



Investing in our future

The Global Fund

To Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

**Eighth Board Meeting
Geneva, 28 - 30 June 2004**

GF/B8/11

REPORT OF THE PARTNERSHIP FORUM STEERING COMMITTEE

Outline: This Report of the Partnership Forum Steering Committee is intended to update the Board on progress of the planning and implementation of the Partnership Forum.

Part 1: Introduction

1. After two years of operations, the Global Fund is taking time to reflect on its progress by reaching out and consulting with stakeholders, including those who are not part of its governance structures and those who have not received Global Fund grants. The aim of the Partnership Forum is to determine what works, what does not and what needs to change in order to improve impact and operations, and to finalize recommendations to be taken to the Global Fund Board of Directors during its November 2004 meeting.
2. At the Seventh Board Meeting, the Board approved the creation of the Partnership Forum Steering Committee to oversee this process. The Committee envisioned the Partnership Forum as a continuous and evolving process of consultation with stakeholders, which will culminate in a meeting every two years. The Bangkok event will be the first of these meetings and will build upon work undertaken during *PartnersGF*, an ongoing online discussion. In turn, recommendations from the event will go not only to the Board but will be communicated to stakeholders for further discussion and debate.

Part 2: Advance Activities

1. *PartnersGF* has been operational since mid-March 2004, with multiple postings on CCMs. Discussions have now expanded to other themes introduced by forum members. These include the Global Fund as a financing mechanism, partnerships, and results of Global Fund-financed projects. *PartnersGF* will remain active after the Partnership Forum event in Bangkok so that participants unable to attend the event can comment on recommendations refined in Bangkok. Summaries of themes in French, Russian, and Spanish will be disseminated by regional organizations in West Africa, South America, and the Russian Federation. These foreign-language exchanges will be in existence for several months after the Bangkok event.
2. Concurrent with input from online discussions, the Partnership Forum has received input from stakeholders at a series of regional meetings held from November to June. The Secretariat has facilitated regional meetings in Amman, Jordan; Siem Reap Cambodia; Nairobi, Kenya; Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso; and Sofia, Bulgaria. At these meetings, participants explored issues raised by stakeholders and developed recommendations that have been incorporated in the online discussion fora. A November 2003 meeting in Panama City, Panama, introduced the Partnership Forum to stakeholders from Latin America and the Caribbean and shared lessons learned and developed recommendations for the Fund. The experiences of participants at the regional meetings and the recommendations they have generated have significantly influenced the development of the agenda for the Bangkok event.

Part 3: Partnership Forum Event in Bangkok

1. The Bangkok event on July 7-8 represents an opportunity for face-to-face interaction at the global level to develop and refine recommendations on how to enhance the Global Fund's impact. To this end, the Committee has paid close attention to the balance (region, disease, and organizational representation) of participants. With the event taking place in advance of the biennial AIDS conference, the Committee worked to ensure tuberculosis and malaria would not be overshadowed by HIV/AIDS. With Global Fund grant distribution and DALY statistics as guidelines, the Committee developed the following disease, region, and organizational breakdown for the invited participants:

Disease

HIV/AIDS, 60 percent
Tuberculosis, 20 percent
Malaria, 20 percent

Region

Africa, 50 percent
Asia, 25 percent
Latin America and the Caribbean, 15 percent
Eastern Europe, 10 percent

Organization Category

Representatives from the Field, 47 percent
CCMs, 8.3 percent
Civil Society, 13 percent
Board/Foundation/Donor, 14.4 percent
Private Sector, 6.4 percent
Researchers, 3.4 percent
Parliamentarians, 3.4 percent
Secretariat, 4.1 percent

2. Altogether, approximately 500 people have received invitations to attend the Partnership Forum meeting in Bangkok. In addition the Global Fund had posted an application form on its Web site through which an additional 75 applications were received. As invitees accept and decline invitations, the Secretariat with support from the Committee has worked to maintain the spirit of the above balances.

3. With stakeholders having had the opportunity to provide input in *PartnersGF* and regional meetings, the agenda for the two-day event will focus on refining recommendations. The format will be interactive with participants working in parallel theme-based sessions after an opening plenary. Plenary sessions will be offered in all six UN languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish, and Russian), and parallel sessions will be offered in combinations of languages so all parallel sessions will have translations in all six languages. At a final plenary, rapporteurs will report out recommendations. Preliminary outcomes will be publicized at a press conference in advance of the XV International AIDS Conference. HDN will produce a final report on the Partnership Forum that will be made available soon after the meeting and be distributed widely.

Part 4: Post-event Activities

1. After the Bangkok event, participants and those not attending will have the opportunity to comment on the recommendations, which will be posted on *PartnersGF* and possibly the Global Fund Web site. Once amended, the final recommendations will be taken to the Global Fund Board at its November 2004 meeting in the form of a Board paper with decision points. Final recommendations and the Board actions will be disseminated broadly to all stakeholders and posted on the Global Fund web site.

2. The November report will also included recommendations regarding future planning and management of the Partnership Forum, and on the future of the Partnership Forum Steering Committee.