ANCIENT ENEMY, MODERN IMPERATIVE:
A TIME FOR GREATER ACTION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS (TB)

THE SPREAD OF TB

TB kills over 1 million people each year, making it the world’s single deadliest infectious disease after AIDS.

TB mostly affects the poor and those living in developing countries, where it thrives through inadequate health provision.

Drug-resistant TB accounted for 5% of new TB cases and 13% of deaths in 2012.

Less than 1 in 4 people with such strains of the disease are diagnosed.

ESTIMATED TB INCIDENCE RATES, 2012

Estimated new TB cases (all forms) per 100,000 population per year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incidence Rate</th>
<th>0 - 9.9</th>
<th>10 - 19</th>
<th>20 - 49</th>
<th>50 - 299</th>
<th>300 - 499</th>
<th>&gt;500</th>
<th>No data</th>
<th>Not applicable</th>
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<td>Source: WHO, Global Tuberculosis Report 2013</td>
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ESSENTIAL NEXT STEPS

- Finding and treating people where they live
- Taking TB control out of existing silos
- Harnessing cost-effective technology
- Raising the profile of TB

BARRIERS TO TACKLING TB

- A complex disease and lack of data
- Extensive stigma
- Limited aspirations from key stakeholders

We tend to think of TB as background noise. It still kills a lot of people but doesn’t seem to have a sense of urgency around it.

Dr Neil Schluger, chief scientific officer, World Lung Foundation

Spending on TB R&D declined from:

- us$658m in 2011
- us$627m in 2012