

March 2019

Strengthening Community Engagement in Global Fund Processes through the Community, Rights and Gender Strategic Initiative

THE ADDED VALUE OF CREATING SPACES FOR PEERS TO
LEARN AND SHARE, AND HOW THIS IS CONTRIBUTING
TO GLOBAL FUND AND RELATED PROCESSES



A Joint Case Study from the Six Regional Platforms for Communication and Coordination



Plateforme Régionale
Afrique francophone



Regional Platform
for Communication and Coordination
on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
For Anglophone Africa



Regional Platform
EECA



المنصة الإقليمية لمنطقة الشرق الأوسط وشمال أفريقيا
Plateforme Régionale MENA
MENA Regional Platform



Regional Platform
Latin America and Caribbean
Support, Coordination and Communication

apcrg

The Asia-Pacific Platform on
Communities, Rights & Gender

Introduction

The Global Fund's Community, Rights and Gender Strategic Initiative (CRG SI) is a \$15 million catalytic investment which aims to strengthen engagement of communities most affected by the three diseases in Global Fund processes. The CRG SI has three mutually reinforcing components: 1) a short-term technical assistance (TA) program, 2) longer-term capacity development of key and vulnerable population networks, 3) six Regional Platforms for communication and coordination (Table 1).

Table 1. Hosts of the Six Regional Platforms for Communication and Coordination

Region	Regional Platform Host Organization and Location
Anglophone Africa	Eastern Africa National Networks of AIDS Service Organizations (EANNASO) Arusha, Tanzania
Asia-Pacific	APCASO Bangkok, Thailand
Francophone Africa	Réseau Accès aux Médicaments Essentiels (RAME) Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (EHRA) Vilnius, Lithuania
Latin America and the Caribbean	Vía Libre Lima, Peru
Middle East and North Africa	International Treatment Preparedness Coalition-MENA (ITPC-MENA) Marrakech, Morocco

This joint case study was jointly developed by the six Regional Platforms to document impact against one of their key CRG SI objectives: **To support strategic community capacity strengthening initiatives by fostering spaces for engagement, collective participation, and learning within key decision-making processes, in particular as they relate to community, rights, and gender.**

The kinds of learning and sharing spaces convened by the Platforms vary depending on the needs of the region. They include the following types of in-person forums:

Regional learning and sharing forums where communities share experiences and lessons learned about their engagement in Global Fund processes.

Regional forums for civil society members of Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs) to share experiences with representation, oversight and decision-making.

Regional training and capacity development around specific thematic topics such as human rights, gender, assessment tools, harm reduction, stigma and discrimination.

Regional forums for technical assistance providers to exchange experiences and improve coordination, timeliness and relevance of TA delivered to communities.

Global Fund-related networking zones and community dialogue spaces at regional and international conferences.

National-level civil society consultations for the development and/or review of national health strategies and national disease-specific strategic plans.

National-level engagement spaces for civil society and communities to input into sustainability and transition planning and transition work plans.

The six Regional Platforms are in a unique position to gather data from diverse communities and express the global impact of the CRG SI. It is hoped that this case study will help measure progress against key operational objectives in the Global Fund's Strategy 2017-2022, as well as contribute timely and relevant information to inform Global Fund Board decisions about catalytic funding priorities for the 2020-2022 funding cycle.



Reda Mohamed Chokri from the Al Shehab Institute in Egypt presenting at the MENA Regional Platform's "Making the Global Fund Work for MENA Communities" forum in December 2018 in Marrakech, Morocco. Chokri is sharing her organization's experience accessing Global Fund-related technical assistance through Expertise France and the French 5% Initiative.

Methodology

This case study explores **four central questions**:

How are communities using the new information and connections gained during Regional Platform learning and sharing forums?

How are the Regional Platforms' engagement spaces contributing to key strategic objectives of the Global Fund Strategy 2017-2022?

What is the unique value-add and catalytic effect of Regional Platform learning and sharing spaces?

How can the Regional Platform engagement spaces be evolved and improved going forward?

To answer these questions, a blend of **three methodological approaches** was employed:

1. Analysis of Regional Platform reporting to the Global Fund. This analysis included a desk review of 12 Regional Platform narrative activity reports: six (one per Platform) for the period November 2017-May 2018, and six for the period June-December 2018. See **Annex 1** for a detailed breakdown of the community engagement spaces convened by the Regional Platforms in 2018.
2. An online survey. A survey tool was developed, translated into English, French, Spanish and Russian, and published online using Google Forms. The six Regional Platforms disseminated the survey to communities and technical partners who participated in one or more of their learning and sharing spaces in 2018. 146 people from 62 countries completed the survey. See **Annex 2** for the survey tool.
3. Key informant interviews. Four in-depth follow-up interviews were conducted telephonically with survey respondents from Belize, Bolivia,

Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe. These interviews were particularly geared towards gaining additional insight into how the CRG SI could improve community engagement in future funding cycles. See **Annex 3** for the interview guide that was used.

The development of this case study was led by a task force of four members: Gemma Oberth (Regional Platform Coordinator for the CRG SI), Charlie Baran (Technical Advisor to the Middle East and North Africa Regional Platform), Anuar Ismael Luna Cadenda (Technical Coordinator of the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Platform) and Liesl Messerschmidt (CRG SI Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Consultant).

The task force relied heavily on support from all six Regional Platforms for the methodology, tools development, translation, survey dissemination, supporting documentation, analysis and write-up. Strategic guidance from Noah Metheny (Community Engagement Lead for the CRG SI at the Global Fund) was invaluable to the development of this case study.



Jennifer Gatsi from the Namibian Women's Health Network engaging in the Anglophone Africa Regional Platform's Civil Society CCM Members' Forum in April 2018 in Accra, Ghana. Gatsi is sharing her experience representing community-based organizations on the CCM in Namibia, highlighting lessons learned for bringing rural and marginalized women's voices to the decision-making table.

Results

Characteristics of Communities Reached by the Regional Platforms

In 2018, the six Regional Platforms engaged approximately 1500 community members from 112 countries in 32 learning and sharing spaces (Annex 1). Seventeen of these spaces were convened directly by the Regional Platforms, and fifteen were convened by partners with catalytic Regional Platform support. These spaces engaged communities of people living with HIV and affected by TB and malaria; communities of key and vulnerable populations, including men who have sex with men, sex workers, transgender people, people who use drugs and adolescent girls and young women; communities from challenging operating environments; and communities from countries preparing for transition.

Helping to gauge impact from these engagement spaces, 146 people from 62 countries¹ responded to the Regional Platforms' online survey (Annex 2).

60% of survey respondents identified as male, 36% identified as female, 2% identified as transgender, 1% identified as gender non-conforming and 1% preferred not to say.



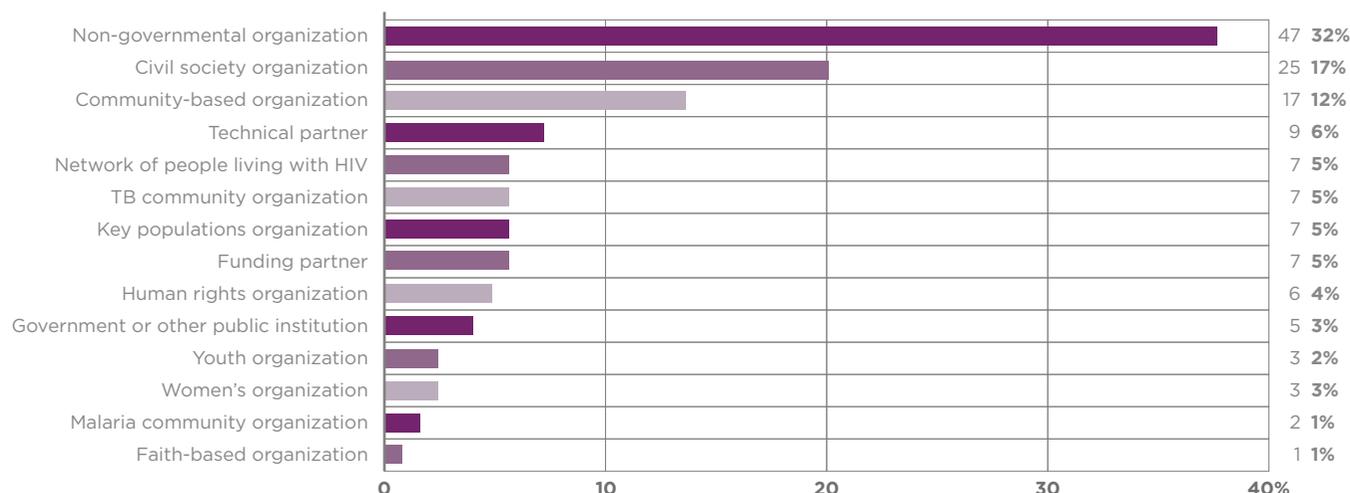
Svitlana Moroz with the Eurasian Women's Network on AIDS (EWNA) engaging in the EWNA General Meeting in April 2018 in Kvareli, Georgia. Moroz and other EWNA members are gaining new knowledge on how to access support through the Global Fund's Community, Rights and Gender short-term technical assistance program, as they engage in a session led by the EECA Regional Platform.

¹ Algeria (n=3), Antigua & Barbuda (n=1), Argentina (n=2), Azerbaijan (n=5), Belarus (n=1), Belize (n=1), Benin (n=1), Bolivia (n=2), Burkina Faso (n=6), Burundi (n=2), Cameroon (n=4), Canada (n=1), Chad (n=3), Colombia (n=1), Comoros (n=1), Congo (n=2), Costa Rica (n=1), Côte d'Ivoire (n=2), Democratic Republic of Congo (n=1), Dominican Republic (n=1), Ecuador (n=1), Eswatini (n=2), Ethiopia (n=1), Ghana (n=6), Great Britain (n=1), Guinea (n=1), Guyana (n=5), Haiti (n=1), Honduras (n=1), India (n=1), Kenya (n=4), Lebanon (n=1), Lesotho (n=2), Liberia (n=2), Malawi (n=6), Mali (n=3), Mauritania (n=1), Mexico (n=2), Morocco (n=2), Mozambique (n=1), Namibia (n=1), Niger (n=5), Nigeria (n=3), Panama (n=1), Paraguay (n=1), Peru (n=3), Senegal (n=1), Sierra Leone (n=1), South Africa (n=1), South Sudan (n=1), Sri Lanka (n=1), Suriname (n=1), Switzerland (n=5), Tajikistan (n=10), Tanzania (n=8), Thailand (n=1), Togo (n=2), Tunisia (n=1), Uganda (n=2), United States of America (n=1), Zambia (n=5) and Zimbabwe (n=4).

The vast majority of respondents (89%) said their focus was on HIV, though many said they also focus on TB (49%), malaria (27%) and resilient and sustainable systems for health (41%). Fewer said they worked on issues related to human rights (6%) and gender equality (1%).

Fifty-two percent of respondents indicated that they are current members of their Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) and 60% said they are serving as an implementing partner for a Global Fund grant (either as a Principal Recipient, sub-recipient or sub-sub-recipient).

Figure 1. Organizational Affiliations of Survey Respondents (n=146)

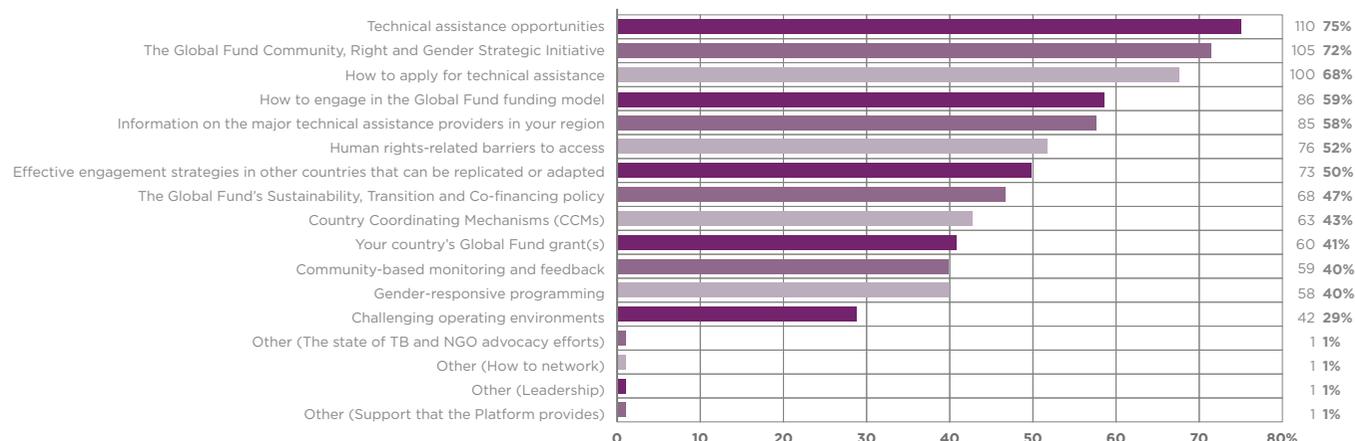


Part I - New Information and Connections

At Regional Platform learning and sharing forums, three quarters of survey respondents said their knowledge improved about technical assistance (TA) opportunities and how to apply for them (Figure 2).

Figure 2. New Knowledge Gained by Communities at Regional Platform Engagement Spaces

Survey Question: At the Regional Platform's learning and sharing meetings/workshops, did your knowledge improve about any of the following? (check all that apply)



“During the workshop there was very useful information about the experience of other countries, especially Belarus. Many new ones have learned about the possibility of obtaining technical assistance.”

Fifty-eight percent gained information on who the major TA providers are in their region. **37% of survey respondents agreed with the statement: “My organization accessed technical assistance as a direct result of participation in the learning and sharing workshop.”** This demonstrates strong progress against the Regional Platform’s strategic objective to improve community access to TA opportunities, but highlights a persistent gap between knowledge of TA opportunities and access to that support. Bridging the gap between TA information and TA access is a priority for the Platforms going forward.

Other key areas of new knowledge gained include how to engage in the Global Fund funding model (59%), identifying and removing human rights-related barriers to access (52%), and understanding the Global Fund’s policies on sustainability and transition (47%) as well as country coordinating mechanisms (43%). Respondents underscored the value of learning from other countries’ experiences during Regional Platform learning and sharing spaces—lessons which can be replicated or adapted in other countries and contexts.

In addition to new knowledge, new relationships and connections are an important value-add of the Regional Platforms’ learning and sharing spaces. Survey respondents stressed the importance of meeting new civil society organizations and community groups (71%), key populations (50%) and networks of people living with and affected by the diseases (47%) as vital to their work after the meeting or workshop concluded (Figure 3). **Important from a regional coordination perspective, almost a third of respondents said they met new people from countries where they had no previous connections.**

“It was a real learning environment with committed and available facilitators who gave us all the information, documents and links to successfully fight the three diseases. Participants from different countries shared their experiences in terms of lessons learned, successes and shortcomings in their respective countries.”

Figure 3. New Connections Made by Communities at Regional Platform Engagement Spaces

Survey Question: At the Regional Platform’s learning and sharing meetings/workshops, what new relationships or connections did you form that have been useful in your work afterwards? (check all that apply)

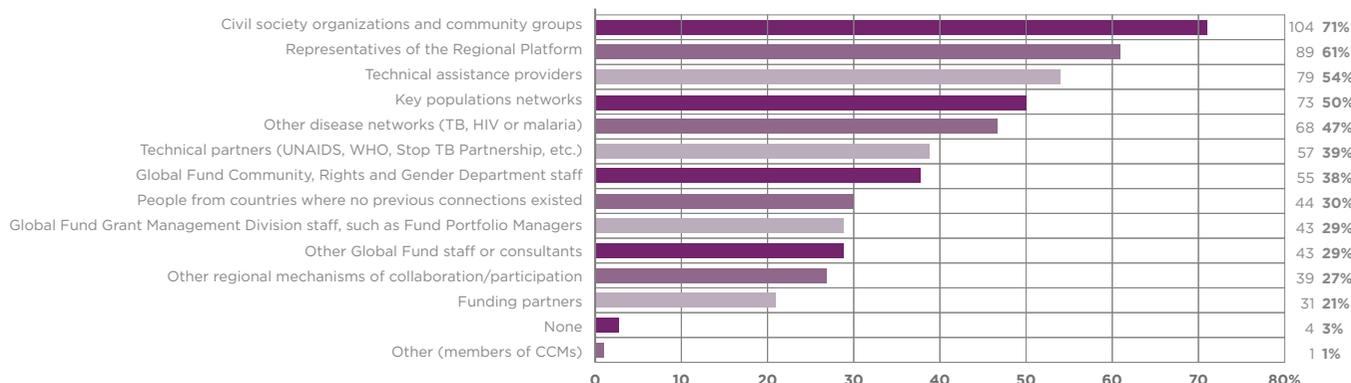


Figure 3 also underscores how the Regional Platform learning and sharing forums provide vital opportunities for communities to interface with Global Fund staff, including those from the Community, Rights and Gender Department (38%) as well as Grant Management Division (29%) and other Global Fund staff or consultants (29%).

“I participated in two meetings. I think that civil society representatives that serve in Board delegations are key people to be engaged, to link governance with regional TA and CRG work.”

“Through these Platform workshops and meetings, I was motivated to establish a very strong CSO advocacy network in Ghana.”

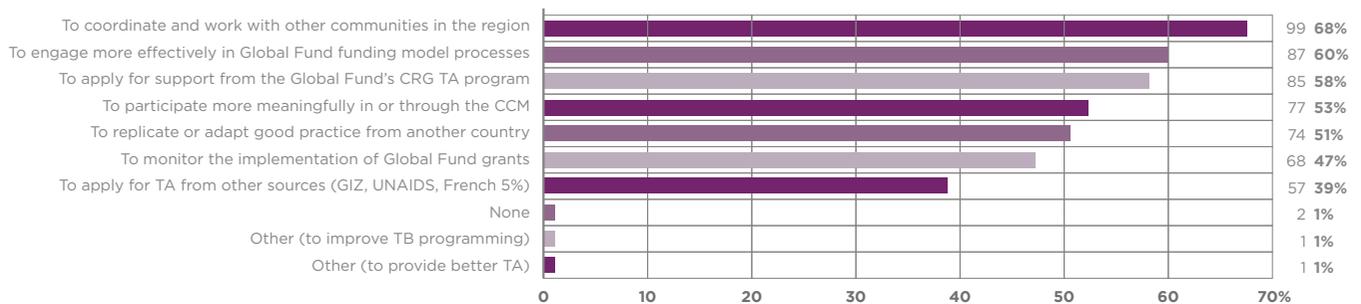
“The Platform events are very useful for meeting people from key populations.”

The new knowledge and connections gained at Regional Platform learning and sharing spaces has resulted in increased capacity among communities to coordinate and work with other communities in the region (68%), engage more effectively in the Global Fund funding model (60%) and through CCMs (53%), apply for TA from the CRG SI (58%) as well as TA from other providers such as GIZ, UNAIDS (39%) (Figure 4).

Critically, nearly half (47%) of respondents said the Regional Platform learning and sharing spaces put them in a better position to monitoring the implementation of Global Fund grants. This highlights the evolution of the CRG SI, which now extends support to communities throughout the funding cycle. During the 2014-2016 CRG Special Initiative, technical assistance was only available until country grants were signed.

Figure 4. Increased Capacity Among Communities as a Result of Regional Platform Spaces

Survey Question: Based on your participation in the Regional Platform’s learning and sharing meetings/workshops, are you and/or your organization in a better position to do any of the following? (check all that apply)



“The Network of AIDS Service organizations for South Sudan (NASOSS) coordination has been strengthened”

“Working in a hot spot of Cameroon, it will be very useful to me to make use of this new capacity, for better implementation of my activities on ground.”

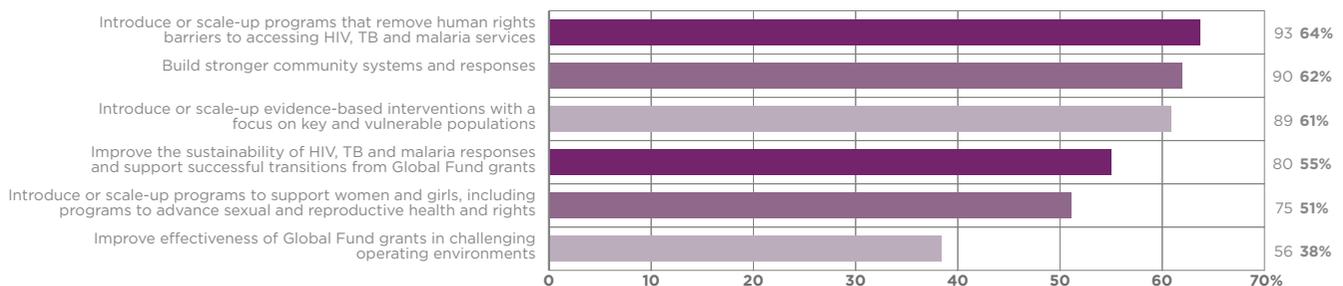
“In our country, with its model of the Social Dialogue of Bolivia, it is an experience that can be replicated to many other sectors, since they have worked with the 3 diseases, becoming a role model in the region.”

Part II - Contribution to the Global Fund Strategy 2017-2022

The learning and sharing spaces convened and supported by the Regional Platform are aligned to the Global Fund's Strategy 2017-2022, catalyzing impact against its strategic and operational objectives. These spaces have built capacity among communities to contribute towards achieving several operational objectives in the Global Fund's Strategy (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Platform-supported Actions to Achieve Global Fund Strategic Objectives 2017-2022

Survey question: Based on your participation in the Regional Platform's learning and sharing meetings/workshops, are you and/or your organization in a better position to do any of the following? (check all that apply)



Survey respondents said that Platform engagement spaces have put them in a better position to introduce or scale-up programs that remove human rights barriers (64%), build stronger community systems and responses (62%), and introduce or scale-up evidence-based interventions with a focus on key and vulnerable populations (61%).

Capacity also improved around key strategic actions to improve sustainability and transition (55%), scale-up programs to support women and girls (51%) and improve effectiveness of grants in challenging operating environments (38%).

Some specific examples of how the Regional Platform learning and sharing forums have contributed to the achievement of operational objectives in the Global Fund Strategy include:

As a result of the EECA Regional Platform's sustainability, transition and co-financing workshop in Dushanbe, **Tajikistan**, on 14-15 November 2018, 34 community members reviewed and input into the country's draft Global Fund transition work

plan. At the workshop, it was agreed that a representative from a local community-based organization for people who use drugs would be included in the working group that is coordinating the ongoing development of that plan (**Global Fund SO1e - Support sustainable responses for epidemic control and successful transitions**).

Following the Francophone Africa Regional Platform's human rights and gender training on 29 October - 2 November 2018 in Ouagadougou, **Burkina Faso**, participants applied their new knowledge and skills to strengthen human rights and gender elements of Global Fund-supported programming in their home countries (**Global Fund SO3c - Introduce and scale up programs that remove human rights barriers to accessing HIV, TB and malaria services**):

- The participant from MAD'AIDS Network in **Madagascar** returned home to combine human rights elements into the service package they offer.
- The participant from AJJN in **Niger** trained community treatment observatory data collectors on issues of data security and confidentiality.
- The participant from Humanity First in **Cameroon** integrated human rights and gender components in the advocacy they do for access to care and treatment for lesbian and transgender women.

The Anglophone Africa Regional Platform supported the engagement of civil society and communities in the mid-term review of **Mozambique's** IV National Strategic Plan for the HIV and AIDS Response (PEN IV 2016-2020) during a one-day consultation in Maputo on 23 November 2018. The Platform facilitated 31 community participants in developing priorities charters with issues they would like to see taken on board during implementation of the Global Fund grant, aligned to the findings of the PEN IV mid-term review (**Global Fund SO2f - Strengthen and align to robust national health strategies and national disease-specific strategic plans**).

During a social dialogue in Santa Cruz, **Bolivia**, on 19-20 November 2018, the Regional Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean supported communities to strengthen leadership from civil society organizations, while identifying, training and empowering new leadership for the diseases through a "School of Leaders"—an approach which is being integrated into the country's Global Fund transition work plan to ensure sustainability of community responses in the country (**Global Fund SO2a - Strengthen community responses and systems**).

"I am in a better position to remove human rights barriers to access, especially with the malaria elimination as per Zambia Government Policy, and the HIV test-and-treat program."

At the Asia-Pacific Regional Platform's learning and sharing workshop in Bangkok, **Thailand** on 2-3 April 2018, the Platform created space for a half-day special session on harm reduction, which was developed and led by the Asian Network of People Who Use Drugs (ANPUD). With the Platform's support, ANPUD cultivated discussion about how to meaningfully engage communities of people who use drugs in Global Fund processes and programs (**Global Fund SO3e - Support meaningful participation of key and vulnerable populations and networks in Global Fund-related processes**).

The Regional Platform for Middle East and North Africa played a vital role in the identification and selection of TB community members for participation in a regional TB coordination forum held in Cairo, Egypt on 8-10 May 2018. Several participants were from challenging operating environments, including **Iraq, Lebanon, Mauritania, Sudan** and **Yemen**. At the meeting, the "MENA Stop TB Coalition" was formed to entrench TB community partnerships in the region. The Platform is providing ongoing support to this coalition (**Global Fund SO1d - Improve effectiveness in challenging operating environments through innovation, increased flexibility and partnerships**).

"My participation in this workshop allowed me to strengthen my capacities in managing Global Fund grants in Niger, a challenging operating environment."

"It has become clearer how to participate in the preparation of a transition plan in Azerbaijan, and what the consequences of Global Fund withdrawal will be if there is no transition plan."

Part III - Unique Value-Add and Catalytic Effects

The importance of the Regional Platform learning and sharing spaces is also underscored by their unique contribution to Global Fund engagement in many countries and regions. Indeed, almost all (94%) of survey respondents agreed with the statement that “The Regional Platform learning and sharing workshops are a unique opportunity for communities to engage with one another on Global Fund topics” (Table 2).

Two thirds (67%) of respondents said that if the Regional Platform learning and sharing spaces do not continue, the community response to HIV, TB, and/or malaria would be negatively affected in their countries.

Table 2. The Need for Sustained Investment in Regional Platform Engagement Spaces

			
The Regional Platform learning and sharing workshops are a unique opportunity for communities to engage with one another on Global Fund topics	94% (n=135)	3% (n=5)	2% (n=3)
It is important that these types of workshops be organized and led by civil society organizations	93% (n=132)	1% (n=2)	6% (n=8)
If these workshops did not continue, the community response to HIV, TB, and or malaria in my country would be negatively affected	67% (n=95)	14% (n=20)	18% (n=26)

“The learning from other countries is unparalleled. There are country-level engagement opportunities, but the real value of these spaces is to exchange what works, and what doesn’t, from one country to another. Few if any such spaces exist to do this.”

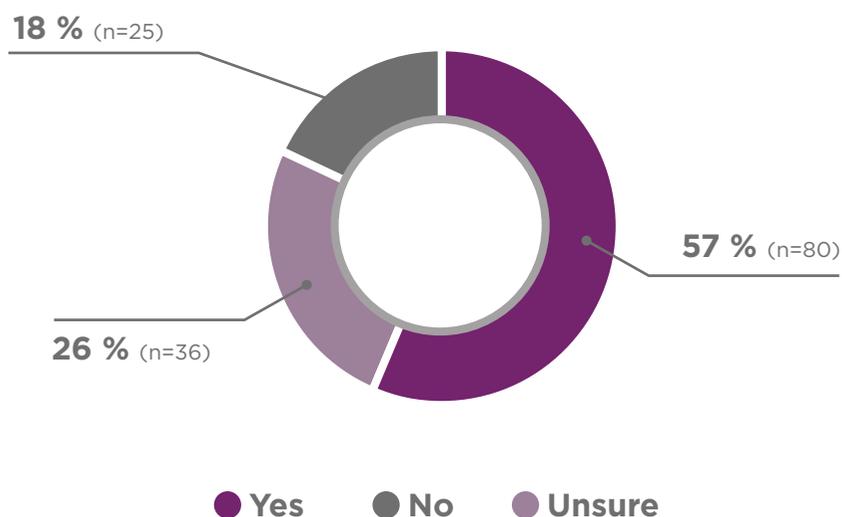
“These workshops are necessary because they reinforce the place of the civil society in the responses to the three diseases, especially in an increasingly bio-medicalized context.”

Further, just under half (44%) of survey respondents said that there were no other similar Global Fund community engagement opportunities—or none they were aware of (Figure 6).

Even where similar community engagement opportunities do exist, respondents flagged the catalytic nature of the Regional Platform-hosted engagement spaces. Communities said that Regional Platform learning and sharing spaces helped to reinforce what is being done at the national level, and provided a critical opportunity to delve into key issues in greater detail.

Figure 6. Unique Global Fund Community Engagement Opportunities

Survey Question: Are there other similar stakeholder engagement opportunities in your region in the context of Global Fund programs, beyond the Regional Platform activities?



Part IV: Ways to Improve

Based on the outcomes presented in this case study, it is crucial that investments in the Community, Rights and Gender Strategic Initiative are maintained or scaled-up in the 2020-2022 funding cycle. The achievements of the Regional Platforms and the CRG SI are significant, but there is still work to be done to strengthen community engagement in Global Fund processes going forward.

At future Regional Platform learning and sharing forums, survey respondents emphasized the need to:

- Improve the participation of TB and malaria organizations
- Ensure more time and opportunity to engage with staff from Global Fund Secretariat
- Ensure workshop and training content reflects community priorities (i.e. use surveys)
- Address gender in greater detail, including its integration into programs and budgets
- Build capacity on participatory monitoring and evaluation in community responses
- Share more information about the CCM Evolution process and how to engage



Jean-Claude Pongault Elongo from Association Cœur Arc-en-ciel engaging in the Francophone Africa Regional Platform's Human Rights and Gender Training in October/November 2018 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. Elongo is sharing his experiences from Congo (Brazzaville), highlighting challenges introducing and scaling up programs that remove human rights barriers to accessing HIV, TB and malaria services for key and vulnerable populations.

The key informant interviews conducted for this case study (Annex 3) also illuminated strategic priorities for the Regional Platforms to include in their learning and sharing spaces going forward, with a view towards an evolved Community, Rights and Gender Strategic Initiative for the 2020-2022 funding cycle. Recommendations include:

1. Create spaces to conceptualize meaningful engagement of communities beyond the three diseases and beyond the Global Fund, towards a framework of Universal Health Coverage.

Key informants emphasized the need for Regional Platform learning and sharing spaces to tackle the redefinition of civil society and community responses in relation to changing epidemics and a changing global health landscape. The need for enhanced integration moving towards Universal Health Coverage means that engagement is needed beyond the three diseases and beyond the Global Fund as a single partner. Regional Platform learning and sharing forums should prioritize these discussions in 2019, especially in the lead up to the first ever UN High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage on 23 September 2019.



Mary Ann Torres from ICASO at the LAC Regional Platform's "Forum for Improving Coordination and Experience Sharing of Short-term Technical Assistance Providers of the CRG Strategic Initiative" in June 2018 in Lima, Peru. Torres is sharing ICASO's experience delivering sustainability and transition-related Global Fund TA to communities in Bolivia and Guyana, discussing successes and challenges with a group of other Global Fund TA providers in the LAC region.

2. Create spaces to share experiences and good practices for how regional-level advocacy translates into policy change at national level, and how these policies get implemented in community programs.

Key informants indicated that the Regional Platforms should create spaces where communities can share experiences related to policy changes and how these are implemented at country-level. In particular, communities would like to see the link between human rights advocacy work at the regional level and national-level policy changes to combat stigma and discrimination. Going forward, the Regional Platforms should prioritize this theme in the spaces they convene, aligned to the Global Fund's 2017-2022 operational objective to "Integrate human rights considerations throughout the grant cycle and in policies and policy-making processes."

3. Create spaces for communities to work with their peers to identify technical assistance needs, followed by accompanied and assisted drafting of TA requests.

Key informants suggested that communities still need more help understanding what technical assistance is and when it is available. Communities also require more hands-on assistance in articulating these needs in an application form. This is what is needed to bridge the gap between TA information and TA access. The Regional Platforms should create time and space for accompanied drafting of TA requests during learning and sharing forums. This could be done by two peers, in small groups, or one-on-one with the Regional Platform or TA providers.



Dean Lewis from the Global Coalition of TB Activists, based in India, engaging at the Asia-Pacific Regional Platform Community, Rights and Gender Partners' Forum in April 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand. Lewis is sharing his perspectives on how Global Fund grants in the region can help reduce TB-related stigma and discrimination as key barriers to accessing services.

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Anglophone Africa

Region	Strategic Focus of the Community Engagement Space	Location	Date	Communities Engaged	Countries Engaged	Convening/Supporting Role of the Platform and its Partners
	Civil Society and Community CCM Representative Dialogue Forum: Promoting Meaningful Participation and Effective Representation (see meeting report)	Accra, Ghana	23-24 April 2018	52 (see list)	18 (Botswana, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zanzibar and Zimbabwe)	Convened by the Regional Platform for Anglophone Africa, in partnership with Hope for Future Generations (Ghana)
	Civil society engagement on HIV/TB gender assessments and related responses (see concept note)	Accra, Ghana	24 April 2018	21 (see list)	12 (including Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe)	Convened by the Platform for Anglophone Africa, in Partnership with Hope for Future Generations (Ghana), the Stop TB Partnership, and the Global Fund Secretariat
	Regional Civil Society and Communities Global Fund-related Knowledge Strengthening and Experience Sharing Dialogue (see meeting report)	Accra, Ghana	25-26 April 2018	111 (see list)	22 (Botswana, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zanzibar and Zimbabwe)	Convened by the Regional Platform for Anglophone Africa, in partnership with Hope for Future Generations (Ghana)
	Ending AIDS, TB and Malaria and Meeting Universal Health Coverage Targets: Africa Civil Society Strategy Meeting (see meeting report)	Accra, Ghana	23-24 April 2018	28 (see list)	11 (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Switzerland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe)	Convened by the African Civil Society Platform for Health (CISPHA) and The Global Fund Advocates Network Africa (GFAN Africa, with additional support from the Regional Platform for Anglophone Africa
	Engaging civil society and community groups in Angola to support effective Global Fund grant implementation in Lusophone Africa (see concept note and agenda)	Luanda, Angola	19-20 November 2018	25 (list pending)	2 (Angola, Nigeria)	Convened by the Regional Platform for Anglophone Africa, in partnership with the Angola Network of AIDS Service Organizations (ANASO) and UNAIDS Angola
	National Consultation of Civil Society Organizations in South Sudan on Global Fund Grant Development and Implementation Processes (see concept note and agenda)	Juba, South Sudan	21-22 November 2018	65 (see list)	1 (South Sudan)	Convened by the Regional Platform for Anglophone Africa, in partnership with UNAIDS Sudan and the National Network of AIDS Service Organizations for South Sudan (NASOSS)



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Anglophone Africa

Civil Society Pre-Meeting ahead of Country Dialogue on Global Fund Grant Implementation in Malawi (see concept note and agenda)	Lilongwe, Malawi	26-27 November 2018	9 (see list)	1 (Malawi)	Convened by the Malawi Global Fund Country Coordinating Mechanism, with additional support from the Regional Platform for Anglophone Africa's Focal Point Organization (MANASO)
Engaging civil society and communities in the mid-term review of Mozambique's IV National Strategic Plan for the HIV and AIDS Response (PEN IV) 2016-2020 (see concept note and meeting report)	Maputo, Mozambique	23 November 2018	37 (see list)	1 (Mozambique)	Convened by UNAIDS, UNDP, Associação Moçambicana de Desenvolvimento Concertado (AMDEC) and Plataforma Da Sociedade Civil Para Saúde De Moçambique (Plasoc-M), with additional support from the Regional Platform for Anglophone Africa
Satellite Session at the 2018 Civil Society Accountability Forum in Nigeria: "Anglophone Africa Platform efforts towards strengthening community engagement with the Global Fund" (see concept note, agenda and meeting report)	Abuja, Nigeria	13-15 November 2018	120 (see list)	8 (Algeria, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Congo, Eswatini, Nigeria, Mali and Zambia)	Convened by the Peer Review Forum (PRF) and the Society for AIDS in Africa (SAA), with support from USAID, PEPFAR, Avac, AHF and the Regional Platform for Anglophone Africa
National consultation to engage members of civil society and development partners on the modalities and best practices to build the case for Social Contracting in Namibia (see concept note and agenda and meeting report)	Windhoek, Namibia	18-19 September 2018	61 (see list)	3 (Botswana, Eswatini and Namibia)	Convened by the Namibia Network of AIDS Service Organization (NANASO) and UNAIDS, with additional support from the Regional Platform for Anglophone Africa

Francophone Africa

Working Group on Technical Assistance to Civil Society in Francophone Africa (GTAT-AF) (see meeting report)	Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso	25-26 January 2018	13 (see list)	6 (Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Mali, Togo, Senegal)	Convened by the Regional Platform for Francophone Africa
Regional Training on Human Rights and Gender in Global Fund Grants (See terms of reference, agenda, and video documentary)	Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso	29 October - 2 November 2018	36 (see list)	18 (Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Guinea, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo and Tunisia)	Convened by the Regional Platform for Francophone Africa, in partnership with Expertise France and the Global Fund Secretariat
Workshop to strengthen the community monitoring system of Global Fund grants in Guinea	Conakry, Guinea	8 February 2018	21 (see list)	1 (Guinea)	Convened by the Regional Platform for Francophone Africa, in partnership with the Guinea CCM



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Participatory workshop to establish a “Community Watch” committee to ensure participation of civil society and integration of the needs of the community health when preparing Niger’s Global Fund application for TB/ RSSH funding (see terms of reference and video documentary)	Naimey, Niger	23 December 2017	48 (see list)	1 (Niger)	Convened by the Réseau Nigérien des Personnes Vivant avec le VIH/ SIDA (RENIP+) in partnership with the International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO) and the French 5% Initiative, with additional support from the Regional Platform for Francophone Africa
The roles and opportunities for civil society and communities in processes of transition of HIV/TB programs from Global Fund support to national funding in Azerbaijan (see concept note, agenda and meeting report)	Baku, Azerbaijan	7-8 June 2018	30 (see list)	2 (Azerbaijan, Belarus)	Convened by the Regional Platform for Eastern Europe and Central Asia
Decrease of the Global Fund’s support for HIV/TB programs in Tajikistan: how to become prepared and ensure the sustainability of services for key populations (see concept note, agenda and meeting report)	Dushanbe, Tajikistan	14-15 November 2018	33 (see list)	2 (Tajikistan, Belarus)	Convened by the Regional Platform for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, in partnership with UNDP.
Developing the capacity of CCM members representing civil society in Central Asia (see concept note and agenda)	Almaty, Kazakhstan	13-14 February 2019	45 (see list)	5 (Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan)	Convened by the Regional Platform for Eastern Europe and Central Asia.
Ensuring the sustainability of harm reduction programs within the transition from Global Fund’s support to domestic funding	Bucharest, Romania	21-23 November 2018	25 (list pending)	25 (participants mostly from Balkan countries)	Session convened by the Regional Platform for Eastern Europe, within the 4th European Harm Reduction Conference (convened by the Correlation Network in cooperation with Info drug Switzerland, the European Network of People Who Use Drugs, the Eurasian Harm Reduction Association and the European Joint Action HA-REACT)
TB Europe Coalition Annual Board Meeting (see report)	The Hague, The Netherlands	22 October 2018	14 (see list)	10 (Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania, Tajikistan, UK, Ukraine, Russia USA)	Convened by the TB Europe Coalition, with additional support from the Regional Platform for Eastern Europe and Central Asia
ECUO Working Meeting of the RKG and the General Meeting of the All Russian Central Council of PLWH (see agenda)	Kyiv, Ukraine	26 March 2018	56 (see list)	(list pending)	Convened by East Europe and Central Asia Union of People Living with HIV (ECUO) with additional support from the Regional Platform for Eastern Europe and Central Asia



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Second Regional Consultation on HIV among MSM and Trans People in Eastern Europe and Central Asia g (see agenda)	Tbilisi, Georgia	31 May – 1 June 2019	102 (see list)	13 (Armenia, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Russia, Sweden, UK, Ukraine, USA)	Convened by the Eurasian Coalition of Male Health (ECOM), with additional support from the Regional Platform for Eastern Europe and Central Asia
Consultation & Training on Using the Injecting Drug User Implementation Tool (IDUIT) to Strengthen Meaningful Involvement in HIV programming in EECA (see agenda)	Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan	26 February – 2 March 2018	29 (see list)	(list pending)	Convened by Eurasian Network of People Who Use Drugs (ENPUD), with additional support from the Regional Platform for Eastern Europe and Central Asia
Eurasian Women’s Network on AIDS (EWNA) General Meeting (see report)	Kvareli, Georgia	3-4 April 2018	12 (see list)	11 (Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, Latvia, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan)	Convened by the Eurasian Women’s Network on AIDS (EWNA), with additional support from the Regional Platform for Eastern Europe and Central Asia
Improving Coordination and Experience Sharing of Short-term Technical Assistance Providers of the CRG Strategic Initiative (CRG SI) (see agenda and meeting report)	Lima, Peru	13 June 2018	12 (see list)	8 (Belize, Canada, Colombia, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, Switzerland, United Kingdom)	Convened by the Regional Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean
Strengthening coordination and exchanging lessons learned and experiences between civil society and key populations engaged in Global Fund processes in LAC (see concept note and meeting report)	Lima, Peru	14-15 June 2018	51 (see list)	18 (Belize, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname)	Convened by the Regional Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean
Social dialogue to ensure the financial and programmatic sustainability of social and community strategies in Bolivia’s responses to HIV, tuberculosis and malaria (see agenda and meeting report)	Santa Cruz, Bolivia	19-20 November 2018	13 (see list)	1 (Bolivia)	Convened by the Fundación Hábitat Verde and the International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO), through the Global Fund CRG TA program, with additional support from the Regional Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean
Regional forum on public financing of civil society for health service provision: progress, challenges and lessons learned in Latin America and the Caribbean (see agenda)	Mexico City, Mexico	11-12 June 2018	(list pending)	(list pending)	Organized by the Secretariat of Health of Mexico, the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) of the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, with additional support from the Regional Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean



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Middle East and North Africa	Making the Global Fund Work for MENA Communities: Regional Learning & Sharing Forum 2018 (see concept note and agenda)	Marrakech, Morocco	11-12 December 2018	35 (see list)	7 (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Pakistan, Tunisia)	Convened by the Regional Platform for Middle East and North Africa
	Strengthening TB and TB/HIV Advocacy & Coordination in the Middle East & North Africa (see concept note and agenda)	Cairo, Egypt	8-10 May 2018	30 (see list)	11 (Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia and Yemen)	Convened by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in partnership with the Egyptian Red Crescent Society and the Stop TB Partnership, with additional support from the Regional Platform for Middle East and North Africa
Asia Pacific	APCRG Partners Meeting: Addressing stigma and discrimination and scaling up harm reduction programs in Global Fund grants in Asia-Pacific (see agenda and special session on harm reduction)	Bangkok, Thailand	2-3 April 2018	39 (see list)	12 (India, Thailand, Laos, Malaysia, Australia, Vietnam, Indonesia, Pakistan, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Philippines and Nepal)	Convened by the Regional Platform for Asia-Pacific, in partnership with the Asia Pacific Network of People Who Use Drugs (ANPUD)
	South Asia Malaria Civil Society Mobilization Meeting (see concept note and agenda)	New Delhi, India	11-12 October 2018	33 (see list)	6 (Bangladesh, Cameroon, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand)	Convened by Civil Society for Malaria Elimination (CS4ME), The Global Fund Advocate's Network Asia-Pacific (GFAN AP), APCASO and Caritas India, and the Global Fund Secretariat, with additional support from the Regional Platform for Asia-Pacific
	"Empowering Communities for TB Care and Prevention": A regional workshop on End TB Strategy Pillar 2 (see concept note, agenda and outcome statement)	Seoul, South Korea	11-13 December 2018	43 (see list)	7 (Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines and Vietnam)	Convened by WHO WPRO and the Korean Institute of Tuberculosis, with additional support from the Regional Platform for Asia-Pacific
Collaborative (all six Platforms)	The Global Fund Community Zone: A Networking Zone at the Global Village at the AIDS 2018 Conference (see schedule of events)	Amsterdam, The Netherlands	23-27 June 2018	200 (estimated)	Global reach	Convened by the six Regional Platforms
	Global Fund Community Dialogue Space at the 49th Annual Union World Conference on Lung Health (see schedule of events)	The Hague, The Netherlands	26 October 2018	30 (estimated)	Global reach	Convened by the six Regional Platforms



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This survey is being conducted by the six Regional Platforms for Communication and Coordination, as part of the Global Fund's Community, Rights and Gender Strategic Initiative. The hosts of the six Regional Platform are:

Anglophone Africa: Eastern Africa National Networks of AIDS Service Organizations (EANNASO)

Francophone Africa: Réseau d'Accès aux Médicaments Essentiels (RAME)

Middle East and North Africa: International Treatment Preparedness Coalition MENA (ITPC-MENA)

Eastern Europe and Central Asia: Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (EHRA)

Asia Pacific: APCASO

Latin America and the Caribbean: Vía Libre

You have been invited to take part in this survey because you attended one (or more) of the above Regional Platforms' learning and sharing workshops in 2018. Your responses to this survey will be used as part of a joint case study that will document the impact of these workshops.

Your feedback is critical for improving the Regional Platforms' work going forward, and ensuring communities remain at the centre of the Global Fund and its investments.

The survey should not take more than 10 minutes of your time. Click 'Next' to begin.

Part 1: Respondent Characteristics

1. Which country do you live in?

2. How do you describe your gender?

- a. Female
- b. Male
- c. Transgender
- d. Gender non-confirming
- e. Prefer not to say
- f. Other (please specify): _____

3. Which of the following best describes your organization? (select one)

- a. Non-governmental organization
- b. Community-based organization
- c. Network of people living with HIV
- d. TB community organization
- e. Malaria community organization
- f. Clinical services provider
- g. Civil society organization
- h. Youth organization
- i. Women's organization
- j. Human rights organization
- k. Faith-based organization



- l. Key populations organization
- m. Government or other public institution
- n. Technical partner
- o. Funding partner
- p. Other (please specify): _____

4. Which areas does your organization focus on? (select all that apply)

- a. HIV
- b. Tuberculosis
- c. Malaria
- d. Resilient and sustainable systems for health
- e. Other (please specify): _____

5. Have you ever served on a Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM)?

- a. Yes
- b. No

6. Have you ever served as a Global Fund recipient (PR, SR, or SSR)?

- a. Yes
- b. No

7. Would you be willing to participate in a telephone/skype interview about your experience in the Regional Platform learning and sharing workshop(s)?

- a. No
- b. Yes (please enter your name, organization, and email address):

Part 2: New Information and Connections

8. At the Regional Platform's learning and sharing workshop(s), did your knowledge improve about any of the following? (choose all that apply)

- a. The Global Fund Community, Right and Gender Strategic Initiative
- b. How to engage in the Global Fund funding model
- c. Your country's Global Fund grant(s)
- d. Technical assistance opportunities
- e. How to apply for technical assistance
- f. Information on the major technical assistance providers in your region
- g. Effective engagement strategies in other countries that can be replicated or adapted
- h. The Global Fund's Sustainability, Transition and Co-financing policy
- i. Community-based monitoring and feedback
- j. Human rights-related barriers to access
- k. Gender-responsive programming
- l. Challenging operating environments
- m. Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs)
- n. Other (please specify):



9. At the Regional Platform's learning and sharing workshop(s), what new relationships or connections did you form that have been useful in your work afterwards? (choose all that apply)

- a. Representatives of the Regional Platform
- b. Global Fund Community, Rights and Gender Department staff
- c. Global Fund Grant Management Division staff, such as Fund Portfolio Managers or other Country Team members
- d. Other Global Fund staff or consultants
- e. Technical assistance providers
- f. Technical partners (UNAIDS, WHO, Stop TB Partnership, etc.).
- g. Funding partners
- h. Civil society organizations and community groups
- i. Key populations networks
- j. People from countries where no previous connections existed
- k. Other disease networks (TB, HIV or malaria)
- l. Other regional mechanisms of collaboration/participation
- m. None
- n. Not sure

Comments:

10. Based on your participation in the Regional Platform's learning and sharing workshop(s), are you and/or your organization in a better position to do any of the following? (choose all that apply)

- a. To apply for support from the Global Fund's Community, Rights and Gender short-term technical assistance (TA) program
- b. To apply for technical assistance from other sources (GIZ, UNAIDS, French 5%)
- c. To engage more effectively in Global Fund funding model processes
- d. To participate more meaningfully in or through the CCM
- e. To monitor the implementation of Global Fund grants
- f. To replicate or adapt good practice from another country
- g. To coordinate and work with other communities in the region

Comments:

Part 3: Contribution to the Global Fund Strategy 2017-2022

11. Based on your participation in the Regional Platform's learning and sharing workshop(s), are you and/or your organization in a better position to do any of the following? (choose all that apply)

- a. Introduce or scale-up evidence-based interventions with a focus on key and vulnerable populations
- b. Introduce or scale-up programs to support women and girls, including



- programs to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights
- Introduce or scale-up programs that remove human rights barriers to accessing HIV, TB and malaria services
 - Improve the sustainability of HIV, TB and malaria responses and support successful transitions from Global Fund grants (if applicable to your region)
 - Improve effectiveness of Global Fund grants in challenging operating environments (if applicable to your region)
 - Build stronger community systems and responses

Comments:

Part 4: Unique Value-Add and Catalytic Effects

12. Other than the Regional Platform's learning and sharing workshop(s), are there other similar opportunities to engage with Global Fund stakeholders in your region?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Comments:

13. For the following statements, please indicate whether you agree, disagree, or have no opinion:

- The Regional Platform learning and sharing workshops are a unique opportunity for communities to engage with one another on Global Fund topics
- There are few if any comparable opportunities in my region that I am aware of
- My organization accessed technical assistance as a direct result of participation in the learning and sharing workshop
- It is important that these types of workshops be organized and led by civil society organizations.
- These types of regional workshops should continue to happen at least once per year, in order to ensure sustained community engagement in Global Fund processes.
- If these workshops did not continue, the community response to HIV, TB, and or malaria in my country would be negatively affected.

Comments:

14. Please describe ways in which you personally benefited from participating in the Regional Platforms learning and sharing workshop(s):



Part 5: Ways to Improve

15. Please describe ways in which the Regional Platform learning and sharing workshops could be strengthened:

16. For each of the following statements, please indicate whether you agree, disagree, or have no opinion:

- a. The hosts of the Regional Platform workshop were organized and efficient
- b. The content of the Regional Platform workshop was easy to understand
- c. The content of the Regional Platform workshop was useful for my work
- d. The participation of Global Fund personnel was adequate
- e. The participation of key populations organizations in the region was adequate
- f. The participation of TB and malaria organization in the region was adequate

Comments:

17. What is one topic that was not discussed at Regional Platform learning and sharing workshop(s), which you would like to see discussed next time?

18. Is there anything else you would like to say about the Regional Platform learning and sharing workshop(s) you participated in?



1. What important gaps in addressing relevant issues in your region and worldwide do you think the Platforms should cover in future meetings or workshops?
2. What topics or actions do you think that the Platforms should include in the meetings and workshops of 2019 and 2020?
3. What else do we need to do as the Regional Platforms to improve the meetings and workshops that we will organize in 2019 and 2020?
4. What emerging issues in your region / worldwide do you think should be covered in upcoming regional meetings or workshops organized by the Platforms?
5. How could the Regional Platforms contribute to improving access to technical assistance services of the CRG SI in our meetings and workshops in 2019 and 2020?



March 2019

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The six Regional Platforms would like to dedicate this joint case study to the memory of Dean Lewis. Dean was a fierce activist and partner of the Community, Rights and Gender Strategic Initiative. He taught us all something about how to claim space and make no apologies when demanding better health for communities.

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