Doctors and nurses carry out a ward round to monitor progress of Multi-drug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB) patients under their care at the Patheingyi Tuberculosis Hospital. The National Tuberculosis Programme’s “Scaling-up of Tuberculosis Control in Myanmar” programme, supported by the Global Fund, includes improving community awareness, detection and treatment of MDR-TB. Management of MDR-TB is provided on an ambulatory model except for patients with severe and complicated conditions. Patheingyi Tuberculosis Hospital, Patheingyi Township, Mandalay Region. Photo: John Rae /The Global Fund
The Global Fund supports the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in Myanmar, with supervision from a national coordinating body chaired by the Ministry of Health and Sports.

• Reduce HIV transmission and related illnesses, mortality, disability and social and economic impacts
• End the TB epidemic in Myanmar fewer than 10 cases per 100,000 people by 2035
• Reduce malaria morbidity and mortality by 85% and 75% respectively by 2020 relative to 2015 baseline figures
Key Programme Achievements (2011-June 2019)

**HIV/AIDS**
- 144,039 people receiving antiretroviral therapy

**TB**
- 1.1 million+ people treated for tuberculosis
- 14,111 MDR-TB patients began second-line treatment
- 17,165 injecting drug users receiving methadone maintenance therapy

**MALARIA**
- 1.6 million+ people treated for malaria
- 11.4 million+ people tested for malaria
- 8.3 million+ long lasting insecticidal nets distributed

To upgrade and strengthen the laboratory services in Myanmar for earlier and faster detection of TB and MDR-TB patients, biosafety level-3 (BSL-3) TB laboratory equipment has been installed in two laboratories in 2017, in Taunggyi and Yangon. As a result, both these laboratories now have BSL-3 TB designation. GeneXpert machines have been installed in national laboratories across the country.

To develop and strengthen the capacity of national laboratory services for HIV viral load testing, polymerase chain reaction (PCR) machines have been installed in four locations across Myanmar: the Magway General Hospital, the Mingalardon Specialist Hospital, and the Public Health Laboratory in Mandalay and the National Health Laboratory in Yangon.

A PCR machine installed with Global Fund support at the Magway General Hospital. ©UNOPS.

Ribbon cutting ceremony for inauguration of biosafety level-3 TB lab in Taunggyi, Shan State. ©UNOPS.
As Principal Recipient, UNOPS plays a crucial role in bringing lifesaving treatments to people in need, is actively supporting the strengthening of government health systems, and is responsible for delivering the targets set out in the grant agreement, in collaboration with selected sub-recipients from the national programmes, international and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and United Nations agencies. This arrangement is under the oversight of the Myanmar-Health Sector Coordinating Committee (M-HSCC), which comprises a partnership of local stakeholders from NGOs, multilateral and bilateral agencies, the public and private sectors and people living with, or affected by, the diseases. This enables effective and target-based aid delivery to those most in need.

Structure of the Global Fund Programme in Myanmar

The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) is a Principal Recipient in Myanmar of the Global Fund, and assists the Ministry of Health and Sports (MOHS) in managing $154 million worth of Global Fund grants for the continuation of HIV and TB programme implementation in Myanmar over a three-year period (2018–2020). UNOPS has previously assisted MOHS in managing $358 million worth of Global Fund grants over a seven-year period (2011–2017). The targets set out in the grant agreement are being delivered in collaboration with a range of partners and under the supervision of the Myanmar-Health Sector Coordinating Committee, chaired by MOHS.

$ 77.3 Million $ 77 Million
Global Fund grants for Myanmar (2018-2020) split by disease

In collaboration with the Myanmar Food and Drug Administration (FDA), a robust in-country monitoring system for pharmaceutical products was established to ensure a high quality of pharmaceutical products across Myanmar. Samples of drugs for quality testing are regularly taken from different locations across the country. The capacity of national laboratory services has been strengthened and the Myanmar FDA Laboratory received ISO accreditation in 2017, which represents an important step towards providing internationally recognized laboratory testing services with accurate and reliable results for drug quality and safety.
About 400 staff from the national programmes were trained in logistics management and key procurement and supply chain processes such as warehouse and stock management and reporting, in 2018.

RAI2E –Towards Elimination of Malaria

UNOPS was also selected as Regional Principal Recipient for the Regional Artemisinin-resistance Initiative (RAI), which was a $124 million regional grant (2014-2017) to contain the spread of drug-resistant malaria and to contribute towards elimination of P. falciparum malaria in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS).

RAI has been expanded with a second phase, the RAI2-Elimination (RAI2E) programme, which is a $243 million regional grant to accelerate the elimination of P. falciparum malaria in the GMS region over a three-year period (2018-2020).

RAI2E supports increased malaria service coverage for remote populations in border areas and other at-risk populations, as well as case management through health volunteers and strengthening of national surveillance systems.

The Global Fund in Myanmar has supported:

Supporting the Strengthening of Government Health Systems

- District Health Information System
- National Survey/Mortality Survey
- Integrated Bio-behaviour Survey
- Procurement and Supply Chain Management
- Renovation
- Logistics Management Information Systems
- Capacity building in financial management
- National Capacity Building
(Local non-governmental organizations and national programmes)
HIV/AIDS programme: 330 townships
Tuberculosis programme: 321 townships
Malaria programme: 330 townships

Central TB Medical Store is well organized for easy access for issuing drugs procured with Global Fund support, Aung San, Insein, Yangon. ©UNOPS

To ensure high quality management of medical supplies, two major warehouses were renovated in Yangon, as well as in 35 other locations including stores/warehouses and anti-retroviral therapy clinics in other areas of the country. The UNOPS Procurement and Supply Management unit regularly visits regional and state level warehouses and storage facilities of national programmes and other partners for monitoring purposes and to check compliance with WHO good distribution and storage practices.
About $6 million worth of pharmaceuticals were procured sustainably using grants from the Global Fund in 2018. These included anti-tuberculosis, anti-malaria and anti-retroviral medicines. A further $17 million was spent on condoms, long lasting insecticidal nets, rapid diagnostic test kits and other equipment.

The Global Fund grants in Myanmar is being implemented through a network of partners.

**Six national NGOs:** Myanmar Medical Association, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association, Myanmar Health Assistant Association, Pyi Gyi Khin and Myanmar Council of Churches

**Three international NGOs:** International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, Medical Action Myanmar and Shoklo Malaria Research Unit


**The national response to HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria** is being led by three national programmes—the National AIDS Programme, the National Tuberculosis Programme and the National Malaria Control Programme—under the guidance and leadership of the Ministry of Health and Sports, supported by local and international non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies.
More than 1,200 health system managers, representing more than 300 townships across 17 states and regions were trained in planning, budgeting, implementation and management in 2018.

1,200+
HEALTH SYSTEM MANAGERS
TRAINED IN 2018

UNOPS-PR has developed monitoring and evaluation guidelines and manuals, and conducted trainings to help improve the quality of data collected. Regular visits help ensure that reliable and accurate information is gathered from various health facilities across Myanmar.

46
FIELD VISITS
IN 2018