

Dr Marijke Wijnroks, the Global Fund, talking points for Session 6

- In a world increasingly affected by conflict and economic crises and the largest refugee crisis in modern history, the Global Fund is prioritizing challenging operating environments (COEs) to ensure uninterrupted provision of HIV, TB and malaria interventions to people in need. COEs account for one-quarter of the global disease burden for HIV, TB and malaria, and for one-quarter of Global Fund investments. The Global Fund's approach to COEs is based on the principles of flexibility, innovative and adaptive approaches and partnerships with traditional partners and emergency responders.
- As of end 2017, there were 68.5 million forcibly displaced people worldwide – refugees, migrants, and internally displaced persons. More than 44,000 people flee their homes every day due to conflict and persecution. The number of international migrants worldwide has continued to grow rapidly in recent years, reaching 258 million in 2017, up from 220 million in 2010 and 173 million in 2000.
- The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration addresses the need for a common approach to international migration. A successful compact cannot be complete without support for the vision of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, and leaving no one behind, including the right to health.
- Many migrants still lack access to health services, prevention and protection due to their migration status. Preventable diseases like HIV, TB and malaria strain health systems that are already overburdened due to conflict, disaster or extreme poverty, leaving fewer resources to provide basic health services or to prepare for emerging health threats. The best way to improve health and prevent new diseases from spreading is to meet the needs of the most vulnerable amongst us, especially those forced to flee their homes and cross national borders.
- With the introduction of the COE policy, the Global Fund has increasingly engaged with partners whose mandates address the needs of mobile populations at a more strategic and operational level. Beyond collaborating on grant implementation, the Global Fund is committed to identifying durable and sustainable solutions for these populations by integrating their health needs into the Global Fund model. This entails establishing stronger communication across agencies like IOM and UNCHR at Headquarter level, but also facilitating communication in country to better account for migrant needs. Taking these aspects into account, and adapting a traditional development model, contributes to bridging the humanitarian-development divide and to further positioning the Global Fund in addressing health issues in migration-

- To highlight a few examples, in Uganda, the government led a multi-partner discussion to identify gaps in HIV, TB, and malaria for refugees with strong participation from UNHCR and the Global Fund. An Emergency Fund grant was approved to respond to the malaria gap for the refugee population. IOM, which is a principle recipient for the Middle East response, contributes to the implementation of a multi-country grant for TB/MDR-TB interventions among Afghan refugees, returnees and mobile populations in Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan.