

Report on activities by Community Representatives on New Diagnostics Working Group

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Background

- Recognizing the important contribution of affected communities, the Stop TB Partnership Coordinating Board at its meeting in March 2004 approved the position of 2 Community Representatives (Rep and Alternate) to the Board.
- In November 2004, the Partnership Secretariat also approved the inclusion of at least 2 Community Representatives in the Core Group of all the 7 Working Groups. This trend has continued till now and proved to be very positive
- Currently, there are 16 active community task force (CTF) members serving on the WGs and CB
- Membership of the CTF is through an highly competitive election process previously managed by TAG and now by the Partnership secretariat

ToR of Community Representatives

All CTF members share the same three generic TOR. Some may have additional TORs, specific to their WG/CB. The common TORs for all CTF are:

- a) To participate in WG/CB activities and communicate community priorities to the WG/CB.
- b) To communicate WG/CB priorities to a broader community and build support for them.
- c) To conduct trainings or other activities to strengthen the capacity within their communities to increase their awareness about impact of TB.

Community Representatives on NDWG

- Past include Marco Gomes; Carol Nawina

- Current CR on NDWG are/

1) Mayowa Joel

Communication for Development Centre, Nigeria

1) Thokozile Tikondane

PLWHA Women Support Group, Malawi

Activities

- Fulfilling the ToR main through the activities of the organizations;
- Implementing a small grant project of 1,000 USD; activities must be relevant to the objectives of the WG:

Activities (2010-2011)

Activity:

Assessment of current TB diagnostics services, equipments and policies available in the country

Purpose of Activity:

1. To review existing policies and services on TB diagnostics currently available in the country.
2. To highlight the need for better TB diagnostics in the country

Outcome:

The report highlighted gaps in policy and services on TB diagnostics in the countries in comparison to WHO Guidelines.

Advocacy Priorities:

Advocacy for appropriate policies and better tools for TB diagnostics in the country

Activities (2012)

Activity:

Consultation with other stakeholders on new TB diagnostic tools including Gene Xpert

Purpose of Activity:

1. To advocate for better TB diagnostic tools
2. To enhance knowledge on new TB diagnostic tools especially Gene Xpert

Expected Outcome:

Enhanced understanding and increased resources for new TB diagnostic tools

Advocacy Priorities:

Advocacy for appropriate policies; more resources and better tools for TB diagnostics in the country

Challenges

- Limited funds to implement activities
- Limited opportunities for strengthening capacity

Thank you!