

Global Fund Update

This update is part of the Robert Carr Civil Society Networks Fund grant to provide Global Fund workshops in collaboration with NSWP members. There will be three more updates throughout the year that NSWP will share with members.

NSWP's first update is about the 35th Global Fund Board Meeting, which will take place in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire on the 26-27th April 2016.

The most important issues for key populations that will be discussed by the Board are:

- A decision on The Global Fund Strategy 2017-2022.
- The Allocation Methodology 2017-2019 for a decision.
- Global Fund Eligibility Policy for a decision.
- The Sustainability, Transition and Co-financing Policy for a decision.

The proposed Global Fund Strategy is acceptable, but could be improved. It contains renewed emphasis on the human rights of key populations and gender inequalities. The Global Fund Strategy is putting emphasis on how they can improve their work in human rights.

The Allocation Methodology, deciding which countries are eligible to receive funds from The Global Fund, is a complex issue. The proposal to be discussed still offers little funding for Middle Income Countries (MIC) and the Country Banding – the way countries are classified into different bands which influence the amount of funding they receive, remains unclear. Unless the Board adopts a new Allocation Methodology, MIC's which have managed to keep their disease prevalence low will be punished for their success because they will not be eligible for funding. Although it is recognised that The Global Fund has a limited amount of money available, which countries get money is being driven by Donors who do not want to continue to invest in MIC's when they are successful.

The Eligibility Policy is another area of tension. The Global Fund will continue to work with the World Bank classification, basing Eligibility on Gross National Income (GNI). The GNI has never been a fair or accurate. There is no reason why The Global Fund should continue to use this. Mathematical modeling is not the best way to approach human need.

Sustainability, Transition and Co-financing Policy is also a difficult issue the Board needs to discuss. There is a major risk that community groups and key populations will not continue to receive funding from their governments once a country transitions out of Global Fund financing. The Global Fund is assuming governments will understand the importance of key populations and communities leading the response to disease. This is simply not the case, and key populations are rarely involved in the development and implementation of programming.

For more in depth information on the position of each non-governmental Delegation on these issues contact:

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