

Understanding the new HIV/AIDS funding stream for Most-At-Risk-Populations in Round 10*

Introduction

This fact sheet has been developed by Friends of the Global Fund - Latin America and Caribbean in order to provide more information to CCMs and regional organisations with regards to the new funding stream that has been established for Round 10. The Round 10 guidelines which will be published by Global Fund on or around the 20th of May will provide additional detail. Please note that the period of time between the launch of Round 10 (20th of May, 2010) and the deadline for proposal submissions (20th of August, 2010) is a month less than in previous years.

We hope this fact sheet provides you with the necessary information to make an informed decision regarding the most appropriate funding stream through which to submit your Global Fund grant application.

New funding stream for Most-At-Risk-Populations – Round 10 ONLY

A new funding stream for proposals that focus only on Most-At-Risk-Populations (MARPs) was established at the Global Fund's recent Board meeting. The decision was taken in response to the significant concerns of many Board members that the resource constrained environment will not permit a fully funded Round 10. In the event that there is not sufficient resources to fund all TRP-recommended proposals, the latter will be prioritised according to technical merit and the applicant's level of poverty and disease burden. The new prioritisation model approved at the recent Board meeting awards level of poverty the most significant ranking and so, proposals from lower-middle-income (LMICs) and upper-middle-income (UMICs) countries with concentrated epidemics are at a clear disadvantage. It is important to note that this new prioritisation model was approved for Round 10 only.

The new funding stream seeks to address this disadvantage by providing a separate funding route where proposals from middle-income countries focusing on MARPs do not have to compete against proposals addressing generalised epidemics in low income countries. With this decision, the Global Fund has set an important precedent and sent a strong message regarding their commitment to funding interventions with MARPs. This is particularly significant for Latin America and the Caribbean where the majority of countries have a concentrated HIV epidemic (more than 5% prevalence rate in one population group) in one or more population groups.

Important Considerations for applicants considering the new MARP funding stream

- **Applicants must submit one HIV/AIDS proposal only and must choose between the 'traditional' funding stream OR the new MARP funding stream.** However, an applicant *is* permitted to submit an HIV/AIDS proposal through the new funding stream *and* a malaria or TB proposal through the 'traditional' funding stream.
- **Applicants may apply for up to US\$5million for Phase 1 and a total of US\$12.5million for Phases 1 plus 2.** The Board of the Global Fund approved a maximum of US\$75million for the Phase 1 of all proposals funded under this stream, and up to US\$200million for Phases 1 plus 2 over a total of 5 years.
- **Proposals may focus on one or more most-at-risk population groups.**

- **Proposals under this new funding stream will be prioritised according to their technical merit and disease burden.** Level of poverty WILL NOT be considered in determining prioritisation among MARP proposals. The highest possible score is 8, achieved with a TRP classification of Category 1 or 2 AND a prevalence rate of 10% or more among the population group targeted within the proposal. See the table below for more detail.

Criteria	Indicator	Value	Score
TRP Recommendation	TRP Recommendation Category	Category 1	4
		Category 2	4
		Category 2B	3
Disease Burden	Specific disease burden criteria	MARP prevalence $\geq 10\%$	4
		MARP prevalence $\geq 5\%$ and $< 10\%$	3
		MARPS $< 5\%$ OR no data	1

- **Applicants must demonstrate government contribution over the lifetime of the grant.** Further details will be included in the application guidelines to be released on or around the 20th of May.
- **Applicants must comply with existing eligibility criteria.** Under existing eligibility criteria, proposals from LMICs and UMICs must focus on poor and/or vulnerable populations. They must also meet the Global Fund's cost-sharing requirements; the Global Fund's contribution must not exceed a specific percentage of the overall disease programme need (65% in LMICs and 35% in UMICs). The cost-sharing requirement is the only eligibility criterion which continues to be relevant for applicants under the new MARP funding stream.
- **In the event that a TRP recommended proposal is not able to be funded under this funding stream due to the fact that maximum resources (US\$200 million) allocated have been exhausted,** these proposals will be grouped and prioritised together with those submitted to the traditional funding stream.
- **Applicants must provide solid evidence (eg. UNAIDS and/or UNGASS reports) regarding the HIV prevalence rate among population groups included within the proposal.**

Choosing a Funding Stream

- When choosing what funding stream to apply under, applicants should consider the epidemiological reality of their country and bear in mind the distinct possibility that a fully funded Round 10 may not be possible. Under this last scenario, applicants from middle-income countries with concentrated epidemics will be last in the prioritisation queue in the traditional funding stream. A high quality proposal (category 1) will no longer ensure a place at the top of this queue. The new MARP funding stream provides an opportunity to secure catalytic funding for interventions with population groups that are often marginalised in traditional HIV/AIDS responses. Most, if not all, of the countries in Latin America have a concentrated HIV epidemic (more than 5% prevalence rate in one population group) in one or more population groups.

Sources: Global Fund Decision Point GF/B21/DP18, and Global Fund Observer No.122

* This Fact Sheet has been developed independently by Friends of the Global Fund LAC and should not be considered as an official Global Fund document. Global Fund Round 10 comprehensive guidelines will be published on or around the 20th of May.