

icaso

until **we** end aids

Global Fund Strategy: Key Opportunities for Engagement

MAY 2015

ADVOCACY
ALERT

Global Fund Strategy:

KEY OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT

MAY 2015



65 Wellesley St. E., Suite 503
Toronto, ON Canada M4Y 1G7

TEL +1.416.921.0018

FAX +1.416.921.9979

www.icaso.org

icaso@icaso.org

In partnership with:



The purpose of this Advocacy Alert is to share information with civil society about opportunities to shape the content of the 2017-2021 Global Fund Strategy.

INTRODUCTION

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund) started a process to develop a new strategy for 2017-2021 early this year. The strategy will be the roadmap used to guide the Global Fund during a critical period during which high impact interventions must be scaled up in order to achieve an end to HIV, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria. The purpose of this Advocacy Alert is to share information with civil society about opportunities to shape the content of the 2017-2021 Strategy.

This Advocacy Alert summarizes the process and priorities under consideration and provides a timeline of key milestones. Civil society advocates working to accelerate an end to the epidemics have a key role to play in shaping the Global Fund's next strategy to ensure a bold, ambitious strategy based on community priorities.

THE PROCESS

The Strategy, Impact and Investment Committee (SIIC), a committee of the Global Fund Board, is responsible for developing core elements of the draft strategy to be considered for approval by the Global Fund Board. The work of the SIIC includes development of the overall strategic framework, analysis of data generated by various thematic reviews, outreach to and consultation with constituency groups, and overseeing the coordination of the Partnership Forums.

The following reports, consultation mechanisms and reviews will be used to gather inputs:



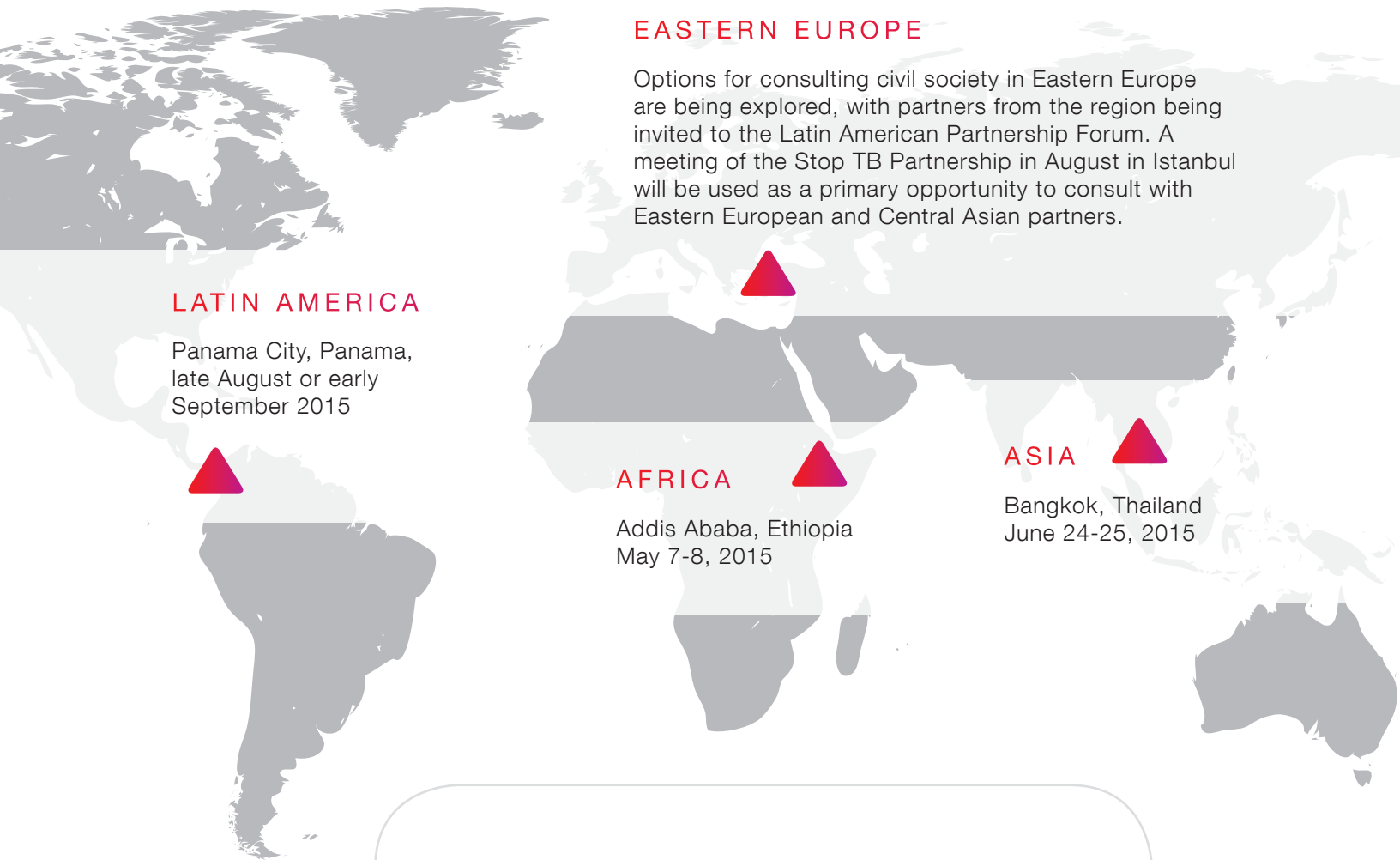
Final report of the Development Continuum Working Group:

The Development Continuum Working Group, launched in October 2014, generated a report that contains inputs to be fed into the strategy development process. Topics include operating in challenging environments, financial and programmatic sustainability, and communities, gender and political will. Read the report here:

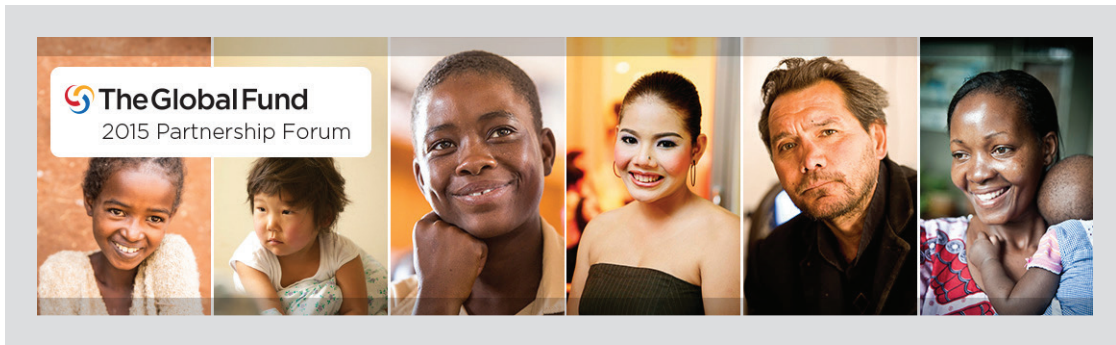
[!\[\]\(5361750c22c4e047a52f4eac1ec2d4cc_img.jpg\) **Report of the CWG**](#)

Broad-based consultations

Partnership Forum: The 2015 Partnership Forum is intended to support broad consultation, as well as more in-depth discussions with key stakeholders. The consultation events will focus on exploring general and key themes as input into the 2017-2021 Strategy. The invitation only meetings are planned for:



Civil society side meetings will be held at each Partnership Forum to provide an opportunity to review and refine civil society priority concerns.



E-Forum: A global online survey with strategic questions around high level themes and opportunities for general input is available in multiple languages (English, French, Russian and Spanish). It was launched on April 20, 2015 and will run for 10 weeks. Join the [e discussion](#).

Focused Consultations: Additional consultations will complement the regional Partnership Forums through a set of smaller meetings of communities and experts for additional input. They include:

- i. **Gender Expert Meeting in March 2015;**
- ii. **Human Rights Expert Meeting in April 2015;**
- iii. **Key Populations Expert Meeting in May 2015.**

Strategic Review: The review, conducted by the Technical Evaluation Reference Group, will assess progress in the key thematic areas of the current [e Strategy](#), identify challenges and gaps in implementation for future action, and provide input and lessons for the development of the next Strategy. Preliminary findings will be available in mid-2015 to inform the development of the new Strategy. Read latest 2015 Strategic Review [e update](#).

The Equitable Access Initiative (EAI): The EAI will provide input into the Global Fund Strategy through its final report in 2016. The EAI is an initiative convened by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the World Bank, World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the global health initiative UNITAID, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the Global Fund, to design a health framework that provides a more nuanced approach on financing for health, based on more intelligent metrics than GDP per capita. Preliminary analysis from EAI’s work may help inform early discussion around the Global Fund’s allocation model. Ideally the EAI will help promote equity in access to healthcare among countries in multiple levels of economic development. Read the February 23rd [e 2015 Meeting Report](#).



The Board will approve goals and strategic objectives at the November 2015 Board Meeting and prepare decision points to finalize the Strategy by March 2016.

Emerging Priorities

At a recent Board retreat, the strategy discussion focussed on broad overarching questions such as “what kind of Global Fund will be needed in 15 years?” and “how should the Global Fund evolve and adapt to the changing landscape?” Other discussion points included:

- How can the Global Fund increase the sustainability of its investments, support domestic financing of health, and partner with countries as they transition from Global Fund support?
- How should the Global Fund support key populations left behind in the progress against AIDS, TB and malaria, and engage countries where the political will or financial support may be lacking?
- What instruments, tools and strategies does the Global Fund need in fragile states and challenging operating environments to make progress against the three diseases?

Below are key themes that were discussed at the 32nd Global Fund Board meeting, representing an early draft framing of the strategy:



Focus on the highest impact countries

- Focus resources on highest burden countries with the least ability to pay.
- Differentiate investments for impact across diverse country-contexts.
- Increase flexibility and partnerships for greater impact and deeper engagement in the most challenging environments.



Focus on key populations,¹ rights and gender

- Invest in community systems strengthening (CSS) and programs to address gender inequalities and remove legal barriers.
- Address health inequities.



Focus on the highest impact interventions

- Support the most cost-effective interventions based on evidence and evaluation of what works.
- Maximize the impact of Global Fund resources on health systems and reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH).
- Invest in strategic initiatives critical to progress against the three diseases.
- Support the most effective approaches to deliver quality services to key and vulnerable populations.²

¹ [e KEY POPULATIONS ACTION PLAN 2014-2017](#)

The Global Fund Country Coordinating Mechanism Guidelines note that key populations may include women and girls, men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, transgender people, sex workers, prisoners, refugees and migrants, people living with HIV, adolescents and young people, orphans and vulnerable children, and populations of humanitarian concern, in each case based on epidemiological as well as human rights and gender considerations.



PRIORITY

Effectively implement the funding model to deliver impact

- Ensure realization of funding model principles: predictable funding, country ownership, inclusive dialogue, funding based on quality national strategies and through national systems where possible.
- Effectively manage risk for grant management.
- Ensure that the Global Fund does not finance programs that infringe on human rights.
- Evolve and improve the allocation model for impact.

2 KEY POPULATIONS ACTION PLAN 2014-2017

The Global Fund defines vulnerable populations as follows: “It is always important to look at the epidemiology, but in every context there are communities and groups who fall outside of the above definition of “key populations”, but experience a greater vulnerability to and impact of HIV, TB and malaria. These may include people whose situations or contexts make them especially vulnerable, or who experience inequality, prejudice, marginalization and limits on their social, economic, cultural and other rights. Depending on the context, this might include groups such as orphans, street children, people with disabilities, people living in extreme poverty, mobile workers and other migrants. Some occupations – in particular mining – and contexts may enhance the risk of TB even more by limiting access to healthy environments. Children and pregnant women – in particular women with HIV - are particularly vulnerable to malaria as their immunity is reduced. In many African countries women and girls who are not marginalized – and so would not be defined as “key affected women” – are highly affected by HIV, and must be considered as a vulnerable population. Depending on the local context, vulnerable populations require focused efforts and resources that address their enhanced needs and protect and promote their human rights, even though they do not fall under the general definition of “key populations”. The Global Fund’s new funding model directs resources to priority services where needs are greatest in order to achieve impact.”



Sustain the gains, mobilize resources

- Increase the sustainability of Global Fund-supported programs through an effective co-financing policy and by increasing domestic resource mobilization.
- Attract additional funding from current and new sources.
- Integrate sustainability throughout the grant cycle, and support responsible country transitions.

In addition, the Board identified the following (non-exclusive) priorities for further development:

- Ending the three epidemics.
- Sustainable impact and domestic funding.
- Key populations and human rights.
- Health systems strengthening.
- Partnership.
- Challenging operating environments.
- Differentiation.

Next Steps in Shaping the Global Fund's Strategy

Civil society advocates working to end the three epidemics, promote human rights, and ensure that high impact, evidence-based investments reach communities most in need, have multiple opportunities to shape the Global Fund's next strategy.

HERE ARE SEVERAL TIPS TO HELP YOU TAKE ACTION:

1. *Find out when consultations are happening and make sure your voice is heard.*
2. *Reach out to representatives on the Global Fund Board delegations to raise your concerns and stay informed of the progress and decisions.*
3. *Analyze the current Global Fund strategy and see what can be improved.*
4. *Review proposed priorities and identify gaps and omissions.*
5. *Identify key vocal local, regional and global activists and make them aware of your input.*
6. *Collaborate with activist networks and organizations that are formulating community inputs. You can also submit your ideas, comments and suggestions to icaso@icaso.org. We will share these with our networks.*

Further reading

[!\[\]\(a03a7eb2f4046e1d3c76772003e549ea_img.jpg\) Update on Strategy Development, GF/B32/21](#)

[!\[\]\(cbe2492b119e39e02a1dab2af4a4b296_img.jpg\) Solidarity Sidelined: Is there a future for human rights-driven development assistance for health at the Global Fund?](#)

Open Society Foundations

[!\[\]\(3e2231b1ad3ca8da8658228c00dd08e0_img.jpg\) Community, Rights and Gender Report, GF/B33/09](#)