

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Global Financing Facility GFF Government Focal Point

I – Background and context

The Global Financing Facility (GFF) is a country-driven partnership that aims to accelerate efforts to end preventable maternal, newborn, child and adolescent deaths and improve the health and quality of life of women, adolescents and children. The GFF supports countries in developing a prioritized plan (the Investment Case) for the health sector that matches the resources available in the short term and supports countries in strengthening their health financing systems to achieve efficiencies and more sustainable domestic financing. The GFF promotes an integrated health system approach and combines external support, domestic financing and the private sector in a synergistic way.

The Investment Case development and implementation is a country-driven process that is anchored in a Country Platform. The Country Platform is led by the Government and includes representatives from the donors/financiers, technical partners, civil society, youth and the private sector. This is usually an existing platform which at times requires specific measures to improve its functioning, notably to ensure effective participation of civil society, the private sector and development partners who provide financing for health in the country but do not have a physical presence in the country. This Country Platform is led by a Government Focal Point who leads the process to strengthen a country partnership arrangement for the design and implementation of the GFF approach.

II – Objectives and Responsibilities

The aim of this role is to ensure there is a strong leadership and coordination function within the Government to lead the Country Platform. Specific areas of focus for this function include:

- **Value added:** leading a process that will define and review on a regular basis the value added, and related theory of change, of the GFF process in the country, reflecting the specific context, opportunities and challenges of the country.
- **High-level ownership and political support:** ensuring that the priorities identified in the Investment Case benefit from strong ownership and support from senior level officials and political leaders in the country.
- **Intra-government coordination:** identifying relevant decision-makers within key Ministries which are required to deliver the GFF value add in the country and convening them on a regular basis to deliver an “all of government” approach to addressing the key priorities identified. Convening Ministries of Finance/Budget and Health to support the dialogue on the Health Financing reform agenda.
- **Investment Case preparation:** leading an inclusive process, based on an agreed Investment Case preparation roadmap, for efficient preparation of the Investment Case. Liaising with donors and financiers (including MOF) to ensure alignment and secure additional financing for IC priorities.
- **Resource mapping and expenditure tracking:** coordinating an annual process of resource mapping against the priorities identified in the investment case.
- **Technical assistance:** coordinating the sourcing of technical assistance required to prepare and implement the Investment Case.
- **Investment Case implementation:** leading the review at least twice per year of the status of implementation of the investment case. This review will be based on the agreed implementation plan and will focus on results data as outlined in the results framework of the Investment Case.

- **Well-functioning Country Platform:** leading meetings of the Country platform which will have been identified to coordinate the GFF process. On an annual basis, leading a self-assessment process by Country Platform members of the status of implementation of the GFF process.
- **Tracking and Sharing of results:** ensuring that the Country Platform reviews results and that the progress on results is shared on a regular basis with a wider set of national and international stakeholders, including to the GFF Secretariat who will use the information to update global stakeholders on country progress and facilitate the sharing of knowledge between GFF countries.
- **Stakeholder mapping and communication:** leading a process of stakeholder mapping to ensure that all the relevant in-country stakeholders needed to achieve the defined value added of the GFF are effectively engaged. Implementing a simple communications strategy to ensure the GFF process is well understood and that, over time, results are communicated.
- **Advocacy:** leading the process of intra-Ministerial advocacy to ensure key policy measures related to the implementation of the Investment Case are implemented (e.g., increasing share of the national budget allocated to health, reforms of the supply chain, etc.)

III - Support provided by the GFF Secretariat

The GFF Secretariat is responsible for supporting the activities of the GFF partnership, including managing the GFF Trust Fund and supporting the GFF Investors Group and Trust Fund Committee, the governance mechanism for the GFF. The Secretariat is based at the World Bank, in Washington, DC.

The GFF Secretariat will provide a Liaison Officer (see TORs) who is located in the government offices, usually in the same Ministry as the Government Focal Point and provides support to the Government Focal Point to carry out the functions outlined in this Terms of Reference. A designated focal point in the GFF Secretariat will also support the country.

IV - Qualifications

The specific qualifications of the Government Focal Point will vary by country, depending on factors such as the selected areas of intended value added and the political and administrative context of the country. The experience from the initial countries which have been implementing the GFF approach indicates that the following aspects should be considered when selecting a Government Focal Point:

- Individual should be at a sufficiently high level within the government to be able to convene a range of stakeholders within the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Finance and other Ministries as required to implement the identified priorities in the Investment Case. In addition, he/she will liaise with donors to secure alignment of the financing for the Investment Case priorities. This is generally the Minister of Health or Secretary of Health or a senior official in a central Ministry such as the Prime Minister's Office or Ministry of Finance or Planning.
- Typically, the individual is an official in the Ministry of Health, but some countries have decided to name someone from the Ministry of Finance or the Prime Minister's Office.
- Have strong leadership skills.
- Skilled at effectively using data for decision making.
- Effective communicator.
- Skilled at working with a range of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector.