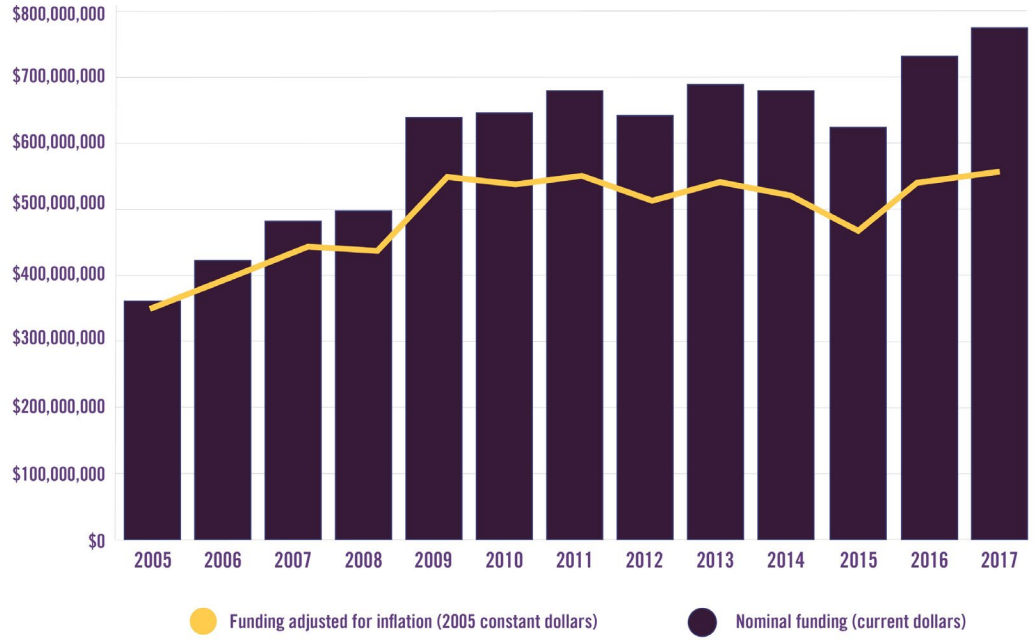
Tuberculosis funding trends 2005 – 2017

A Treatment Action Group report

Global investment 2005 to 2017

FIGURE 1

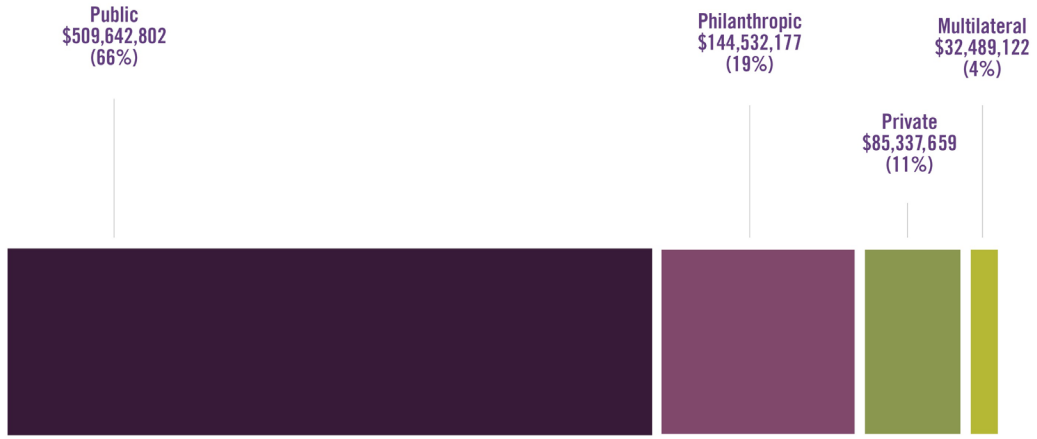
Total TB R&D Funding, 2005–2017



TB R&D funding by sector

FIGURE 4

Total TB R&D Funding by Funder Category, 2017
Total: $772,001,759



Top investors in TB R&D

- Governments that invested more than $10m in 2017
- US $312m, EU $37m, UK $36m, Germany and Canada $19m, India $17m, South Korea $15m.

Other notable investments

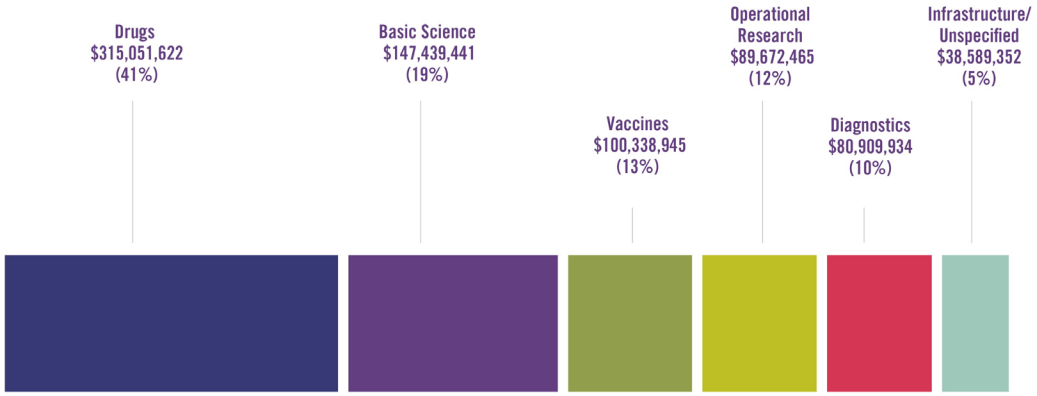
- Gates Foundation $128m (largest philanthropy)
- UNITAID $29m
- Otsuka $23m (largest private sector investor)

Together the US government and the Gates Foundation provided 57% of global investment in TB R&D in 2017.

Investment by research area

FIGURE 7

Total TB R&D Funding by Research Area, 2017
Total: $772,001,759



How much should governments invest?

At the TB HLM UN member states committed “to mobilize sufficient and sustainable financing, with the aim of increasing overall global investments to US$2 billion, in order to close the estimated US$1.3 billion gap in funding annually for tuberculosis research.”

If 62 countries (wealthy + high-TB-burden) all invest 0.1% of GERD in TB the Global Plan to End TB’s annual $2bn target for TB R&D will be met.

- Met target: SA (183%), The Philippines (161%), New Zealand (114%)
- Close to target: UK (89%), Canada (73%), USA (70%)

GERD = gross domestic expenditure on research and development

How to maximise return on investment

In current framework:

- Require greater coordination.
- Require open access publishing and standardised data sharing.
- Base trials on scientific rather than commercial rationale.
- Include enforceable access provisions in all funding agreements.

More difficult changes:

- If current market incentives do not work, create new ones.
- Fund innovation inducement prizes such as the Life Prize.