ACHIEVING 1/4/6 BY 2024 IN NFM4
A guide to advocating for new and shorter TB regimens in Global Fund country dialogues

With the Global Fund’s Seventh Replenishment Conference now behind us and a recently approved new allocation methodology for the 2023 – 2025 period, countries will soon begin to receive allocation letters from the Global Fund Secretariat prompting the development of national funding requests. Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs), which are national committees that submit funding applications to the Global Fund and oversee grants on behalf of their countries, are starting to engage in country dialogues to give all stakeholders a voice in the development and agreement of key priorities for their national funding requests.

Now is the time for in-country TB advocates representing civil society and affected communities to prepare to engage in CCM led country dialogues. Evidencing a transparent and inclusive funding request development process is an eligibility requirement for Global Fund funding, and your voice is critical to identifying areas that require further prioritization to save lives and achieve maximum programmatic impact for national programs. In this briefing note, you will find information and key messages to support you to elevate rapid adoption and roll out of safer, shorter, and more effective novel TB treatment regimens throughout the country dialogue consultation process.

ADVOCACY FOR 1/4/6x24 THROUGHOUT THE FUNDING CYCLE

 Ahead of the funding request

 Advocate for integration in national strategies or treatment guidelines

 Funding request development

 Ensure that new regimens replace older regimens, and fight against pilots

 TRP* Comments

 Leverage TRP* comments to highlight the importance integrating new regimens

 Grant Making

 Fight for adequate funding to be allocated to the roll out of new regimens

 Grant Monitoring

 Report roll-out failures or challenges and document positive impact

*The Technical Review Panel (TRP) independently reviews funding requests and issues recommendations
Why push access to novel TB Treatment in Global Fund funding requests now?

After decades of fighting TB using outdated tools, investments in research and development have finally delivered shorter, safer, cheaper, and more effective TB treatment regimens. Relative to their predecessors, these newer regimens are quicker to complete and sharply reduce severe side effects with high success rates. Yet despite the potential of new regimens to save more lives and improve the quality of life of people being treated for TB, very few people around the world have access to them. This is an unacceptable reality that must and can be changed.

The Global Fund's process for developing national funding requests presents a time sensitive opportunity that can be leveraged to ensure that everyone, everywhere has access to scientific advances over the last 20 years that have made it possible to treat TB infection in as little as one or three months and most forms of drug-sensitive and drug-resistant TB disease in four and six months, respectively (the “1 / 4 / 6” in the 1/4/6x24 Campaign name).

The recently launched 1/4/6x24 campaign is mobilizing TB treatment access advocates and partners like Stop TB, the World Health Organization, and Global Fund to commit to working together to push and support country governments and other key stakeholders to take actions necessary to get in place by the end of 2024 the “staff, stuff, space, systems, and support” needed to successfully make available today’s short-course TB regimens – for everyone, everywhere. The movement is building, and we need you to join the effort! Together we can shepherd in the major paradigm shift in TB that is needed now more than ever.

About novel, shorter TB Treatment regimens

During country dialogues, make the ask for funding requests to prioritize the adoption and roll out of novel TB treatment regimens to prevent TB in as little as one or three months and treat most forms of drug-sensitive (DS-TB) and drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) in four and six months, respectively. Briefing notes about 1-month and once weekly TB preventive treatment regimens, 4-month treatment regimens for DS-TB, and 6-month treatment regimens for DR-TB are available here.

### TB Prevention
- **Duration:** 6 → 1 month
- **Pill burden:** 180 → 36

### Treatment (DS-TB)
- **Duration:** 6 → 4 month
- **Pill burden:** 360 → 240

### Treatment (DR-TB)
- **Duration:** 18 → 6 months
- **Pill burden:** 3,500 → 524
- **Injection:** 130 → 0

No more hearing loss!
The WHO Recommends them! Novel 1/4/6 regimens represent the latest recommended regimens by the World Health Organization. The WHO recommendations endorsing these regimens are evidence-based and the result of an exhaustive review of the science and best practices.

Access to innovation is a human right! According to international human rights law, governments have “a duty to make available and accessible to all persons, without discrimination, especially to the most vulnerable, all the best available applications of scientific progress necessary to enjoy the highest attainable standard of health.”

How else do we bounce back from COVID-19? The COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a damaging impact on access to TB diagnosis and treatment and the burden of TB disease. Progress made in the years up to 2019 has slowed, stalled or reversed, and global TB targets are off track. Intensified efforts are urgently required to mitigate and reverse the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on TB and to save lives. Leveraging all tools in the toolkit, including novel shorter TB treatment regimens, would represent a commitment to intensified action and could contribute to getting back on track.

It’s what the Global Fund does!
- As per the Global Fund Framework Document, as part of their defined scope of work the Global Fund is mandated “to provide resources for the purchase of appropriate commodities to prevent and treat the three diseases, and provide associated support for strengthening comprehensive commodity management systems at country level, as a component of technically sound and reviewed programs.”
- The Global Fund’s new 2023 – 2028 strategy explicitly has a greater focus on accelerating the equitable deployment of and access to innovations. In the articulation of what is different about the new strategy, point 7 states that it has a “greater focus on accelerating the equitable deployment of and access to innovations, working with partners to take an end-to-end view to rapidly address bottlenecks to deployment to those most in need.”
- At the 1/4/6x24 launch event hosted by USAID on October 28, 2022, Eliud Wandwalo of the Global Fund encouraged countries to include new regimen roll out in funding requests. All new regimens are eligible for Global Fund resourcing. The Global Fund’s Information Note on Tuberculosis for the 2023-2025 allocation period encourages the “rapid scale up” (p.17) and “use of shorter, all-oral and patient-friendly treatment regimens recommended by WHO” (p. 16).

If you experience push back or get questions in response to your ask for funding requests to prioritize the adoption and roll out of novel and more effective shorter TB treatment regimens, use these key arguments and messages to bolster your voice. Note that regimen specific key arguments and messages are available in the regimen specific briefing notes mentioned above:

1. **The WHO Recommends them!** Novel 1/4/6 regimens represent the latest recommended regimens by the World Health Organization. The WHO recommendations endorsing these regimens are evidence-based and the result of an exhaustive review of the science and best practices.
2. **Access to innovation is a human right!** According to international human rights law, governments have “a duty to make available and accessible to all persons, without discrimination, especially to the most vulnerable, all the best available applications of scientific progress necessary to enjoy the highest attainable standard of health.”
3. **How else do we bounce back from COVID-19?** The COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a damaging impact on access to TB diagnosis and treatment and the burden of TB disease. Progress made in the years up to 2019 has slowed, stalled or reversed, and global TB targets are off track. Intensified efforts are urgently required to mitigate and reverse the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on TB and to save lives. Leveraging all tools in the toolkit, including novel shorter TB treatment regimens, would represent a commitment to intensified action and could contribute to getting back on track.
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If you have any questions about shorter regimens, the 1/4/6x24 campaign, or Global Fund country dialogue process, do not hesitate to reach out to:

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GFAN thanks all of the advocates and community members that have contributed to the making of this brief.