



**WOMEN4
GLOBAL FUND**



Opportunities for women to influence the Global Fund in your country

This newsletter has been developed specifically to ensure that [Women4GlobalFund](#) (W4GF) Advocates are accessing Global Fund Community, Rights and Gender Strategic Initiative Technical Assistance (TA). We hope to see more women in all our diversity accessing TA in line with the Global Fund's Strategic Objective 3 "to promote and protect human rights and gender equality". Accessing TA from the Global Fund is easy and this is what you need to know.

1. What might it mean for you?

W4GF has played a substantial role in increasing women's meaningful participation in CCMs and the understanding and awareness of women and gender on these important country-level structures. When W4GF was launched, just 6% of CCMs had members who either represented women or who were gender specialists and advocates. By 2017, the share had risen to 40%. This improvement is due in large part to advocacy efforts by W4GF and allies to get the Global Fund to make and better enforce requirements for women's engagement and representation on all CCMs.

Accessing TA can be a key part of your efforts to be strategic, organised, inclusive and representative, including by being a source of financial assistance to support the participation of a diverse group of women (including adolescent girls and young women) in national Global Fund processes. So - If you have not already applied for TA then you should.

The Global Fund is committed to supporting the meaningful engagement of women in Global Fund related processes and throughout the funding cycle so that communities can meaningfully engage in Global Fund-related processes.

TA enables community experts to support you for approximately 30 days over a period of up to three months. You can get TA to do a number of things. For example:

- Conduct community, rights and gender-related assessments to generate strategic information for better decision-making.
- Implement program reviews to ensure service delivery improvements that respond to barriers women are facing in accessing services
- Organise community consultations to inform priorities for inclusion in national policies, guidelines, plans and programs around achieving gender equality and equity in health responses
- Coordinate input into key Global Fund-related documents to ensure that these remain aligned to Global Fund strategic objective 3
- Organise engagement planning to strengthen participation of women in Global Fund processes and or caucusing and collective strategizing for coordinated women-led advocacy
- Map women led organizations and activities to strengthen community systems and start to use the TA to address any capacity issues related to delivery of Global Fund supported programs and services
- Refine or validate tools that support community engagement in Global Fund-related process
- Workshop to strengthen knowledge of women on the Global Fund.

To know more about TA check out this [video](#) and read the Global Fund's [Technical Assistance guidance note](#). And check out this example of a high quality TA request that was eligible for support from [Guyana](#).



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2. What is the process?

The first step is to complete this Global Fund community, rights and gender (CRG) TA 4 page [request form](#) where you have to explain who you are; the anticipated outcome; and the scope of work. In addition to this, the [CRG Regional Platforms](#) in your regions are mandated to support you to shape your request before you submit it to the Global Fund for consideration.

It may take up to three months for your request to proceed to implementation, depending on the complexity of the work and the availability of [CRG TA providers](#) that can support it. The Twenty-six (26) TA providers have been pre-qualified as CRG TA providers - selected through an open and competitive tender process, to ensure providers have a strong track record and relevant expertise in relation to human rights, gender, community responses and community systems strengthening.

3. Examples of TA for W4GF Advocates

Below are a few examples of TA requested by W4GF Advocates. There are many more in the Global Fund's [Technical Assistance guidance note](#).

"As a leader and youth representative at the Uganda Country Coordinating Mechanism (2017 – 2020), I thought TA was for only fully established organisations not led by young people. I was wrong."

TA supported the constituency of young people living with HIV to conduct meetings focused on accountability, to learn about the Global Fund funding request in Uganda and to understand critically how to address our challenges. The TA enabled us to understand the Global Fund approaches to women and girls in all our diversities. Accessing the TA was easy and it supported us to understand our role, break down what was expected and give us a roadmap to providing feedback to our constituency. We brought the Global Fund closer to young people because of TA. More young people engaged in the dialogues, and these priorities were included in the 2020 proposal. Through the TA new leaders emerged and now sit on the CCM including two young women.

Patricia Humura, Activist, blogger and amazing woman, Uganda

"Despite ongoing key challenges at the national level we would apply for TA again and think this is a valuable opportunity for women to organise to ensure our strategies and budgets response to our needs and rights."

In 2020 to support our community of women living with HIV in Ukraine Positive Women submitted a request for a TA to conduct a gender audit of our national strategy to 2030 to address HIV and AIDS, Tuberculosis and viral Hepatitis. The goal was to identify gender-sensitive interventions in the package of HIV services financed from domestic resources as well as from the Global Fund and then to introduce a gender-sensitive budget in the National action plan for 2021-2023 and to increase the participation of women living with HIV and women from key populations in such gender budgeting.

Olena Stryzhak, Positive Women, Ukraine

"Applying for TA is important. It gives you additional resources to support women and key and vulnerable populations. The process was straight forward – Don't delay!"

Hope for Future Generations has received short term TA in 2020 to build the capacity of young people living with HIV in Global Fund processes to ensure their needs and gender related concerns are included in the grant. The process was simple and the group has formally registered as Young Health Advocates Ghana,. They have applied to join Ghana CCM and are now also part of the 2021-2023 grant implementation. More TA was requested when Ghana decided to submit a standalone community system strengthening grant but we did not have any strategy on CSS. EANNASO supported us to request for TA to develop a CSS strategy. In addition to this, a CSO and community mapping was done and Ghana continues to use these and the CSS strategy. Since then more community organisations have become PRs, SRs and SSRs.

Cecilia Lodonu-Senoo, Hope for Future Generations, Ghana



4. COVID-19 and related TA for W4GF Advocates

Whilst we have you here please take note that there are opportunities for women to access TA through the Community, Rights and Gender Strategic Initiative to engage in the Global Fund's COVID-19 Response Mechanism (C19RM). Specific Community, Rights and Gender TA that can be requested for two things:

- Activity track A: Situational analysis and needs assessment: CRG-related assessments (desk review and/or including KIIs) to generate strategic information for better decision-making to inform C19RM funding request development
- Activity track B: Engagement in C19RM country dialogue processes: Virtual or face-to-face community consultation to inform priorities for C19RM funding request.

Please reach out to the [CRG Regional Platforms](#) to obtain more information and submit your request as early as possible since this TA is only available until the end of June 2021.

W4GF is a dynamic global platform of women and gender equality advocates who share a deep commitment to ensuring that Global Fund programmes are gender-transformative to meet the rights and priorities of women and girls in all our diversity. For more information, please contact Sophie Dilmitis, Global Coordinator, Women4GlobalFund (W4GF) [EMAIL](#) | [WEB](#) | [FACEBOOK](#) | [TWITTER](#)