TB prevalence survey
Data management

Workshop TB prevalence survey, Geneva, 2008
Take home message

Data entry is a skill,
not a lunch-break activity

Data management is a profession
not a hobby
Size of the work

- Tanzania survey
  - 60,000 screening
  - 15,000 households
  - 6,000 suspects
  - 200 patients
Size of the work (1)

- Tanzania survey
  - 60,000 screening
  - 20,000 households
  - 6,000 suspects
  - 100 patients

- This is an average size survey
Size of the work (2)

- **Data for all subjects:**
  - Census: 13 variables: 780,000 entries
  - Symptoms: 17 variables: 1,020,000 entries
  - X-ray: 7 variables: 420,000 entries
  - Re-read X-rays: 6 variables: 360,000 entries

- **Suspects**
  - Interview: 45 variables: 270,000 entries
  - Sputum: 2x10 variables: 120,000 entries
  - Culture: 11 variables: 66,000 entries
  - X-ray score: 90 variables: 540,000 entries
Size of the work (3)

- Patients
  - HIV test: 5 variables 1,000 entries

- Households
  - Assets score: 15 variables: 225,000 entries
Size of the work (3)

- Patients
  - HIV test: 5 variables: 1,000 entries

- Households
  - Assets score: 15 variables: 225,000 entries

- TOTAL: 3,802,000 entries
Size of the work (3)

- Patients
  - HIV test: 5 variables 1,000 entries

- Households
  - Assets score: 15 variables: 225,000 entries

- TOTAL: 3,802,000 entries
  - Tuberculin survey: 500,000 entries

- GRAND TOTAL: 4,302,000 entries
Conclusion

- Data management can only be performed adequately when there is
  - Awareness of the scale of the undertaking
  - Adequate budgeting and availability of trained staff
  - Starts on time
    - Data manager part of the survey team from design phase onwards
    - Activity should keep pace with the field activities
Experience Vietnam (1)

- Recently concluded survey

- Survey team was well aware of the scale of data management

- Detailed data management plan available
  - Drawn up with external technical assistance
Experience Vietnam (2)

- No insight in the implementation
  - Started late despite data management plan and access to external technical assistance
    - Not possible to evaluate field activities in the context of data collection

- Underestimated complexity data entry and data validation
  - Slow and laborious process
Experience Vietnam (3)

- Resulted in
  - Difficult data validation process with numerous queries to be solved
    - Complicated by no proper storage rules
  - Extra work to compensate for the absence of case registers in the field
    - The data was there but difficult to find back
  - Late results
Advise

- Data manager involved from the start
- SOPs need to include DM plan
- Data entry and data validation in pace with field activities
- Have several registers (suspects and cases) for easy data retrieval
- Proper storage of data