



Global Fund: ITN programming in an evolving funding context

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Topics

- 1. Funding environment**
- 2. Vector control funding in GC7**
- 3. Grant cycle timings**
- 4. Strategic prioritization**
- 5. Operational efficiencies**
- 6. Other topics**

1. Funding environment

The financing context is evolving and malaria programmes will come under greater strain; the partnership and country voices are more critical than ever

- **US funding freeze**

- Given the interdependencies of our programmes with USG funding we are working with MoHs and other partners to understand the most crucial vulnerabilities linked to the US funding freeze
- The context is changing rapidly - USG support to life saving programmes is being restarted in several countries - so these frequent country level partners discussions are critical
- Like many global health partners, the Global Fund is taking prudent measures to help stretch the current funding as far as possible and to ensure the communities we serve are supported to the greatest extent – e.g.: reducing the amount of travel and the number of people traveling, pausing recruitments, pausing some staff benefits

- **GC8 replenishment**

- The geopolitical context is challenging for resource mobilization, given competing demands and reduced ODA budgets
- However, donor governments have been consistently strong supporters over the years and we are working closely with them in the run up to replenishment - targeting a positive outcome
- Strong and supportive voices from partners, in particular national governments, will be helpful

Headline messages

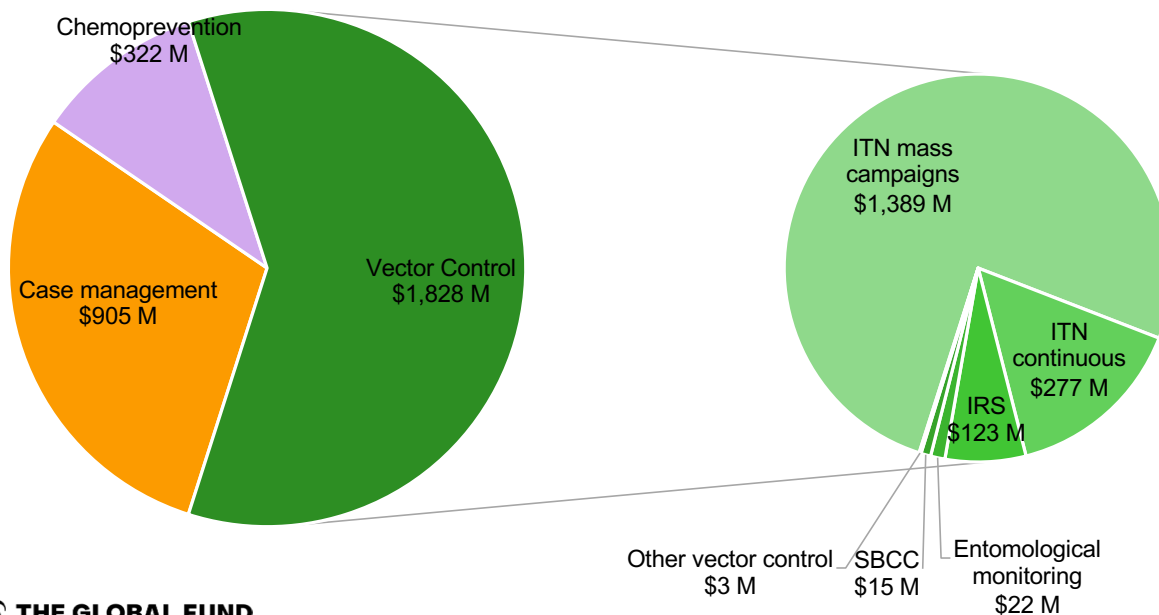
- **The financing context is evolving, going forward it is likely that many programmes will have important funding gaps for malaria**
- **It is critical that we think now about how to adapt and plan for that context**

2. Vector control funding in GC7

Even prior to recent funding landscape changes there were important gaps

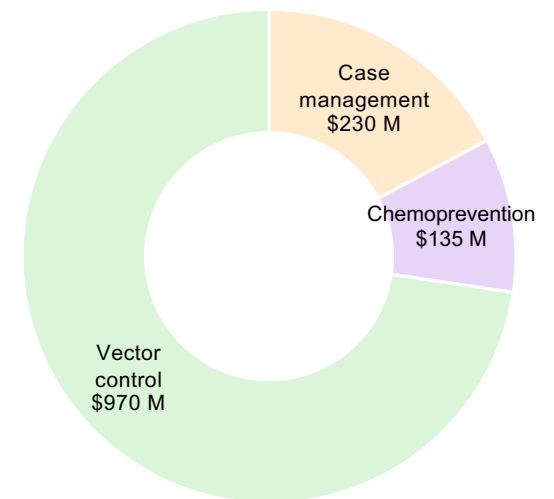
SIGNED GRANTS as of Feb 2024

Beyond core programming – essential malaria support also comes from RSSH and national programme management budget lines



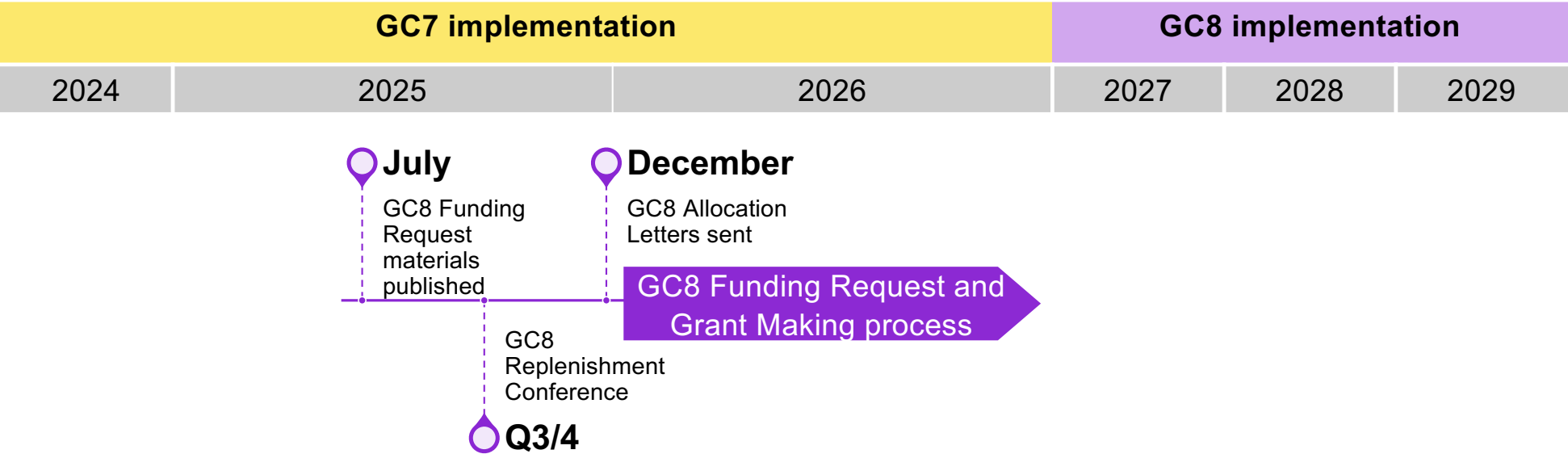
GAPs

'Unfunded quality demand at end of 2024' – does not reflect any more recent changes in funding landscape



3. Grant Cycle timing

Grant Cycle 7 implementation is underway in parallel to preparation for Grant Cycle 8



4. Strategic prioritization decisions for ITNs

Programmes can consider various strategies to maximize ITN protection on lower budgets

- Programmes are encouraged to consider a wide range of options on scope, scale and delivery channels, acknowledging there are a range of potentially sensible ways forward in different country contexts
- Any changes must be feasible the time frame – e.g. countries with large ITN orders for 2026 may have more time to relook at plans than those with ITNs arriving sooner

We expect that:

- Programmes will continue to prioritize access for biologically vulnerable groups and continuous distribution
- Urban areas with a serious *An. stephensi* threat will need to maintain some vector control
- In areas of pyrethroid resistance, appropriate nets will be deployed (*no pyrethroid-only nets in these areas*)
- Any scale back of VC in areas with moderate or high transmission will be backed by a surveillance and response plan
- Any places where IRS is stopped will be prioritized for ITN distribution (CFP- Dual AI)

Programmes could consider a range of the following options to determine the most cost-effective approaches that maintain equity of access:

- Differentiate control approaches for low transmission and urban areas, with campaigns focused on rural mod/high areas
- Reduce coverage targets for campaigns (e.g. > 1.8 p/net allocation) or targeting certain groups e.g. U5 campaigns
- Reducing campaign frequency (e.g 4y) subnationally where nets are retained longer
- Channel diversification – including higher throughput continuous distribution which may maintain flexibility to response to changing funding scenarios; potentially have lower cost per net delivered and/or lower net requirements
- Evolve M&E from national surveys to more targeted approaches such as LQAS

5. ITN operational efficiencies

Delivery costs will need to focus on the most essential activities

- Approaches to improve efficiencies will depend on the context, though experiences from other countries can be useful to spark ideas and inform thinking
- As with strategic level decisions – any operational changes must be feasible within time frame

We expect that:

- Programmes will review operational plans for all upcoming distributions to consider potential efficiencies achievable within the timeframe
- Opportunities for integration will be considered across all stages: planning, training, delivery, supervision and surveillance
- Approaches will be targeted as needed rather than one-size-fits all across the campaign area

Programmes should consider the following options, as appropriate to the context and timing:

- Single phase campaigns if more efficient
- Rely on interpersonal communication for SBCC rather than leaflets or costly TV spots
- Target SBCC to areas of most need – i.e. historically low use given access
- Maintain digitalisation but encourage BYOD, integration, use of open source and existing mobile friendly platforms
- Rely on zero budget existing spaces/resources for meetings (i.e. no venue hiring)
- Reduce training days and focus on essential participants and consider online training when appropriate
- Target supervision to critical levels, events and areas

6. Other topics

Quality Assurance Policy

- WHO PQ remains the assurance mechanism - Expert Review Panel under certain conditions
- Recommendations and requirements for traceability, insecticide resistance monitoring, and tbd post-market surveillance
- Procurement and supply manuals also being updated
- Transition support

ITN Resistance to Damage scores

- Engaged on discussions around Resistance to Damage scores
- Awaiting with interest WHO technical position
- Actively monitoring the progress in this space and considering how to best incorporate

ITN packaging

- CFP Dual AI ITNs currently only available in individual bags
- Associated waste management efforts and cost
- Efforts underway to address and make available in bulk packaging as soon as possible

CFP Dual AI supply

- CFP Dual AI ITNs supply was tight for some months given high demand
- Supply is now more flexible, helped by new market entrants
- Countries could still be able to consider a switch to CFP Dual AI if affordable

Thank you



The Global Fund to Fight
AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

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