Achievements of the Global Laboratory Initiative (GLI) Stop TB Partnership Working Group

Rick O’Brien
Chair, GLI Working Group

4th GLI Partners Meeting
Les Pensières, Veyrier-du-Lac, France
17 - 19 April 2012
Stop TB Partnership Workgroups (WG)

- DOTS Expansion WG
- TB/HIV WG
- MDRTB WG
- New Diagnostics WG
- WG on New TB Drugs
- WG on New TB Vaccines
- Global Laboratory Initiative WG (Nov 08)
A Brief History of the GLI

- Establishment of SRLs in support of drug resistance surveys (mid-1990s)
- Establishment of Laboratory Capacity Strengthening Sub-group of DEWH (2002)
- Establishment of SLCS Core Group (2007)
- Development of GLI Business Plan (2007-8)
- Endorsement by STP CB and STAG of GLI WG (2008)
Global Laboratory Initiative

Platform of coordination and communication, providing the required infrastructure, focused on TB laboratory strengthening, in the areas of:

• Global policy guidance (norms, standards, best practices)
• Laboratory capacity development
• Interface with other laboratory networks, enabling integration
• Standardised laboratory quality assurance
• Coordination of technical assistance
• Effective knowledge sharing
• Advocacy and resource mobilisation
GLI strategic priorities

• Accelerating evidence-based policy development on diagnostics and laboratory practices
• Promoting a structured framework/roadmap for TB laboratory strengthening within the context of national laboratory plans at country level
• Developing a comprehensive set of tools, norms and standards based on international standards and best-practice
• Advancing laboratory strengthening through global, regional and local partnerships
• Developing multi-level laboratory human resource strategies to address the capacity crisis
• Accelerating new diagnostics into countries
GLI Projects are run on behalf of GLI and adhere to a collaborative spirit

- Aligned with strategic agenda and priorities
- Complementarity with other projects
- Liaison to GLI secretariat established
- Project review process established
- Adequate partner representation requirements satisfied
- Information networks utilized
# GLI structure & governance

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- **WHO Stop TB Department**
  - GLI Secretariat
  - GLI Core Group
  - GLI Partners Committee

- **Stop TB Partnership**
  - GLI Working Group
  - Evaluates, approves, governs projects; Advises GLI Secretariat
  - Advises and approves strategic agenda of GLI; Monitors project progress

### Technical Working Groups

- **Supranational Ref Lab Network Sub-WG**
- Human resource development strategy
- Laboratory strengthening
- Laboratory accreditation
- Laboratory biosafety

- Priority projects and activities
  - Time limited
  - Partner approach
GLI Core Group

- Chair - Rick O’Brien
- WHO Secretariat – Chris Gilpin
- CDC – Tom Shinnick (Vice-Chair)
- Union – Armand Van Deun
- PEPFAR – John Nkengasong/Heather Alexander (CDC/GAP)
- USAID – Amy Piatek/YaDiul Mukadi
- African Society for Laboratory Medicine – Giorgio Roscigno
- Civil society – Vijay K. Gupta/Tom Otwoma
- Satoshi Mitarai (NTP/NRLJapan)
- Dick van Sooligen (NTP/NRL Netherlands)
- Marie AliceTelles (NTP/NRL Brazil)
- Rumina Hasan (Pakistan)
- Alexander Golubhov, PIH Boston
- Sara Eyangoh, NRL Cameroun
- Sabine Ruesch-Gerdes – NRL Borstel, Chair SRLN Sub-group
- Past Chair - John Ridderhof
- Observers
- Liaisons with other WGs
GLI Partners

- American Society for Microbiology (ASM)
- African Society for Laboratory Medicine (ASLM)
- Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- CDC Global AIDS Programme (GAP)
- Fondation Merieux
- Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND)
- International Union Against TB and Lung Disease
- PEPFAR
- USAID
- KNCV
- Merieux Alliance
- Management Sciences for Health (MSH)
- Medicins Sans Frontiers
- Stop TB Partnership Working Groups (New Diagnostics, MDR-TB, DOTS Expansion/INAT)
- National TB Programs
- WHO
- UNITAID
- and growing…
Key Achievements of GLI  
(to be presented during this meeting)

- TB Lab Biosafety Manual (Tom Shinnick)
- Stepwise Implementation Towards Accreditation (Chris Gilpin, Paul Klatser)
- AFB Laboratory Network Accreditation (Armand van Deun)
- Revised guidance on DST (Faud Mirzayev)
- SRLN and DST EQA Expansion (Sabine Reusch-Gerdes)
- Expand TB (Eric Adam)
WHO/GLI Policy Framework for Implementing New Diagnostics

• Intended to provide comprehensive guidance to NTRLs on introduction of new WHO-approved TB diagnostic technologies at differing levels of service together with specimen referral and reporting mechanisms

• Diagnostic testing algorithms for microscopy, culture and DST, and molecular testing for TB and DR TB
GLI Laboratory Toolbox

- Roadmap for laboratory strengthening
  - To assist countries in developing national laboratory strategic plans
  - Comprehensive guidance on setting objectives, lab network structure, equipment, data management, human resources, and financial resources
- 37 training modules on biosafety, use and maintenance of equipment, preparation of reagents, and WHO approved laboratory procedures
- Logistics supply management tool
- External quality assurance package
- Management information system
- Linkages to other training materials, guidance documents and partner websites
GLI Consultants Roster

- Promote and disseminate GLI strategic priorities and activities:
  - Policy guidance on appropriate TB laboratory technologies, infrastructure and biosafety, and best-practices;
  - Laboratory capacity development, including technology transfer and know-how, monitoring and evaluation, and quality improvement;
  - Interface with other laboratory networks to facilitate integration;
  - Human resource development, including training and mentoring.

- Support countries in developing TB laboratory strengthening plans;
- Guide countries in implementing WHO policies for TB diagnosis;
- Assist countries in preparing Global Fund applications containing adequate and appropriate laboratory strengthening components;
- Support development and expansion of country TB laboratory networks with linkage to the SRLN
- Promote interaction and collaboration with laboratory stakeholders at national and regional levels.
Global Laboratory Initiative
Looking Toward the Future

• Review strategic priorities importantly HR development
• Fully engage current GLI members and partners in its work and expand individual and constituent membership in GLI
• Promote the integration of TB laboratory services within public health laboratories and expand role of GLI in overall context of health systems strengthening
• Improve coordination and harmonization of technical assistance for TB laboratory strengthening at the country level
• Ensure full participation of GLI in other STB Partnership WGs
• Advocacy and resource mobilization for strengthening TB laboratory services and support for GLI Secretariat