

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR COLLABORATION

between

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the “Global Fund”)

and

**The Stop TB Partnership hosted by the United Nations Office for Project Services
(the “UNOPS/Stop TB”)**

Preamble

The Stop TB Partnership hosted by the United Nations Office for Project Services and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the “Parties”) share a common commitment and vision of a world free from Tuberculosis (TB), where Universal Health Coverage (UHC) is implemented and where the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are achieved.

The **Stop TB Partnership** (Stop TB) is a global, multi-stakeholder partnership that seeks to achieve a world without tuberculosis through facilitating, catalysing and coordinating the work of its partners through the Secretariat of the Stop TB Partnership. Stop TB is guided by three strategic goals to: (1) advocate, catalyze, and facilitate sustained coordination and collaboration among partners; (2) support the development, replication, and scale-up of innovative approaches and tools; and (3) facilitate global, equitable access to TB diagnostics and medicines. Stop TB strategic and technical expertise and the willingness to push boundaries are crucial factors in reaching the targets agreed by Heads of State to end TB by 2030.

The **United Nations Office for Project Services** (UNOPS) is a subsidiary organ established by UN General Assembly decision 48/501 of 19 September 1994 as a central resource for the UN system in relation to procurement, contracts management and other capacity development activities. UNOPS provides the Secretariat and administers the financial resources of the Stop TB Partnership.

The **Global Fund** is a partnership between governments, civil society, the private sector and people affected by the diseases whose mission is to attract, leverage and invest additional resources to end HIV, TB and malaria and support the attainment of the SDGs. The Global Fund raises and invests nearly US\$4 billion a year to support programs run by local experts and leaders in countries and communities most in need.

This Strategic Framework for Collaboration (this Framework) serves as the foundation that will guide the next stage of collaboration between the two institutions in support of UHC and the SDGs and shared vision of a world without TB.

1. Scope and Objectives

This Framework is intended to address the overall objectives of collaboration between the Parties and associated actions to achieve them. The Parties enter into this Framework in respect of their mandates, structures and governance.

This Framework operates at a broad strategic level and does not include any financial transactions for specific projects, and nothing in this Framework will be construed as creating any form of legally binding commitment between the Parties. This Framework does not represent a commitment of funds on the part of either Party, and any collaborative project or activity with financial contribution shall be subject to a separate agreement between the Parties.

This Framework is designed to improve collaboration and communication between UNOPS/Stop TB and the Global Fund in support of country, regional and global responses on a wide spectrum of advocacy, policy, technical and programmatic areas to [end TB by 2030 and] combat TB through aligned actions in support to countries to find missing people with TB and DR-TB, improved access to quality-assured, affordable TB medicines and diagnostics, improved effectiveness and efficiency of diagnostic and treatment, increased domestic and external resources for TB programs, as well as strengthened critical elements of the health systems in general and specifically with regard to data, supply chain, and quality of services.

This Framework includes activities with Stop TB's Global Drug Facility (GDF); however more detailed information related to GDF's sourcing and procurement activities are managed via a separate Memorandum of Understanding.

In alignment with the Global Fund Strategy: *Investing to End Epidemics (2017-2022)* and *the Global Plan to End TB*, this Framework is intended to:

- Guide and strengthen the institutional relationships between the Global Fund and UNOPS/Stop TB with respect to organizational mandates, structures, governance and processes to focus on outcomes, and deliver impact and results;
- Strengthen mutual accountability between UNOPS/Stop TB and the Global Fund to effectively support countries programmes and partners;
- Facilitate UNOPS/Stop TB and Global Fund actions to support countries to introduce, scale up, and deliver effective, efficient, equitable, and quality people-centered interventions to all in need.
- Serve as a foundation for the existing and any future specific collaborative frameworks between the Parties (such as with Global Drug Facility and TB REACH) to improve country level impact.

2. Principles

The Parties enter into this Framework cognizant of, and pursuant to, the following principles, which will govern all engagement between the Parties:

People-centered and country-focus approach

All actions that will be taken under this Framework will be driven by the needs of people affected by TB and, as needed, TB/HIV, and with an inclusive country-focused approach in order to achieve impact at country level with equity. This principle recognizes that leadership of countries is crucial and that the Global Fund and UNOPS/Stop TB support countries in their efforts to end TB. This principle recognizes that TB affected communities are part of the planning, implementation and monitoring of TB responses in countries.

UNOPS/Stop TB and the Global Fund are and will continue working together within their respective mandates to align support to country-led and TB affected community-led processes in the development, implementation and monitoring of national TB plans.

Gender and human rights

UNOPS/Stop TB and the Global Fund reiterate their respective institutional commitments to take into account and address the structural, societal, economic and cultural factors involved in gender-based exclusion and discrimination, including other intersectional drivers of inequality and jointly advocate for universal access to prevention, treatment and care as a basic human right including for key vulnerable and underserved populations disproportionately impacted by TB. Efforts under this Framework will be made to: identify which populations are not accessing TB services and why; strengthen programs and systems to address barriers to access, availability, acceptability, quality; and

address demand-side barriers, gender inequalities, stigma and discrimination through participation and empowerment.

Respect for each other's mandate

UNOPS/Stop TB and the Global Fund recognize that their mandates and roles differ in important ways that are complementary and synergistic. Therefore, it is critical to work closely together and with flexibility to ensure that strategic investments made by the Global Fund are closely informed by the Global Plan to End TB and the Global Fund Strategy, UNOPS/Stop TB political, advocacy and technical priorities, and that trade-offs or challenges encountered are discussed and addressed between the two Parties in a proactive and collaborative manner.

Evidence-based

The implementation of this Framework and all technical guidance to countries will be based on the best available data and evidence to support optimized program performance and impact at country level. A critical component of this Framework is to assist country programmes and communities to implement, scale up and access TB care and prevention services that are based on the most updated scientific developments.

The Framework also recognizes that many countries and funders need to make trade-off decisions when needs are greater than resources available - in such cases evidence-based prioritization of interventions is critical. In these circumstances, the Parties commit to working together to ensure that guidance to countries and funding decisions are informed by data and evidence to the greatest extent possible.

Alignment within and between the Parties

This Framework will stimulate strong collaboration across UNOPS/Stop TB and the Global Fund. The Parties will ensure streamlined communications between different levels and teams coordinated through an established working group to promote alignment in key technical areas and to aim to speak with one voice, in particular at country level.

Recognition of the wider health ecosystem

Both UNOPS/Stop TB and the Global Fund recognize that there are other stakeholders and partners in the health sector who work on the health ecosystem at global and country level.

As appropriate to country context, UNOPS/Stop TB and the Global Fund will support each other in strengthening community systems and responses and engagement with relevant state institutions and non-state actors and key stakeholders at country level, including community groups and the private sector, bilateral donors as well as populations that are marginalised and vulnerable. The Parties aim to optimize coordination between themselves and other actors to minimize duplication and overlap of activities and maximize complementarity and synergy in support of countries.

Financing and resource mobilization

UNOPS/Stop TB and the Global Fund recognize that adequate financing for both Parties is critical to deliver on their respective missions and mandates, which are highly synergistic and complementary. Each is strongly supportive of the other's efforts to mobilize resources to meet their respective funding needs. This includes strong commitment by UNOPS/Stop TB to support Global Fund replenishment efforts and strong commitment by the Global Fund to support UNOPS/Stop TB ongoing efforts to raise financing for its work. UNOPS/Stop TB and the Global Fund also recognize the critical role that domestic financing plays for driving progress toward the SDGs and the Global Plan to End TB and are committed to collaborating in support of the scale-up of domestic financing for health. Both Parties will jointly tap into the potential of innovative financing for TB.

Transparency and accountability

Transparency is foundational to strong mutual accountability. With the aim to improve impact at country level, the Global Fund and UNOPS/Stop TB commit to being transparent with each other, with countries and with other development partners. This entails ensuring clear and effective communication, transparency in decision making and sharing of relevant data and information, including visibility on available resources, subject to applicable policies or confidentiality obligations of either Party limiting such sharing of information.

3. Areas of collaboration

With due regards to their respective mandates, the Parties agree that the following represent key areas of collaboration. This list is not exhaustive and should not restrict the Parties to collaborate on other areas of common interest emerging over time.

- Advocacy in implementing the Stop TB Partnership's Global Plan to End TB, the Global Fund Strategy, the "Find-Treat-All" initiative, towards reaching the 2018 United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) commitments and targets.
- Supporting civil society and communities engagement in global and local actions against tuberculosis. Promoting equity in access, human rights and gender equality, while eliminating stigma, discrimination and socio-economic barriers to TB care and prevention services.
- Contributing to shaping the policies of each organization, by participation in the respective Boards, Committees, Working Groups and Task Forces and aligning with other partners and stakeholders via the TB Situation Room, Joint Working Group, Grant Approval Committee, TERG, TB Procurement and Market-Shaping Action Team, etc., each subject to the Parties' respective applicable policies and procedures.
- According to the Global Plan to End TB, working together to strengthen critical elements of health systems: including community health workers, improving laboratory capacities and optimizing utilization, enhancing use of data for decision making and strengthening supply chain, pursuing integrated approaches including through primary health care to enable delivering critical services to TB patients and affected people.
- Jointly working with countries to support the development of the National Strategic Plans that reflect the 2018 UNGA targets and commitments, and supporting countries to develop technically sound and strategically focused funding requests to the Global Fund.
- Supporting the implementation of the Global Fund TB grants, including support in finding the missing people with TB and drug-resistant TB, with a focus on key, vulnerable and underserved populations; using innovative approaches to ensure that no one with TB is left behind without care and treatment; rapid introduction of new TB tools recommended by WHO; the implementation and scale-up of successful pilots, the uptake of lessons learned from implementing grants and projects (e.g. TB REACH, community based interventions etc.) and tools (e.g. legal, human right and gender barriers assessment tool, Monitoring tool, etc.); and sustained access to quality-assured, affordable TB medicines and diagnostics as countries move towards procurement with domestic financing.
- Collaborating on organizational procurement and sourcing issues: quality assurance (QA) of TB commodities; alignment of QA norms, standards and policies; standardized reporting; reference pricing; sharing of best practices; and suppliers meetings.
- Information sharing to ensure visibility on funding committed to TB commodities, procurement and supply management plans (subject to applicable policies or confidentiality obligations of either Party limiting such sharing of information); and joint planning for efficient use of end-of-grant resources when used for procurement of TB commodities.
- Collaborating for provision of technical assistance (TA) to countries in the fight against TB, including TA for procurement and supply planning, as well as introduction of new TB tools.

4. Implementation and oversight

Following signature of this Framework, the Parties intend to establish an Action and Results Matrix (the "Matrix") as a living and non-binding document to guide collaboration, track and measure successes achieved through increased collaboration between the Global Fund and UNOPS/Stop TB, and provide a basis for measuring the extent to which this Framework has served its objectives, particularly in terms of driving results and impact at country level. The Matrix will be constructed around actions identified by both Parties that will strengthen collaboration. Progress towards results as articulated in the Matrix will be monitored and used to inform decisions and actions to improve collaboration in line with the principles articulated herein. The Parties will periodically review and update the Matrix as required to guide implementation of this Framework. At the conclusion of the initial term of this Framework, or as otherwise agreed, the Parties will assess the overall performance against the Framework.

The oversight structure developed for this Framework is intended to monitor the progress of activities implemented under this Framework, encourage frequent contact of personnel across all levels of the Parties and provide a process that allows for escalation and effective resolution of any key issues.

The Parties will monitor progress towards results, with the aim to ensure collaboration is effective, as described below:

- The Executive Director of the Stop TB Partnership and the Executive Director of the Global Fund will meet annually for a strategic review of progress achieved (as agreed in the Matrix) and provide overall oversight and guidance;
- A Global Fund- UNOPS/Stop TB working group will meet annually to formally assess progress, review the implementation and resolve any operational challenges. The discussion should include a standing item on successes, challenges and risks. This is in addition to the regular meetings and exchanges that will be maintained (e.g. TB Situation Room), which remain a routine opportunity to discuss progress and address challenges.

Any collaborative activity under this Framework shall be subject to the availability of sufficient financial and human resources for that purpose, as well as each Party's program of work, priority activities, internal rules, regulations, policies, administrative procedures, and practices.

5. Responsibility

The Parties acknowledge and agree that it is not the purpose of this Framework to create a partnership, joint venture, or similar arrangement whereby the Parties could be held jointly liable vis-à-vis third parties or for any other purposes. Each Party shall be solely responsible for the manner in which it carries out its part of the collaborative activities under this Framework. Thus, a Party shall not be responsible for any loss, accident, damage or injury suffered or caused by the other Party, or that other Party's personnel or sub-contractors, in connection with, or as a result of, the collaboration under this Framework.

Each Party shall meet its own costs to implement the actions laid out in the Matrix, except if otherwise agreed through the execution of a separate agreement.

6. Disclosure and Publication

UNOPS/Stop TB and the Global Fund may acknowledge the existence of this Framework to the public, publish this Framework on its public website, and, to the extent possible, provide general information to the public with respect to the collaborative activities contemplated herein. Any disclosure with respect to this Framework, including of this Framework itself, will be made in accordance with UNOPS/Stop TB's and the Global Fund's respective disclosure policies, provided always that any such

disclosure shall be consistent with the terms of this Framework. Where there are discrepancies between the respective policies, UNOPS/Stop TB and the Global Fund shall come to a mutual agreement.

The Parties agree to consult with each other and provide reasonable notice before publishing any external communications regarding this Framework.

7. Term and Termination

This Framework shall enter into force upon the date of its last signature and shall be in effect for a term of 3 years.

This Framework may be terminated by either Party, subject to 3 months' advance written notice to the other Party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it is agreed that any termination of this Framework shall be without prejudice to the orderly completion of any ongoing collaborative activity.

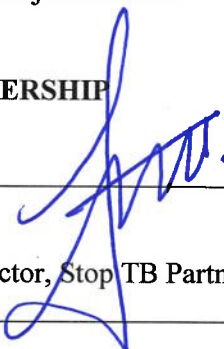
8. Amendments

This Framework may only be amended in writing by mutual consent of the Parties.

9. Privileges and Immunities

Nothing contained herein shall be construed as a waiver of any of the privileges and immunities enjoyed by UNOPS/Stop TB. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as a waiver of any of the privileges and immunities enjoyed by the Global Fund under national or international law or as submitting the Global Fund to any national court jurisdiction.

FOR THE STOP TB PARTNERSHIP



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