Harnessing the power of affected communities to effectively respond to TB control through a right-based approach in Tanzania

**LOCATION** Tanzania

**TARGET POPULATION(S)** Miners, people living with HIV (PLHIV), People who use drugs (PWUD)

**IMPLEMENTERS AND PARTNERS**
- Tanzania TB Community Network
- National TB and Leprosy Program

**ABOUT THE PROJECT**

**PROBLEM STATEMENT** — Despite great progress made by Tanzania in TB control and in achieving end TB targets by 2030, it remains one of the thirty countries with a high burden of TB. An estimated 142,000 people fell ill with TB in 2018, newly detected TB cases of all forms were 75,828 leaving 47% of the people with TB undetected and untreated, representing nearly half of all TB cases in the country. Health experts observe that people with TB are missing because of persistent Human rights and gender related barriers to accessing health services by key populations who are hard to reach and remain largely un-targeted, (Global Fund). In this project our main focus is on miners, people living with HIV (PLHIV) and people who use drugs (PWUD) as key vulnerable populations to reduce vulnerability to TB and to develop the capacity for meaningful participation in policy development/review and programming including other national processes.

**AIM** — Provide support to Tanzania TB Community Network to promote a people-centered approach to the Tanzania TB response through strengthened coordination of Civil Society, TB affected communities and key and vulnerable TB populations.

**OBJECTIVES**

1. To increase the engagement of parliamentarians, law enforcement officers, lawyers, media, and the judiciary in on implementation of a human rights-based approach to TB;

2. Mobilize and empower TB survivors and their communities to influence decision making processes and inform timely and targeted responses;

3. To strengthen information exchange and learning among TB affected communities, TB survivors, government and civil societies;

4. To strengthen the coordination capacity of the Tanzania TB Community Network (TTCN) to facilitate coordination, partnership building and networking amongst TB affected communities, TB survivors and civil society in Tanzania.

**CONTRIBUTION TO REACHING KEY UN HLM TARGETS BY 2022.** The UN HLM on TB produced a historic Political Declaration, with specific, measurable milestones to be achieved by 2022. One of the most important aspects of the declaration is supporting a new approach to ending TB based on human rights. Art. 18: “…develop integrated, people-centered, community-based and gender responsive health services based on human rights.” and Art. 33: “Commit to developing community-based health services through approaches that protect and promote equity, ethics, gender equality and human rights in addressing tuberculosis …”. The project is well aligned with the above commitments to ensure that everyone everywhere can access quality, affordable health services.

**ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE TB STRATEGIC PLAN.** The National TB and Leprosy Programme (NTLP) is currently developing its 6th National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Strategic Operational Plan for 2020–2025. NTLP, as articulated in the National Strategic Plan 2015–2020, is committed to promoting community engagement and participation in TB prevention, care and treatment. This project is aligned to operationalizing this commitment.

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ABOUT EANNASO

EANNASO is a regional umbrella body bringing together civil society voices to inform policies and improve programming on HIV, TB, and Malaria among other health concerns in Eastern Africa. Our goal is to ensure Communities attain highest quality of health and to inspire healthier communities by increasing the contribution of civil society and community groups in health responses towards the elimination of HIV, TB, Malaria and other health concerns.