Task Force Progress Update

September 2008 to March 2010

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Task Force mandate

- To produce a robust, rigorous and widely-endorsed assessment of whether the 2015 targets for reductions in TB incidence, prevalence and mortality are achieved at global level, for each WHO Region and in individual countries.

- To regularly report on progress towards these targets in the years leading up to 2015.

- To strengthen national capacity in monitoring and evaluation of TB control.

Responding to country concerns and demands
3 strategic areas of work

- Use of routine surveillance data to measure incidence, prevalence and mortality (all countries)

- Prevalence of TB disease surveys in at least 21 global focus countries

- Periodic review and revision of methods used to translate data from surveillance systems and surveys into estimates of disease burden
Major achievements (general)

- TB impact measurement policy paper

- Joint WHO/Global Fund TB impact measurement team – since May 2009
  - Recognizes common agenda of the Task Force and Global Fund
  - Focus on surveillance strengthening and prevalence surveys
  - Has helped resolve funding bottlenecks for surveys specially in Africa
  - Has brought additional funding to Task Force secretariat (activities)

- Promotion and communication of Task Force activities, e.g.
  - UK parliament presentation to APPG (All Party Parliamentary Group on TB)
  - DOTS Expansion Working Group meeting
  - Coordinating Board of Stop TB Partnership (twice) and WHO STAG-TB

- Establishment of close collaboration with UK Health Protection Agency

- Continued strong financial support from USAID and Japanese government

- New funding for Task Force work from Dutch government (DGIS)

- Task Force website including biannual progress updates

- Strong support from donors + member states for TF work, WHO Executive Board meeting - Jan 2010
Surveillance: Task Force framework

DATA QUALITY
- Completeness
- No duplications, no misclassifications
- Internal and external consistency

IMPROVE surveillance system

TRENDS
Do surveillance data reflect trends in TB incidence and mortality?
- Analyse time-changes in notifications and recorded deaths alongside changes in case-finding, case definitions, HIV prevalence and other determinants of changes in TB incidence and TB mortality

EVALUATE trends and impact of TB control

ARE ALL TB CASES AND DEATHS CAPTURED IN SURVEILLANCE DATA?
- "Onion" model
- Inventory studies
- Capture re-capture studies
- Prevalence surveys
- Innovative operational research

UPDATE estimates of TB incidence and mortality

TB notifications \(\approx\) TB incidence
TB deaths in VR system \(\approx\) TB mortality

If appropriate, CERTIFY TB surveillance data as direct measure of TB incidence and mortality
Major achievements
Routine surveillance strengthening

- Assessment of surveillance data in 4 regional workshops (EUR, SEAR, EMR, AMR) and 3 country missions (Philippines, Vietnam and Tanzania)

- Conceptual and practical improvements to the TF framework

- Full day meeting with Global Fund regarding common tools and approaches for the assessment of surveillance data
  - Leading to development of a harmonized approach

- Main contributors: WHO (HQ + regional), ECDC, HPA, The Union, GF
Major achievements
Prevalence surveys

- 2 meetings of the subgroup on TB prevalence surveys
  - Geneva - January 2009 (review survey protocols + key methodological issues)
  - Cancun - December 2009 (review survey protocols + discuss lessons learned)

- Workshop with survey coordinators from African countries
  - Geneva - October 2009 (addressed bottlenecks to implementation)

- Several protocols reviewed by TF members

- Viet Nam workshop
  - Reviewed results of 2007 prevalence survey along with routine surveillance data
  - Resulted in significant revisions to estimates

- Missions to 17 out of 21 countries + Ethiopia to support survey work

- Workshop on screening methods in prevalence surveys as part of IUATLD Asia-Pacific conference in Beijing – September 2009

- Collaboration with Global Fund and other partners resulting in closing of funding gaps

- Main contributors: WHO, RIT, KNCV, CDC, GF, AMP, The Union, Dr. Narayan, Italian Cooperation

Asia on track
Africa ready to go
Major achievements

Review of methods for producing TB estimates

18 months review process → 2nd meeting of TB estimates sub-group

- Commissioned literature reviews
- Major updates on methods for estimating incidence, prevalence and mortality
- New methods already used in update to 2009 Global TB report (published December 2009)
- Proposed to be used in forthcoming GBD study
- To be presented to full Task Force for discussion and endorsement in this meeting
- Main contributors: WHO, KNCV, RIT, Global Fund, Nico Nagelkerke, Brian Williams, Andrew Thompson, John Stover…
General challenges

- Funding for TF secretariat
  - Some donors reluctant to fund staff costs
  - STB receiving limited amounts of centrally allocated WHO funding

- Limited supply of experts to support the work of the TF
Major next steps

- Routine surveillance
  - Additional regional surveillance workshops: WPR - June 2010, AFR - September 2010
  - Improvements to TF framework: standards/benchmarks
  - Workshop to train pool of consultants in methods available to implement the Task Force framework (last quarter 2010)

- Prevalence surveys
  - 2nd edition of prevalence survey guidelines - target date November 2010
  - Technical assistance to countries implementing prevalence surveys
    - Myanmar about to complete → assistance in summarizing findings
    - TA to other priority countries: Cambodia, China, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria, Rwanda and Tanzania
  - Build capacity to support prevalence surveys

- Endorsement of new methods used to produce estimates

- Sustain / increase funding
Questions to the TF

- What are your general comments on progress to date of the work of the Task Force?
- How can we overcome the challenges?