TB Case Detection among Drug Users in Tanzania; the Dar es Salaam experience
Date 11\textsuperscript{TH} JUNE 2013
Place: Vilnius
Presented by: Dickens Bwana: Program Coordinator
Tanzania

- **Eastern Africa**
- **Area**: 947,300 sq km
- **Population**: 45.9m
  - <15 years: 43%
  - Urban population: 20%
- **Life expectancy**: 53yrs
- **HIV prevalence**: 5.8%
  (UNAIDS 2011)
MUKIKUTE, is a Tanzanian nationwide organisation of former tuberculosis (TB) patients.

In 2012 started a program to increase access to TB and HIV care and treatment services among injecting drug users (IDUs)
Setting

- Low survival of TB patients who use drugs.
- Stigma
- Defaulting treatment
- Lack of food leading to crime and violence.
- Late diagnosis
- Lack of treatment supporters for homeless IDU&DU.
Blood sharing or “flashblood” is a practice in which one IDU with no access to drugs gets an aliquot of blood from a friend who has just injected himself with a drug. The first IDU draws blood back into a syringe until the barrel is full and then passes the syringe to the second injector. This practice has been documented since at least 2005 in female IDUs in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (McCurdy et al, 2005). In Zanzibar, the practice of sharing flashblood was documented in 9.1% (18/198) of male IDUs all of whom were from Unguja Island in the Urban District.
Types of drug users in Dar es Salaam.

- Heroin
- Cocaine
- Marihuana
- “Cocktail” – mix of different substances.
Drug use is associated with increased rates of TB disease and spread of TB infection.

TB is the leading cause of mortality among injecting drug users living with HIV.

Both all-cause and TB-associated mortality rates are several times higher among drug users living with HIV than among other people living with HIV.
Multidrug resistant TB (MDR)

Drug users often interrupt TB treatment before completion. (Normal treatment is drug intake daily for six months).

Treatment interruption is a major risk for the bacteria to develop resistance.

Drug users are also more likely to be exposed to multidrug-resistant TB.
Down to Earth centre

MUKIKUTE Drop in Centre opened in September 2012
Project

Introduced community based TB, HIV/AIDS focused intervention among injecting drug users.

a) TB Screening
b) HIV Testing
c) Care and Treatment
a) Escort referral for HIV positive to CTC
d) Nutrition support
e) Prevention strategy
Project

- Harm Reduction:
  a) Condom Distribution (also to MSM, FCSW)
  b) Needle Exchange Program for IDU
  c) STI Screening
  d) Referral of IDUs to Methadone Program (process)
  e) Psychosocial Support (One to one Counseling)
Hiv testing.
TB screening.
Condom distribution.
Information material.
Project cont.....

To Capacitate and increase Key Population involvement in TB/HIV Control

a) Support the formation of Drug users network
b) Conduct TB/HIV Health Education sessions at the Centre
c) Self Help Services/Drug counseling
d) Training on Income Generating skills among Key Population
e) Gender Based Violence Trainings to key Population
f) Advocacy Forums on Equal access to Health Services, Human Right and Legal Matters
Trainings

Capacity Building
Project methodology

- National Community TB Care curriculum
- Peer educators and outreach workers.
- Information Education and Communication material (IEC materials)
- Drop in Centre (DIC)
Outcomes: Sept 2012 to May 2013

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Sep 2012 to May 2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
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<tr>
<td># of DU Screened and tested for TB</td>
<td>191</td>
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<tr>
<td># Of DU Confirmed to have TB and started treatment</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of DU counseled and tested for HIV</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of DU tested HIV Positive and linked to Care &amp; treatment</td>
<td>9</td>
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With an outreach workers back pack going to the field
Treatment supporter

Treatment supporter with Anti TB Drugs and marking the treatment card.
Outreach worker collecting syringes
Safety Box in hot point

Collected by Outreach worker
Health Education in the Hot point
Mobile Outreach

Beneficiaries in the Van for Health Care & HR Services in Keko Dec 2012
MUKIKUTE CULTURAL TROUPE

Community sensitization, Targeting DU in Temeke Nov 2012
Empowerment of Drug users

Former TB patients from most-at-risk-population acts as educators for each others in Mbagala Temeke Dar es salaam Nov 2012.
Access to Health Care?

Drug user with wound in Keko Temeke Dar es salaam March 2013
TanPUD – Tanzania network of People Using Drugs.
Drug users occupation

Drug user coming for HIV testing at DIC in Temeke Dar es Salaam April 2013
Programmatic challenges

- Structural barriers
- Poor Health seeking behavior among Drug users
- Lack of friendly environment among Drug users
Multi disciplinary coordination meeting

Partners meeting at Holiday Inn Hotel Dar es salaam Tanzania in April 2013
Dear HR Partners: A book you must read

The policy Guideline
Partners

The following are our partners

LHL-International Norway

MDM TANZANIA

TEMEKE MC

NTLP

PASADA
Recommendation

- Addressing TB among Drug users should be a priority of all Harm Reduction implementing Partners. This will save many lives.
Yes TB is Curable