

FY23 SFOPS Appropriations Programmatic Request: Tuberculosis

- Agency – USAID
- Account – Global Health
- Subject/Sector – Tuberculosis
- Type (**Funding** or Language)
- FY23 Administration/Budget request level – \$350 million for Tuberculosis
- FY22 Administration/Budget request level – \$319 million for Tuberculosis
- FY22 Enacted level – \$372 million for Tuberculosis
- Your suggested FY21 request level – \$1 billion for Tuberculosis
- Rationale/Justification –

In November 2020 COVID-19 overtook tuberculosis (TB) as the foremost infectious disease killer. But TB is still the leading lethal infectious disease in most low- and middle-income countries, and disproportionately affects people in impoverished and marginalized communities. While often thought of as a disease of the past, the most recent World Health Organization Global TB Report found that TB sickened nearly 10 million people and killed 1.5 million in 2020. This represents the first year-on-year increase (of 5.6 percent) in TB deaths since 2005.

Over the past two decades and with U.S. leadership, progress has been made to fight TB where it occurs most often. Innovations can now dramatically shorten TB treatment, reduce side-effects, and save more lives—provided they reach patients in time. Yet, as of 2021, USAID TB funding represents just 3 percent of the \$9.1 billion provided to USAID and State Department global health programs.

Additionally, during COVID there has been an alarming 18 percent decrease in the number of people newly diagnosed with TB. This does not reflect a decrease in incidence of TB, but rather a lack of access to diagnosis and treatment. In 2020 there was an increase in TB deaths—the best estimates are that over 1.5 million people died from TB. This represents a significant backslide of deaths of both HIV-negative people (back to 2019 levels) and HIV-positive people (back to 2017 levels).

The biggest obstacle to faster progress is lack of funding. The U.S. cannot reach the next stage of its plan to find and treat people with all forms of TB and reach the global TB prevention goals, without significantly increasing funding above current levels.

- Bill or Report Language Recommendation (and please indicate if language recommendation is new or from a previous year) N/A
- Additional information: <https://results.org/wp-content/uploads/FY23-Tuberculosis-Appropriations-Memo.pdf>