

Meeting Report

CRSPC Mock TRP Workshop to Review Global Fund Malaria Funding Applications, Grant Cycle 7 21-23 February 2023

Background

The RBM Partnership to End Malaria, through its Country and Regional Support Partner Committee (CRSPC) convened in collaboration with the Global Fund a Mock Technical Review Panel (TRP), in Nairobi, Kenya 21-23 February 2023 for countries submitting their Global Fund Funding request during Window 1. The workshop was held at the Mercure Nairobi Upper Hill Hotel. The Mock Technical Review Panel (TRP) allowed countries comprehensive peer review of GF malaria funding applications as well as reviews by recognized experts facilitating the finalization of the application prior to submission to the Global Fund. The purpose of the workshop was to support countries to develop and submit high quality malaria applications to the Global Fund during the Grant Cycle 7 (GC7) period.

Workshop Objectives

The main goal of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for countries to conduct a comprehensive peer review of their GF malaria funding applications, with support from recognized experts, to ensure the finalization of the application prior to submission to the Global Fund. The workshop was aimed at countries that will submit their malaria funding applications to the Global Fund by 20 March 2023.

- to conduct both an expert and peer review of Global Fund malaria funding applications from participating countries;
- to increase participant's awareness of what constitutes a good funding application;
- to identify countries that will require additional support to finalize their application;
- to outline the next steps needed to address comments on each country's application and finalize it; and

- to develop an RBM CRSPC strategy (as needed) for providing additional urgent support to countries in the remaining period prior to application submission.

Methodology

The workshop was held for 3 days, during which different agenda items were presented (Annex 1). A brief update was presented by the Global Fund team, CRSPC and WHO. Countries were divided into groups of two to three countries. There was an initial plenary session during which the groups were oriented on what would take place during the workshop, to introduce the reviewers guide and to distribute copies of the funding applications. Countries then meet in their groups to review other country funding applications, discuss the applications and provide feedback to each country. A group of experts reviewed key sections of the funding applications independently. Countries then prepare a plan for addressing comments brought up in various sections.

Workshop Participants

Workshop participants included representatives from 18 malaria-endemic countries in Africa and the Asia Pacific, such as Malaria Programme Managers, M&E Officers, Global Fund focal personnel, CCM's, and local partners. Additionally, the workshop was attended by RBM Secretariat, Global Fund Secretariat, RBM consultants, WHO MCATs/NPOs from invited countries, Regional Advisor, PMI Advisors, BMGF team, Implementation Partners, PRs and other partners. The event was held in a hybrid format, with 200 participants attending in-person and 36 participating virtually. UN agencies, NGOs, academia, parliamentarians, private sector, and Civil Societies were also represented (Annex 3).

Workshop Outcomes

- Countries received recommendations for improving funding applications
- Countries received strategies for addressing reviewer comments and finalizing each application

- RBM-CRSPC outlined mechanisms for rapid response strategy to address urgent country support needs prior to application submission.
- Participants evaluated and viewed the workshop as highly successful.
- The organization of the Malaria Mock TRP in the same city and on the date as the HIV AIDS mock TRP enabled the teams for those countries applying for the three diseases jointly to meet and discuss.

Workshop Evaluation

At the end of the workshop, the participants provided feedback on the logistics as well as the technical aspects of the workshop. The post-workshop evaluation revealed a high satisfaction rate among all participants and partners, indicating that the workshop will significantly improve their GF funding requests (Annex 2).

Lessons Learnt

- The pre-workshop planning activities such as communications to the participants, travel and venue arrangements given the high number of participants, made it easy to control and direct the proceedings/events during the meeting.
- Facilitators especially for the Lusophone/Spanish countries were limited suggesting a deficiency in this area.
- Arrival of the SRN coordinators a day earlier made it easy for venue arrangements and dealing with travel and accommodation arrangements for the participants

Conclusion and Recommendations

- There is a need for ensuring that uninvited people are not accepted into the meeting as this sets a precedent that they will always be admitted in and the numbers will continue to increase.
- Recruitment of Portuguese and Spanish speaking consultants to be prioritized

The conclusion is that the workshop was well organized and went well as confirmed by the participants evaluation

Annexes

Annex 1: Agenda

Time	Agenda Item	Responsible
Day 1	Tuesday 21 February	
8:00	Arrival, Registration, Printing and copying of Funding applications	RBM Secretariat
8:45	Opening remarks Opening remarks Official opening and welcoming	Dr Corine Karema, Interim CEO, RBM WHO Representative, Kenya H.E Minister of Health, Kenya
09:00	Introductions of participating countries and Partners, Workshop Objectives, Review of Agenda of the workshop	Melanie Renshaw
09:10	Global Fund - overview of the GC 7 application process – key reminders	GF team
09:40	Review of key issues for funding applications CRSPC	Melanie Renshaw
10:00-10:30	Coffee Beak and Group Photo	
10:30	WHO Technical updates including Malaria Surveillance	WHO
11:30	Grouping of countries, Application distribution, Presentation on self assessment tools Discussion of review process	Melanie and Peter
12:00	Group work: self assessment review of GF funding applications	Countries and Facilitators
13:30-14:30	Lunch	
14:30	Group work: self assessment review of GF funding applications	Countries and Facilitators
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break	
16:00	Group work: review of GF funding applications	Countries and Facilitators
18:00-19:00	Facilitators Workshop	All Facilitators
Day 2	Wednesday 22 February	
08:30	Feedback Group 1	Countries and Facilitators
10:00-20:	Coffee Break	
10:20	Feedback Group 1	Countries and Facilitators

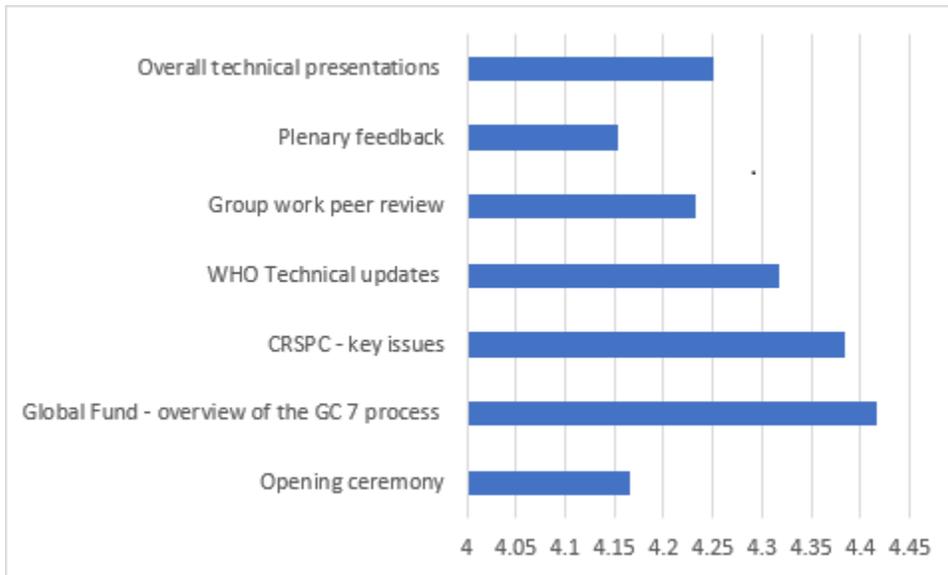
12:30-13:30	Lunch	
13:30-15:30	Feedback Group 2	Countries and Facilitators
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break	
16:00	Feedback Group 2	Countries and Facilitators
18:00	Facilitators Workshop	All Facilitators
Day 3	Thursday 23 February	
8:30	Plenary feedback – outstanding issues and clarifications	Facilitators and countries, Peter Olumese
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00	Plenary feedback – outstanding issues and clarifications including timelines for finalization of funding applications including identification of additional support requirements	Facilitators and countries, Peter Olumese
13:00-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-14:45	Transportation of participants to Stanley Hotels	WHO
15:00	Combined Malaria, TB, HIV and RSSH (at Mercure and Stanley Hotels)	WHO
16:00	Coffee Break	
16:20-17:30	Combined Malaria, TB, HIV and RSSH (at Mercure and Stanley Hotels)	WHO

Annex 2: Workshop Evaluation

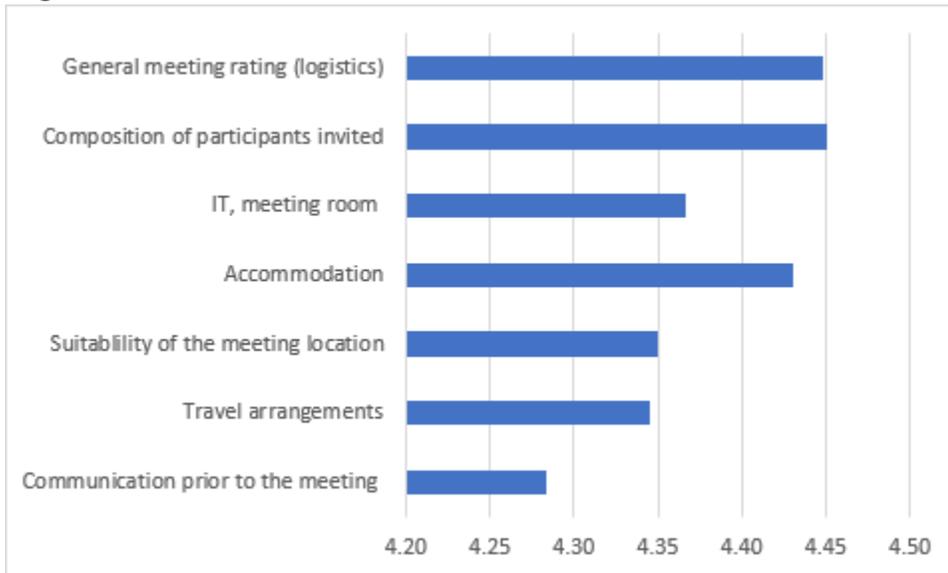
At the end of the workshop, the participants provided feedback on the logistics as well as the technical aspects of the workshop.

The post-workshop evaluation revealed a high satisfaction rate among all participants and partners, indicating that the workshop will significantly improve their GF funding requests.

Technical



Logistics



Annex 3: List of participants

Link to the list can be found here

[List of Participants - Mock TRP Workshop February 2023](#)