



Global Fund Advocates Network Asia-Pacific
C/O APCASO
66/5, 33 Tower, Sukhumvit 33 Road
Klongtoey Nua, Wattana, Bangkok 10110
Thailand
1st April 2020

THANK YOU UNITED STATES FOR YOUR \$3.5 BILLION EMERGENCY INVESTMENT IN THE GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS AND MALARIA TO FIGHT COVID-19

Global Fund Advocates Network Asia-Pacific (GFAN AP) along with 759 signatories from communities living with and affected by HIV, TB and malaria and civil society organisations in Asia-Pacific and globally extend sincere gratitude to the United States (U.S.), the Biden-Harris Administration, and the U.S. Congress led by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer for the \$3.5 billion emergency funding commitment they secured for the efforts of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund) to fight the COVID-19 pandemic in low- and middle-income countries.

The contribution of the U.S. to the [COVID-19 Response Mechanism](#) (C19RM) of the Global Fund will support an expansion of COVID-19 testing capacities in low- and middle-income countries, and the provision of personal protective equipment (PPE) to health care workers. The U.S. contribution will provide further support to ensure that those infected have access to care and treatment (including adequate oxygen supplies). As of 12th March 2021, the Global Fund has approved \$759 million for C19RM and \$229 million for [Grant Flexibilities](#) to support countries in their fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and to protect the gains against HIV, TB and malaria, at which point the Mechanism ran out of funding until the U.S. acted.

The U.S. has remained the largest donor to the Global Fund since it was founded in 2002, and most recently pledged \$3.68 billion at the Sixth Replenishment of the Global Fund in 2019. The Global Fund works in close partnership with the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), and the U.S. Agency for International Development's TB program.

"Communities and civil society including key populations and their organizations have showcased remarkable resilience in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic to make sure that those living with and affected by the three diseases have continuous access to life-saving medicines, testing and other health commodities", said Khuat Thi Hai Oanh, Chair of GFAN AP Steering Committee and Executive Director of [Centre for Community Development Initiative \(SCDI\)](#), Vietnam. "The Global Fund has played a crucial role in these community emergency responses not only through its grant flexibilities but more importantly through its long-standing work on building and empowering community systems with the support of its donor countries."

Commending the example set by the Biden-Harris administration to other donor countries Daniel Marguari, Executive Director of [Yayasan Spiritia \(Spiritia Foundation\)](#), a Principal Recipient of the Global Fund supporting networks of People Living with HIV and key

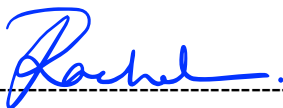
populations – including people who use drugs, transgenders, and men who have sex with men throughout Indonesia, and on issues affecting community on TB said, “The role of donors, such as the U.S., has become extremely vital now not only to address the current COVID-19 pandemic, but to ensure that HIV, TB and malaria responses remain to be on track and that sustainable and resilient health systems inclusive of community systems are built to successfully mitigate and face future pandemics and epidemics. We call upon all donor countries to support the Global Fund to fight COVID-19 and protect progress against the three diseases.”

**We hope you will continue to be our hero and rally other donors
to #UniteToFight because #TheBeatContinues.**

You have shown us that when the fight is hardest...

#HeroesGiveMore

In Solidarity

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rachel". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal dashed line.

Rachel Ong
Regional Coordinator
Global Fund Advocates Network Asia-Pacific

[Global Fund Advocates Network Asia Pacific \(GFAN AP\)](#)

GFAN AP is a platform of community and civil society advocates for a successfully resourced Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund). It supports community and civil society mobilisation in the areas of increased domestic financing for HIV, TB, and malaria; increased donor contributions towards the Global Fund; and ensuring that policy frameworks on health financing take into account community, rights, and gender issues. For more information, please visit www.gfanasiapacific.org or contact Rachel Ong, Regional Coordinator at rachel.ong@gfanasiapacific.org or Niluka Perera, Communications and Coordination Officer at niluka.perera@gfanasiapacific.org.