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Country Coordinating Mechanism
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Dear CCM members,


We are very pleased to inform you that the Global Fund Board has approved an additional investment of USD 12.5 million as catalytic funding for the sustainable scale-up of critical interventions for key populations to end the HIV epidemic in the Asia region. The multi-country grant aims to promote sustainable services for key populations at higher risk of HIV exposure including sex workers, men who have sex with men, transgender people, people who use drugs, in the region to stop new transmissions and AIDS-related deaths. The grant will focus on political advocacy, financial sustainability of interventions, programmatic sustainability and sustaining an enabling environment, critical for the long-term success of HIV interventions.

Financing will target HIV key populations across eight countries: Bhutan, Lao (People's Democratic Republic), Malaysia, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste. The grant is for three years and is planned to start on 1 January 2019.

A regional organization has been selected to lead partners through a meaningful and inclusive regional dialogue process to develop a funding proposal to submit to the Global Fund: the Australian Federation of AIDS Organizations (AFAO). The regional dialogue process will engage community representatives and community based organizations, and other Government, civil society, bilateral and multilateral partners key for the long-term sustainability of these critical interventions at the regional level. To better understand current gaps in coverage and strategies to be pursued in each of the eight focus countries, national level consultations will also be held. The AFAO will be submitting a proposal to the Global Fund early-August 2018 for review and to enable grant-making processes until the year's end.

We look forward to also working closely with you over the coming years to bring meaning to the goals of this investment for the long-term sustainability of financing of activities for key populations at scale. And will be reaching out to you in the coming weeks and months with concrete requests for engagement in the regional dialogue process. And to endorse the component of the grant relevant for you later this year.

Yours sincerely,



Luca Occhini