COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN TUBERCULOSIS

"The people have the right and duty to participate individually and collectively in the planning and implementation of their health care."

Declaration of Alma Alta, September 1978.

End TB Strategy aligned with the Sustainable Development Goal 3 emphasizes the role of communities, NGOs and other CSOs to end the TB epidemic.

DEFINITIONS

Community engagement is the process of working collaboratively with and through communities to address issues affecting their well-being.

Community-based TB activities are conducted outside the premises of formal health facilities (e.g. hospitals and clinics) in community-based structures (e.g. schools and places of worship) and homesteads. Community health workers and community volunteers carry out community-based TB activities.

Community health worker is a person with some formal education who is trained to contribute to community-based health services.

Community volunteer is a community member who has been systematically sensitized about TB care, either through a short training or through repeated contact with professional health workers. Both can be supported by nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), other civil society organizations (CSOs) and/or the government.

GLOBAL DOCUMENTATION OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

CORE INDICATORS

Number and percentage of new patients with TB (all forms) diagnosed and notified who were referred by community health workers and community volunteers.

Number and percentage of successfully treated new patients with TB (all forms) who received support for treatment adherence from community health workers and community volunteers.

GLOBAL DOCUMENTATION

Number of countries reporting to WHO on core indicators

- 2013: 13 countries
- 2014: 22 countries
- 2015: 41 countries
- 2016: 49 countries
- 2017: 53 countries
THE ENGAGE-TB APPROACH

WHO recognizes the potential for integrating community-based TB activities into the work of NGO and other CSO programmes. This is at the heart of the ENGAGE-TB approach.

Though diagnosed in clinics and hospitals, TB thrives in the community. Action in the community is therefore essential in TB response.

Collaboration between NTPs, NGOs and other CSOs helps achieving bold results. The NTP can encourage NGOs and other CSOs that do not work yet on TB to integrate TB into their activities.

ENGAGE-TB DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

ENGAGE-TB innovative demonstration projects with funding from the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation Secure the Future integrated TB into:

- maternal and child health in Ethiopia, Kenya
- cervical cancer screening in Ethiopia
- livelihood initiatives in Kenya
- HIV in DR Congo, South Africa, Tanzania

8 million
Population covered with community-led access to TB services in project areas

4000
TB patients newly identified and treated in 2013-2014

Up to 90%
TB patients provided treatment adherence support in the community

ENGAGE-TB EXPANSION

USD 31.5 million has been raised for the implementation and scale up of ENGAGE-TB activities in DR Congo, Kenya, UR Tanzania and Malawi through the Global Fund New Funding Model.