ABOUT THE PROJECT

PROBLEM STATEMENT — The human right to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health is undermined when TB responses are not people centred. This project will aim to address TB stigma through a gender-responsive lens in two informal settlement areas in South Africa with the ultimate goal of advancing high quality TB care for all.

AIM — Addressing TB stigma and empowering community health workers in Khayelitsha and Hammanskraal through a person-centred, gender-responsive stigma reduction intervention and advocacy campaign based on the needs of the community.

OBJECTIVES

1. To conduct community-based stigma assessments using adapted questionnaires and in-depth interviews.
2. To build capacity of community health workers (CHWs) and community leaders in Hammanskraal, Gauteng Province, and Khayelitsha, Western Cape, to address stigma and gender related barriers to accessing TB care for TB key populations.
3. To develop community-led TB stigma reduction interventions based on the results of stigma assessments.
4. To enable community-based monitoring and strengthen community advocacy through the development of CHW and other community TB champions who are empowered to share their experiences and needs to advocate for person-centred care at the regional and national level with policy stakeholders.

CONTRIBUTION TO REACHING KEY UN HLM TARGETS BY 2022. This project supports ending TB stigma as a global priority demonstrated through the political declaration signed by country leaders at the United Nations (UN) High-Level Meeting (HLM) on TB where commitments included to “to promote and support an end to stigma and all forms of discrimination”.

ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE TB STRATEGIC PLAN. Addressing TB stigma, human rights- and gender-related barriers to accessing TB care are national priorities for South Africa. Our project is aligned with the revised South African National Strategic Plan (NSP) objectives to reduce stigma through community education with consideration of social and structural factors such as poverty and gender inequality that increases one’s vulnerability to HIV, TB and STIs.
ABOUT TB PROOF

TB Proof aims to use stories and science to end TB. Through involving communities affected by TB and using the latest research, we advocate for high quality TB prevention and care.