

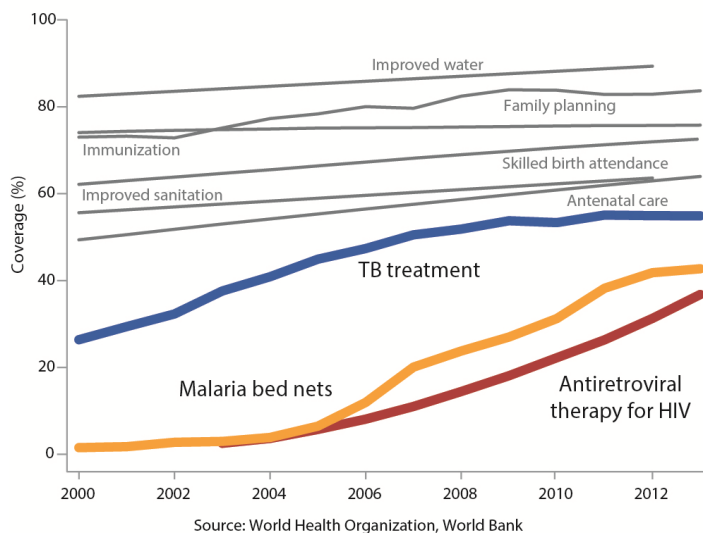
To Advance Universal Health Coverage, Invest in the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

The Global Fund was created to end the epidemics of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria. Investments made by the Global Fund also expand access to essential health services and advance Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by helping countries provide equitable and financially accessible health services to the most vulnerable.

More than one-third of Global Fund investments support countries to build resilient and sustainable health systems, which promote health and well-being while protecting against disease outbreaks and emerging health threats. Continued support of the Global Fund is essential to end the AIDS, TB and malaria epidemics and expand UHC.

The Global Fund Invests in the Building Blocks of UHC

Global UHC Progress: Core Indicators



■ Gaps in access to essential HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria services remain important barriers to achieving UHC in many countries.

Since 2002, Global Fund-supported programs have placed 8.1 million people on lifesaving antiretroviral treatment for HIV, provided 13.2 million people with TB testing and treatment and distributed 548 million bed nets to protect against malaria.

The three diseases have seen significant increases in coverage of critical health services since 2002. However, access to HIV, TB and malaria services remains lower than for other core indicators of UHC progress identified by the World Bank and World Health Organization (figure).

The Global Fund's emphasis on providing equitable, affordable and sustainable HIV, TB and malaria services makes it a natural ally to countries looking to achieve UHC.

Equity

■ Everyone, everywhere, must have access to essential health care.

The Global Fund supports country efforts to ensure that no one is left behind in the fight against AIDS, TB and malaria. Investments provide marginalized groups with lifesaving services and links to health systems.

The Global Fund works to remove human rights barriers to health. Grant agreements include five minimum human rights standards, and Global Fund-supported programs are expected to provide non-discriminatory access to services.

Affordability

■ No one should be indebted because of health care costs.

The Global Fund supports policy instruments, including National Health Accounts and health insurance, that expand coverage equitably without exposing people to financial hardship. The Global Fund helps low-income families afford a range of primary health care services, in addition to HIV, TB and malaria services.

The Global Fund negotiates large contracts with suppliers to secure essential drugs, medical supplies and other health-related commodities at lower prices.

Sustainability

■ Health progress depends on resilient health delivery systems.

The Global Fund helps countries invest in the facilities, human resources, equipment, drug supply chains, financial and risk management, and other systems needed to provide a broad range of essential health services. It supports governments to increase domestic health budgets, which is expected to lead to an additional \$4.3 billion in domestic financing for health in 2015-2017.

Applications for Global Fund grants engage civil society organizations and other community representatives to ensure programs are sustainable.

Working with Countries to Strengthen Health Systems

■ The Global Fund works within country systems to strengthen them, advancing Universal Health Coverage while addressing specific disease priorities.

The scale of the Global Fund's market influence enables it to bring down the cost of drugs and other medical supplies that are otherwise beyond the reach of many.

Investments made by the Global Fund focus on improving supply chains through better planning systems, which help improve continuity of supply, speed up delivery and reduce costs.

Around the world, Global Fund-supported programs complement national efforts to strengthen health systems and ensure health for all.

Bangladesh



■ Global Fund-supported programs in Bangladesh reduce stigma and other barriers to health access.

Programs the Global Fund supports enable local health workers to expand treatment access for TB and multidrug-resistant TB among vulnerable populations.

To prevent the spread of HIV and improve health among marginalized populations, Global Fund-supported drop-in centers for sex workers and men who have sex with men offer medical guidance and HIV prevention counseling.

Ethiopia



■ In Ethiopia, the Global Fund supports existing plans to achieve and sustain UHC goals.

Training for 32,000 health workers has expanded access to HIV, TB and malaria care – as well as maternal and child health services and basic screening for non-communicable diseases.

The Global Fund is supporting the rollout of an integrated health management information system to improve data quality, disease surveillance and use of data for planning and decision making.

Rwanda



■ In Rwanda, the Global Fund subsidizes health insurance premiums for the poor, which could serve as a model for other countries seeking to make primary health care services more affordable for all.

The Global Fund supports efforts to scale up community-based health insurance mechanisms and performance-based financing, which expand access to HIV, TB and malaria interventions, and other services.

Why Universal Health Coverage?

The focus of UHC is to ensure that everyone, everywhere can obtain the health services they need without suffering financial hardship.

One billion people lack access to basic health care, and another 150 million fall into poverty trying to access it every year.

100+ countries have taken steps toward UHC, designing unique pathways toward health for all. There is no "one-size-fits-all" approach.

"Universal coverage is not only a demand for better health – it is a demand for equity."

– Jim Yong Kim, President, World Bank

Replenishing the Global Fund Supports UHC Progress

■ Fully replenishing the Global Fund is a critical step toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, which explicitly make UHC a priority. Mechanisms like the Global Fund that can effectively distribute donor funding to ensure equitable, affordable and sustainable health programs will be more important than ever.

Raising resources for the Global Fund's Fifth Replenishment will not simply sustain progress against three of the world's deadliest diseases. It will also enable country programs that strive for UHC as a central public health and development priority to continue to thrive and expand.

