



TB EUROPE COALITION STRATEGY

2017 2020

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Introduction



TB is the world's leading infectious killer with 2015 seeing TB accountable for 1.8 million deaths and 10.6 million people contracting the disease. Despite the increasingly urgent need to combat the epidemic, TB has maintained a low profile on the global political agenda, failing to receive the attention and resources it deserves. The European region has the world's highest rates of multidrug resistant TB, and the fastest growing HIV epidemic. In addition to the catastrophic human cost, the economic burden caused by TB in the region is enormous. It is estimated that by 2050, drug resistant TB will be responsible for an additional 2.1 million deaths at an economic cost of \$1.1 trillion in the WHO European region alone. Furthermore, post-Soviet countries of the WHO Europe region have inherited health systems, characterised by extensive hospitalisation, limited primary care, central planning and hierarchal management. The diagnostics and treatment of TB has not been an exception, and, thus, is still undergoing transition from hospitalisation towards ambulatory model, which foresees the majority of care and treatment of people with TB to take place outside hospitals. Despite numbers regarding economic impact and realities on the ground, especially, with regards to the speed or quality of the reforms, as well as availability of funding, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, one of the key donors in the region, is in the midst of funding withdrawal and transition towards solely national funding of TB programmes in the region.

TB Europe Coalition (TBEC) is an advocacy network that brings together civil society representatives (individuals and organisations) from across the WHO European Region; in order to strengthen the role of civil society within the regional response to tuberculosis (TB), and to increase the political and financial commitment required to effectively control the epidemic.

TBEC was formed by a group of TB advocates in 2009. They identified a need to strengthen capacities and bring together civil society in order to address two major concerns: high-rates of TB drug resistance, coupled with low awareness among general populations and policy-makers about this problem. This was especially due to a scarcity of civil society stakeholders working on TB in the region. As of autumn 2017, TBEC has more than 170 members, including individuals and civil society organisations from more than 35 countries in the region.

TBEC has been growing rapidly and is increasingly recognised as the voice of TB-interested civil society across the WHO Europe Region. Yet it remains an informal network, governed by a steering committee, with staff operating the work and budget of the network from individual organizations, performing the role of de facto "secretariats" - RESULTS UK based in London, Global Health Advocates France in Brussels and the Alliance for Public Health in Kiev. Besides, many other organizations throughout the region contribute voluntarily to the work of TBEC.

TBEC Vision: A world free of TB

TBEC Mission: Civil society driving the TB response

Map and List of WHO EU Countries



Source: www.euro.who.int

Core values

Empowerment

TBEC seeks to empower civil society and TB affected communities, so that they are meaningfully involved in the TB response, as it believes that people and their needs should be at the centre of any decision-making related to TB response, and civil society is the most potent way to drive decisions from the bottom.

Human rights based approach to TB

Human rights-based approach to TB is at the core of all TBEC activities. A human rights-based approach to TB prioritises the dignity and autonomy of all people with TB. TBEC believes that people affected by TB have the right to be free from discrimination in all areas of life, including employment, education and the healthcare system. Through its work, TBEC is committed to promoting and defending the rights of TB affected people.

Equality

TBEC holds to the principles of promoting and defending health equality. To address health inequalities, special focus is given to involving with, engaging, and empowering vulnerable and TBEC Strategy 2017-2020 May 2017 marginalised groups in TB affected communities. TBEC does not support any activity that deepens power imbalances and inequalities in TB.

Social Justice

TBEC pursue social change, particularly with and on behalf of vulnerable and oppressed individuals and groups of people affected by TB. TBEC social change efforts are focused primarily on the issues of poverty, discrimination and other forms of social injustice experienced by people with and affected by TB.

Dignity and Worth of the Person

TBEC respect the inherent dignity and worth of the person and promote the responsible selfdetermination and life choices of people with TB.

Importance of Human Relationships

TBEC recognizes the central importance of human relationships as an important vehicle for change. TBEC seeks to strengthen relationships among its members and partners to promote, restore, maintain, and enhance the wellbeing of individuals, families, social groups, organizations, and communities affected by TB.

Core values continued

Independence

TBEC accepts funding only from those donors whose objectives are in line with the vision and the core values of TBEC. TBEC does not accept funding from those parties, whose involvement in healthcare or in other fields further entrenches health inequality, not fully respecting human rights principles and eroding the long term capacity of governments to provide quality public healthcare services.

Transparency

TBEC is committed to respecting a policy of transparency and disclosure for its beneficiaries, donors, and partners by making available all information on the allocation and management of its funds.

Accountability

TBEC is committed to regularly evaluating the effects of its activities. We assume the responsibility of accounting for our actions to our partners and donors.



TBEC 2017-2020

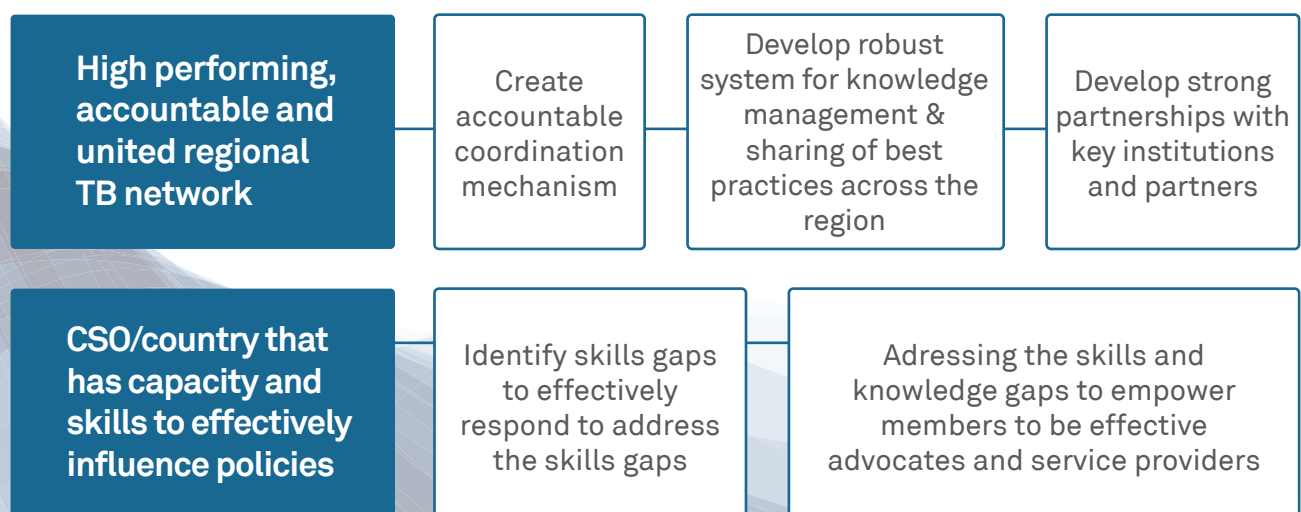
TBEC has grown into a strong, well recognised and respected network. In 2014, TBEC obtained a multi-annual grant from the European Commission's Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency under the 3rd EU Health Programme. This grant allowed the strengthening of the network's operational capacity and substantially expanded TBEC's outreach activities. Since 2016, TBEC is a formal partner of the TB REP project supported by the Global Fund aimed at supporting civil society organisations in their grassroots advocacy efforts in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

The CHAFEA grant 2015-2017 has allowed TBEC to widen the network by mapping the various TB advocates and organisations in the region, carry out country visits and regional trainings, modernise the TBEC website and provide continuous information updates in English and Russian (EN/RU). TBEC has also been able to increase its advocacy efforts with international and regional decision makers such as the WHO and European Commission (EC). TBEC now has focal contacts in almost all countries in the WHO Europe region, as well as the capacity to communicate in EN/RU, which ensures regular feedback and understanding of the key issues across all members.

With membership having grown so significantly, it is now important to deepen the capacity and capabilities of TBEC members to successfully advocate for strong TB policies in their country contexts. With TBEC entering a new stage in its development, the coalition recently created a new Strategic Plan for 2018-2021. This outlines two main outcomes the coalition wish to achieve over the next four years:

Outcome 1: TBEC to be a high performing, accountable and united TB network

Outcome 2: TBEC members have the capacity and skills to effectively influence policies and provide evidence based service delivery





Additionally, the TBEC Steering Committee has identified three thematic areas of focus for the network:

- 1. Financing of strong health systems**
- 2. Human Rights with particular focus on people centered TB policies and integrated health systems**
- 3. Technologies including research & development (R&D) of new TB tools, and access to existing tools.**

Financing
(Domestic resources)

Human Rights
(People-centred care)

Technologies
(New & access to existing)



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TBEC is an informal advocacy network of civil society organisations and individuals that share a commitment to raising awareness of TB and to increasing the political will to control the disease throughout the WHO Europe Region and worldwide. If you have any questions, please send us an email at coordinator@tbcoalition.eu