Introduction

The building of National Partnerships to Stop TB is a crucial component of the Stop TB Partnership Secretariat work plan, as part of its activities to support countries in creating a broader support base for the fight against tuberculosis by inviting and engaging other non-traditional partners. The framework for setting up of such partnerships has now been tested in a few countries. In addition the Stop TB Partnership Secretariat proposes to develop specific products in support of in-country capacity building on this issue. The Pakistan experiences are presented.

Summary

National partnerships provide the opportunity to broaden the support and operational bases for the implementation of TB control activities. TB control is as a result moving out of its previous somewhat isolated position as a purely medical intervention strategy to a much more broad national response that include now also non-traditional partners. The recent creation of "Stop TB Pakistan" is a good example of this development.

At the level of the Stop TB Partnership Secretariat specific products are being developed to support the function of the national partnerships and to enable these partnerships to become part of the global network to Stop TB. Examples of such specific products include the writing of guidelines from resource mobilization at country level and the development of information technology capabilities (creation of internet web pages, database management and information exchange). In addition advocacy and communication products such as the communication handbook for countries on TB control and DOTS expansion will be produced.

Decisions requested from the Stop TB Coordinating Board

To endorse the process and strategic direction of expanding the establishment of national partnerships and the development of support products.

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Background document - Summary-sheet