NUWU – Project

Enhancing capacity of TB affected / infected persons to ensure meaningful representation on the Ghana CCM.

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1st Workshop in the series of Workshops for the NUWU Project:

Introduction:

With the goal of ensuring effective participation of Key affected TB persons in TB decision making in Ghana, WAAF submitted a proposal under the CFCS window to Stop TB Partnership. The plan was to train Key affected TB persons so as to have them fully equipped to represent their constituency on the Ghana CCM.

On the other hand, WAAF had already started dialogues with the Ghana CCM, advocating for the need for a seat for the TB affected/infected community and with a timely review of the CCM constitution as well as an assessment thereof, this point was emphasized. So far, the Ghana CCM has confirmed its preparedness for a seat to be occupied and is only grateful the NUWU project will enhance the capacity of the individuals who will take this seat in terms of meaningful contributions to decisions taken as well as effective feed-in and feedback from and to the entire TB affected/infected constituency.
Workshop 2\textsuperscript{nd} October 2014:

The first “Nothing for Us Without Us” or NUWU Project workshop for the Greater Accra constituents was a positive and important step in the NUWU project. The workshop was attended by 20 key participants, many of whom had suffered from TB at some point in time. One of the greatest moments of the training was to see how affected by TB individuals engaged with one another and enjoyed the prospects of having a voice in the future dialogue and policy around TB prevention and treatment in Ghana. To quote one of the participants, “We look forward to having a voice in the decision making process in Ghana. I can already say that I want this kind of opportunity (NUWU trainings) to be available in all regions of Ghana.”

Presentations by two speakers set the tone for the subsequent trainings, goals, and expectations of the NUWU project. Training participants learned about key aspects of the project that will make it successful. This included community outreach opportunities, topics of the future trainings, goals of the CCM appointed members, and sustainability of the NUWU project. Likewise, participants learned about the structure of the CCM, what the governing body achieves, and its expectations. A brief overview of TB policy and history of Ghana was given so the participants were able to understand the far-reaching influence they could have on TB throughout the country.

**Formal Nomination of Key affected TB persons for upcoming CCM elections in December 2014.**
Following up from preceding workshops (“Sustainable TB Communities participation in Ghana TB programme and Global Fund New Funding Model”) spearheaded by Afro Global Alliance and supported by WAAF, Nap+, TB Voice Network and Stop TB Partnership – Ghana, many TB affected/infected members had been intensely engaged in the current ongoing TB/HIV Concept Note development as well as National Strategic Planning. The NUWU project was therefore complementing and adding on to what was already ongoing and asuch the members through the National coordinator of the TB voice network had already been able to nominate 2 members to stand during the upcoming CCM elections in December.

This workshop being the first and having a member of the CCM present to witness was considered a good platform to officially announce those nominated. The two nominees, a male and a female, readily accepted the opportunity given them and pledged to fully participate in the NUWU project as they wanted to be well groomed to ensure they had the requisite knowledge and expertise to effectively represent their constituency.

The workshop ended on a very good note and all participants are looking forward to the next activities.