

Impact of the research on tuberculosis control: The West African Regional Network for TB control (WARN-TB)

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OUTLINE

- Establishment and functioning of WARN-TB
- Activities conducted
- Current and expected impacts on TB control



WARN-TB REGION

Total population ≈
340 million

Anglophone,
Francophone and
Portuguese
speaking countries

Total TB cases
notified per year ≈
250 000



WARN-TB MEMBERS AND COLLABORATORS

MEMBERS

All national TB programmes of the West African Region
(16 countries)

- 2 Co-chairs (Dr F. Bonsu NTP Ghana and Prof O. Sow former NTP Guinea)
- One executive secretariat (hosted by the NTP of Benin)

COLLABORATORS

The Union, Damien Foundation, West African Health Organization, the GFATM, WHO at all levels, UNICEF and TDR

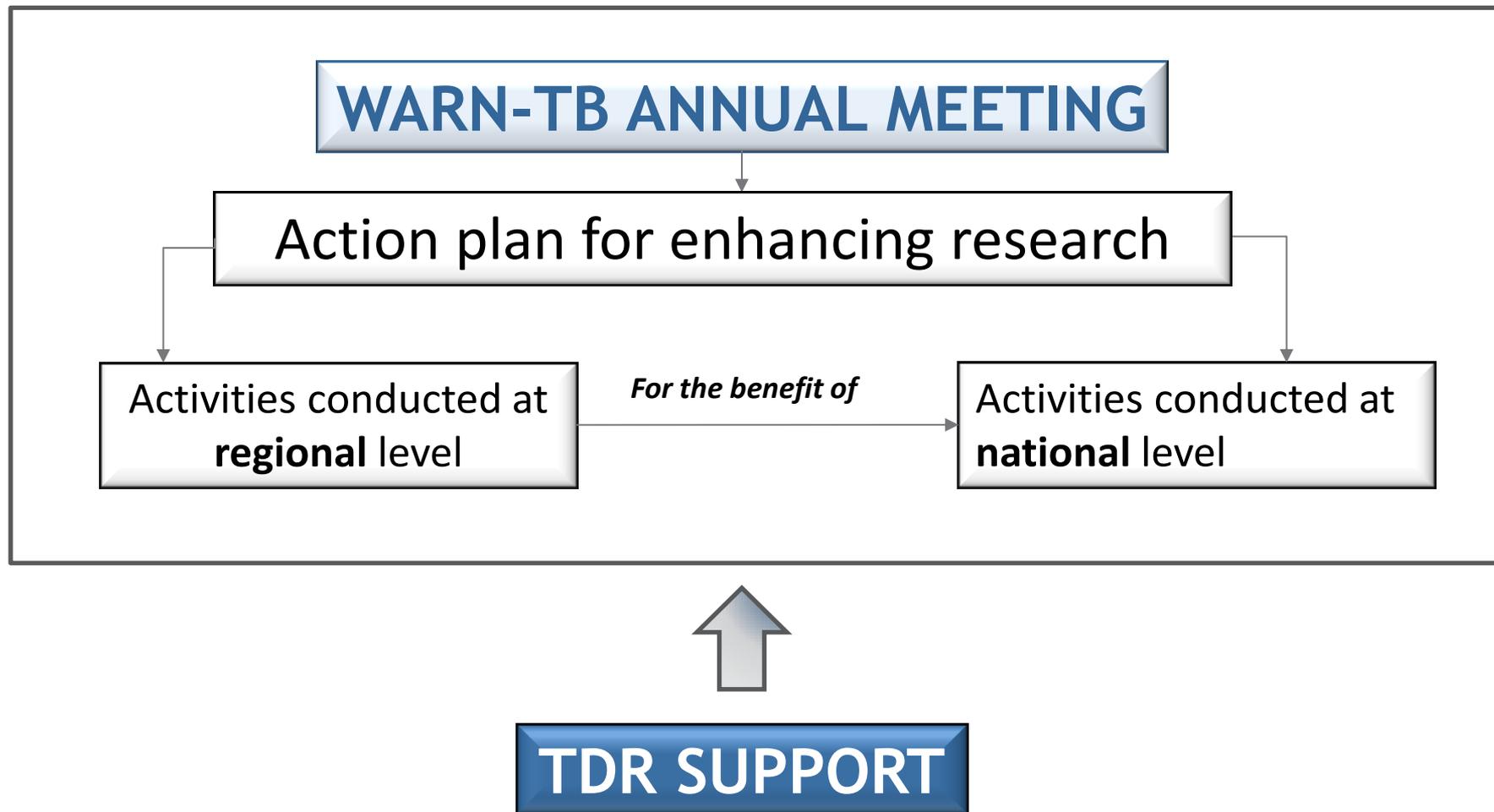
EXTERNAL RESOURCE PERSONS

(e.g. former NTPs managers)

OBJECTIVES OF WARN-TB

- Create a platform for partnership collaboration and exchange of best practices among national TB programmes
- Promote harmonization of strategies and practice for the control of TB within the region
- Promote embedded operational/implementation research for TB control
- Support high level advocacy and resource mobilization for TB control

FUNCTIONING OF THE WARN-TB



NATIONAL TB TASK FORCES

- Multidisciplinary national committees for the development of the national TB research plan & its monitoring
- Established in 15 out of 16 countries with seed funding from TDR & for their functioning for 2016-2017
- Financing for the functioning of these committees for 2018-2020 secured by the countries (GFATM grants)


REPUBLICQUE DU SENEGAL
Un Peuple - Une Destinée - Une Foi

N° 02983
N° _____/MSAS/DGS/DLM/PNT


*Ministère de la Santé
et de l'Action sociale*

Dakar, le 4 MARS 2016

Le Ministre

NOTE DE SERVICE

Il est créé au sein du Ministère de la Santé et de l'Action sociale une Task Force pour la recherche opérationnelle Tuberculose. Ce comité est un cadre structurel chargé de contribuer au contrôle de la tuberculose et de traduire les résultats de recherche opérationnelle en politique visant à améliorer la prise en charge des malades.

Ce comité est composé ainsi qu'il suit :

Président : Pr Nafissatou Oumar TOURE (Chef du Service Pneumologie de Fann),

Secrétaire permanent : Dr Tacko Ali BA (Responsable du Bureau Formation et Recherche au Programme National de lutte contre la Tuberculose).

Membres :

- Dr Marie SARR DIOUF, (Coordonnateur du PNT),
- Pr Awa BA DIALLO, (Laboratoire Bactériologie - Virologie /DANTEC),
- Pr Rouguiyatou KA, (Direction des Laboratoires),
- Dr Fatou Kiné WATHIE, (Plan Sénégal),
- Dr El hadj Ciré BA, (Institut de la Recherche et du Développement),
- Dr Madou KANE, (Responsable Bureau Suivi & Evaluation/PNT),
- Dr Fatoumata BA, (Chef du Laboratoire National de Référence/PNT),
- Dr Aliou NIANG, (Point Focal Bureau Prise en Charge/PNT),
- Dr Abdoulaye LY, (Family Health International 360),
- Dr Alimatou NDIAYE, (Projet RAFA Screen /PNT),
- Dr Clément Diouga BASSE, (Division Recherche/DPRS),
- Mr Mamadou MBAYE, (Association Sénégalaise de Lutte contre la Tuberculose),
- Dr Fatou Ndiaye DEME, (Ordre des Pharmaciens).
- Dr Daouda DIA, (Direction de la Lutte contre la Maladie DLM).

Ce comité se réunit sur convocation de son président et peut être élargi à toute personne dont la participation est jugée utile au bon déroulement de ses travaux.

Ampliations :

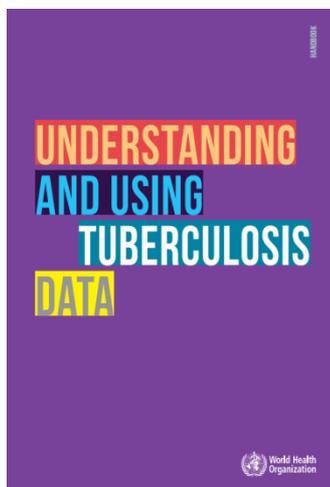
- MSAS/SG
- MSAS/DGS
- MSAS/DLM


Le Ministre

NATIONAL TB RESEARCH PRIORITIES DEFINED

2 regional workshops

Monitoring and evaluation and operational research focal persons (NTPs and academics/researchers)



Collaboration with WHO/GTB and the GFATM



Countries covered by a regional or country specific workshop focused on analysis and the use of TB data.

DEFINITION OF NATIONAL TB RESEARCH PRIORITIES

3 common TB control issues

How to:

1. Intensify case finding in adults and children
2. Reduce TB lethality
3. Reduce numbers of patients stopping TB treatment



TDR research grants for each country & technical support (mentoring) for conducting 1 OR/IR project per country in 2016-2017

IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH PROJECT EXAMPLES

IR projects
piloting strategies
to enhance active
TB case finding
through:

integrating TB screening in other public health actions/other care

testing various TB screening strategies in prison

increasing the role of the community

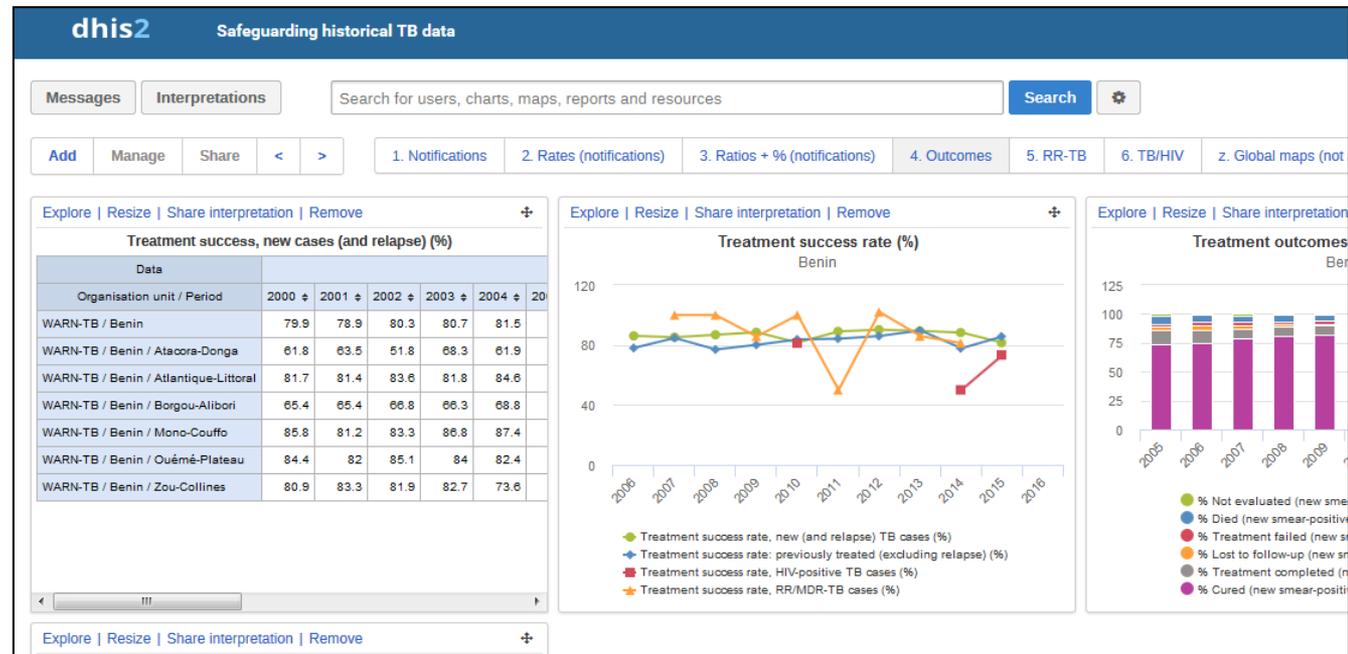
increasing the role of the private sector

increasing TB diagnosis & care decentralisation

STRENGTHENING TB SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

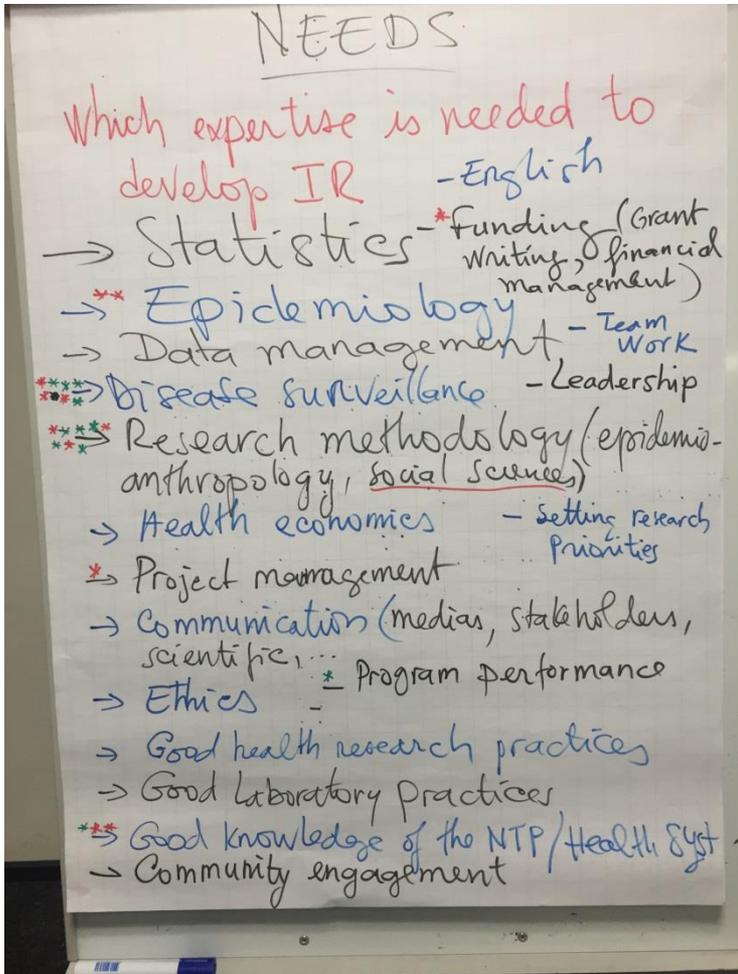
- All countries were also facing issues with their TB surveillance systems

- Collaboration with WHO/GTB



- WARN-TB countries piloted the development of a TB database (DHIS2-TB)
- Regional workshop for the use of the DHIS2-TB module for analysing TB data and defining TB control gaps
- On-the-job training of the M&E NTPs for conducting TB epidemiological reviews of NTPs of the region and using the DHIS2-TB tool

STRENGTHENING RESEARCH CAPACITIES



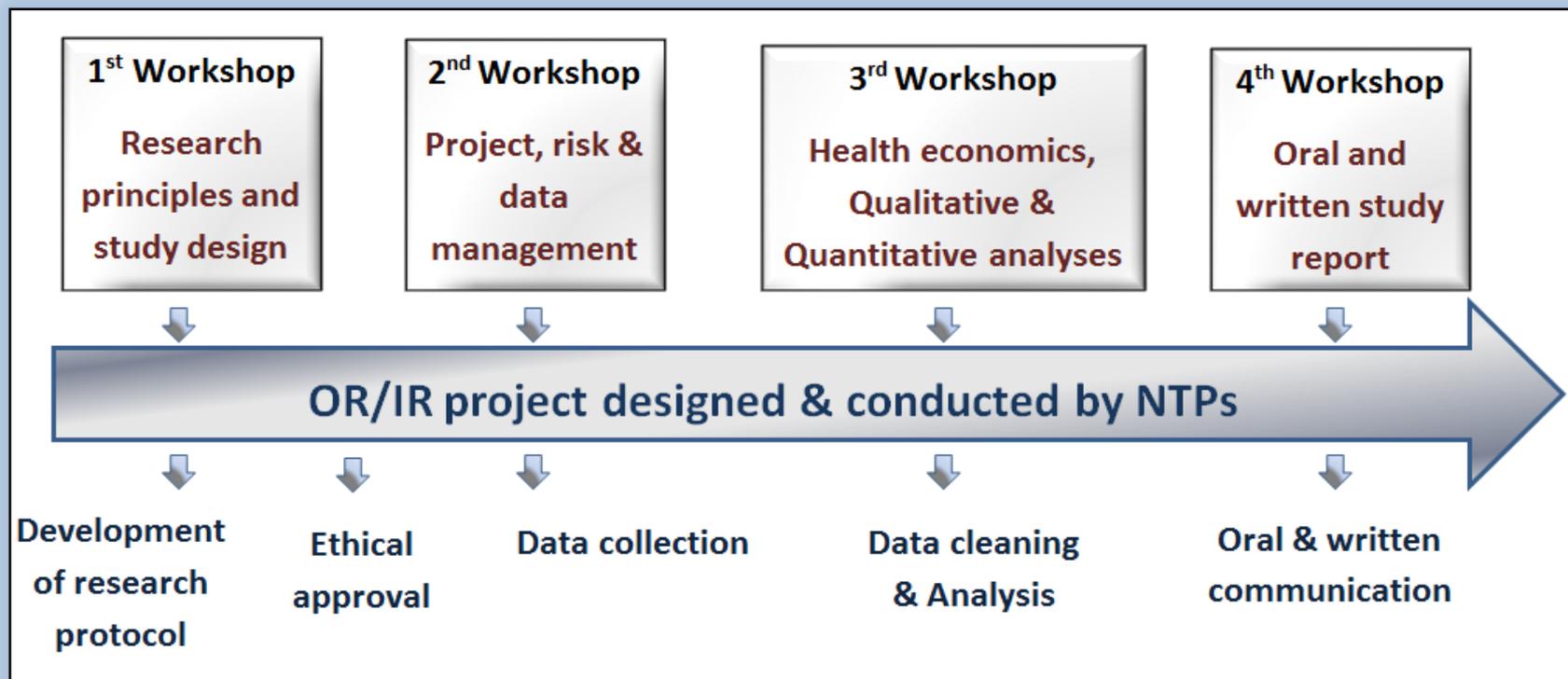
Definition of NTPs research capacities and training needs for conducting OR/IR projects

- Oct 2015 with all NTPs of the WARN-TB
- Dec 2015 with the co-chairs and executive secretariat of the WARN-TB

Development of 2016-2017 research training programme

A learning-by-doing training programme

STRENGTHENING NTP RESEARCH CAPACITIES



- Use of training material on OR/IR developed by TDR (SORT IT, IR tool kit) + health economics, social science, project & risk management, etc.
- Facilitators from South & North Universities (Benin, Burkina Faso, France, Ghana, Guinea, Nigeria, Senegal, UK)

IMPACT

Too early to see an impact on TB control, but ...

In 2 years time, strengthened foundations for conducting TB research

- More robust TB surveillance system to define priority issues and to monitor TB control progress.
- Increased capacities of the NTP for designing and conducting TB research.
- Increased partnership with local researchers or other MOH programs due to the national TB task forces.
- NTP managers consider research as one of their routine programme activities and secured funding for this activity for 2018-2020.

IMPACT

- 8 countries out of 16 have already drafted or finalised their first national TB research agendas for the next 5 years
- 16 IR/OR projects were developed
- Interesting research results from Ghana and Senegal pilot studies for intensifying TB case finding in children.
- Same pilot research projects will be replicated in Guinea (2017) and Burkina Faso (2018)
- Results of the other research projects will be available and shared Q1 2018

LESSONS LEARNED

- The regional approach created a regional dynamic for enhancing TB research
- Particularly beneficial for the French speaking West African countries
- In Guinea, research lead by the NTP was almost non-existent 2 years ago. Since then:
 - A national TB task force is established and is functioning
 - A national TB research agenda is developed
 - 1 person was appointed at the NTP for TB OR/IR
 - 3 implementation research projects were developed and funding are secured
 - Another project replicating what was done in Ghana is under development and a source of funding is identified



THANK YOU