

MEDIA RELEASE



MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Hon Julie Bishop MP

MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE PACIFIC

Senator The Hon Concetta Fierravanti-Wells

16 September 2016

THE GLOBAL FUND - FIGHTING HIV/AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS AND MALARIA

Today Australia will pledge an additional \$220 million to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria at the Fifth Replenishment Meeting in Montreal.

This commitment – which is a 10 per cent increase on Australia’s previous pledge – demonstrates our significant and ongoing commitment to fight the epidemics of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, particularly in the Indo-Pacific.

The Global Fund is on track to save 22 million lives by year-end, including 10 million in the Indo-Pacific.

Australia is working with the Global Fund to solve the challenges of drug-resistant malaria in the Greater Mekong and multi-drug resistant tuberculosis in Asia and Papua New Guinea. These present significant health security risks to our neighbours and to Australia.

We are working to build strong and resilient health systems across the Indo-Pacific to help combat these devastating diseases and build a healthier, safer and more secure region.

The Global Fund’s focus on innovation and private sector partnerships aligns with the Australian Government’s approach to overseas development assistance. The Global Fund uses its market share and private sector partnerships to reduce the price of vital health products such as insecticide-treated bed nets and HIV/AIDS drugs.

The Global Fund is a valued partner in Australia’s efforts to improve regional health security.

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