2024 (8): HIV/AIDS 2, Tuberculosis 2, TB/HIV 2

Window 5 — April 2024 (25): HIV/AIDS 7, Tuberculosis 3, TB/HIV 6, Malaria 4, Multi-Component 3

TRP Windows 3-5

✓ 62 Funding Requests reviewed:
- 24 Tailored for Focused
- 12 Full Reviews
- 11 Program Continuation
- 8 Tailored for Transition
- 7 Tailored for NSP

✓ TRP Review Outcome:
- 100% of 62 Funding Requests recommended for grant-making
- $2.7 billion recommended for grant-making, representing 20.7% of total GC7 allocation
- $55.1 million of Matching Funds
- $5 million in catalytic Multicountry funds
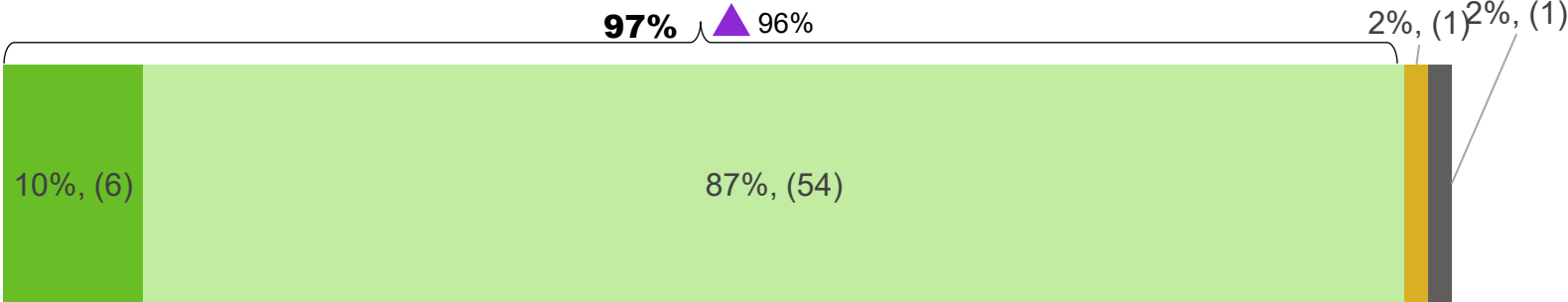
Funding Requests in GC7

Windows 1-2 included the majority of the funding requests from Core and High Impact portfolios.

Windows 3-5 funding request review included the majority of Focused portfolios.

Source: GOS. N=168

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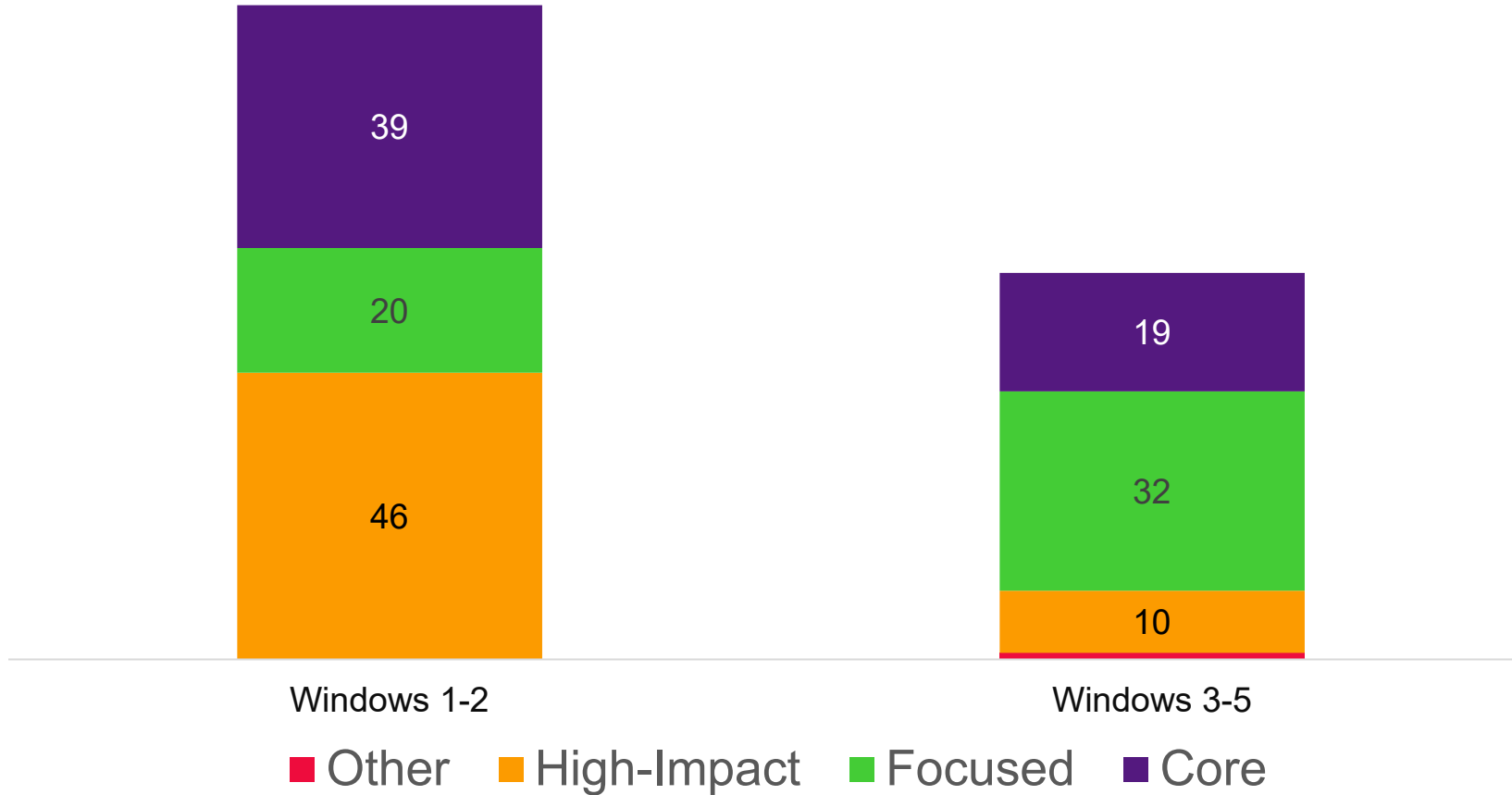
TRP Funding Request Quality Survey: Overall

The funding request delivers strategically focused and technically sound responses that are aligned with the epidemiological context and maximizes potential for impact.

97% ▲ 96%   2%, (1) 2%, (1)

| 10%, (6) | 87%, (54) | | |

■ Strongly Agree   ■ Agree   ■ Disagree   ■ Strongly Disagree   ■ Not Applicable

▲ = Window 1-2 Average

TRP Funding Request (FR) Quality Survey: RSSH
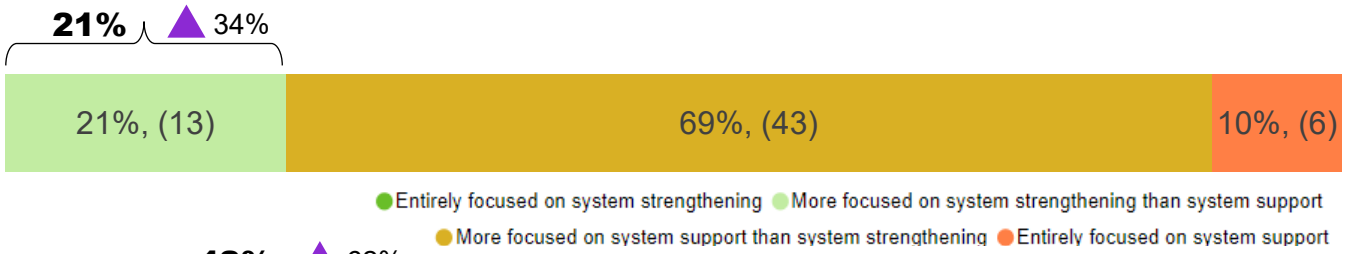
TRP observed **strategic focus on Resilient & Sustainable Systems for Health (RSSH) in 75%** of Windows 3-5 funding requests recommended for grant-making. This is 4 points lower than in Windows 1-2 (Indicated with an ▲)

35% of funding requests in W3-5 did not include investments in pandemic preparedness. In 42% of those that did, the TRP did not have sufficient information to assess whether the investments were complementary to COVID19 Response Mechanism investments.

Focus on RSSH: The funding request demonstrates a strategic focus on resilient and sustainable systems for health to improve effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of the disease program(s).

76% ▲ 82%

| 73%, (45) | 21%, (13) | |

● Strongly Agree ● Agree ● Disagree ● Strongly Disagree ● N/A
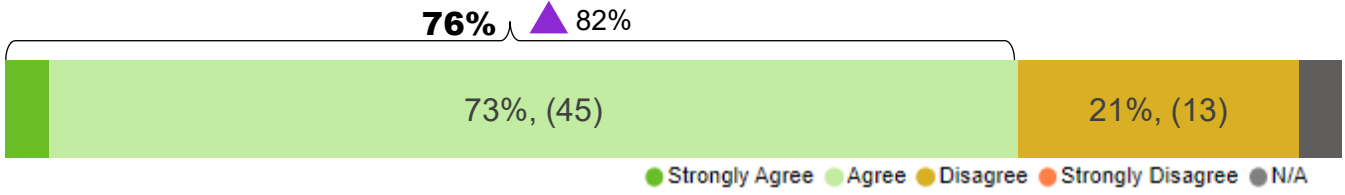
Focus on RSSH: To what extent does the funding request demonstrate focus on systems strengthening or systems support.

21% ▲ 34%

| 21%, (13) | 69%, (43) | 10%, (6) |

● Entirely focused on system strengthening ● More focused on system strengthening than system support
● More focused on system support than system strengthening ● Entirely focused on system support

Pandemic Preparedness: The funding request demonstrates appropriate investments to strengthen pandemic preparedness and response.
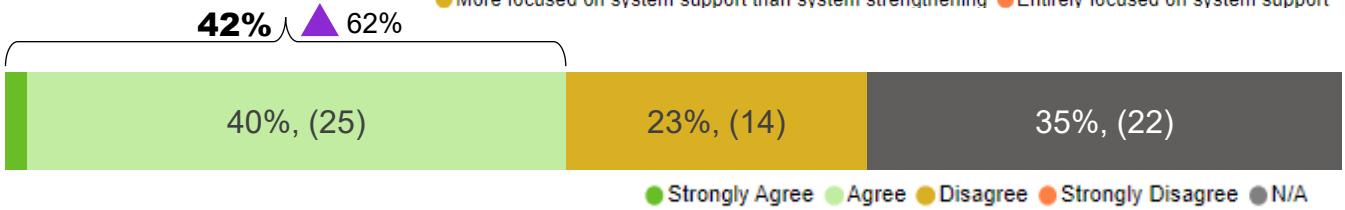
42% ▲ 62%

| 40%, (25) | 23%, (14) | 35%, (22) |

● Strongly Agree ● Agree ● Disagree ● Strongly Disagree ● N/A

Source: TRP funding request quality survey. Funding requests recommended for grantmaking. W1-2 N=101, W3-5 N=62. Charts rounded.

Pandemic Preparedness: The funding request investments in Pandemic Preparedness and Response are complementary to COVID19 Response Mechanism investments.

54% ▲ 77%

| 51%, (22) | 5%, (2) | 42%, (18) |

● Strongly Agree ● Agree ● Disagree ● Strongly Disagree ● Insufficient Information to Assess Complementarity

Source: TRP funding request quality survey. Funding requests recommended for grantmaking, excluding "Not Applicable". W1-2 N=81 , W3-5 N=43; Charts rounded.
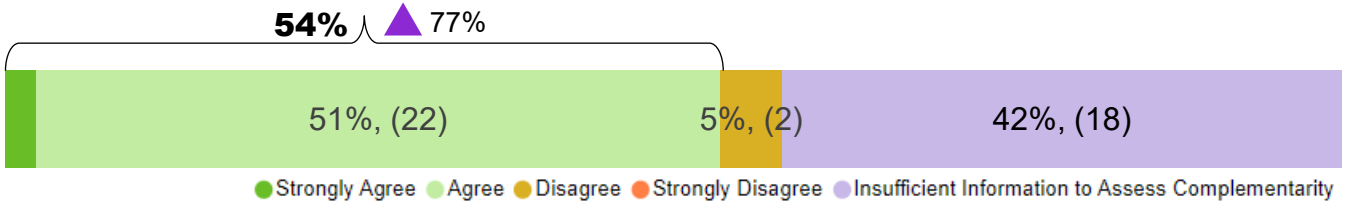
# TRP Funding Request Quality Survey: Sustainability

In W3-5, TRP observed significant drops in how funding requests addressed sustainability (66% positive compared to 83% in W1-2) and community systems and responses (61% positive, compared to 80% in W1-2▲).

66% ▲ 83%

Sustainability: The funding request adequately identifies and addresses challenges to sustainability (in line with the TRP Review Criteria).

| 5%, (3) | 61%, (38) | 32%, (20) | |

82% ▲ 83%

Value for Money (VfM): The funding request invests in increasing program quality, addresses key bottlenecks to program efficiency, strives for economy in provision of program inputs, and addresses equity issues in health services utilization.

| 5%, (3) | 77%, (48) | 13%, (8) | 5%, (3) |

68% ▲ 68%

Co-financing: The focus of the co-financing commitments as described in the funding request are appropriate for the country income-level and diseases profiles and address key challenges to sustainability of program outcomes.

| 13%, (8) | 55%, (34) | 18%, (11) | 15%, (9) |

● Strongly Agree ● Agree ● Disagree ● Strongly Disagree ● N/A

61% ▲ 79%

Community Systems & Reponses: To what extent are the roles of community-led and -based organizations in service delivery articulated in the funding request?

| 5%, (3) | 56%, (35) | 34%, (21) | |

● Extremely well-articulated ● Well-articulated ● Poorly articulated ● Not articulated ● N/A
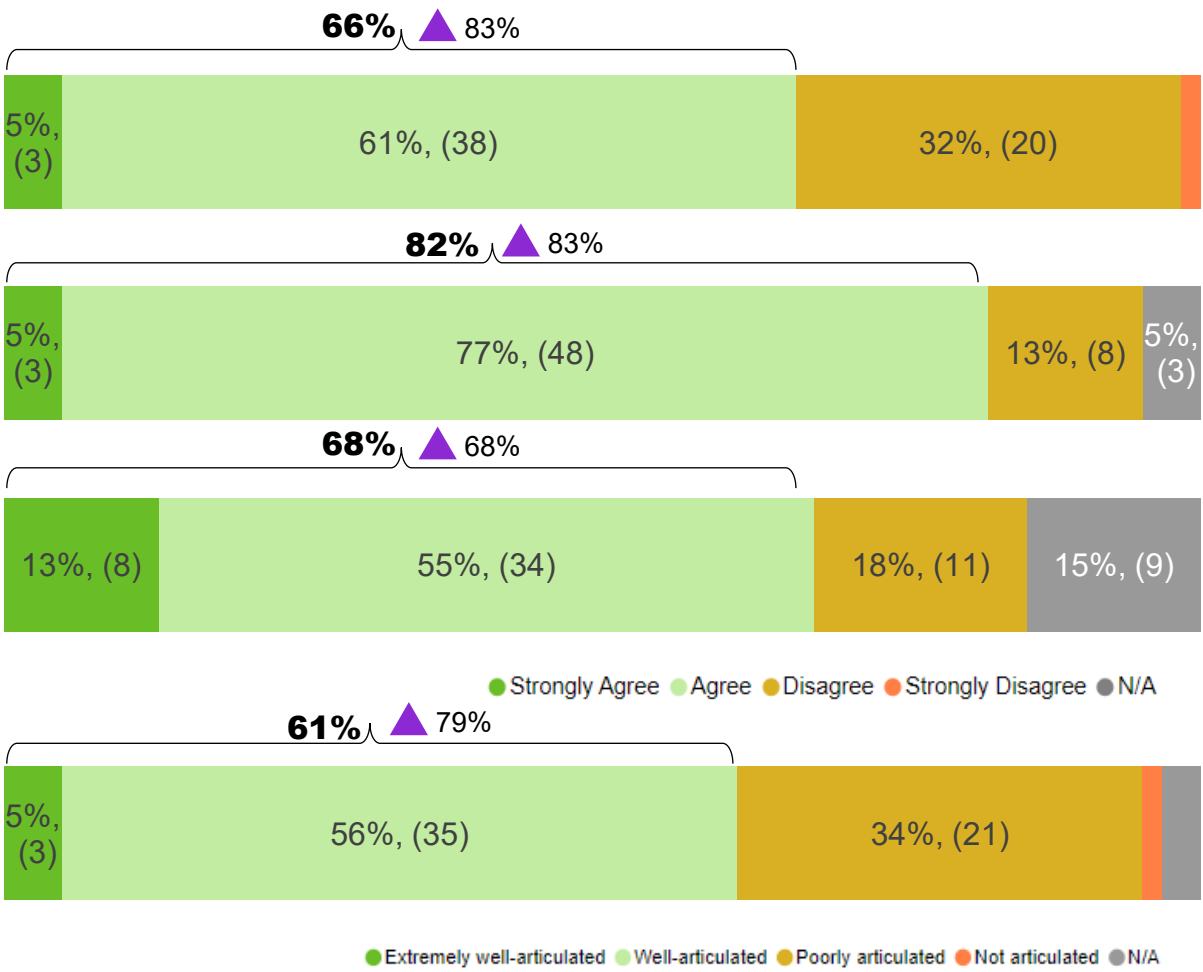
TRP FR Quality Survey: Equity, Gender and Human Rights

In W 3-5 funding requests the TRP saw significant drops in attention on gender (45% in W3-5, 68% in W1-2 ▲), human rights (52% in W3-5, 65% in W1-2 ▲) and equity (77% positive in W3-5, 83% in W1-2 ▲).

Focus on Equity: The funding request demonstrates investment in equitable health outcomes with proposals to address structural barriers and improve access.

77% ▲ 83%

| 5%, (3) | 73%, (45) | 19%, (12) | |
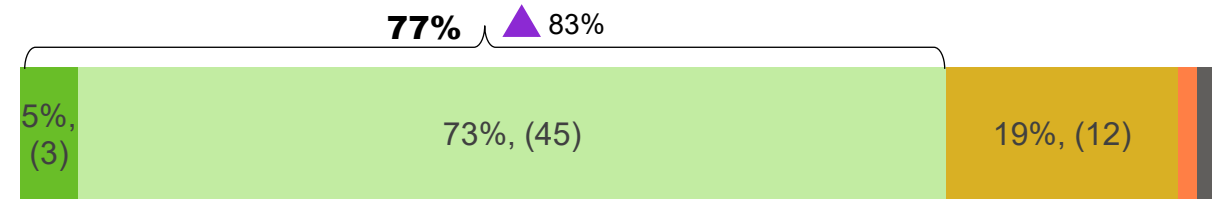
Focus on Gender: The funding request maximizes gender equality by considering and addressing gender inequalities and gender-related barriers that impact on health outcomes.

45% ▲ 68%

| 3%, (2) | 42%, (26) | 48%, (30) | 5%, (3) |
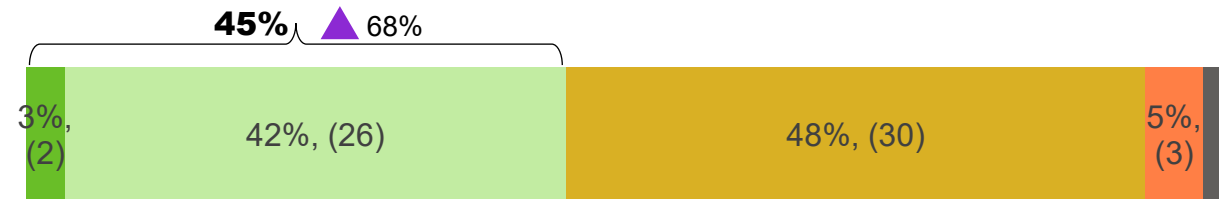
Focus on Human Rights: The funding request ensures that human rights-related barriers to accessing services are adequately analyzed and addressed to achieve the set targets.

52% ▲ 65%

| 52%, (32) | 39%, (24) | 8%, (5) | |

● Strongly Agree ● Agree ● Disagree ● Strongly Disagree ● N/A
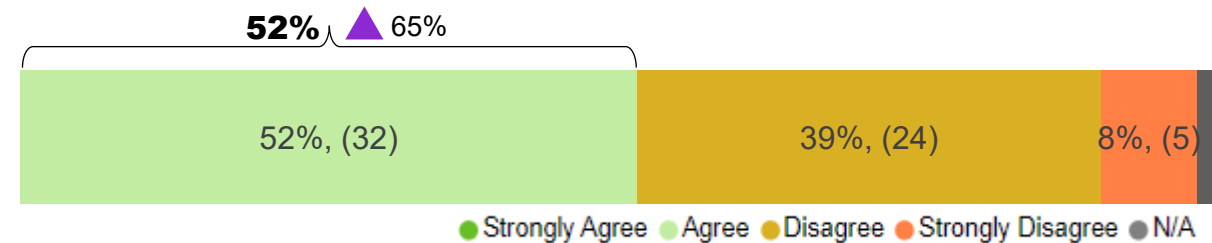
TRP Cross-cutting Observations – Windows 1&2

Reminder from previous Grant Cycle 7 TRP Windows

- ▶ Notable improvement in overall quality of funding requests and TRP congratulates Applicants for progressive use of national data to guide selection of interventions, yet significant **prioritization and ambition** challenges remain as allocation budgets are spread too thinly or essential interventions front-loaded

- ▶ **High program management costs** remain a concern, while i) **PAAR includes critical interventions**; ii) examples of PAAR amounts double the size of allocation; iii) Equity, Human Rights and Gender investments commonly placed in PAAR

- ▶ **Collaboration required** among partners **at country level, especially during grant implementation**

- ▶ Need for further efforts in **market-shaping and introduction** of health products

- ▶ **Little progress seen in private sector engagement** despite critical role in responses and sustainability

- Examples of increased **optimization and precision** in HTM responses but more progress is needed

- Increased quality and quantity of **RSSH investments**, however, concerns remain about slow shift of investments to system strengthening

- Increased focus on **integration** with commendable examples in some areas and missed opportunities in others (e.g. RMNCAH, SHR, PHC and HRH)

Urgency of Sustainability Planning

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Thematic Lesson : **Sustainability continues to be considered too little and too late**

TRP Observations

- The TRP found relatively **limited attention to sustainability across the portfolio, as evidenced by a lack of urgency and preparedness for transition/reduction of donor funding**. Progress on sustainability plans has stalled in several countries, although some were developed in GC6. Some Applicants developed their transition plan only when they became eligible for transition funding; this is too late. (In contrast, one country included planning for donor transition and sustainability in their national strategic plan.)

- When considered, Applicants often emphasize **financial transition** from the Global Fund support in their sustainability planning. **Other dimensions are overlooked in sustainability and transition plans,** such as governance, programmatic, implementation arrangements, and human rights and gender, even in Focused portfolios.

- Some of these broader dimensions of sustainability require **legal and policy reforms** that are non-linear, unpredictable, and take considerable time and effort, beyond a single grant cycle. By the time Applicants are invited to apply for a Tailored for Transition modality, **it is often too late to influence the legal framework**.

Thematic Lesson : Sustainability continues to be considered too little and too late

TRP Observations

- **Sustainability of CSO/CL service often becomes a focus too close to transition**. In addition, transition plans do not sufficiently emphasize mechanisms to sustain financing to CSOs. Very few applicants, even from transition countries, demonstrated significant progress in their GC6 plans to build public (social) contracting for funding CSO/CL services to reach key and vulnerable populations.

- **Applicants and the TRP are getting mixed messages about transition timelines**, especially when some countries receive transition funding but then become re-eligible to receive an allocation.

- The TRP contextualized its overarching review criterion on sustainability to different portfolios, however, it recognizes that **the Sustainability, Transition and Co-financing Policy and the TRP review criteria might require more tailoring and specificity** to ensure its relevance and consistency in terms of where countries are (and should be) on their journey to sustainability.

Thematic Lesson

: Sustainability continues to be considered too little and too late

Recommendations

Applicants

- Applicants, with the support of technical partners, should include sustainability and donor transition planning in their national strategic plans. This should cover all dimensions of sustainability, beyond financial donor transition, required for sustained epidemic control.

Secretariat and Technical Partners

- The Secretariat should provide clearer guidance to applicants on the predictability of its transition timelines.

- The Secretariat and technical partners should articulate clearer expectations on 'sustainability' across the spectrum of portfolios from low-income to upper-middle income countries, from COEs to transition countries, and monitor the progress of sustainability preparedness over several grant cycles.

- The Secretariat should explicitly highlight its commitment to supporting Applicants' transition, which requires multi-cycle planning to shift from national program support to strengthening and eventually to sustainability.

Thematic Lesson

: Sustainability continues to be considered too little and too late

Recommendations

Secretariat and Technical Partners

- Technical partners should increase their technical support for initiating legal reviews and reforms that require longer-term planning and addressing policy challenges for sustainable HIV, TB, and Malaria programs.

- In some settings, the TRP recommends moving to government and national Principal Recipients for pre-transition and transition grants and planning earlier to allow them sufficient time to develop adequate management capacity to operate the programs and deliver services.

- In some environments with criminalized populations for HIV and closed civil society spaces, a separate funding stream would work better for continuity of CSOs/community-led services (a separate track of financing).

Challenging Operating Environments (COEs)

Thematic Lesson :

Including human rights context into Challenging Operating Environment (COE) definition & focusing on national capacity

TRP Observations

- COEs are diverse and include countries/settings with failed states, functional governments, presence or absence of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and those with active conflicts

- Global Fund definition of COE focuses on state fragility and humanitarian crisis. However, **some countries not classified as COEs have human rights crisis which makes programming for key populations very challenging**. Eg: Cases where CSOs safety and access to funding are compromised, which affects Applicants' ability to reach disease targets

- Due to limited national capacity in COE settings, **the Principal Recipient is often an International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) which limits financial and programmatic sustainability**

Recommendations

Applicants and Global Fund Secretariat

- Further information on human rights crisis within the operational context, including reflections from Civil Society, is needed to enhance TRP review

Global Fund Secretariat

- TRP recommends INGOs in COE countries to include interventions for building capacity of Governments and non-governmental institutions
- Countries with emerging or chronic crisis for key populations or human rights crisis could be classified as COEs, allowing TRP to adapt its review criteria

Refugee & Migrant Populations

Thematic Lesson :

Further emphasis needed on refugee and migrant populations affected by the three diseases, including better programmatic data and partnerships for better solutions

TRP Observations

- The TRP reviewed several countries experiencing human rights violations, stigma, discrimination, as well as the health impacts of torture and war, along with diverse health profiles for non-national refugee and migrant populations. **In these contexts, the funding requests often did not adequately address the higher vulnerability of migrants and refugee populations** to HIV, TB and malaria.

- **Difficulties in obtaining comprehensive and accurate programmatic data, particularly on mixed mobile populations** (including internally displaced persons, refugees, and seasonal migrants), have made it challenging for Applicants to demonstrate clear programming for these populations. It has also been difficult for Applicants to understand the various types of migrants and refugee populations and their specific needs, resulting in significant data gaps in planning for prevention, treatment, and care across the continuum.

- **TRP acknowledged that it is challenging to identify operational solutions to address health issues in refugee and migrant populations** and access to care in both source and destination locations, including the need for periodic follow-up screenings. Furthermore, the TRP identified weak partnerships and coordination between governments, national HIV/TB/malaria programs and relevant services, hindering effective health solutions.

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Thematic Lesson :

Recommendations

Applicants

- Invest in and use programmatic data on refugee and migrant populations for better decision making and programming. This data, to be developed in collaboration with key stakeholders should be informed by existing studies. It should also be developed in consultation with migrant and mobile communities to identify population size estimates, migration patterns, socio-economic profiles, and intersections with HIV, TB, and malaria key and vulnerable populations

- Find creative locally adapted, context specific, inclusive and tailored solutions to address refugee and migrant populations . For example, developing cross border agreements and collaboration to improve access to HIV, TB, and malaria services

Technical Partners

- Document and facilitate exchange of good practices of operational solutions and cooperation between countries and/or organizations that address the needs of refugee and migrant populations. For example, implementation of existing minimum service packages and migration-specific Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) in the context of access to health care.

Potential for better integration of malaria interventions between the Global Fund and Gavi

Potential for better integration of malaria interventions between the Global Fund and Gavi

TRP members	• Have participated in **29** GAVI Independent Review Panel reviews (20 in 2023 and 9 in 2024)
GAVI IRC members	• Have participated in **2** TRP funding request reviews in 2024

• For GC8, applicants, Gavi and the Global Fund, and technical partners maximize funding synergies and prioritization by **coordinating the preparation of GF and Gavi malaria vaccine funding requests**, particularly where funding is constrained

• GF and WHO should disseminate guidance and technical assistance to ensure funding requests include information on malaria vaccine strategies

• GF could consider funding aspects of malaria vaccines delivery (e.g. RSSH investments for human resources for health, other health system functions) and how to coordinate this with Gavi despite different timelines and application processes/templates

• Essential for countries to **include malaria vaccination strategy in updated / revised national malaria and EPI strategic plans** and ensure coordination between these programs (as basis of funding requests)

• GF and Gavi could explore coordinating replenishments for funding national malaria programs that include malaria vaccines as a core component

• As part of strategy and to support vaccine effectiveness, countries could leverage malaria platforms (e.g., seasonal or perennial chemoprevention).

• Applicants should adapt DHIS2 systems and national surveys (DHS, MICS and MIS) to assess coverage of malaria vaccinations

Question & Answer

Please use the chat functionality to ask your question

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Questions

1. Regarding the GAVI IRC and GF TRP collaboration, we see it was focused on malaria interventions, with a little bit on service delivery. Has the TRP look also to try to find more opportunities for synergies around RSSH between GF and Gavi?
2. Will the TRP advise the GF access to funding how to modify its application templates so it is easier to find synergies with gavi applications?
3. Could you explain how the comparison was done between W1-2 and W3-5 in terms of sustainability and EHRG to arrive at percentages?
4. I have a question about the transition readiness assessments you are seeing included with applications. DO you feel the assessments themselves are have adequate quality and is there clear linkage between them and what is ultimately included in country FRs?
5. Thank you all TRP members. I wanted to ask TRP if you would like to share with all some of the best practices you identified on integration efforts.
6. Can there be some standard guidance relating to emergencies/displacement resulting from climate crises as part of preparedness planning for countries prone to climate hazards?
7. Can you say a bit more about gender equality? Are there specific aspects of gender equality or the gender equality marker that applicants are consistently performing well on? Poorly?

Questions

8. For missed opportunities on integration can we have access to detailed TRP comments to understand how to prepare national processes ahead of the next cycle?
9. Can you elaborate a bit more on the CSS and social contracting aspects? You mentioned that these were not focused in the context of sustainability and transition planning? were there any specific challenges mentioned in the Funding Requests? or any specific challenges that you have observed?
10. Do you consider 'social contracting' being the golden solution that we should seek in countries closer to transition? I am asking because there are serious limitations, esp. in some countries, to what we can achieve considering our limited leverage. Some governments continue to be very closed to this idea. Would you have suggestions on how to proceed in those contexts for the Secretariat?