COMMUNITIES UPDATE AND DIALOGUE
MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT OF TB COMMUNITIES

Ridding Mwanza of health ills

Richard Chikumbo

Dusk fills the clear sky as six under-five children play hide-and-seek at one of the grounds of Mikhukwa Community-based organizations in Mwanza, West, oblivious of what is taking place in their home. They no longer can play, now they may not be there to play.

Most people from Chisimba Village know these children, as they live in close proximity to them, with children of similar ages. They try to follow the children’s movements, but their presence will always bring them back to the sparkle of the children creating fun out of the dust.

The problem lies in the fact that they are HIV-positive. How
ROLE OF COMMUNITIES

• Experience throughout the world has proved that where TB patients, activists and communities are actively involved in TB prevention, case detection and in the full continuum of TB care much more effective results are achieved.

• However, unlike in perhaps other movements, the engagement of TB affected communities had been limited.

• To continue to realize this vision, the Stop TB Partnership has accelerated its efforts to ensure that communities are at the center of the TB response.
RESOURCES FOR COMMUNITIES

• Leveraged resources through USAID to ensure that there is funding to strengthen the GCTA network and to begin to build the capacity of its members

• Secured funding to continue the Challenge Facility which support community-based civil society organizations by providing small grants for projects to increase active participation of local communities in the fight against TB

• Leveraged substantive resources from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria to enable the GCTA as well as other TB communities to contribute to Global Fund concept note development in countries through the new funding model.
WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED

1. Development of Tools and Capacity Building
   • Three modules developed with GCTA and other partners to provide guidance on the role of TB communities in TB programs, community systems strengthening, gender, human rights and key affected populations in.
   • First ever Joint TB/HIV gender assessment tool being finalised.
   • Eight capacity building regional workshops - key regional civil society partners to build capacity of civil society and communities

2. Strengthening TB Community Engagement in CCM
   • 22 grants from the Challenge Facility have been awarded and implementation began in June.
6 ROUNDS OF CHALLENGE FACILITY

- Awarded **121 grants** in 41 countries, totalling more than **USD 2,170,000**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Applications received</th>
<th>screened out</th>
<th>Grants awarded</th>
<th>Total funds awarded</th>
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<tr>
<td>Round 1</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>75</td>
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</table>

Countries in Regions:
- AFRO: 17
- AMRO: 6
- EMRO: 1
- EECA: 8
- SEARO: 7
- WPRO: 2
WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED

3. Participation of Communities in TB programme reviews
   • Five national TB program reviews benefitted from TB Community experts’ reviewing the community’s contribution to TB programs

4. Participation of TB Communities in Country Dialogue
   • TB Communities - meaningfully engaged in 18 country dialogues and were able to caucus and participate in writing teams

5. Contributing to Stronger Concept Note Development
   • Communities engaged in designing and planning effective integration of community systems strengthening, gender and human rights in TB programming in 15 countries.
CHALLENGES

- Aligning small Challenge Facility grants to in-country TB national planning systems.

- Aligning the activities of Challenge Facility Grantees with Global Fund country processes.

- Powerful emergence of meaningful engagement and involvement in TB planning processes. Uncertain future for the survival of these networks and linkages.

- Increasingly constrained resources for TB programming – major difficulties with ensuring resources for community work.
WHAT CAN WE DO DIFFERENTLY?

- What do you need more of/What do you need less of

- What’s effective/ What’s not effective

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http://stoptb.org/global/fund/resources.asp
Useful Resources and Links

On this page you will find links to several useful pages and resources regarding communities, rights and gender.

Stop TB Partnership’s guidance notes:

- Meaningful Participation of TB Communities in National Planning
- Community System Strengthening and TB
- Community Component in TB Reviews

Joint TB-HIV programming:

- Community-Based TB and HIV Integration Good Practice Guide
  This guide developed by the International HIV/AIDS Alliance and PATH provides guidance on how to integrate TB in HIV programming.
- Community-Based TB and HIV Integration: Good Practice Guide Workbook
  This workbook accompanies Good Practice Guide on Community-based TB and HIV Integration.
- Global Fund information note on joint tuberculosis and HIV programming

Gender:

- TB and Women
- Gender in tuberculosis research
- Global Fund Gender Equality Strategy