

ADDENDUM: CIVIL SOCIETY GUIDE TO THE GFF

12 APRIL 2018

Since the publication of the Civil Society Guide to the GFF in October 2016, the Global Financing Facility (GFF) has strengthened its engagement with civil society, continued to expand its geographic reach, and embarked on a USD 2 billion replenishment effort. This addendum outlines these important developments, and provides key questions and recommendations for assessing civil society engagement and contribution in GFF countries. The Civil Society Coordinating Group on the GFF plans to fully update the Civil Society Guide to the GFF with these and other country-level developments in 2018-2019.

1. EXPANDED FRAMEWORK FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT

The GFF now has strategic guidance in place for governments to meaningfully engage civil society at all stages of the GFF process in GFF countries. Continued efforts are still needed to ensure that all GFF stakeholders at the country level: are aware of both the expectations and the tools for maximizing civil society's contribution to the GFF; value the diverse assets that civil society can contribute to the GFF; and have the skills and resources to leverage civil society's important roles.

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER COUNTRY PLATFORM GUIDELINES: During 2016-2017, the GFF meaningfully integrated civil society recommendations into the Minimum Standards for Inclusiveness, Transparency and Accountability of Multi-stakeholder Country Platforms. These Minimum Standards are outlined in Annex 2 of the Guidance Note: Inclusive Multi-stakeholder Country Platforms in Support of Every Woman Every Child (EWEC), along with a broader set of recommendations for managing and sustaining effective Multi-stakeholder Country Platforms (MSPs).¹ The result is a strong set of clearly defined expectations that:

- MSPs should fully involve all key constituencies, including civil society organizations as well as adolescents and youth at all stages;
- Members of civil society and affected populations should choose their own representatives through a transparent process;
- More than one representative from each constituency should participate in the country platform;
- Country platforms should develop and implement a plan for engaging with a broader range of stakeholders in a consultative manner;
- Country platforms should provide adequate notice of meetings, publish planning documents and meeting reports, and designate a focal point for the country platform; and
- Country platforms should consider and support independent mechanisms for national and local, community-based accountability.

CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY: In April 2017, the GFF Investors Group approved a strategy developed by the Civil Society Coordinating Group on the GFF to strengthen civil society engagement in the GFF at all levels.² The strategy is designed to ensure that important structures and processes are in place to support strong national civil society coalitions, and representative engagement in GFF multi-stakeholder country platforms. The results of meaningful civil society engagement will vary from country to country depending on the country context and focus of investments, but the improved processes resulting from implementation of the Civil Society Engagement Strategy will help civil society to develop their own results-oriented action plans to support the goals of the GFF and national investment cases. The strategy also outlines the value of civil society in GFF processes, which can be a tool for dialogue to open space for engagement and enhanced impacts.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OF THE CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY: In November 2017, the GFF Investors Group endorsed an operational framework with actions to implement the Civil Society Engagement Strategy by the different GFF stakeholders.³ As an important first step, the GFF Secretariat and PMNCH have pledged partial funding for 2018 to support the implementation of the Strategy. The Civil Society Coordinating Group on the GFF is currently working with the GFF Secretariat and PMNCH to operationalize a small grants mechanism for civil society to meaningfully engage in and support the GFF.

TABLE 1. GFF COUNTRIES

2014	2015	2016	2017
Democratic Republic of Congo	Bangladesh	Guatemala	Afghanistan
Ethiopia	Cameroon	Guinea	Burkina Faso
Kenya	Mozambique	Myanmar	Cambodia
Tanzania	Liberia	Sierra Leone	Central African Republic
	Nigeria		Côte d'Ivoire
	Senegal		Haiti
	Uganda		Indonesia
	Vietnam		Madagascar
			Malawi
			Rwanda

2. GEOGRAPHIC REACH AND REPLENISHMENT

The GFF is currently active in 26 countries, listed in Table 1, with the year they joined the GFF. In 2018, the GFF is seeking a USD 2 billion replenishment to fund an expansion through 2023.⁴

The GFF is also increasingly seen as an innovator in health financing, perhaps even a model for future mechanisms. The GFF's expansion and demonstration value makes it vitally important that the GFF's framework for civil society engagement is fully funded and implemented, and the full value of civil society is brought to the GFF in currently participating countries. This way, the GFF will continue to illustrate best practices in civil society engagement in multi-stakeholder processes for the next wave of countries and funding mechanisms.

3. UNDERSTANDING CIVIL SOCIETY CAPACITY AND ENGAGEMENT IN GFF COUNTRIES

The responses to the following questions can be used to assess the status of civil society engagement, capacity needs and opportunities for strengthening civil society's potential contribution to the GFF in countries:

1. What is the health network or coalition used to coordinate civil society engagement in the GFF?
2. Has civil society developed a country-specific GFF Action Plan or engagement strategy?
3. Does the civil society network have any resources—financial, human or otherwise—to engage in GFF?
4. Is civil society in the country part of the global Coordinating Group on GFF?⁵ Do they want to be?
5. Is someone from the civil society network a member of the GFF Multi-stakeholder Country Platform? If so, were they selected by their peers?
6. How do members bring the interests of civil society to the country platform, and communicate updates and developments from the country platform back to the civil society network?
7. What is the name of the Multi-stakeholder Country Platform being used for GFF?
8. How does the country platform measure up to the Minimum Standards outlined in the Guidance Note: Inclusive Multi-stakeholder Country Platforms in Support of EWEC?
9. How many civil society organizations are part of the Multi-stakeholder Country Platform? Are they the same as the civil society focal points for GFF?
10. Does the country platform have a sub-group working on the health financing strategy?
11. What is the current GFF stage within the country? If the GFF is in the Investment Case Development stage, is the government currently in dialogue with the World Bank about any projects that will be funded with GFF trust funds?
12. If the GFF is currently funding a project in the country, what evaluation and accountability efforts have been conducted, and how have plans and strategies adjusted as a result?
13. Are there opportunities for continued mobilization of resources in support of the Investment Case?

ENDNOTES

- 1 PMNCH, H6, Every Woman Every Child, GFF. (2017). Guidance Note: Inclusive Multi-stakeholder Country Platforms in Support of Every Woman Every Child. Retrieved from: https://www.globalfinancingfacility.org/sites/gff_new/files/documents/GFF%20Country%20Platform%20guidance%20note.pdf
- 2 Global Financing Facility. (2017). Civil Society Engagement Strategy. Retrieved from: https://www.globalfinancingfacility.org/sites/gff_new/files/documents/GFF-IG5-5%20CS%20Engagement%20Strategy.pdf
- 3 Implementation Plan for the Civil Society Engagement Strategy. (2017). Retrieved from: http://africahbn.info/sites/default/files/resources/gff_csos_costed_implementation_plan_draft_oct_31.pdf
- 4 Global Financing Facility. (2017). GFF Replenishment. Retrieved from: <https://www.globalfinancingfacility.org/gff-replenishment>
- 5 GFF Civil Society Coordinating Group. (2017). Terms of Reference. Retrieved from: http://www.who.int/pmnch/gff_cso_tor.pdf