

NAVIGATING GENDER TRANSFORMATION

in GRANT CYCLE 7



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- 01** INTRODUCTION: UNMASKING HEALTH INEQUITY
 - 02** GUIDE'S MISSION: IGNITING CHANGE
 - 03** ABOUT GRANT CYCLE 7: EXPLORE ALLOCATIONS, SUBMISSION WINDOWS, AND MORE.
 - 04** THE GLOBAL FUND'S GENDER COMMITMENT
 - 05** EXPECTATIONS FOR GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE ACTIONS
 - a. Empowering Gender Transformation in GC7: The Prep Phase
 - b. Country Dialogues (CDs): Where Change Takes Center StageTips for Women and Girls
 - 06** UNVEILING THE SECRETS OF NSP REVIEWS
Tips for Women and Girls
 - 07** NAVIGATING THE NEW ELEMENTS IN FUNDING REQUESTS
 - a. Unveiling Program Essentials
 - b. Building with the Modular Framework:Tips for Women and Girls
 - 08** UNLOCKING GENDER TRANSFORMATIONS
 - 09** SCORING GENDER EQUALITY IN FUNDING REQUESTS
 - 10** UNVEILING THE POWER OF GENDER ASSESSMENTS
Tips for Women and Girls
 - 11** EMPOWERING GENDER PRIORITIES IN THE COMMUNITY PRIORITY ANNEX
 - 12** NAVIGATING GRANT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE TRP
Tips for Women and Girls
- 
- ANNEXE

JOURNEY THROUGH KEY TERMS

Global Conversations

- CD:** Country Dialogue
- CCM:** Country Coordinating Mechanism
- GAC:** Grant Approvals Committee

Cycle Unveiled

- GC7:** Grant Cycle 7
- NFM4:** New Funding Model 4
- NSP:** National Strategic Plan

Empowering Essentials

- PEs:** Program Essentials
- TRP:** Technical Review Panel

Gender In Focus

- GEM:** Gender Equality Marker



1. Introduction: Unmasking Health Inequity

Gender inequality looms large in the realms of HIV, TB, and malaria. Women and girls, especially in lower-income countries, bear a disproportionate burden due to complex factors—biological, social, and economic.

To ensure equal access and outcomes for all, we must embrace gender-specific needs in the design and execution of prevention and treatment programs. A transformative approach that integrates the experiences of women, adolescent girls, and young women is our path forward.

Facts Speak Volumes

- Adolescent girls in sub-Saharan Africa face triple the HIV risk compared to boys.
- Pregnancy elevates TB risk in women twofold.
- Young women dominate HIV and TB diagnoses in high-burden countries
- Malaria infects over 11 million pregnant women, claiming 10,000 maternal lives.
- Women’s agency at home wields significant influence over malaria prevention.

Join us in unravelling these critical health narratives.

2. Guide’s Mission: Igniting Change

This guide has a dual mission:



Empower Advocacy: It’s your toolkit to empower women and girls of all backgrounds to champion gender-transformative programs in the Global Fund’s Grant Cycle 7 (GC7).



Tailored Solutions: It’s your treasure map, revealing actionable interventions for weaving the unique needs of women and girls into Funding Requests.



Our Diverse Audience

While we’ve rolled out the red carpet for women and girls, this guide is an open invitation to:



Key Population Groups

Join us in advancing gender equality and transformative programming for GC7.

3. About Grant Cycle 7 Explore Allocations, Submission Windows, and more.

Think of the Global Fund as a worldwide help provider, serving 155 countries. They work in cycles, each lasting three years, in line with the Replenishment Cycle. Right now, it's Grant Cycle 7 (GC7), previously known as New Funding Model 4 (NFM4).

GC7 is a big deal. It builds on past progress to speed up our journey towards health-related Sustainable Development Goals.



Requests for funds in GC7 don't all come at once. They have specific times, called "submission windows," for each country:

To ensure equal access and outcomes for all, we must embrace gender-specific needs in the design and execution of prevention and treatment programs. A transformative approach that integrates the experiences of women, adolescent girls, and young women is our path forward.

4. The Global Fund's Gender Commitment

The Global Fund's 2023-2028 Strategy is like a superhero cape, ready to:



Fight for Gender Equality: It scales up comprehensive programs to KO gender and human rights barriers.



Youth Power: It's soaring with youth-responsive programming, from adolescent girls and young women to key populations.



Champion SRHR: It's all about strengthening sexual and reproductive health and rights, especially for women and their partners.



Data Detectives: It's on a quest to uncover the secrets behind HIV, TB, and malaria inequities.

The Global Fund knows that gender equality is the secret solution for sustainable health and a brighter world.



5. Expectations for Gender-Transformative Actions

The Global Fund's implementation strategy unfolds like a magic spell with five expectations:

- 1** Comprehensive Gender Assessment: Casting a spotlight on gender inequalities, discrimination, and unique needs.
- 2** Ensuring no program design or execution fuels gender inequalities.
- 3** Chanting for the full participation of women, girls, and gender-diverse communities.
- 4** Brewing solutions to meet gender-specific needs and banish gender barriers.
- 5** Using gender-specific or sex-disaggregated indicators to see progress clearly.

a

Empowering Gender Transformation in GC7: The Prep Phase

Before the curtain rises on funding activities, women and girls can:

Mark Key Dates: Highlight submission windows, country dialogues, and CCM engagements.

Map Your Journey: Unroll the country engagement roadmap from the CCM.

Partner Quest: Seek allies among partners and stakeholders.

Discover Wizards: Identify grant consultants and writers who can help weave your story.

Strategic Spellcraft: Create strategies for engaging with organizations representing women and girls.

b

Country Dialogues (CDs): Where Change Takes Center Stage

Global Fund country dialogues are the star-studded events in the funding process. Here's what they offer:

Collaborative Convo: A stage for discussing health priorities related to HIV, TB, and malaria.

Inclusive Engagement: An ensemble of stakeholders to develop Funding Requests.

Shared Understanding: Creating a shared playbook to tackle challenges and win the game.

Voice for Change: A chance to ensure your priorities are in the spotlight of Funding Requests.

For women and girls, CDs are like the Oscars – your moment to shine, make your voice heard, and ensure your rights and needs take the lead role in Funding Requests.



Tips for Women and Girls

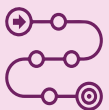
- **Dance to the Right Beat:** Request the enchanting dates for country dialogues from your CCM.
- **Spotlight Your Voice:** Make sure women and girls take the stage at the country dialogues.
- **Unlock Hidden Treasures:** Inquire about support for community engagement. You can even use the CCM to provide funding using the 15% budget allocation meant for constituency engagement.
- **Forge Allies:** Reach out to technical and bilateral partners, and summon the power of your networks. They can offer financial support and strengthen your organization's capacities, ensuring you're ready to shine at the country dialogues.

6. Unveiling the Secrets of NSP Reviews

National Strategic Plans (NSPs) are like a treasure map that helps a country battle against three tough enemies: HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria. These maps are created by a team of government officials, community groups, experts, and wise thinkers who join forces in a grand adventure.



Crucial Blueprints: NSPs are the secret recipe books for ensuring a country's battle strategy against these diseases aligns perfectly with its unique health needs and priorities. These blueprints are filled with grand strategic objectives, each with a treasure map of specific activities and interventions to conquer key challenges.



Passports to Funding: NSPs are your golden tickets to the Global Fund's treasure chest. They provide the roadmap for crafting funding requests submitted during the right windows. They also steer the course for implementing programs and interventions at national and local levels, ensuring resources are spent wisely in the battle against the three diseases.



NSPs: The Epic Saga of Gender Equity: The Global Fund's support and review of Funding Requests are anchored in these disease-specific NSPs. But here's the twist: NSPs aren't just about diseases; they're about people. They should reveal barriers to gender equity, human rights, and service access, guided by the latest wisdom and international guidelines.



Revealing the NSP's importance: Before the grand tale of Global Fund Funding Requests unfolds, there's a crucial step—the NSP review. It's a moment for women and girls to become the story's heroes, ensuring that NSPs not only mention their needs but do so comprehensively and accurately.



Tips for Women and Girls

Review Your Country's NSP Carefully

Take a close look at your country's National Strategic Plan (NSP). Make sure it:

- **Includes** the needs of women and girls.
- **Covers** these needs thoroughly.
- **Describes** them accurately.

Be like a detective, examining the NSP closely. Make sure it shines a bright spotlight on women and girls - the true heroes of the story!

7. Navigating the New Elements in Funding Requests

In Grant Cycle 7 (GC7), the funding process has some exciting new twists that give women and girls the power to be active players. They can now raise their voices and make sure their priorities are heard loud and clear in their country's funding requests. Here are the most important elements that matter to women and girls:

a

Unveiling Program Essentials Program Essentials are like the golden keys to fighting HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria. They're based on advice from global health experts like the World Health Organization, UNAIDS, Stop TB Partnership, and Roll Back Malaria.

In the funding requests for 2023-2025, countries must show how well they're doing in using these Program Essentials, especially when it comes to human rights and gender equality. For women and girls, this is their chance to make sure their country's funding request follows the best global advice.

And guess what? If a country wants to introduce or speed up these essential programs, the Global Fund will be their ally throughout the journey, supporting them from start to finish. It's all about making sure these programs work and last.

b

Building with the Modular Framework: To get support from the Global Fund, every intervention in the Funding Request must come from the Modular Framework. It's like a toolbox filled with different tools.

Women and girls, you'll want to get familiar with the Modular Framework Handbook. It's like a guidebook that lists all the things you can include in the Funding Request.

For example, there's a section about HIV prevention for Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW). It includes things like talking to AGYW about HIV prevention, promoting safer sex, using condoms, and creating demand for PrEP.

And it's not just boring paperwork; there are cool activities like social media campaigns, group sessions, and programs to prevent gender-based violence. It's all about making sure AGYW stay safe and healthy.

So, in a nutshell, GC7's Funding Requests are like a treasure hunt where women and girls have the map. They can use these new elements to make sure their country's plan follows the best advice and includes all the right tools for a healthier future.

8. Unlocking Gender Transformations

Find the Important List Imagine there's a special treasure map called "Annex 1: List of Interventions related to gender-transformative programming in the Modular Framework." It's like a guidebook where women and girls can find all the important stuff they can ask to include in the Funding Request to make it more gender-friendly.

The Enchanting Gender Equality Marker (GEM)

The Global Fund has a unique tool called the Gender Equality Marker (GEM). It's like a wizard's wand that helps see how well funding requests from 2023-2025 support gender equality. The goal? To make sure more money goes to programs that really care about women and girls.

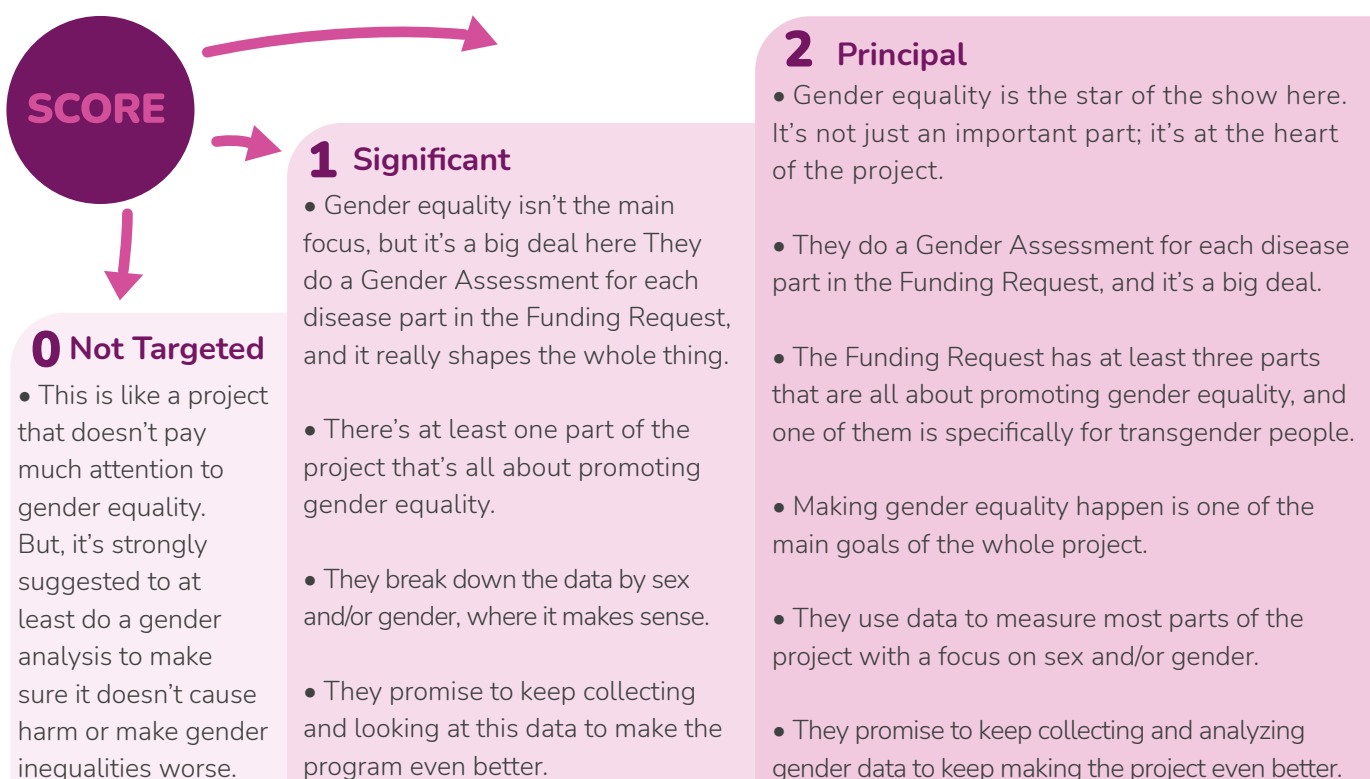
The GEM has three levels, kind of like a game:

- 1 Gold Star:** When gender equality is super important in the funding request, and it's a big part of the plan.
- 2 Silver Star:** When gender equality is important, but it's not the main reason for the project.
- 3 No Star:** When gender equality isn't in the spotlight at all.

How do they decide the level? By looking at things like whether there's a Gender Assessment, how it helps plan things, if they collect data about gender, and if they use that data to make the program better.

So, women and girls, you have the power to make sure your country's funding request shines bright with stars, showing that it really cares about your needs and rights!

9. Scoring Gender Equality in Funding Requests





10. Unveiling the Power of Gender Assessments

Tips for Women and Girls

- **Connect with UNAIDS:** Reach out to your country's UNAIDS office and ask if they've done any of these human rights and gender assessments in your area.
- **Read and Roar:** Take a look at what these assessments found, and don't be shy about pushing for their recommendations to be included in the Funding Request. Your voice can make a big difference!

Shining a Light with Gender Assessments Besides country dialogues, the Global Fund suggests something attractive—gender assessments. These are like secret missions to uncover gender inequalities, barriers, and needs that affect how we battle HIV, TB, and malaria in our communities. When we know the lay of the land, we can plan better and make our responses super effective.

The Policy Move As part of GC7, there's this hot policy called the Sustainability, Transition, and Co-Financing Policy. It asks countries to attach their Human Rights or Gender Assessments to their Funding Requests if they have them. These assessments are like our treasure maps to understand what's really going on.

The Review Panel: Our Guardians The cool part? The Technical Review Panel gets these assessments along with the funding applications. They make sure each country's Funding Request pays attention to what the assessments found and follows their recommendations.

11. Empowering Gender Priorities in the Community Priority Annex

A Shiny New Addition In GC7, there's something brand new and exciting—a special document called the “Annex of Funding Priorities of Civil Society and Communities.” This document is like a treasure chest filled with interventions that communities and civil society groups believe are super important. They share these priorities during the Country Dialogue Process.

A Must-Have in Every Request Guess what? Including this Annex in every Funding Request is a must! It's not just for show; it's a tool that helps the Global Fund check if community needs were heard during the Funding Request process and how effective the Country Dialogue Process was.

20 Priorities, One Document In this Annex, countries can list up to 20 priorities from communities and civil society groups across the country. These priorities cover all the disease components, making sure nobody is left out.

Mapping the Priorities To complete this document, countries describe each priority briefly and make sure it matches what's in the Modular Framework Handbook. If you need more info, check out the Global Fund's Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for details on the Annex document.

It's like your roadmap to making sure community voices are heard loud and clear!



Tips for Women and Girls

Step 1: First, dig deep to find out what really matters to you and your fellow community members and civil society groups. What are your top priorities to make your community healthier and stronger? Maybe it's changing harmful gender norms, tackling gender-based violence, fighting discriminatory laws, or supporting comprehensive sexual education.

Step 2: Now, team up with your Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) and the brilliant folks on the writing team. Share your priorities with them. Make sure they're part of the list of 20 important interventions in the Annex to the Funding Request.

Step 3: Your voice matters. Together with the CCM and the writing team, make sure your priorities are heard and included. This is your chance to make a real difference!

12. Navigating Grant Negotiations with the TRP



Step 1: After Submission Once the Funding Request is sent in, the next stop is Grant Negotiation. It's like a meeting to work out the details.



Step 2: TRP's Important Role The Technical Review Panel (TRP) is like the guide here. They check if the request follows the global rules and Program Essentials. They also see how much the community was involved in making the request.



Step 3: Recommendations for Improvement After reviewing everything carefully, the TRP suggests ways to make the Funding Request even better.



Step 4: CCM's Responsibility These suggestions are like treasure maps, and it's the Country Coordinating Mechanism's (CCM) job to follow them. They must include the TRP's recommendations to improve the Funding Request.



Step 5: Transparency and Inclusion The CCM doesn't keep these recommendations a secret. They share them with everyone to be open and include the community's voice.

Tips for Women and Girls

Step 1: Dive into Recommendations Once the Funding Request is in, it's time for the Technical Review Panel (TRP) to send their feedback. They check if everything follows the global rules and Program Essentials. They also see how much the community was involved in creating the request. After a good look, they make suggestions to make the request even better.

Step 2: Pay Close Attention Read the TRP's recommendations carefully. Check if they suggest any changes to the priority interventions you care about.

Step 3: Ensure Changes Are Made Make sure that the changes the TRP recommended actually get made to the Funding Request. This way, your voice continues to shape the plan for a healthier future!



Annex

Supercharged Modular Framework

Module

- A section in the toolkit.

Intervention

- What you're going to do.

Prevention Package for Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW)

- A special kit to prevent HIV.

HIV prevention, communication and demand creation for AGYW in high incidence settings

- Talking about HIV, promoting safe sex, and creating awareness in places where HIV is common.

Activities related to individual-level and community-level behavior change activities and use of HIV prevention options for AGYW.

- Things like teaching individuals and communities to change behaviors, and using methods to prevent HIV.

For example:

- Here are some ideas:
- Targeted information and education using social media.
- Using social marketing for education.
- One-on-one and group sessions to reduce risks.
- Preventing gender-based violence.

Prevention Package for Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW)

- Another kit to prevent HIV.

For example:

- Similar activities for male partners.

Comprehensive sexuality education for AGYW and adolescent boys and young men (ABYM)

- Teaching young people about sexuality.

For example:

- Designing education programs, including digital ones.

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) programming for AGYW in high HIV incidence settings

- Programs for preventing HIV for AGYW in places where it's common.

For example:

- Planning and delivering PrEP, helping people stick to it, and promoting it.

Sexual and reproductive health services, including STIs, hepatitis, post-violence care for AGYW and male sexual partners in high HIV incidence settings.

- Health services for sexual health, including dealing with diseases, violence, and hepatitis.

For example:

- Testing for diseases, preventing and treating hepatitis, offering contraception, and helping people who've experienced violence.

Social protection interventions for AGYW in high HIV incidence settings

- Helping AGYW in places with a lot of HIV.

For example:

- Supporting education, providing economic help, and keeping girls safe.

Differentiated HIV Testing Services

- Special HIV testing.

Community-based testing for AGYW and their male sexual partners programs

- Testing in communities.

For example:

- Outreach, door-to-door, workplace testing, and more.



Self-testing for AGYW and their male sexual partners programs

- Testing yourself at home.

For example:

- Buying test kits and linking to follow-up testing.

Reducing Human Rights-Related Barriers to HIV/TB Services

- Breaking down barriers to healthcare.

Reducing HIV-related gender discrimination, harmful gender norms, and violence against women and girls in all their diversity

- Fighting discrimination and violence.

For example:

- Changing laws, getting communities involved, and training leaders.

Removing Human Rights and Gender-related Barriers to TB Services

- Breaking down barriers to TB care.

Eliminating TB-related stigma and discrimination

- Getting rid of stigma.

For example:

- Assessing the situation, training people, and involving the community.

Activities to address potential gender-related barriers to TB control interventions

- Fixing problems that affect gender.

For example:

- Assessments, community involvement, and empowering women's groups.

Malaria Vector Control

- Controlling malaria-carrying bugs.

Insecticide treated nets (ITNs) - mass campaign: universal

- Giving out bed nets to everyone.

For example:

- Planning and doing mass campaigns, and making sure everyone can get nets.

Insecticide treated nets (ITNs) - continuous distribution: ANC

- Giving out nets during pregnancy check-ups.

For example:

- Teaching about health decisions and norms during pregnancy check-ups.

Removing human rights and gender-related barriers to vector control programs

- Breaking down barriers to bug control.

For example:

- Making sure everyone can get bug control, involving underserved groups, and helping civil society organizations.

That's the Supercharged Modular Framework!

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