

Newsletter #10, December 2024

### **Updates**

# Webinar: Results of the 52nd Meeting of the Global Fund's Board

The 52d meeting of the Global Fund's Board took place on 19 - 22 November 2024 in Lilongwe, Malawi. A number of issues, critical for EECA region, were discussed at this meeting, and important decisions were taken, including on such issues as Allocation Methodology, Global Disease Split, Catalytic Investments, Sustainability Transition and Cofinancing Policy etc.

The aim of the webinar – is to provide the civil society and communities representatives from EECA region with an opportunity to receive the first-hand information about these and other key topics being discussed during this Board meeting, the decisions being made and discuss how these decisions could impact HIV and TB responses as well as availability of the Global Fund's support for countries in our region.

When: 13th of December 2024, 12.00 Kyiv/ Vilnius time. Language: Russian\English with simultaneous translation



13 December 2024



**Register Now!** 

12.00 KIYV TIME

# Assessment Report: Communities and Civil Society Learning Needs for Strengthened Engagement in Global Fund and Related Process in Eastern Europe and Central Asia



For the three-year cycle from 2024-2026, the objective of the EECA Regional Platform (since 2024 also known as EECA Learning Hub) is to facilitate timely access to information and relevant peer learning and exchange among communities and civil society to strengthen the leadership and engagement of communities most affected by HIV and TB in Global Fund and related national processes, throughout the grant cycle.

In March 2024, the EECA Regional Platform – hosted by the Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (EHRA) - commissioned a needs assessment to understand better the Global Fund-specific learning needs of HIV and TB communities, key and vulnerable populations, and civil society partners in the EECA region. This report summarizes the assessment results so that the EECA Regional Platform can use them to refine its plans for 2024-2026.

The assessment is aimed to answer the following main questions:

- What are priority learning needs (thematic areas and ways of learning) for better engagement of HIV and TB communities, key populations, and civil society in the Global Fund and related processes throughout the grant cycle?
- What improvements in the EECA Regional Platform's operations and plans could enhance the learning experience among its different target groups and across the various countries served?

**Read More!** 

### **Funding Opportunities**

# **EJAF Innovation Challenge Fund: Competition of Grant Proposals**

As part of the RADIAN 2.0 program, the Elton John AIDS Foundation announces a competition of grant proposals under the Innovation Challenge Fund. The purpose of the Innovation Challenge Fund is to create opportunities for novel ideas addressing the HIV epidemic in Eastern Europe and Central Asia to be piloted, evaluated, documented, and if successful, disseminated and replicated.



This opportunity is open when announced and will remain open until June 30, 2027.

For more information, please download the <u>full announcement</u>. To learn more, please <u>register</u> for the <u>webinar in English about this opportunity on December 20, 2024, at 11:00-12:00 London</u>.

Concept Notes with budgets should be submitted through our <u>Application Portal</u>. Concept Notes and full Applications are accepted in English and Russian. Please download instructions on the use of the portal.

Learn more about the **Foundation** and the **RADIAN** program.

**Apply Now!** 

### L'Initiative: New Calls for Proposals



L'Initiative publishes several calls for projects every year to select catalytic programs, with the aim of driving improvements in health policies and practices.

It also seeks to promote the upscaling of innovative solutions. Currently L'Initiative has opened four new calls for proposals. From the CEECA region *Ukraine is eligible* to apply.

Closing time is 12 pm Paris time 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025.

**Apply Now!** 

### **Global Fund Related News**

## Global Fund Board Takes Unprecedented Set of Decisions to Strengthen Sustainability and Gears Up for Eighth Replenishment

The Board of the <u>Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis</u> and <u>Malaria</u> (the Global Fund) held its 52nd meeting last week in Lilongwe, Malawi. The *meeting discussions and decisions* covered a wide range of topics including:



- Significant Policy Changes to Drive Sustainable Impact;
- Sustaining Efforts Against Impacts of Climate Crisis and Human Rights Erosion;
- Mobilizing for a Successful Eighth Replenishment.

Read more about the contents of these decisions on the <u>Global Fund website</u> and also join the <u>webinar on Results of the 52nd Meeting of the Global Fund's Board being scheduled on 13<sup>th</sup> December.</u>

Read More!

# Civil Society Joint Statement & Key Harm Reduction Messages in Advance to the 52d Meeting of the Global Fund Board

In advance to the  $52^{\rm nd}$  Global Fund Board meeting (19-22 November) there were several initiatives from civil society & communities to inform the decisions of the Board.

### 1. Civil Society Joint Statement

Several regional key population networks from EECA initiated a <u>joint civil society statement</u> to address the Board members on the <u>key issues discussed at the meeting</u> such as revision of the allocation methodology and of the global disease split.

The key messages include:

- Before deciding on any revisions to the allocation methodology or adjustments to the country economic capacity curve in favour of LICs, an independent evaluation of the potential consequences of such "accelerated" transition in UMICs and ULMICs should be conducted and its results should be used to inform such a decision.
- Changing the global disease split should not come at the expense of the sustainability of HIV responses, particularly for KAPs, in implementing countries.
   Analysis of potential consequences of such alterations to the disease split needs to be undertaken, its results have to become publicly available and discussed, and certain risk management measures need to be developed and taken before the decision on the revision of the disease split is to be made.
- No matter how the Allocation Methodology itself is revised, the Catalytic Investments must be protected and possibly increased, particularly for the Multicountry Funds and Strategic Initiatives.

**112** organizations from **25** countries from different regions of the world co-signed the Statement and it was sent to the Board members in advance to the meeting. Read the statement on the <u>EECA Regional Platform website</u>.

### 2. Key Harm Reduction Messages



<u>Key harm reduction messages</u> were sent to the members of the Global Fund Board developed and co-signed by the following organizations: Harm Reduction International (HRI), The South African Network of People who use drugs (SANPUD), Rumah Cemara (the national NGO working on harm reduction in Indonesia), Regional Network of Asian People Who Use Drugs (NAPUD), The Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (EHRA) and Middle East and North Africa Harm Reduction Association (MENAHRA).

#### Key messages:

- Harm reduction funding amounted to USD 151 million in 2022- just 6% of the USD 2.7 billion needed annually by 2025, leaving a funding gap of 94%, which compares to a funding gap of 29% for the overall HIV response.
- Bilateral funding has reduced substantially, and harm reduction is more reliant on multilateral funding than ever before. The Global Fund accounted for 73% of all donor funding for harm reduction in 2022, compared to just 31% in 2007.
- Any reduction in catalytic investments threatens the delivery of the Global Fund Strategy on maximizing health equity, gender equality and human rights.
- The Global Fund should step up to safeguard HIV and harm reduction services in Lebanon and Palestine.

# Global Fund's Survey for countries that submitted Funding Requests in W4-6 including Armenia, Belarus, Kosovo, Montenegro, Multi-country HIV KP EECA (SoS Project 2.0), Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan



Survey to help the Global Fund understand how satisfied communities have been with the process of developing Funding Requests is <u>LIVE NOW!</u>

Survey closes **20 December 2024 at** midnight CET.

The Key Performance Indicator (KPI) C1 marks a significant step in the Global Funds commitment to prioritize community leadership in addressing HIV, TB, and malaria. This indicator aims to measure community satisfaction throughout the grant cycle, emphasizing the voices of those most affected by these diseases.

To measure this, the Global Fund has launched the <u>Community Engagement Satisfaction</u> <u>Survey</u>, designed to comprehensively measure satisfaction across three key grant stages, aligning with the Global Fund commitment to promoting and enhancing inclusive and sustained community involvement. Please note that this survey is to measure the first stage (for countries that submitted in W4-6): <u>the Funding Request Development stage</u>. (Further surveys for the W7 funding request, W4-7 grant making and W1-7 grant implementation will be launched next year).

**Your support is needed** to gather data that can be measured.

#### 1. Participate in the Survey

It takes 10 minutes. Your insights and feedback on community engagement are invaluable. The survey, available in <a href="English">English</a> and <a href="Russian">Russian</a>. Any information that you share here is anonymous.

#### 2. Spread the Word

Help extend the reach of this survey by sharing with communities around you affected by HIV, TB, and malaria. Your effort in amplifying awareness will ensure maximum reach and as such, a comprehensive and representative response. You can share this letter, the link, or the QR code.

If you have any questions: send email to <a href="mailto:info.CRGsurveys@theglobalfund.org">info.CRGsurveys@theglobalfund.org</a> or check out <a href="mailto:FAQs">FAQs</a>.











You have received this Newsletter because you are signed to one or both of these groups: eecaplatform@googlegroups.com, eeca-platform-regional-partners-coordination-call@gaggle.email.

If you want to <u>unsubscribe</u>, please email to <u>m.sketre@harmreductioneurasia.org</u>.

Copyright © 2024 Eurasian Harm Reducion Association, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails? You can <u>update your preferences</u> or <u>unsubscribe from this list</u>.

