**GFAN call, 26 February 2021**

**Summary notes from the call**

**Main topics**: (1) Observations from the Africa-MENA I Partnership Forum, which took place 17-19 February; (2) Suggestions and discussions for how CS and communities participants might best engage and influence the upcoming Asia-MENA II Partnership Forum, which will be held 3-5 March.

***1) Observations from call participants who attended the Africa-MENA I Partnership Forum***

**Participation / process**

* Time and space are limited: Opportunities existed to share and discuss many key issue and topics, but not to dive into details or have substantial back and forth.
* Discussion at the Partnership Forums are **mainly in breakout groups** that are focused on a range of topics such as integration, delivering against the three diseases, how the Global Fund might adapt or engage in the changing global environment (e.g., COVID-19 and other crises), etc.
  + More informal discussions are held in ‘**topic booths’**, at which staff from the Secretariat were available to answer questions, etc. This is an opportunity for more ‘unstructured’ conversations.
* Summaries prepared by rapporteurs at breakout group discussions are listed in slides. The information in these slides as well as any additional notes from the breakout groups is sent to the Secretariat as part of its efforts to gather all input.

**Content:**

* Some of the **key priorities raised** by civil society and communities participants at the Partnership Africa Forum included:
  + the need for more participation and leadership in the next Strategy by communities (putting them at the centre, etc.);
  + more support for domestic resource mobilization;
  + the importance of the Global Fund maintaining its focus on the three diseases while also considering differentiated approaches to RSSH, coinfections, etc. depending on the needs of different countries;
  + addressing structural barriers; and
  + creating a separate funding mechanism for key populations and communities
* Concerns were noted that some of the main priories, including placing communities at the center and addressing structural barriers, were not reflected adequately in a **‘summing up’ presentation** that was the shown during the final plenary.
* Discussion regarding the **separate funding stream** was diluted at times from its main objective: to get core funding KP organisations and networks.
* A concern moving forward is if and how our priorities will be understand by the Secretariat and **made operational**. A clear indication is needed of operational approaches, policies and actions that will change things fundamentally, especially for key populations, women, young people and other vulnerable groups.

***2) Suggestions for Asia-MENA II Forum participants***

* Try to **connect with and ‘influence’ the rapporteurs of the breakout groups** -- most of whom are from civil society and communities -- to ensure that priorities are reflected in both versions of the slides presented: the initial one (after the first breakout group on each topic), and the second set of slides (which are supposed to reflect the results of further prioritization during the second breakout group on each topic).
* There is limited time in plenary for many people to intervene. It might make sense to **mobilize civil society participants** to raise different issues and coordinate how to push certain priorities in the conversation. This might include having a few talking points and coordinated about their delivery, etc. This could be especially useful during the final plenary, which is longer than the other two and when the discussion will center on the ‘summing up’ document prepared by the facilitators.
* Encourage the facilitators and rapporteurs of breakout groups to **submit any notes and other documentation that is not reflected in the summary slides** -- including in regard to specific recommendations of an operational nature. Such additional input can be submitted directly to the Secretariat along with the slides.

**3) Additional items and next steps**

* APCASO and partners are organizing a **prep meeting** for civil society participants in the Asia Partnership Forum, to be held on Friday, 26 February.
* Regional partners have finalized ‘[**The Global Fund That We Still Want**](https://gfanasiapacific.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Final-The-Global-Fund-That-We-Still-Want.pdf)’, an advocacy statement / document that is the result of extensive in-country and regional consultations. Its key messages are expected to serve as the basis for many participants’ inputs and focus during the Partnership Forum.
* The GFAN Secretariat will help Asia-MENA II participants to identify **attendees at the Africa and EECA/LAC Partnership Forums** who might be willing to **provide resource/feedback support** before and during the 3-5 March Forum. People potentially interested are encouraged to contact Katy ([katy@globalfundadvocatesnetwork.org](mailto:katy@globalfundadvocatesnetwork.org)), who can help make the connection.
* **The GFAN Secretariat is helping to facilitate contributions by Partnership Forum participants to an upcoming Global Fund Observer article**: The article, planned to appear in its March 10 issue, will seek to highlight and share the perspectives from the GFAN network on the Partnership Forums. People interested in contributing to this article are encouraged to reach out to Tara at the GFAN Secretariat ([Tara@globalfundvocatesnetwork.org](mailto:Tara@globalfundvocatesnetwork.org)). The ***deadline for input is Monday, 1 March***.

***Upcoming GFAN calls****:*

**Launch of the new Speakers Bureau and World TB Day campaign materials**

* *Monday, 1 March*: 8 am EST, 14:00 CET, 15:00 SAST
* Call details:
  + Zoom: [https://zoom.us/j/96561686671](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fzoom.us%2Fj%2F96561686671&data=04%7C01%7C%7C669bb0dae0694e75876008d8d4468140%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637492746562556133%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=xfFxlG26gSIYKTJFG%2FwfPWJY3mdO4giieD9GF9OylcM%3D&reserved=0)
  + Meeting ID: 965 6168 6671

**Launch of new GFAN Strategy**

* *Tuesday, 9 March*: 9 am EST, 15:00 CET, 16:00 SAST
* Call details:
  + Zoom: [https://zoom.us/j/98481971577](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fzoom.us%2Fj%2F98481971577&data=04%7C01%7C%7C43d753bfec2d4f5cd53708d8d76d275d%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637496211101922321%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=mn5jO6Kr5DB91WhuEKrKEmIx%2Bll51YH6mx4hufw4oRw%3D&reserved=0)
  + Meeting ID: 984 8197 1577

In advance of this call, the GFAN Secretariat is asking **GFAN members to please send a short video recording of what GFAN means to you** -- or, if you prefer, a sentence or two by email saying the same thing.