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Independent observer of the
Global Fund



2021

ANNUAL REPORT

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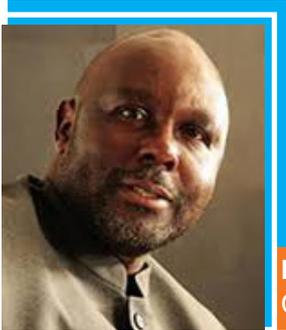
AN OVERVIEW OF AIDSPAN

Aidspan is an international non-governmental organization (NGO) established in 2002 as an independent observer of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. It provides Global Fund stakeholders, including civil society, communities, country coordinating mechanisms (CCMs), governments, and the Global Fund donors, Board, and Secretariat, with regular information and analysis to describe and evaluate the Global Fund's progress. Aidspan aims to influence the transparency and effectiveness of the Global Fund at the global and country level.

Aidspan makes information available through its flagship publication, the [Global Fund Observer \(GFO\)](#) produced in English. A French language version is also produced, the [Observateur du Fonds Mondial \(OFM\)](#). The organization also publishes [in-depth reports](#) on its website (www.aidspan.org). The website also provides a series of [open-access data tools](#) that allow researchers to conduct analyses on Global Fund-related data, in turn helping the Global Fund to become more effective.



FOREWORD FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMAN AND AIDSPAN'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Isaac Awuondo,
Chairman of Aidspan's Board



Ida Hakizinka,
Executive Director of Aidspan

Aidspan continues to keep its stakeholders informed about Global Fund policies, processes, and the implementation of supported programs

In 2021, Aidspan remained focused on its core work of promoting the transparency and effectiveness of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. We continued to highlight important issues about Global Fund policies, processes, and grants implementation in our flagship newsletter in English (GFO) and its sister publication in French (OFM). We published 22 GFO issues containing 159 articles and 18 OFM issues with 112 articles. During 2021, COVID-19 was the most recurring topic. We published 27 articles focusing on issues around the pandemic, including its impact on HIV, tuberculosis (TB), and malaria programs, the weakening of health infrastructure, and resource mobilization to combat the pandemic, at both global and country levels. The development of the Global Fund Strategy was the second most frequent theme with 22 articles, where we discussed the reflections of various stakeholders in the five regional Partnership Forums to

inform Strategy development. Oversight, as part of our efforts to promote transparency and accountability, was the third most frequent theme with 17 articles. One of the highlights of the year was our campaign to encourage the Global Fund to simplify the language used in its internal documents.

We implemented the second phase of our project to enhance the capacity of Supreme Audit Institutions

Aidspan implemented the second phase of the project to strengthen the ability of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) in sub-Saharan Africa to perform financial, compliance, and programmatic audits of Global Fund grants. The first phase occurred between December 2018 and March 2020, when we strengthened the capacity of eight SAIs. In this second phase, we worked with SAIs in Ethiopia, Lesotho, Namibia, Nigeria, and South Africa.

The way forward in 2022

In 2022, Aidspan will develop a new strategy to expand its mandate to cover Global Health

Initiatives (GHIs), including Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, as well as and continuing our work with the Global Fund. We will consolidate and build on our 2021 achievements. This means continuing to keep our stakeholders abreast of issues related to the Global Fund and its linkages to other GHIs, including the 2023-2025 allocation methodology, the new Global Fund funding cycle for NFM4, and grant implementation successes, challenges, and best practices at country levels. We will also cover the Global Fund's Seventh Replenishment, pandemic preparedness and response, health financing, catalytic investments, COVID-19 and health system strengthening. In addition, we intend to continue our work to enhance the capacity of seven more SAIs to audit GHI-supported programs. For this new phase, we will incorporate an additional component on procurement and supply chain management since it has been a recurrent issue in the recent Office of the Inspector General (OIG) reports. Finally, we intend to implement a project to accelerate the implementation and performance of resilient and sustainable systems for health (RSSH) in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Aidspan acknowledges and thanks its supporters, funders, and partners

We attribute our 2021 achievements to the support we received from all our stakeholders, including our donors and partners. From the entire Aidspan fraternity, we say a big thank you for walking with us and providing us with financial, technical, and in-kind support. Special thanks go to the AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF), the French government (through L'Initiative), the Irish government (through Irish Aid), the German government (through GIZ BACKUP Health), and the New Venture Fund (NVF). You have supported a big pillar of our work, and we are grateful. We also thank our readers who continue to provide us with valuable feedback.

Thank you all.

Isaac Awuondo

Ida Hakizinka

Self Identity
as an under 700
Group

Site can link
to reviewed
companies'
website, BI
profile, social
media

find Co.
on other
Services

balanced
reviewing

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So what
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2021 IN BRIEF

In 2021, Aidspan accomplished the following:



Published 22 issues of the GFO with a total of 159 articles.



Published 18 issues of the OFM with a total of 112 articles.



Trained 145 auditors from five sub-Saharan African Supreme Audit Institutions to audit Global Fund grants.



Organized two virtual roundtables on governance that brought together more than 100 people to share how to improve accountability at the country level.

PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AIDSPAN'S 2018-2022 STRATEGY

Aidspan's activities correspond to those outlined in its 2018-2022 Strategy which has four objectives (Figure 1)

AIDSPAN STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK



Aidspan delivered news, analysis, features, and commentaries on the Global Fund and its activities

As with the previous years, Aidspan maintained its regular publication of news, analysis, and commentary on issues related to the work of the Global Fund and partners. In 2021, Aidspan published 22 issues of the GFO in English, with a total of 159 articles, a slight improvement compared to 2020 when we published 21 issues and 158 articles. We also published 18 issues of the French language version, the OFM with a total of 112 articles. This is an improvement from the 2020 total of 13 issues and 87 articles. Aidspan has thus surpassed its target of publishing 17 GFO and 13 OFM issues,

Aidspan continued to prioritize analytical work in 2021. Indeed, more than half of its publications' articles were non-news (for example, articles under the categories of Analysis, Features, Opinions, Interviews, and Commentaries, as

well as From the Field). Specifically, 54% of GFO and 51% of OFM content were non-news, surpassing the planned target of 30% of all content being non-news. Comparatively, GFO's non-news coverage increased from 40% reported in 2020 to the aforementioned 2021 figure of 54%. However, non-news coverage for OFM was slightly reduced from 56% reported in 2020.

Aidspan covers the countries in all regions receiving Global Fund grants. Hence, in terms of our geographical coverage regarding reporting and articles in 2021, 27% of GFO articles focused on country-specific issues, similar to 2020. Our work covered country-specific issues in 48 countries, less than the 60 countries covered in 2020. However, we did cover a greater number of non-African countries, increasing from 41% in 2020 to 44% in 2021.

2020	Result	2021
Number of Issues (Number of Articles)		
21 (158)	GFO	22 (159)
13 (87)	OFM	18 (112)
Analysis and Commentaries vs. News Ratio		
40%	GFO	54%
56%	OFM	51%
The proportion of Articles Focusing on Country or Region-Specific Issues		
27%	GFO	27%
24%	OFM	22%
Total Number of Countries Covered (Proportion from outside Sub-Saharan Africa)		
63 (41%)	GFO	48 (44%)
55 (38%)	OFM	44 (40%)

A 'DEEP DIVE' INTO THE GLOBAL FUND LANGUAGE

One of the highlights in 2021 was our attention to Global Fund language and terminology, which we light-heartedly refer to as Global Fundspeak. We exhorted the Global Fund to adopt plain and simple English in its internal documents.

In our article published in [GFO issue 406](#), we noted that *“some Global Fund documents are becoming increasingly difficult to understand because of attempts to make the text sound grandiose and the misuse of the word and phrases, with lengthy sentences containing a mixture of ideas. They must also be becoming*

more difficult – if not impossible – to translate into other languages”.

We provided examples of how some Global Fund documents use phrases and language that detract from the messages that are being delivered.

This article generated significant interest, with more than 1,674 people reading the article. We also received several congratulatory messages for raising an issue that has clearly become of increasing importance to many of our readers.



AIDSPAN KEEPS STAKEHOLDERS ABREAST OF ISSUES RELATED TO THE GLOBAL FUND AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL

Each year, Aidspan plans its work around several Global Fund-related topics. Our decisions are based on several factors, including feedback from civil society and grant implementers, community-centered issues, and the Global Fund’s annual priorities.

In 2021, Aidspan planned to cover 15 topical issues, including Strategic Initiatives, Catalytic Investments, COVID-19, Global Fund Strategy development, and health system strengthening, at global and country level. However, we are flexible in our approach should new issues emerge and

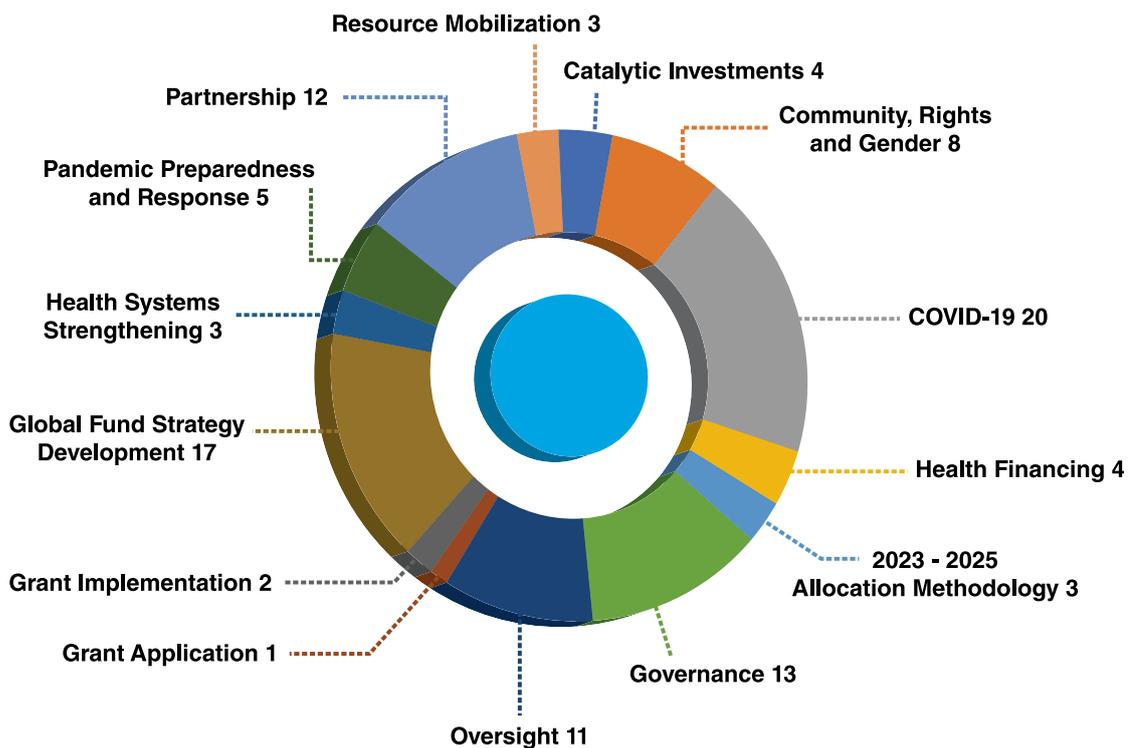
to this end Aidspan also covered other thematic areas that initially we had not planned to address, such as pandemic preparedness and response.

Global-level themes covered by aidspan in 2021

In 2021, Aidspan published 159 articles, of which 116 focused on global-level themes (Figure 2). The most frequently covered topics included the COVID-19 pandemic, Global Fund Strategy development, governance, and partnerships.

We discuss these below in more detail.

FIGURE 2: GLOBAL THEMATIC AREAS COVERED IN 2021



Our focus on the impact of the covid-19 pandemic

2021 is the second year since the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic. It is the year in which we began to see the pandemic's negative impacts on many areas, including its effect on priority disease programs, and already weakened health infrastructure. Luckily, by the end of 2020 we had seen the rapid advancement in COVID-19 vaccine development and thus 2020 started by preparing for vaccine rollout. During 2021, therefore, Aidspan continued to keep its stakeholders informed of the latest developments related to the pandemic.

In 2021, Aidspan published 20 articles covering various issues related to the global COVID-19 response. Specifically, we provided the following information:

- The [impact of COVID-19 on health systems in the developing world](#).
- How the [impact of COVID-19 on health workers may derail the fight against coronavirus](#).
- The impact of the pandemic, in that [COVID-19 disruptions should result in setting new realistic targets for HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria](#).

We called for a commission of inquiry to investigate the COVID-19 response. With regard to this, we published the following topics:

- [The time is ripe for an Africa commission of inquiry to investigate the COVID-19 response](#).
- [A COVID-19 Commission of Inquiry can improve pandemic preparedness in Africa](#).

- [More ideas for the COVID-19 Commission of Inquiry](#).

Following the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines, we analyzed various issues pertaining to vaccine development and distribution:

- [Why can't we develop vaccines against all the germs that make us sick?](#)
- [The small numbers of COVID-19 vaccines administered in low-income countries indicate inequity in allocation and distribution](#).
- [COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy plays a role in the low numbers of vaccines administered in low-income countries](#).
- [African Union and African Centres for Disease Control raise concerns about Covishield and the European Union Digital COVID Certificate 'Green Pass'](#)

We highlighted issues relating to COVID-19 funding. Some of the articles on this topic included:

- [Additional funding urgently needed as the Global Fund runs out of COVID-19 funding](#).
- [The Global Fund publishes guidelines and application instructions for the recently approved phase two of the COVID-19 Response Mechanism](#).
- [COVID-19 pandemic sparks increase in foreign aid, but for how long?](#)

Other COVID-19-related topical issues included articles on the following:

- [COVID-19 and HIV/AIDS. Where they do and do not overlap: epidemiology and science](#)
- [Recent study highlights Africa's limited research contribution to the science of the COVID-19/SARS-CoV-2 pandemic](#)

- [Confronting inequalities – the double whammy of HIV and COVID-19](#)
- [COVID-19: An Agenda for Action](#)
- [The stark reality of the failure of COVAX and its implications for Africa](#)
- [An update on the Global Fund’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic and how it is protecting its core mission of ending AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria](#)

We highlighted the development of the Global Fund Strategy

In 2021 the Global Fund continued the process begun in 2020 to engage its stakeholders in open consultations on the development of the Global Fund Strategy 2023-2028. Specifically, the Global Fund held a series of global Partnership Forums, organized by region, to gather ideas, perspectives, and guidance from its partners and stakeholders to feed into Strategy development. Based on these consultations, the Global Fund developed the Strategy framework and narrative. Aidspan kept its readers informed on the latest events as the Strategy unfolded and was finalized, publishing 17 articles related to this.

At the beginning of the year, we highlighted the [launch of the Sixth Partnership Forums](#). Also, we stressed the need for [the Global Fund to increase its commitment to HIV prevention](#) and that [communities and human rights must be at the center of the 2023-2028 Global Fund Strategy](#). During the consultative forums, we captured the voice of the people. For instance, we summarized [civil society and community reflections on the Global Fund Partnership Forums to inform strategy development](#). In addition, we highlighted the views of leading health organizations on Strategy content; for

example, the [AIDS Healthcare Foundation’s call](#) for the Global Fund to expand its mandate to other pandemics.

Following the end of the Sixth Partnership Forums’ deliberations, Aidspan published a special issue to reflect on the closing statements and recommendations of Global Fund partners and stakeholders, highlighting the following:

- [The Global Fund’s new Strategy: nothing new](#)
- [Civil society organizations want to find solutions to address their problems](#)
- [Should not the ‘people-centered approach’ be the heart of the next Global Fund Strategy?](#)
- [Has too much inclusion killed contradictory debate and innovative thinking?](#)

Aidspan also covered the [Global Fund Board and Strategy Committee’s](#) animated discussions on the proposed Strategy Framework and the [lively debate among stakeholders regarding the revised Global Fund Strategy Framework](#). Following the unveiling of the draft Strategy Narrative, we highlighted the following:

- [First look: the new Global Fund Strategy Narrative](#)
- [Approval of the Global Fund Strategy Narrative](#)
- [Global Fund Secretariat updates the Board on the development of the M&E Framework](#)
- [Stakeholders’ views on the zero draft of the Global Fund Strategy Narrative](#)

Aidspan covered the biannual Global Fund Board meetings

Aidspan covered the Global Fund Board meetings held in May and November 2021.

Yet again, the Board meetings had to be held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Prior to the Board meeting, we published articles highlighting topics for discussions and decisions, providing Board members and other stakeholders with comprehensive information on topics to be covered in the virtual meeting.

We published two special editions of the GFO the week before the Board meetings, one on 5 May and the other on 3 November. These special issues discussed topics pertinent to Board discussions. For example, the [5 May GFO Special Edition](#) highlighted the Constituencies' feedback on the Global Fund Strategy development, shortage of antiretrovirals drugs in Kenya, the well-coordinated COVID-19 vaccine distribution in Rwanda, and how women are under-represented on CCMs. The [3 November GFO Special Edition](#) covered a review of the Technical Evaluation Reference Group (TERG) commissioned evaluations for the Multicountry Grants and the Strategic Initiatives, and the TERG position paper. Also, we reviewed the update on health financing, arguing for health financing to top the Global Fund Board agenda, and highlighted the controversy around the global disease split.

Aidspan has Observer status at Global Fund Board meetings, and this enabled us to report on the gist of the discussions and the main decisions ratified at the meetings. We published

two special editions, one on 13 May and the other on 11 November, between them containing a total of 19. In the [13 May Board issue](#), we reported on:

- Global Fund efforts to protect its core mission amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Technical Review Panel's updates to the Board on lessons learned following the review of funding requests.
- The Board's discussion on the revised proposed Strategy Framework.
- The findings and recommendations of the 2020 Prospective Country Evaluations.
- The OIG's 2020 report
- The status of non-compliant expenditures identified by the OIG.
- Lessons learned from the implementation of the 2017-2022 Key Performance Indicators Framework.

in the [11 November Board issue](#), we covered the following:

- The approval of the Global Fund Strategy Narrative.
- Updates from the Secretariat on the development of the monitoring and evaluation framework, response to the COVID-19 pandemic, risk appetite, and resource mobilization.
- The OIG's progress.
- The adoption of a new global disease split

AIDSPAN CONTINUED TO ANALYZE GLOBAL FUND DATA

One of the objectives of Aidspan's Strategy is to ensure that Global Fund data are accessible to a wide range of stakeholders, including civil society, communities, and the private sector. In addition, we also help our stakeholders interpret complex and large data sets. Hence, in 2021, we continued to analyze information obtained from the Global Fund website. With data sourced from the Global Fund Data Service pages, we

analyzed the absorption of Global Fund grants in more than 20 countries.

We ascertained that the Global Fund had disbursed 92% of available funding for 90 grants (most countries had more than one grant) by February 2021. However, some countries were lagging in expensing the disbursed funds, according to our article published in [GFO issue 396](#).

AIDSPAN'S FOCUS ON COUNTRY AND REGION-SPECIFIC CONTENT IN 2021

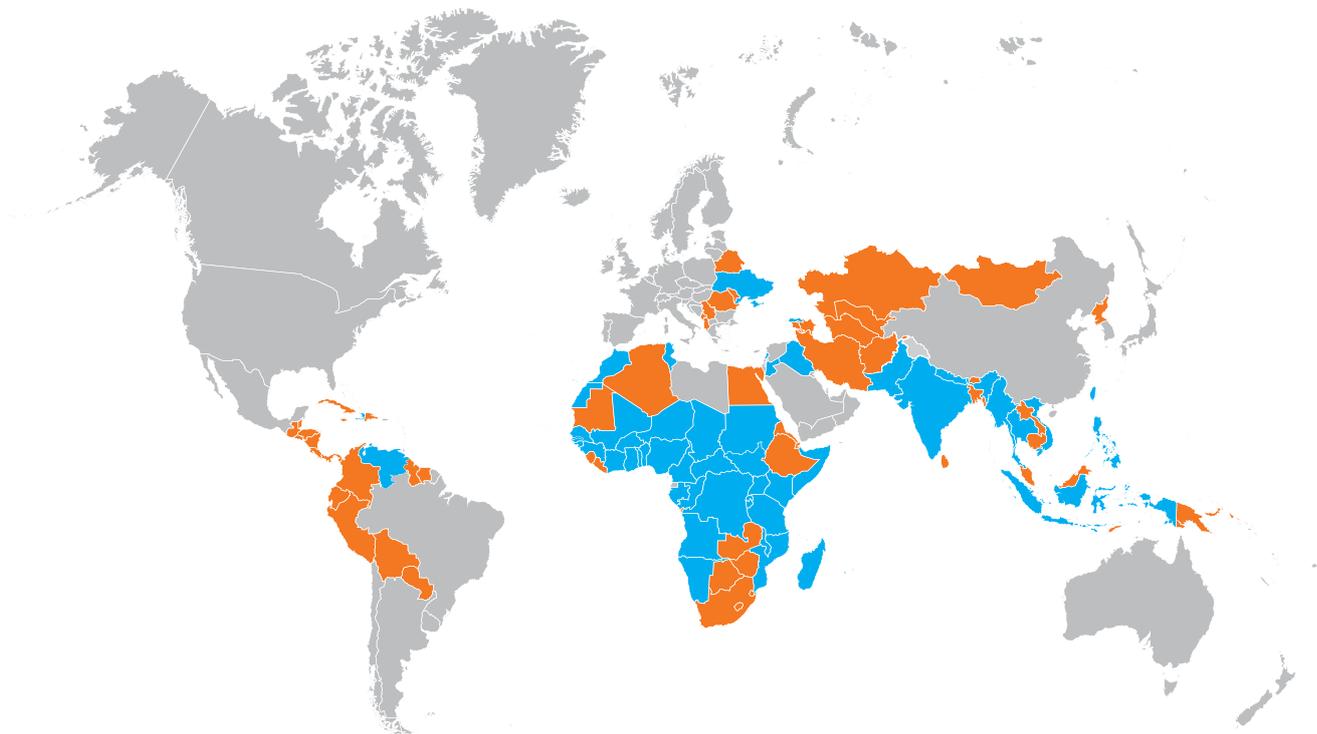
As part of its mandate, Aidspan highlights country and regional issues relating to challenges and best practices in the application and implementation of Global Fund grants, as well as providing the feedback and perspectives of various stakeholders, including implementers and civil society.

About 27% of Aidspan's reporting and analysis focused on either a country or regional-specific experiences, covering more than 40 countries (Figure 3) where the Global Fund supports health programs. About 60% of these countries are in sub-Saharan Africa and a higher proportion of the remainder are in Asia.

One of the objectives of Aidspan's Strategy is to ensure that Global Fund data are accessible to a wide range of stakeholders, including civil society, communities, and the private sector.



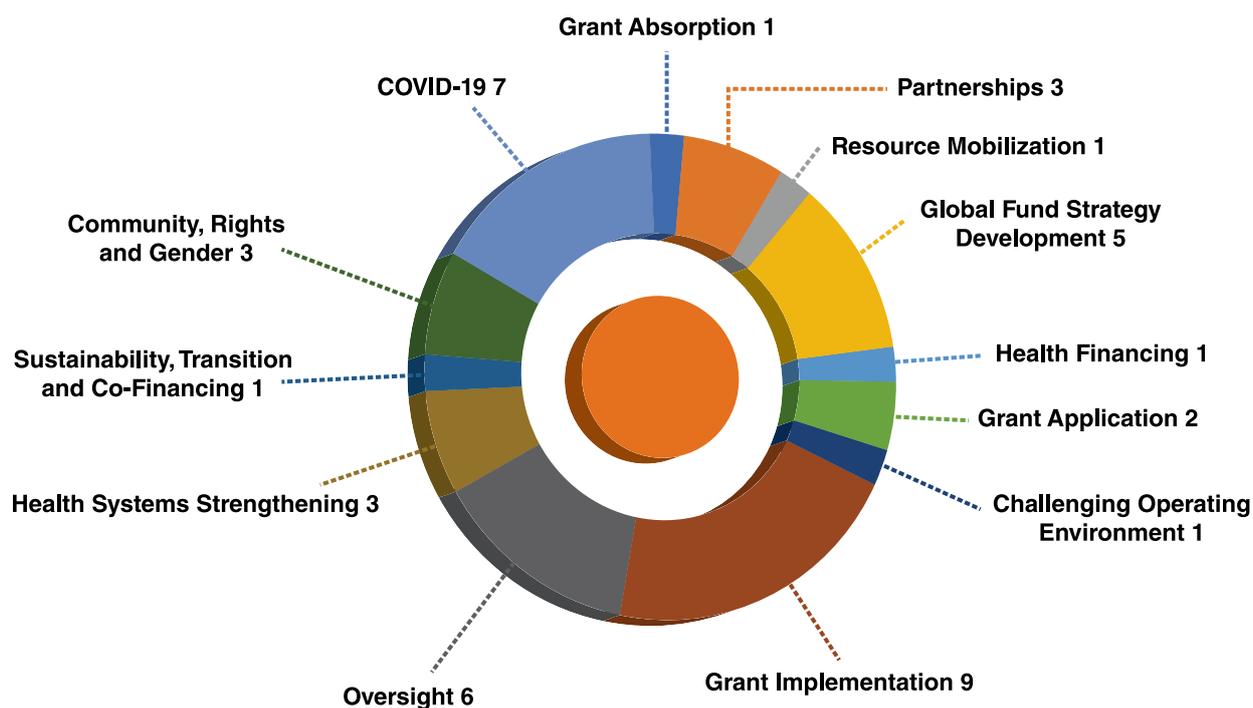
FIGURE 3: AIDSPAN'S COUNTRY-SPECIFIC FOCUS FOR 2021 COVERED 48 COUNTRIES



Global Fund-supported countries are those in orange and blue. Aidspan's 2021 work focused on the countries marked in blue

The most covered topics in our country or regional-specific reporting and analysis include Global Fund grant implementation, COVID-19,

grant oversight, and Global Fund Strategy development (Figure 4).



Our country-focused content is discussed in more detail below.

Grant implementation

The Global Fund supports HIV, TB, malaria, and health system strengthening programs in more than 100 countries. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the organization was at the frontline of the fight by supporting more than 100 countries to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on these key communicable disease programs. In line with its mandate to influence the effectiveness of Global Fund-supported programs, Aidspan highlights issues related to the implementation of grants. In 2021 we drew attention to various issues affecting grant implantation at either country or regional level, including:

- How COVID-19 and national elections impacted Global Fund-supported programs in [Uganda](#).
- The impact of the pandemic on harm reduction and community resilience in [South-East Asia](#).
- The delay in the start of the implementation of the Global Fund-supported malaria program in [South Sudan](#).
- Challenges and lessons learned in the implementation of the Global Fund's COVID-19 Response Mechanism (C19RM) grants in [Ethiopia](#)
- Procurement challenges that hampered the implementation of C19RM grants in [Kenya](#) and [Nigeria](#).

Grant oversight

Aidspan promotes the transparent and accountable use of donor funds. In line with this, we highlighted Aidspan and partners' efforts to [enhance the capacity of Supreme Audit Institutions \(SAIs\)](#) in Lesotho, Namibia,

and Nigeria. We also reported on audits and investigations conducted by the OIG in several countries, including:

- The supply chain investigation in [Nigeria](#).
- An investigation of misconduct affecting Global Fund grants in [Ghana](#) and [Pakistan](#).
- Investigation into fraudulent activity in a Global Fund grant in [Malawi](#).
- The misappropriation of daily subsistence allowances (DSAs) from Global Fund program bank accounts in [Namibia](#).
- The audit of Global Fund grants in the [Philippines](#)



Partnerships

The Global Fund operates as a partnership whereby technical agencies and development organizations, particularly those involved in the response to HIV, TB, and malaria, are involved in the decision-making process. As a Global Fund watchdog, we emphasized issues regarding partnerships and Global Fund partners' activities that promote its agenda. In 2021, we discussed several partnership-related issues, such as:

- How [five Middle East countries](#) in conflict and crises have benefitted from collaboration and consistency provided

through a consortium of implementing and technical partners delivering a multicountry grant.

- Stakeholders in [Tanzania](#) and [Uganda](#) identified areas for BACKUP Health technical support.

Aidspan and partners enhance the capacity of Supreme Audit Institutions

In 2021, Aidspan continued to strengthen the capabilities of SAIs, the national institutions with the legal mandate to audit the use of public funds. This is the second phase of the project, the first of which was implemented between 2018



Participants of Aidspan's training for SAI Ethiopia held from 14 to 16 June 2021.

and 2020. Under phase 1, we strengthened the capacity of eight SAIs from Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, and Togo. The main objective of the second phase of the project remained the same: to enhance the capacity of SAIs across sub-Saharan Africa to audit Global Fund grants.

We organized capacity-building workshops

During project implementation, Aidspan built the capacity of SAIs from five countries — Ethiopia, Lesotho, Namibia, Nigeria, and South Africa — to perform financial, compliance, and programmatic audits of Global Fund grants. In total, Aidspan trained 145 auditors.

The Global Fund's County Teams (CT) and CCM representatives attended this mixture of online and in-person trainings. These capacity strengthening workshops took place as follows:

- **SAI Lesotho – 7 to 9 June 2021.**
- **SAI Ethiopia – 14 to 16 June 2021.**
- **SAI Namibia - 21 to 23 June 2021**
- **SAI Nigeria – 26 to 30 July 2021**
- **SAI South Africa – 16 to 20 August 2021**

We organized a virtual regional roundtable attended by over 100 people

On 6 May 2021, Aidspan and partners launched the project by holding a virtual roundtable with more than 100 participants representing SAIs' managers and teams from Ethiopia, Lesotho, Namibia, Nigeria, Malawi, and Rwanda. The project's technical partners, including the Global Fund Secretariat, OIG, the African Organization of English-speaking Supreme Audit Institutions (AFROSAI-E), and the Global Fund's Africa Constituency Bureau (ACB) also attended the virtual roundtable. In addition, the Principal Recipients (PRs) and CCMs of Ethiopia, Lesotho, Namibia, and Nigeria were represented.

Aidspan explained the project's objectives and activities, and shared lessons from the first phase of the project in terms of strengthening SAIs' capacity. We explained the difference between performance and programmatic audits, the linkages between financial results and program results and impact.

SAIs shared their expectations of the project and their experiences in auditing Global Fund grants or other donor-supported programs. SAI Rwanda, which had participated in the project's first phase, shared their experience in applying what they had earned from the capacity strengthening training in 2019. SAI Rwanda pointed out that the health facility visit during the training opened their eyes to the programmatic aspects of Global Fund grants and why there was a need to link the expensed funds to programmatic outcomes. Thanks to their experiences during the first phase, SAI Rwanda was now planning to undertake a programmatic audit.

The Global Fund Secretariat presented its audit requirements and regulations, as well as the evolution of risks in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The OIG presented its audit plans, particularly its shift to remote auditing where it would need to depend on the SAIs to perform the groundwork; and requested their help to conduct audits scheduled in 2021 and beyond.

We held a separate virtual roundtable for South Africa

On 3 June 2021, Aidspan and partners organized a virtual roundtable for SAI South Africa as the country had been unable to participate in the regional roundtable, with attendees from the project's partners and South Africa CCM. The topics covered were similar to those of the roundtable of 6 May 2021.



AIDSPAN STRENGTHENED ITS OPERATIONS

Aidspan resumed working from the office while observing the COVID-19 protocols

Following the Kenyan Government's relaxation of some COVID-19 measures, including allowing people to return to work in their offices, Aidspan staff returned to working from the Nairobi office, albeit with caution! Staff are required to observe social and physical distancing and must wear a mask. However, most of the organization's work that requiring traveling outside Kenya has been performed virtually.

Aidspan secured a technical partnership and maintained the existing key strategic partners

Aidspan cannot achieve its mission alone and thus it requires strong partners. We endeavor to bring more partners on board while maintaining existing ones to improve our effectiveness as the Global Fund's independent observer.

In 2021, we entered a new partnership with a civil society organization (CSO)

- The Association of Women Living with HIV/AIDS in Nigeria (ASWHAN).

Additionally, during 2021, Aidspan maintained its partnership with:

- The ACB.
- The International Treatment Preparedness Coalition MENA ([ITPC-MENA](#)).
- Frontline AIDS.
- The Réseau Accès aux Médicaments ([RAME](#)).

- The Roll Back Malaria (RBM) Partnership to End Malaria.
- The East Africa National Networks of AIDS and Health Service Organizations (EANNASO).
- AFROSAI-E.
- Le Conseil Régional pour la Formation des Institutions Supérieures de Contrôle des Finances Publiques (CREFIAP).

Aidspan Financial Information

Resource Mobilization

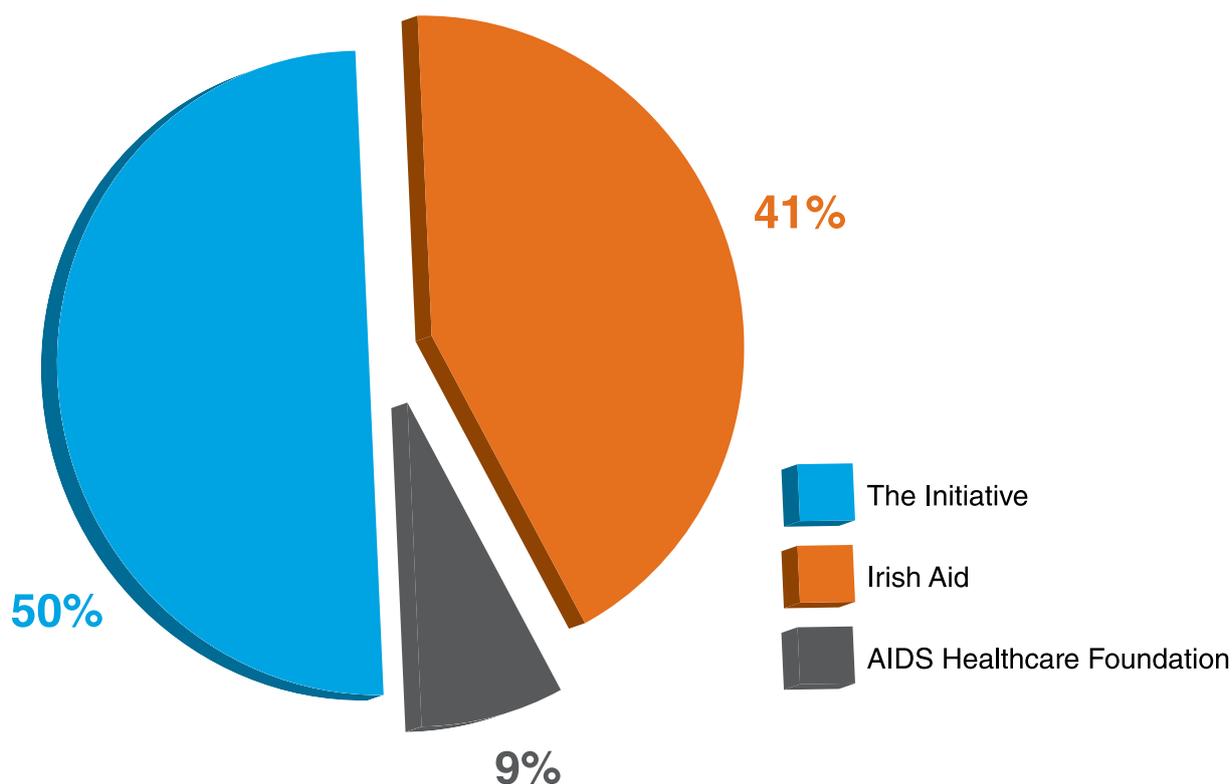
We can summarize 2021 as one of the toughest years in terms of financial resources for Aidspan. It is the year we felt the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic as we saw a downscale of funding from some of our donors. Nonetheless, we continued to receive funding from our traditional donors, namely, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF), Irish Aid, and the Initiative. We remain optimistic that more will join to support our work in 2023 and beyond.

Audited Income and Expenditure

[To preserve its independence, Aidspan does not accept any financial resources from the Global Fund. As a watchdog of the Global Fund, most of Aidspan's funding comes from governments/ foundations that also fund the Global Fund.]

Donor	2021 (USD)
The Initiative	144,482
Irish Aid	120,401
AIDS Healthcare Foundation	25,000
TOTAL	289,883

FIGURE 5: AIDSPAN DONORS FOR 2021



Aidspan Income vs Expenditure

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021		
	2021 USD	2020 USD
Grants	289,883	784,625
Other income	124,404	24,653
Programme expenditure	(532,388)	(775,698)
Administrative expenses	(73,579)	(154,449)
Establishment expenses	(71,070)	(92,822)
Deficit /surplus for the year	(262,750)	(213,691)

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM AIDSPAN IN 2022

Aidspan will build on its 2021 achievements in 2022. We will continue to regularly publish GFO in English and OFM in French. Specifically, the organization plans to publish 17 GFO issues, each with an average of seven articles, once every three week, and 12 OFM issues, each with

an average of five articles, once every month. In 2022 Aidspan is prioritizing the coverage of thematic areas captured in Figure 5. In addition, the organization will develop a new strategy to expand its mandate to cover GHIs, including Gavi and the Global Fund.

FIGURE 5: PRIORITIZED THEMATIC AREAS FOR 2022





In 2022, we also intend to:

- Promote data use for increased accountability of GHIs-supported programs, including those of Gavi and the Global Fund. We will achieve this by enhancing the capacity of implementers and oversight institutions to access and analyze data on Global Fund grants.
- Promote the use of the Aidspan Portal Workbench (APW)
- Retrain the SAIs of Kenya and Malawi. This is following requests from the two SAIs. For SAI Kenya, they requested a retraining following a reshuffle of the team trained in 2019 to other sectors in line with the rotation policy. SAI Malawi was planning to conduct their first ever audit of Global Fund between January and March 2022, thus they requested Aidspan to retrain the team conducting the audit.
- Implement the third phase of the project to enhance the capacity of SAIs in seven more sub-Saharan Africa. The seven SAIs are from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. In the third phase of the project, we will focus beyond audits of Global Fund to include other GHIs-supported programs.
- Implement a project to accelerate the implementation and performance of the resilient and sustainable systems for health (RSSH) grant in the DRC.

HOW YOU CAN CONTINUE TO SUPPORT AIDSPAN

To ensure Aidspan's continuity and strength as a watchdog, please consider taking one or more of these actions:

- Write to the Executive Director for information on how you can donate/contribute to Aidspan: ida.hakizinka@aidspan.org
- Sign up for the [GFO](#) e-newsletter in English or the [OFM](#) in French.
- Propose specific story ideas and write for the GFO e-newsletter by sending an email, explaining your article idea(s) to: acampbell.white@aidspan.org or ida.hakizinka@aidspan.org
- Visit our [website](#).
- Download our [publications](#) (guides and reports on the Global Fund).
- Give us feedback about our services; help us to serve you better!
- Follow us on social media. Like, Share, and Retweet our work.







LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACB	Africa Constituency Bureau
APW	Aidsplan Portal Workbench
ASWHAN	Association of Women Living with HIV/AIDS in Nigeria
C19RM	COVID-19 Response Mechanism
CCM	Country Coordinating Mechanism
CREFIAF	Conseil Régional pour la Formation des Institutions Supérieures de Contrôle des Finances Publiques
CSO	Civil society organization
CT	Country Team (of the Global Fund)
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EANSAO	East Africa National Networks of AIDS and Health Service Organizations
GFO	Global Fund Observer
GHI	Global health initiative
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
ITPC-MENA	International Treatment Preparedness Coalition MENA
NGO	Non-government organization
OFM	Observateur du Fonds Mondial
OIG	Office of the Inspector General
PR	Principal Recipient
RAME	Réseau d'Accès aux Médicaments Essentiels
RBM	Roll Back Malaria
RSSH	Resilient and Sustainable Systems for Health
SAI	Supreme Audit Institution
TB	Tuberculosis
TERG	Technical Evaluation Reference Group
WHO	World Health Organization



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