

WHO PLATFORM FOR COMMUNITY-BASED TB ACTIVITIES NEWSLETTER

December 2019



Case studies

In July 2019, WHO Global TB Programme launched a call for expression of interest to submit case studies on best practices and lessons learned in implementing community-based TB activities. We received over 25 proposals, out of which 8 were selected for further development into case studies for publication.

Each study outlines the epidemiological context and key barriers in finding the missing people with TB in the local context.

They describe in detail the solutions that have been put in place, at community level, to overcome these barriers and their outcomes, with a focus on lessons learned and best practices that were instrumental to the success of the interventions.

We are now pleased to share with you the first two case studies, which describe different approaches in the delivery of community based TB services in Mozambique and Myanmar.

Click on the links below and read the full stories!

MOZAMBIQUE

In Mozambique, TB detection is low with 42% gap in TB notifications and a high TB/HIV co-infection rate. This calls for urgent need to improve TB case detection and find the missing people with TB. However, with 66% of the country's population living in rural areas, often far from health facilities, access to health services is often limited. From October 2015 to March 2019, FHI 360 and four implementing partners trained 1,133 Community Health Workers to provide TB prevention, screening, referral and treatment adherence support services. The initiative demonstrated that community-based active case finding activities were effective in finding persons with TB that would likely not have otherwise been diagnosed nor treated. This led to the detection of 46,675 people with TB over five years, all of whom initiated treatment. This represents a 27% contribution total TB notification in the four provinces over the five-year period.

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Photo: FHI360



Photo: The Union

MYANMAR

With a third of all persons with TB undetected in Myanmar in 2017 and the limited access to services and information about TB in the community, waiting for people with TB symptoms to present to the health facilities was simply not enough. There was an urgent need to develop community-based strategies, enabling the delivery of essential TB services closer to those affected by the disease. From August 2017 to March 2019, FHI 360 and four implementing partners engaged 2,135 Community Health Volunteers (CHV) to provide community-based TB prevention, diagnosis, treatment support and care services, in close collaboration with the government's Basic Health Staff. During 19 months, CHVs helped notify 2,678 persons with TB across 22 townships covered by the project. This represented 6% of 46,091 people with presumptive TB who were tested and contributed 37.3% towards overall TB notifications in those townships.

[Read more...](#)



SHARE YOUR STORY!

Tell us your stories about success or challenges in implementing community based TB activities. The best stories will be selected to feature in the newsletter.

Write to us at engage-tb@who.int

For further information about WHO work on community engagement, please visit:
<https://www.who.int/activities/engaging-affected-communities-and-civil-society-to-end-tb/>