

The Global Fund's Strategic Initiative

To Find the Missing People with TB

THE NEWSLETTER

to share countries' latest experiences and practices in TB case finding



In the first quarter of 2020, the global health community was faced with a new threat – the COVID-19 pandemic. In the midst of this unprecedented situation, and as governments direct their attention to addressing this new disease, continuity and access to TB services for all people – particularly the most vulnerable – must be guaranteed.

To help countries protect HIV, TB and malaria programs, fight COVID-19 and prevent fragile health systems from becoming overloaded, the Global Fund is providing immediate funding across its portfolio of up to US\$1 billion. Under these new circumstances, countries are being encouraged to repurpose grant savings and/or reprogram funding from existing grants.

It is crucial that the progress made in the fight against TB is not hindered by COVID-19 and that finding and treating people with TB continue to be a priority for NTPs.

For more resources on TB and COVID-19, click [here](#).

Find more information on Global Fund grant flexibilities [here](#) and reprogramming [here](#).

To report TB service interruptions in your community, please fill out [this online survey](#).

MISSIONS AND EVENTS

Stakeholders take stock of the OnelImpact community-led monitoring of the TB response pilot in Cambodia

26–28 February 2020. Phnom Penh, Cambodia.



KHANA organization and the National Center for Tuberculosis and Leprosy Control (CENAT) with support from Stop TB Partnership and Dure Technologies analyzed the results of the OnelImpact Community-led Monitoring (CLM) Pilot project and discussed plans for expansion. OnelImpact is a digital alert system that is used by people affected by TB to track and troubleshoot issues related to the availability and accessibility of quality TB services during the COVID-19 crisis. This accountability mechanism is transforming the national TB response in Cambodia so that it is rights-based, gender-transformative and people-centred. [Read More...](#)

Workshop on leveraging GF Proposals for TB, HIV and Malaria

26–28 February 2020. Bangkok, Thailand.

Representatives from Thailand, Bangladesh, Indonesia and Myanmar participated in this workshop to review their Global Fund funding requests with support of experts from the Global Fund, Stop TB Partnership and WHO. Proposals were peer reviewed and additional technical support was provided remotely.



Independent TB Program Review: Zambia

16–29 February 2020. Zambia.

The program review was commissioned and led by the WHO Southern African Regional Office under the stewardship of its regional director, Dr Fabian Ndenzako. Zambia's National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Program, National Strategic Plan and other incidental policies were reviewed to assess effectiveness and progress made towards the global targets under both the End TB Strategy and UN High Level Meeting on TB. [Read More...](#)

IV General Forum of the National Partnership “Stop TB in Ukraine”

28 February 2020. Kiev, Ukraine.

Stop TB Ukraine hosted a meeting to discuss achievements and lessons learned, progress towards achieving UNHLM commitments and targets, cooperation between the government and civil society organizations, transformation of TB services within the context of the ongoing health financing reform, TB community-based monitoring/implementation of OnImpact tool, key issues in supporting people affected by TB and the election of the Partnership’s steering committee members.

Ukraine: advocacy and technical support in strategic TB planning, SI and development of the new Global Fund application

24–28 February 2020. Kiev, Ukraine.

The Stop TB Partnership provides advocacy and technical support in the country dialogue and prioritization of interventions that will be included under the TB component of the Global Fund application. During the first country visit, the STP’s Regional Advisor conducted consultations with the National TB Program. The country team is in the process of prioritizing interventions and activities, as well as clarifying the operational issues with the Global Fund Country Team. The Stop TB Partnership is following up on the agreements reached to ensure effective prioritization process, including key SI-related interventions and shaping the Matching Funds component of the Funding Request. Ukraine is expected to submit the consolidated (TB and HIV) proposal to the Global Fund in the 2nd application window, by the end of May 2020.



Joint TB Program Review in Tanzania

17–28 February 2020. Tanzania.

The Tanzanian Tuberculosis and Leprosy Program received technical assistance to ensure that the findings and recommendations from the community, rights and gender assessments, supported by the Strategic Initiative grant, are included into the program review report, which will eventually inform the new National Strategic Plan and the Global Fund application processes. [Read More...](#)

TB Stakeholders Workshop in Bangladesh

18–20 February 2020. Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The Global Fund and National Tuberculosis Program organized an in-depth review of the National Strategic Plan and the Global Fund funding request, to discuss opportunities and potential challenges in achieving the UNHLM targets with the available funding. The Stop TB Partnership regional advisor facilitated the discussions and contributed to a refined National Strategic Plan for tuberculosis control and Global Fund funding request.

Regional Green Light Committee (rGLC) Meeting – India

12–14 February 2020. New Delhi, India.

The National Institute of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases (NITRD) and WHO SEA Regional Office hosted this three-day meeting to discuss the progress of countries in the region towards the UNHLM targets, scale-up of diagnostics, adoption of WHO updated treatment guidelines and patient community support systems. [Read more...](#)



Field-based technical assistance for Strategic Initiative - Kenya

February 2020. Kenya.

Technical assistance meetings were held in three cities in Kenya, supported by the Global Fund through PR2 – Amref Health Africa. Discussion topics included the strengthening of TB screening and linkages to care, the gap of poor care-seeking behavior and low TB risk perception and pediatric TB diagnosis. [Read more...](#)



A National CRG Costed Action Plan Development Workshop for the Community Rights and Gender Assessment Recommendations in Tanzania

10–12 February 2020. Dodoma, Tanzania.

A stakeholders team led by the Eastern Africa National Networks of AIDS and Health Service Organizations (EANNASO), the National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Program and consultants analyzed earlier findings from the community, rights and gender assessments and recently disseminated studies such as the gender study commissioned by the MOH. The community, rights and gender action plan is expected to transform the national TB response so that it is rights-based, gender-transformative and people-centered; promotes an end to stigma & discrimination of TB patients; and builds accountability that will help in finding the missing people with TB in the country. [Read more...](#)

MISSIONS AND EVENTS



Stop TB Partnership Technical Assistance Mission to support the development of a National Community Rights and Gender-Centered Action Plan 28-31 January 2020. Kinshasa, DRC.

Stop TB Partnership worked with local community, rights and gender consultants and the National TB Program to further support the development of recommendations and actions to inform the finalization of the community, rights and gender action plan. This transformation aligns with national priorities to increase case notification and treatment success rates, using a human-rights gender transformative approach to TB with a focus on key and vulnerable populations. [Read more...](#)

WHO Training Workshop for TB Consultants: 'Orientation on What's New in TB and engagement with the Global Fund proposal development in the next funding cycle 2020-2023'

27-31 January 2020. Geneva, Switzerland.

The training workshop was organized by WHO for external consultants who will be assisting the countries in developing TB components of the Global Fund applications for the new allocation cycle. The sessions focused on the up-to-date TB strategies while providing orientation on the key GF application processes. The Stop TB Partnership supported the participation of nine consultants from different regions who will assist the applicants in SI-related interventions including TB and DR-TB case detection and priority community, rights and gender activities.



Indonesia – Joint External Monitoring Mission.

20-30 January 2020. Jakarta, Indonesia.

The Joint External Review Mission (JEMM) was co-organized by the National TB Programme and the World Health Organization. The mission team was made up of Indonesian experts from the Ministry of Health, its National Tuberculosis Programme, other ministries, the non-governmental sector, as well as community representatives and TB survivors. A TB REACH representative conducted provincial and district field visits to assess challenges and opportunities and to make recommendations for improving TB operations and services. [Read more...](#)



End-term review of Nigeria's National Strategic Plan for Tuberculosis Control 2015- 2020

19 January – 01 February 2020. Nigeria.

Nigeria's National Strategic Plan for Tuberculosis Control was reviewed to ensure that the findings and recommendations from the community, rights and gender assessments, supported by the Strategic Initiative grant, eventually inform the new National Strategic Plan and Global Fund application processes. It was decided that Nigeria should foster participatory community engagement with attention to key populations and socioeconomic barriers to accessing TB services. [Read more...](#)

VIRTUAL INNOVATION SPOTLIGHT SERIES

6 May 2020

Aspect/GxAlert - SystemOne [Register here](#)

20 May 2020

DatatoCare - Savics [Register here](#)

3 June 2020

OnelImpact - Stop TB Partnership/Dure Technologies
[Register here](#)

UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

Open call to Strategic Initiative priority countries:

How are you managing TB in the time of COVID-19?

If you have stories, experiences or best practices that you would like to share with us for the Strategic Initiative Online Info Sharing Platform, please get in touch with us [here](#).