Just twenty years ago, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB), and malaria were wreaking havoc on populations across the globe, killing millions in a worldwide crisis that disproportionately affected people in poor countries and communities. But the world came together to change the future. Countries pooled their resources and created the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis (TB), and Malaria. Now almost two decades later, that international partnership has helped save 32 million lives.

The progress in the fight against HIV/AIDS, TB, and malaria has been nothing short of remarkable, but key challenges remain. TB is now the leading infectious disease killer, and health systems still miss 40 percent of cases each year. Progress on malaria has stalled, and gains are at risk due to resistance to insecticides to stop mosquitoes and to drugs that treat the disease. Deaths from HIV/AIDS have been cut in half since their peak in 2004, but poverty, stigma, and gender disparity still fuel the disease, and nearly one thousand adolescent girls and young women becoming infected with HIV every day. Over 3 million lives are still lost every year to the combined effects of these diseases. It is clear more must be done. Continued global commitment, including U.S. Congressional leadership, is critical for driving down these diseases of poverty.

Why Funding Matters

In 2019 the Global Fund released their plan to support countries to save 16 million lives in the next three years (2020-22). By raising $14 billion in investment from donor countries and the private sector, the Global Fund can help countries get back on track toward ending these epidemics. By pooling funding and leveraging its purchasing power, the Global Fund has saved hundreds of millions of dollars on medicine and other health supplies. Contributions from donor countries are matched by implementing countries, which have increased their own funding commitments by 41 percent in the current grant cycle. And for every $1 the U.S. provides to the Global Fund, we have leveraged $2 from other donors to fight these diseases of poverty. The U.S., led by Congressional champions, pledged to maintain the U.S. full one-third of the need, and appropriated $1.56 billion for the Global Fund in fiscal year 2020.

In 2018, in countries where the Global Fund invests:

- 18.9 million people were on antiretroviral therapy for HIV
- 5.3 million people were tested and treated for TB
- 131 million mosquito nets were distributed
- And 32 million lives have been saved to date by the Global Fund
There is no simple “maintenance” option; without the Global Fund these diseases will claim more lives. **By meeting the $14 billion goal over the next three years, the Global Fund will support countries to save 16 million lives;** cut the death toll from AIDS, TB, and malaria in half; stop 234 million infections or cases of HIV, TB, and malaria; and unlock an additional $46 billion in funding from lower-income countries fighting these epidemics.

**Loyce’s Story**

Loyce Maturu of Zimbabwe was born with HIV. Before the age of 10, she’d lost her brother and both her parents to the disease. As a young person living with HIV: she faced stigma and verbal abuse from some of her relatives, missed school often due to ill health, struggled to afford health care, and nearly committed suicide. After being diagnosed with TB at age 12, she started receiving anti-retroviral treatment (ART) for her HIV for the first time, along with treatment for TB. “I was one of the most fortunate people to get that treatment when I needed it,” she said.

In 2004, Loyce joined Africaid’s Zvandiri Programme as a beneficiary. There, she had the opportunity to meet peers with the same status. She began to gain confidence and realized she had a full life ahead of her. By 2009, she was trained as a peer counsellor on issues around treatment, care, and support, including HIV-related stigma and discrimination among youth living with HIV. Her confidence and advocacy only grew. Loyce became the youngest member of the Global Fund’s Board at the age of 24 representing those affected by HIV, TB, and/or Malaria for the Communities Delegation and now makes policy recommendations to the Fund.

Loyce now lends her voice to the fight by traveling country to country to build support for the Global Fund. She often reminds donors the difference the Global Fund makes in saving lives, *including hers.* Loyce said, “I would describe it as the beginning of a new life.”

**RESULTS’ Request and Funding History**

As members of Congress submit annual appropriations requests to the relevant Appropriations Subcommittees, they can show their support by requesting funding in the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill for the Global Fund within the State Department PEPFAR account.

To do so, please submit a formal appropriations request form for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria to Senators Graham and Leahy or Representatives Lowey and Rogers as Chairs and Ranking Members of the State and Foreign Operations Subcommittees of Appropriations. Contact RESULTS staff Crickett Nicovich for additional information: cnicovich@results.org.

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<th>Fiscal Year</th>
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