

Africa – the first continent with regional TB Scorecard and UNHLM country profiles

In late August 2019, in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, on the margins of the 69th Session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa, the World Health Organization (WHO) Africa Region, the African Union Commission in collaboration with the Stop TB Partnership launched the Africa Continental TB Scorecard and shared UNHLM TB country profiles at a side event.



The September 2018 United Nations General Assembly High Level Meeting on TB (UNHLM-TB) Declaration includes specific targets for TB case finding and prevention, as well as a commitment to mobilize adequate resources for the attainment of these targets. As part of the actions towards achieving the UNHLM TB commitments, the African Union Heads of State and Government in July 2018, just prior to the UNHLM-TB, endorsed the African Continental End TB Accountability Framework for Action and the End TB Scorecard initiative; WHO AFRO has since supported the African Union Commission to develop the TB indicators performance scorecards for 2017 and 2018 calendar years and the Stop TB partnership produced specific [UNHLM TB Country profiles](#) – showcasing the national TB indicators and the forecasted indicative targets to be achieved towards reaching UNHLM on TB commitments.

The WHO AFRO and the African Union Commission organized with support from the Stop TB Partnership an event to highlight the progress made in Africa towards achievement of the global End TB targets and launch the [2018 Africa End TB performance Scorecard and share the UNHLM country Profiles](#). The discussion was helmed by the Stop TB Partnership's Executive Director Lucica Ditiu and panellists included representatives of CDS/AFRO, WHO, WHO AFRO, African Union and Ministers of Health: Republic of Congo, South Africa, Burkina Faso and Sao Tome.



“We have approximately 3650 days left to end TB by 2030. Even more rapid, we really need to come together and achieve the UNHLM targets on TB by end of 2022. Measuring what we do and what we don’t will be essential. Therefore, having the scorecard and the country profiles mapped against the commitments is so important. The collaboration between AU, WHO, us at Stop TB, and all partners will bring these “tools” to the level of the heads of states who need to understand that TB kills their people at an unprecedented rate and we look at them to deliver on their commitments”, said Lucica Ditiu, Executive Director, the Stop TB Partnership.

“Congo has several screening centers across the country; we have the equipment, expertise and medicines. The major challenge for us is human resources.” Said Jacqueline Lydia Mikolo, Minister of Health and Population, Congo.

“It’s high time for us to walk the talk. We need to ensure that our people have access to quality TB care, mobilize funds for better treatment and invest more in de-stigmatizing the disease. We need to put an end to passive efforts and be more active”, said Maxime Lunga, TB survivor from Democratic Republic of Congo and the Stop TB Partnership partner.