

Global Poverty FY24 Appropriations Request

USAID Tuberculosis

RESULTS requests \$1 billion for Tuberculosis within USAID Global Health in FY24.

While Tuberculosis (TB) is often thought of as a disease of the past, it remains a major global health threat, and cases and deaths are back on the rise. TB resources, equipment, and expertise were drafted into the frontlines of the COVID pandemic, at the expense of the already under-funded TB response. Now, a [World Health Organization \(WHO\) report](#) shows that TB incidence rates and mortality increased in 2020 and 2021. This lost progress on TB puts high-risk communities and vulnerable populations, such as HIV+ or other immunocompromised people, in greater danger.

WHO reports that over 10.5 million people fell ill with TB in 2021, and 1.6 million died. These cases disproportionately affect low-income and otherwise marginalized communities, and are a key driver of poverty. In fact, over [98 percent](#) of TB cases and deaths are in low- and middle-income countries. The vast majority of TB cases are curable, but in resource-poor areas treatment often comes too late.

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 USAID TB funding represents just 3 percent of the \$10.6 billion provided to USAID and State Department global health programs in FY23. **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.

We need to recover lost progress on TB to save lives

TB does not impact everyone equally. Children, pregnant people, undernourished people, and immunocompromised people like those living with HIV/AIDS are much more susceptible to TB. As a result, TB disproportionately affects marginalized and impoverished communities.

The lack of investment and added stress on health systems during COVID means the United Nations End TB Strategy goals are now off track. TB patients struggled to get diagnosed, receive treatment, and follow their grueling drug regimens. Some countries are beginning to recover, but **WHO estimates that around 4 million people are still “missing” from treatment, going undiagnosed and untreated because of lack of**

access. These disruptions in TB treatment could lead to more drug-resistant, and often more deadly, forms of the disease. The Stop TB Partnership estimates that failing to achieve the UN goals will mean **43 million people developing TB, leading to 6.6 million deaths by 2030.** This will cost upwards of \$1 trillion in economic loss and 234 million disability-adjusted life years.

Why Funding Matters

U.S. investments in TB should be expanded in order to accelerate progress to end TB, contribute to crucial TB research, and prepare health systems for future pandemics. With substantial new resources, USAID can:

- **Save lives**, recover lost progress, and accelerate momentum to expand treatment for all forms of TB, including for multidrug-resistant (MDR) TB, while expanding support for TB prevention as well as crucial TB research.
- **Assist an expanded list of priority countries** in training staff on new approaches required due to COVID-19, digital health, improving infection control, providing mobile diagnostic labs and community-based service delivery, and more.
- **Support expanded integration by training staff** on using TB diagnostic networks for COVID-19 and TB and bi-directional testing to find more active cases of disease.
- **Support countries to apply for and implement grants from the Global Fund** and leverage existing U.S. and global investments in global TB response.
- **Channel additional resources to local, community-based organizations**, which are now even more important in maintaining and improving TB services.

RESULTS' Request and Funding History

As members of Congress submit annual appropriations requests to the relevant Appropriations Subcommittees, they can show their support by submitting a formal appropriations request form to Senators Coons and Graham or Representatives Diaz-Balart and Lee as Chairs and Ranking Members of the State and Foreign Operations Subcommittees of Appropriations for bilateral tuberculosis funding at USAID at the below funding levels. Contact RESULTS staff Crickett Nicovich for additional information: cnicovich@results.org.

Account	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	RESULTS' FY24 Request
USAID Tuberculosis	\$310 million	\$319 million	\$371 million	\$394.5 million	\$1 billion