



EECA RESPONSES TO COVID19: MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT OF COMMUNITIES, HUMAN RIGHTS AND AVAILABLE SUPPORT

INCLUSIVE VIRTUAL DIALOGUES AND MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT OF COMMUNITIES

1. The meaningful engagement of communities and civil society must continue during COVID-19. The CCM Eligibility Requirements remain unchanged.
2. Regardless of the IT capacity in a country, crucial to invite participants to the dialogue and to transparently and publicly share how and when to participate, and drafts of funding requests
 - Increase expected on the investment focused on Civil Society additional to the 15% required in the CCM Funding Agreement.
 - Consider and tailor to telecommunications capacity of all participants, including communities
 - Document lessons learnt and input from affected communities.
3. Need for data privacy and protection when engaging with communities and civil society via virtual platforms (platforms with end-to-end encryption should be favored given the risk of criminalization, discrimination, and persecution)
4. Meaningful engagement of key and vulnerable populations to ensure efforts and response are not further discriminating and excluding those most at risk.

COMMUNITY SYSTEMS AND RESPONSES

1. Community networks should be supported to deliver services, to avoid treatment disruptions and provide peer virtual support (where restrictions disallow face to face service provision)
 - Community outreach workers, community treatment supporters, peer educators should be enabled to provide remote support (ex. provided with mobile data credits).
 - Ensure psychosocial support to people living with/affected by the 3 diseases and KVP; including addressing the stigma aspects related to the diseases and the possible need of isolation.
 - Ensure continuity of comprehensive HIV / HCV and other low-threshold services through take-home dosing and flexibility in dosing and adapting NSP programs to be less reliant on hand to hand distribution.
2. Community-led monitoring: Support communities to monitor and report service disruptions, commodity stockouts and human rights violations
3. Apply a gender and age lens to best respond to COVID-19 and the three diseases.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN TIMES OF COVID

1. GF remains committed to human rights and gender equality, including in its decision-making around COVID-19. Rights-based and gender-responsive approaches will enable countries to best respond to COVID-19
2. Any COVID-related changes will strive to ensure barriers to health services are not exacerbated and health needs and human rights of those most vulnerable are met.
3. PRs/SRs must continue to adhere to the five minimum human rights standards in grant agreements. If a violation of these standards occurs, report it through the Global Fund's Office of Inspector General's I Speak Out Now form, email ispeakoutnow@theglobalfund.org, or call the hotline +1 704 541 6918.
4. Programs to remove human rights and gender-related should be maintained/ strengthened and tailored to provide support to COVID-19 response and those most affected, including health care providers.

Monitoring human rights violations and referring to support and mechanisms of redress

Access to legal support

Managing GBV/IPV

Safety and security of program implementers and clients

HOW TO PARTICIPATE, AND ENSURE COMMUNITIES & CIVIL SOCIETY ARE NOT EXCLUDED?

- Reach out to the CCM leadership and PRs to get information about where the process is, how communities and civil society can contribute; bring ideas.
- Seek support from other partners on the ground (community representatives on the CCM, technical partner representatives – UNAIDS, WHO Euro, UNDP etc)
- Notify the country Fund Portfolio Manager if you have concerns after exhausting other channels
- Notify the GF CCM Hub
- Notify Community, Rights and Gender department

AVAILABLE SUPPORT

- CRG SI Technical Assistance to support to civil society and community organizations to meaningfully engage in the Global Fund model (for more, access <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/funding-model/throughout-the-cycle/community-rights-gender-technical-assistance-program/>). Contact CRGTA@theglobalfund.org for more information.
- CRG regional platforms – EHRA in EECA
- Global and regional networks of key and vulnerable populations