Country: Indonesia

Dates of TA provision: March – May 2021

Consultant(s): Erlina Burhan, MD, PhD

Clearance of the report: The content of the report has been fully cleared by the National Tuberculosis Program of Timor-Leste.

Sharing of the report:
1. The report has been shared with The Global Fund Portfolio Manager, Timor-Leste.
2. In-country circulation of the report done via WHO Country office in Timor-Leste

TA coordination: rGLC/SEAR Secretariat and WHO Country Office Timor-Leste

**Background**

Tuberculosis (TB) is one of the deadliest infectious disease in the world with annual mortality reaching 1.6 million deaths globally and incidence as high as 10 million people in 2017. Despite the decreasing number of TB in developed world, many developing nation still suffer from TB disease. Two third of these TB cases are suffered by developing countries, putting more burden on already strained national’s economy.

Timor-Leste has 2nd highest TB incidence rate in WHO South-East Asia Region, after DPR Korea. According to data released by WHO in 2018, total TB incidence in Timor-Leste is 498 per 100,000 population. As a comparison, incidence rate in Indonesia is 316 per 100,000, in India 199 per 100,000, and in China 61 per 100,000 population.

One of the biggest challenge in eliminating TB is the increasing number of Drug-Resistant TB (DR-TB). It is estimated that 3.1% of all TB case in Timor-Leste is drug-resistant (DR) or Rifampicin-resistant TB (RR-TB).

Drug-Resistant TB is significantly more difficult to treat compared to Drug-Sensitive TB (DS-TB) with lower success rate and higher chance of adverse effect during course of treatment. Treatment of DR TB therefore need to be given by highly-trained medical personne, competent inin management of DR-TB regimen.

Another challenge faced in eliminating TB is latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI). It is estimated that global prevalence of LTBI is 24.8%. With reactivation rate of 5 – 10, treating LTBI, parallel with active TB, is important in eliminating TB.
Training Module Development

A comprehensive training module was developed based on the new Timor-Leste TB Guidelines for National Tuberculosis Control Program published in August 2020. The draft of the module was developed on the course of seven days between 4 – 10 March 2021. The discussion and revision to complete the module was done between 11 March and 6 May 2021. The final outcome is Tuberculosis Training Module and Tuberculosis Pocket Guide. Both products are intended to be published to related parties prior to virtual training and workshop. Virtual training and workshop are currently delayed due to COVID-19. It will be held as soon as situation is conducive.

Virtual Training and Workshop

Virtual training and workshop is planned to be held during the course of two days to increase the capacity of medical personnel in the management of DS-TB, DR-TB, and LTBI case. The training and workshop will train medical personnel from the National Hospital, Referral Hospitals, DR-TB Centre, and other healthcare-facilities. They are also members of newly composed national clinical management committee on DR-TB.

The agenda planned for the first day:

1. Diagnosis of Tuberculosis (National TB Guidelines, August 2020)
2. Prevent and Diagnose LTBI
3. Pharmacological treatment of LTBI
4. Principles of DR-TB Treatment

The agenda planned for the second day:

1. DR TB Treatment Guideline of Timor-Leste
2. Formulating DR TB regimen: exercise by case illustration
3. Treatment of DR-TB with HIV co-infection, pregnant mothers, children and other special situations
4. Reading ECG: Basics of ECG and Identifying adverse event with ECG
5. Monitoring and Evaluation; aDSM
6. Exercise on Monitoring and Evaluation
7. Next step for Timor-Leste
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary of the recommendations to follow up</th>
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<tr>
<td>• The country should urgently finalize the design and layout of training modules, print them and disseminate.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• It is recommended to conduct virtual training and workshop as soon as situation becomes conducive in Timor-Leste.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Training and workshop can be held virtually. Healthcare personnel may participate in the training from home provided good internet connection is available.</td>
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