Workshop

“Mobilising the community of people with experience of TB in Eastern Europe and Central Asia”

18-20 June 2016
Hotel Tatra, Bratislava, Slovakia

BACKGROUND
The WHO European Region is one of the hardest hit by the TB epidemic in the world. It is home to 15 of the world’s 27 countries with high burden of multi-drug resistant TB with 14 of these countries in the region of Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA). Compounding the situation, EECA is home to the fastest growing HIV epidemic in the world. With TB remaining number one killer of people living with HIV, an integrated approach to ending the diseases is critical.

The Stop TB Partnership’s Global Plan to End TB and the TB Europe Coalition recognise that an effective response to TB is only possible with concerted action of all stakeholders, including civil society and the patient community from across the TB and HIV sectors.

DESCRIPTION
On 18-20 June 2016, in Bratislava, Slovakia, the TB Europe Coalition and RESULTS UK with the support and collaboration of the Stop TB Partnership are organising a workshop “Mobilising the community of people with experience of TB in Eastern Europe and Central Asia”. The workshop is planned as a pre-conference event of the 7th Conference of the Union European Region (22-24 June 2016). Participants are invited to Bratislava for 9 days between 17th and 26th June with opportunities to participate in the many side events and conference sessions.

The workshop aims to bring together patient activists from the region of EECA in order to establish a regional network of people with experience of TB (the Network). Membership in the Network will be open to people personally affected by TB – former and current TB patients, who support the vision, mission, goals and objectives of the Network.

The workshop will have the following objectives:

• Increasing the capacity of a group of community activists from the region by providing the knowledge, skills and vision to promote the ideas of community mobilisation at local, national and regional levels;

1 Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan
• Establishment of a platform where people with experience of TB are able to create partnerships with other stakeholders including governments, donors, scientific community, health-care providers, private sector, media and TB advocacy groups in other regions.
• Launch of a regional TB network that unites and supports people with experience of TB across the EECA region by providing learning, communication skill building, information sharing and networking opportunities.
• Increasing political will and resource mobilisation that lead to an improved response to the TB epidemic in EECA.
• Advocacy for the rights of people with experience of TB and populations most at risk.

LANGUAGE
Russian with limited English translation. Working knowledge of Russian is essential for participation in the workshop.

SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS
Interested candidates are welcomed to apply through an open call. Candidates are asked to complete the application form, including a motivation letter. The following criteria will be used to select participants:

Essential:
• Individual with personal experience of TB from one of the Eastern Europe and Central Asian countries
• Good motivation and opportunities to engage in TB advocacy
• Good Russian skills

Desirable:
• Experience of creating partnerships with other stakeholders including governments, donors, scientific community, health-care providers, private sector, media and/or TB advocacy groups

FUNDING
The workshop will be conducted in Bratislava, Slovakia and will be offered to all selected participants at no cost. Organisers will cover all related travel, accommodation, per diems and conference registration.

APPLICATION and DEADLINE
The completed application form and the motivation letter should be returned by Thursday 12th May 2016 to: coordinator@tbcoalition.eu. Application forms received after the deadline will not be accepted.

Applications may be written in English or in Russian. However, the workshop will be conducted in Russian.

If you are successful in your application to attend the workshop, you will receive a confirmatory email within two weeks after the application deadline.