

THE GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS, AND MALARIA
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
DECISIONS ADOPTED
TWG MEETING 14 December 2001

Criteria to determine eligibility of proposals

1. A basic, flexible, easily measurable set of eligibility criteria will be used to define proposals eligible for consideration. A combination of the criteria will be used to assess proposals. Final determination of the eligibility criteria to be used will be determined by the Board. Proposals not meeting the eligibility criteria will not receive funding. The Board should consider establishing an appeals process to address proposals that are not accepted. In addition, basic eligibility criteria will need to be reviewed periodically by the Board.

2. In considering proposals, the highest priority should be given to those proposals from countries and regions with the greatest need, based on the highest burden of disease and the least ability to bring financial resources to address these health problems¹. Also, proposals from countries and regions with a high potential for risk should be considered, taking into account the opportunity to prevent increases in prevalence and incidence. For all proposals the Board might consider criteria that take into account the ability of the country partnership to raise its own resources and to apply coordinated resources from multilateral, bilateral, or private sector sources in support of the proposal. Approaches for “weighting” and scoring multiple criteria should be assessed. Essential proposal eligibility criteria should include the following:
 - 2.1. Disease burden for HIV, TB and/or malaria: This would rely on accepted international standards for assessing disease prevalence and magnitude. It should be noted that all proposals need not address all three diseases. Selection of the disease(s) to be addressed will depend on county needs.

 - 2.2. Relevant indicators of the poverty situation, such as GNP per capita, the UN Human Development Index, or others.

 - 2.3. Potential for rapid increase in disease, based on accepted international indicators such as: recent disease trends, size of population at risk, prevalence of risk factors, extent of cross-border and internal migration, conflict, or natural disaster.

 - 2.4. Political commitment, as measured by a variety of indicators, which could include such indicators as: contribution to the financing of the proposal, public spending on health, existence of supportive national policies, or the presence of a national counterpart in the proposal.

 - 2.5. Existence of a country coordination mechanism (CCM), which consists of an inclusive collaborative partnership, with all relevant partners engaged in planning, decision-making and implementation.

¹ These include sub-Saharan Africa, currently the region most affected, as well as some countries within the Caribbean, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and Central and Eastern Europe.

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3. Country proposals will be accepted from a Country Coordination Mechanism (CCM) that includes broad representation from government agencies, NGOs, community-based organisations, commercial sector organizations (where these exist), and bilateral and multilateral agencies. In addition, other organizations, such as country or regionally based academic institutions that can facilitate and support the programs may be requested to join the CCM.
4. Submissions from groups of organizations from multiple countries would be accepted in order to help address cross-border issues related to the three diseases. Such proposals would be required to meet standards agreed upon from the above eligibility options and would need to be consistent with the priorities of the CCMs in the countries involved. It may be necessary to develop specific eligibility criteria that are applicable to regional proposals.
5. Individual organizations, such as NGOs, would be eligible to submit proposals directly. However, the proposal must demonstrate clearly why it could not be considered under the CCM process at the country level, and the Board should require validation of these reasons. Criteria for the submitting NGO would include the quality, coverage, and credibility of their services and operations.
6. Exceptions may be made for countries in special circumstances (e.g. countries in conflict).

Criteria for eligibility of proposals:

7. The following country or regionally based entities will be eligible to receive funds:
 - 7.1. Government agencies.
 - 7.2. Civil Society Organizations (including NGOs, community-based organizations, associations, etc).
 - 7.3. A third-party group charged with program and financial responsibility.
 - 7.4. Multilateral institutions, when requested through the CCM to provide for trustee, operational or advisory services. Multilateral institutions will not apply directly for funding.
 - 7.5. Universities and other academic institutions that have been requested by the CCMs to play key roles in program implementation and assessment of program effectiveness.

8. Proposal Review Criteria

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8.1 The Board will determine a detailed set of proposal review criteria.

8.2 An ad hoc working group may be formed to develop proposal review criteria options for Board approval. These could include contractors or shareholder organizations with appropriate capacity.