



Brief: Independent Assessments Give the Global Fund High Marks

Since 2015, four serious, reputable reviews by international agencies and donors have given high marks to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund). Two were conducted by governments sharing U.S. priorities on performance and accountability (the United Kingdom and Australia), and two by non-governmental watchdogs with high standards (the Multilateral Organization Performance Assessment Network – or MOPAN – and PublishWhatYouFund).

Areas of consensus in these assessments include: results, value for money, organizational strength and transparency.

Global Fund Report Card

DFID (UK) Multilateral Development Review 2016

- Of note: One of only three organizations with top possible ranking in both *Organizational Strength* and *Match with UK Development Goals*
- Areas of excellence:
 - Results & Value
 - Risk & Assurance
 - Transparency & Accountability
 - Organization & Financial Framework
 - Relevance & Agility
 - Cost Effective & Transparent Svstems

Performance of Australia Aid 2015-16

- Of note: Achieved the highest possible ranking in all six criteria areas
- Areas of excellence:
 - Results & Impact
 - Relevance & Alignment
 - Value for Money
 - Partnership Behavior
 - Organizational Capacity
 - Organizational Governance

Multilateral Organization Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN)

- Of note: Delivers significant results and provides strong leadership in the global response to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.
- Areas of excellence:
 - Organization & Financial Framework
 - Relevance & Agility
 - Cost Effective & Transparent Systems

PublishWhatYouFund's 2016 Aid Transparency Index

- Of note: Ranked fifth out of 46 international development donors
- Highest possible transparency category ("Very good")
- Top among all donors for excellence in:
 - Performance
 - Activity-level Documents

Each of the reviews has slightly different premises and approaches. The United Kingdom's Department for International Development performs Multilateral Development Reviews to assess which organizations to fund – with a focus on results, value for money, transparency and accountability. The reviews are meant to help align funding with U.K. Development Goals regarding what an organization does, how it delivers, and where it works. The late 2016 review of the Global Fund directly influenced the decision to increase funding from £800 million in the Global Fund's 2014-2016 replenishment cycle to £1.1 billion for 2017-2019.

Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs issued a similar assessment of aid recipients in its 2015-16 report, released in May 2017. The Multilateral Performance Assessment found the Global Fund has greatly improved its strategic leadership and governance, and made financing more predictable through a needs-based allocation methodology. It found that the Fund's counterpart financing requirements have helped increase domestic investments (by withholding 15 percent of funds unless the local government itself stepped up and invested). It called the Global Fund "a world leader in mobilizing private sector finance and expertise."

MOPAN is a network of 18 donor countries, including the United States, with a common interest in assessing the effectiveness of organizations, and is known for in-depth assessments of organizations such as the International Labor Organization or the Food and Agricultural Organization. It applies the same methodology to all institutions to analyze organizational and development effectiveness, including a review of documents, surveys of clients and partners, and consultations with organizations' headquarters and regional offices.

PublishWhatYouFund is a high-profile global campaign for aid transparency launched in 2008. Its objective is to raise the visibility and quality of data on aid and development, and to encourage the use of data in decision-making. Unlike the others, it is more singularly focused on openness of information, and first published its annual Aid Transparency Index in 2011.

The Global Fund has demonstrated its ability to evolve and improve efficiency and transparency. The recently-released Australian aid assessment found significant reforms undertaken by the Global Fund over the period of its 2012-2016 quadrennial Strategy period, particularly regarding fraud prevention and control. The Fund is, of course, not perfect, and it is progressing to improve. For instance, MOPAN found the Global Fund's work on addressing gender inequality was not yet satisfactory because its recent efforts simply have not been in place long enough to have a measurable impact.

The overall picture from these four assessments is that the Global Fund is a very strong public-private partnership – impactful, innovating and improving.