



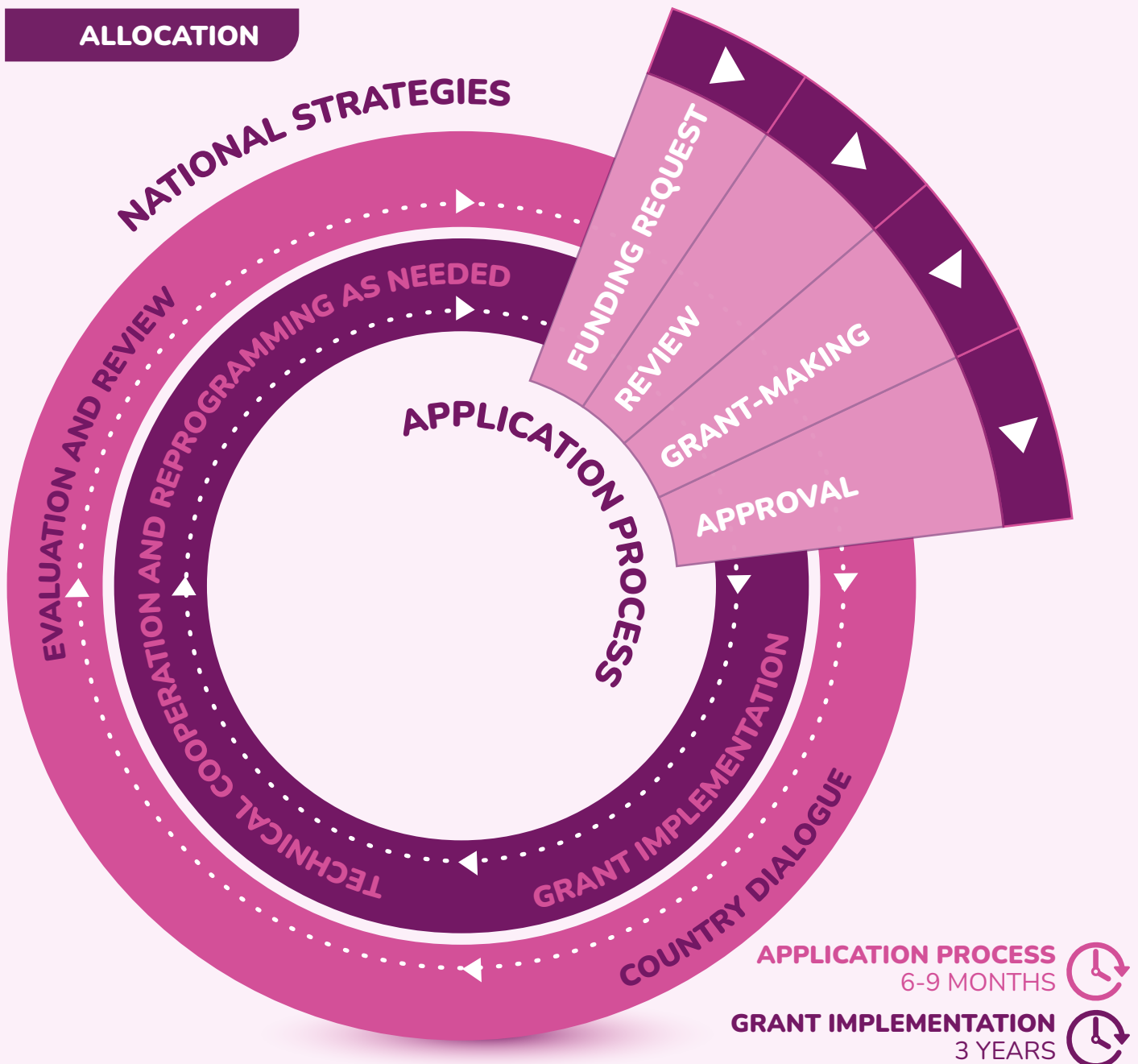
**WOMEN4**  
GLOBAL FUND

**YOUR  
GC7  
PATHFINDER**

# Empowering Women's Knowledge of GC7 Allocation Cycle 2023-2025

## Funding process and steps

### ALLOCATION



**APPLICATION PROCESS**  
6-9 MONTHS

**GRANT IMPLEMENTATION**  
3 YEARS



The Global Fund operates in three-year cycles corresponding to the Replenishment Cycle. Grant Cycle 7 (GC7), is currently in effect.

The Global Fund is promoting increased involvement and leadership of women in all their diversity during this cycle, realizing "that it is women in all their diversity and communities that are best placed to guide and often lead the implementation of programs tailored to address their needs."

In GC7, funding requests do not always come at once. Instead, for each country, there are 'submission windows,' defined periods during which these requests are accepted.



Discover the precise application deadline for your country so that you can make the necessary plans

### What impact does this have on women and girls in all of their diversity?

To fully benefit from the Global Fund's funding cycle, it's essential to understand its procedures and use tools created and collected by W4GF (link to the Digital Dossier and Navigating GC7 full document) in order to better include women's and girl's priorities and needs.



### The Annex of Funding Priorities of Civil Society and Communities

Is a new feature, highlighting 20 interventions prioritized by communities and women in all their diversity and women led organizations. It's crucial for every funding request to reference this document. Networks participation is essential, and coordination with other organizations and civil society partners is crucial. Clear communication strategies are essential for all stakeholders.

## The GF Cycle has three in-country stages



### Funding Request procedure:

The CCM recognizes Interventions, Modules, and Indicators



### Grant making:

The PR evaluates the treatments and provides a comprehensive budget.



### Grant implementation:

PR implements and reports on predetermined metrics and objectives.

## What Does The Engagement Action Plan Look Like?

Information Gathering On The Grant Cycle

Dialogue and Consultation Calls

Funding draft sharing



Engagement Development  
Developing a concise communication plan

Being part and parcel of the drafting committee or TWG  
Developing a concise communication plan

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Oversight



## INFORMATION GATHERING ON THE GRANT CYCLE

### STEP 1

### To effectively advocate for youth/women investments and interventions:

Youth/Women’s-led organizations should understand the grant cycle’s steps and identify their priorities, develop advocacy strategies, review previous funding requests, and attend meetings and webinars to understand the application process and contribute to funding requests.

[read more](#)

In order to comprehend the national context, interventions, investment emphasis, and gaps, youth/women’s-led organizations should examine funding requests, program performance, and budget use. They should then provide input to CCM and stakeholders. This can be done through Technical Assistance opportunities provided by several TA providers.

[read more](#)

## CONTEXT

RSSH:

Planning and Governance for the Health Sector for Integrated People-centered Services

## INTERVENTIONS

Integration and coordination at the service delivery level as well as between disease programs

National health sector plans, policies, and strategies

## ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

Actions aimed at eradicating the health sector’s fragmentation through better, more integrated disease program implementation.

For instance:

*Bolstering networks of care and health clinics’ integrated service delivery methods and data management systems.*

**Recommendation:** Women-led organizations (WLOs) should meet with medical facilities to discuss the protocol and sensitivity involved in gathering data from children and adolescents .

**Recommendation:** Young Leaders promoting the inclusion of HIV care in other adolescent health programs

The health sector includes plans, strategies, policies, rules, guidelines, and protocols related to the three diseases and other health outcomes.

Examples

- Evaluations and creation of national laws, policies, plans, rules, conventions, and recommendations.

**Recommendation:** Women-focused matters include HIV testing age, community health tester license, and HIV self-testing.

- WLOs at the national and subnational levels will have their capacity built in order to create, carry out, oversee, and report on health sector policies, plans, and rules—including those involving digital technology.

**Recommendation:** Establish an online or physical national women’s network to coordinate advocacy campaigns and feedback systems.



- Prioritizing the opinions of young people and women in all their diversity, gaining more support from stakeholders for youth/women in all their diversity intervention, and creating a community plan are all things that Women Led Organizations (WLOs) should undertake before beginning community planning and engagement.
- Schedule an initial meeting with key stakeholders, including representatives from WLOs, local government officials, and relevant NGOs.
- Analyze existing documents, such as community health reports, gender assessments, and community-led monitoring (CLM) reports. Identify gaps and disparities in the provision of services for young people and diverse women.
- Use the initial meeting to present the findings of the document analysis and gender assessments.
- Highlight the importance of prioritizing young people and women in all their diversity in health interventions. Emphasize the potential for improved health outcomes and social equity.
- Engage stakeholders in a dialogue about the need for youth and women-led interventions and community planning.
- Organize community meetings or forums specifically designed to gather the opinions and priorities of young people and diverse women.
- Create a safe and inclusive space for them to share their perspectives and experiences.
- In order to create an engagement/advocacy plan, establish priorities, and promote women in all their diversity interventions, it is essential to have a thorough understanding of the national context through National Strategic Plans (NSP), situational analysis, or international reporting e.g. GBV, services for women, testings, changing harmful gender norms, tackling gender discrimination and gender-based violence, supporting comprehensive sexuality education etc .



## ENGAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT

### STEP 2

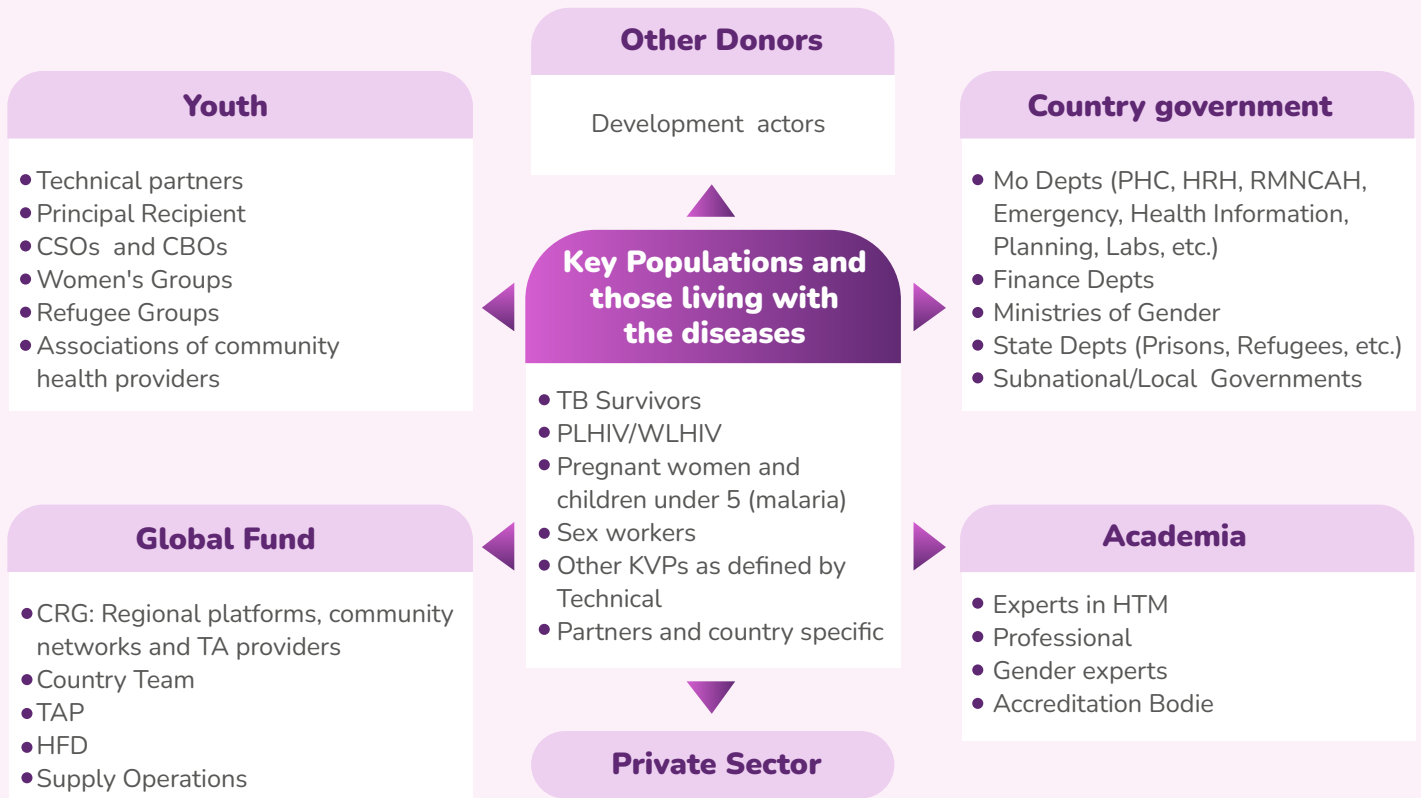
Determine who are the important decision-makers when creating plans for women investments and objectives. Government representatives, representatives of civil society organizations, UN agencies, and important population groups like LGBTQIA, TG, PWID, and PLHIV make up the majority of the nations' Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs)

[read more](#)

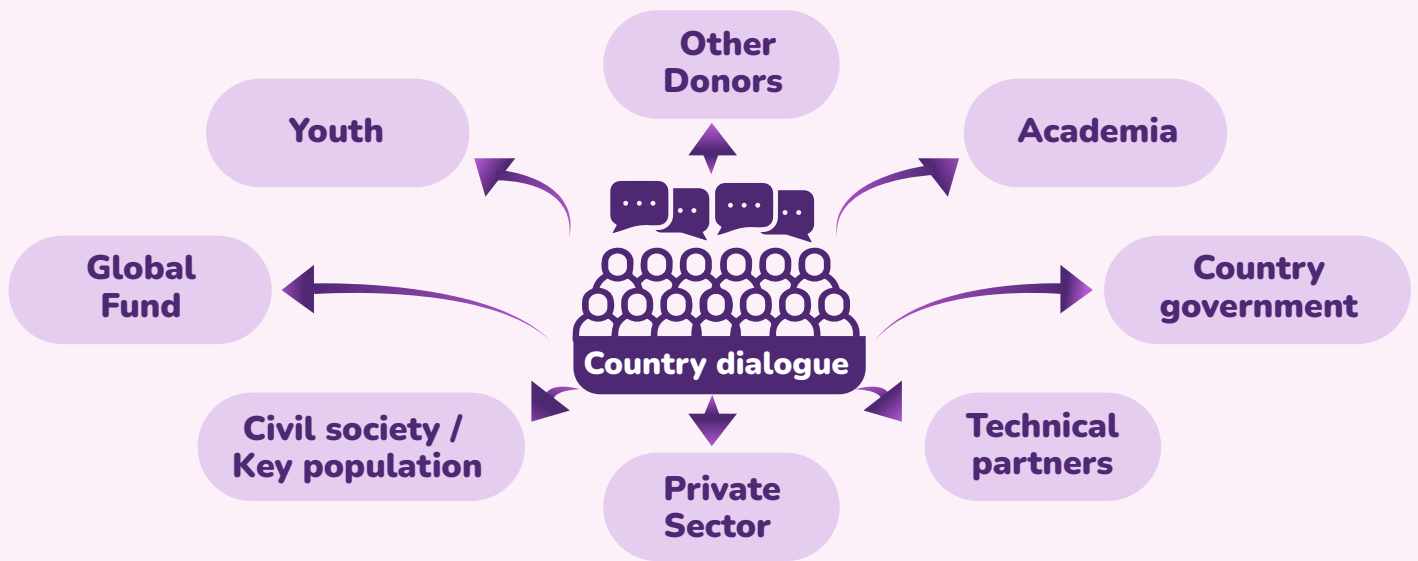
Involve the community consultation leader, the communication focal point, other CSOs, women in their diversity/youth allies, and communication channels like WhatsApp groups and emails in the development of an engagement plan.

Women-led groups can benefit from having geographically varied representatives in CCM structures to help with funding, decision-making, consultation, and feedback. This will also help to advance the agenda of women in all their diversity and push for investments in women intervention, to help transform social and cultural norms, as well as address discriminatory laws, policies, and practices that contribute to gender inequalities and increase vulnerabilities to HIV, TB and malaria.

## Possible Stakeholder Group



This is merely an example list. Participants that are required will constantly vary depending on the country.



- A responsive health system must involve women in all their diversity in decision-making in order to promote justice and efficiency in funding, give them a voice in advocating for change, identify programming shortages, and express their views. This can be done through ensuring diverse representation of women in decision-making bodies, such as health advisory committees and boards and setting quotas or targets for women's representation, considering various factors like age, ethnicity, and disability. Also, providing training and capacity-building programs for women to enhance their understanding of national dialogue mechanism and their ability to engage in decision-making processes. Finally, equip women with advocacy and negotiation skills to effectively communicate their needs and ideas.
- By allowing women to voice their opinions, advocate for change, identify programming gaps, and strategize potential implementers (PRs, SRs), decision-making involving women in all their diversity is essential to a responsive health system. Priority issues facing women and key populations can also be identified.
- In order to ensure inclusivity in prospective implementation techniques, women-led groups can acquire funding through national discourse, focus group discussions, interviews, and consultations with women implementers or Community Health Workers. In case women-led organizations don't have access to direct funding they can form alliances with like-minded organizations, community leaders, and civil society groups.
- Creative approaches to national consultation encourage women involvement with stakeholders outside of the mainstream, giving underrepresented voices a platform to speak their objectives and perspectives outside of regular talks. Women can engage in data collection and research to gather evidence supporting their cause. This data can be used in discussions with decision-makers to substantiate their arguments and demand change. Also they can engage with communities to build support from the grassroots level. Host community dialogues, workshops, and awareness campaigns to educate community members about the importance of women's involvement in health decision-making.

Innovations in Country Consultations could be virtual meetings, use of social media handles to inform on funding request development, online surveys and consultations etc.



- Engage in country dialogue by sharing stories about people and their actions or needs, discussing improvements in prevention, treatment, care, and support services, and making them more accessible.
- Collaborate with CCM to develop an engagement roadmap, prioritizing data and evidence, considering Global Fund Strategy areas for national and global goals impact.

**read more**

- Connect with support organizations such as Women4GlobalFund, the CRG platforms, the CSO represented in the CCMs..., to prepare for country dialogues and participate in Global Fund-related processes. The Community, Rights and Gender Technical Assistance Program mapping civil society organizations, vulnerable populations, and HIV-positive coalitions for community system strengthening.

**read more**

- Utilize the new priorities annex to gather community and civil society input on Funding Request prioritization, ensuring sufficient time for consultation and submission of supporting documents.

**read more**

## BE PART AND PARCEL OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE OR TWG

### STEP 4

- The Global Fund-CCM structures enable women in all their diversity and KP representatives to participate in the technical working group for funding request development, ensuring their voices are considered and aligned with national strategic plans. To participate, you will need to contact your CCM in advance to be part of the preparation of the funding request, either through sending official letters from support organization, contacting the CCM Hub to have more information regarding the CCM. You will also need to ask about the submission process and window to be sure you collect all the information needed for your priorities.
- The CCM can appoint external women-led organizations or individuals to the drafting committee, ensuring the draft finding request captures gaps in reaching out to women in all their diversity. Technical cooperation partners like UNAIDS, WHO, RBM Partnership to End Malaria, and Stop TB Partnership may provide technical support. You can reach them through the CRG regional platform who can provide support for your technical assistance requests.
- If you face challenges connecting with CCM or support organizations, contact the Fund Portfolio Manager for your country. The Global Fund Secretariat in Geneva can assist. Being a member of the transitional working group (TWG) or drafting committee allows women representatives to communicate with constituents and ensure consistent information updates.



## FUNDING REQUEST DRAFT & GRANTMAKING REVIEW

### STEP 5

Community feedback is crucial for sustainable health programs, and women participation is essential. In some countries, consultants are hired to write funding requests and gather community feedback. You can also reach consultants in charge of writing the funding request to get more information

Consultancy meetings will inform women-led organizations of innovative interventions, such as digital information dissemination, mobile health services, HIV self-testing, and community strengthening programs, aiming to reach marginalized youth communities.

[read more](#)

The Technical Review Panel reviews funding requests, which then move to the Grant-Making process. The Grant Approvals Committee approves the grant agreement, and the Principal Recipients manage the grant. Women-Led Organizations participate in resolving issues flagged by the Panel.

The program design incorporates inputs from Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM), Principal Recipient (PR), and Women Led Organizations (WLOs) for the latest technical and operational guidance, ensuring sufficient women-centered interventions for HIV, TB and Malaria (HTM) health improvement.

## ADVOCACY, EVALUATION AND MONITORING

### STEP 6

Grant implementers submit a performance framework and monitoring plan for Global Fund funding, overseen by Country Coordinating Mechanisms, Local Fund Agents, and the Global Fund Secretariat. Women-Led organizations can volunteer to ensure women-related indicators are included in the M&E framework.

Implementers will be held accountable for their interventions, and women-led organizations can engage with the country portfolio manager <https://data.theglobalfund.org/> to discuss gaps in project implementation and leverage them for future advocacy.

[read more](#)





Community-led monitoring (CLM) aids grant implementation, ensuring targets are met. Documentation and analysis of advocacy work, promoting WLOs to assess investment, participation, and implementation of women interventions. You can use the scorecard for Community-Led Monitoring developed by W4GF which is a tool that allows community members to systematically assess and track the performance of specific activities, programmes, or services. It typically includes qualitative questions and indicators that help measure the programme's impact, effectiveness, and quality. The scorecard is a way to collect and organize data that can be used for analysis, advocacy, and decision-making in the Global Fund programmes.

[🔗 read more](#)

WLOs oversee budgeting processes, plan domestic financing and sustainability reforms, and ensure compliance with CCM oversight to prevent conflicts of interest, PRSR inefficiency, and ethics violations.

Engaging women in health initiatives goes beyond monitoring and evaluation. A Resilient and Sustainable Systems for Health action plan aids WLOs in identifying advocacy priorities and potential engagement actions.

## FIND MORE RESOURCES: To help you navigate better the GC7 Process



Digital Dossier



Navigating gender transformation in GC7

women4gf.org

@w4\_gf @women4globalfund