



21 April 2021

## **Thank you Germany for Your Generous Contribution to the Global Fund**

Global Fund Advocates Network - Africa (GFAN Africa) and partners including communities living with and affected by HIV, TB and malaria and civil society organizations, extend sincere gratitude to Germany for the additional contribution of EUR 140 million to the Global Fund. These resources will support the Global Fund's efforts to fight the COVID-19 pandemic in low- and middle-income countries and mitigate the impact on HIV, tuberculosis and malaria programs, including through deploying diagnostic tests, protecting front-line health workers and strengthening health systems. We are cognizant of Germany's earlier contribution of EUR 150 million announced in June 2020 and are grateful for these resources.

This contribution comes at a critical time with the COVID-19 pandemic continuing to ravage the world, adversely impacting the most vulnerable communities, threatening progress against HIV, TB and malaria, and putting a strain on already overstretched health systems, including at community level.

The Global Fund's leadership in providing guidance, tools and immediate funding of more than US\$1 billion to support countries fight COVID-19, mitigate the impacts on lifesaving HIV, TB and malaria programs, and prevent fragile health systems from being overwhelmed has been life-saving. These additional resources from Germany will enable the Global Fund partnership to support low- and middle-income countries to rapidly expand testing capacity and ensure health care workers are adequately protected with personal protective equipment (PPE). The investment will support countries to contain the virus and its variants, ensure those infected have access to care and treatment (including adequate oxygen supplies) and strengthen the vaccine logistics chain for fast distribution.

The Global Fund, a founding partner of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, is a strategic partner in the COVID-19 response particularly due to the organization's years' of experience working with civil society, communities, faith leaders, the private sector, foundations and governments. This work towards defeating COVID-19 is going on as the Global Fund remains grounded on its core mandate of defeating HIV, TB and Malaria.

Germany's Development Minister Gerd Müller, in his remarks on worldwide efforts to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in the context of COVID-19, said Germany was already the fourth-largest donor to the Global Fund and that Germany's additional funding of EUR 140 million this year would help maintain programs fighting these diseases. "Nearly two thirds of all tuberculosis programs have been disrupted. Consequently, the World Health Organization fears that the number of deaths in 2020 from tuberculosis will have increased by up to 400,000 worldwide, many of them among children. We must not let up in our efforts to fight tuberculosis. That is why Germany has decided to increase its contributions to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria."

Germany's place as the fourth largest donor to the Global Fund is a strong statement of the country's remarkable commitment to global health.

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