



Annual Steering Committee Meeting

November 30

2015

Cape Town

[The TBEC Steering Committee met for the first time in Brussels in August 2012. The Steering Committee regularly revises its advocacy strategy and also holds an annual Steering Committee meeting to discuss overall strategy. In 2013, it was decided that an annual meeting would be held on the side of the IUATLD conference.]

I. AGENDA

MORNING SESSIONS (9.30am – 12.30pm)	Chair: Fanny Voitzwinkler
Session 1 @9.30am – 11am	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review of 2015 Activities<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Q&A	
@11am – 11.15am – Coffee break	
Session 2 @11.15am – 12.30pm	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funding opportunities<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ TB –REP<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Q&A○ CRG<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Q&A○ Other funding opportunity:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Robert Carr▪ STOP TB TA▪ CITIES- Q&A	
@12.30pm – 1.30pm - Lunch	
AFTERNOON SESSIONS (1.30pm – 4.30pm)	Chair: Fanny Voitzwinkler
Session 3 @1.30pm – 2.45pm	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning 2016 Activities<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Strategic objectives: What do we want to achieve?- Discussion	
@2.45pm – 3.00pm – Coffee break	
Session 4 @3pm – 4.30pm	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Governance<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Secretariat (UK, Brussels & UA)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Discussion- Relationship with external stakeholders<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Discussion- Steering Committee Election Policy<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Discussion- Outreach to wider membership<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Discussion• Communications (website and social media, mentoring programme)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Q&A	
@4.20 – 4.30pm - Close	

II. PARTICIPANTS

Participants (in person):

- Fanny Voitzwinkler (GHA)
- Paul Sommerfeld (TB Alert)
- Rachael Crockett (Results UK)
- Mira Cerulova (Results UK)
- Timur Abdullaev (Stop TB Partnership, Global Coalition of TB Activists)
- Evgenia Geliuk (AIDS Alliance Ukraine)
- Jamiliya Ismoilova (Project HOPE)
- Farihah Malik (Stop TB Partnership)
- Tsira Chakhaia (observer, Georgia)
- Abdusamad Latifov (observer, Tajikistan)
- Stefan Radut (observer, Romania)

Participants (via Skype):

- Nonna Turusbekova

Excused Participants

- Jonathan Stillo
- Greg Patong
- Patrick Bertrand
- Jenniffer Dietrich
- Sergey Filippovich
- Elchin Mukhtarli
- Beatrijs Stickers
- Severin Lilian
- Bakyt Myrzaliev
- Yana Morenets
- Oxana Rucsineanu
- Sergey Votyagov

III. REVIEW OF 2015 ACTIVITIES

The session started by reminding the main TB Europe Coalition (hereafter, TBEC) objectives that were adopted by TBEC funding members in 2009. The year 2015 was a very successful year for TBEC and it reflected on its activities. TBEC benefited from the operational grant received from the European Commission (hereafter, the EC) to support and strengthen TBEC Secretariat, become an important partner in implementation of TB-REP project – the project approved by the Global Fund is the first ever regional TB grant in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (hereafter, EECA). TBEC as a representative of civil societies became also a partner of the Regional Platform – Regional Civil Society and Community Support, Communication and Coordination Platform with a focus on Community, Rights and Gender issues in the area of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in the EECA region.

MAIN HIGHLIGHTED ACTIVITIES in 2015:

Communication

- Improved website pages in two languages Russian and English – to reach wider membership network in the region
- Regular monthly Newsletter was sent to the TBEC network with updates and information
- TBEC launched a new campaign “FIGHT TB 2015”
- Designed a new TBEC leaflet and banner in Russian and English
- TBEC opened social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter
- Increased the use of the TBEC listserv that serves as an important information channel for the TBEC members
- The number of the TBEC network members reached our annual goal (300) in November 2015.

**For more analysis on communication, please see Annex 1 (p.9-11)*

Discussion:

- TB Terminology Glossary: with the increase of members whose communication language is Russian, increased a need of developing a terminology glossary in Russian language outlining main TB jargon, Global fund and WHO terminologies, and also unite language of organisation names working in the field of TB and HIV.
- Membership: the role of TBEC members is a topic for further discussion - informal and/or formal network.
- Blogs: all TBEC activities should be documented by writing a short blog for the website. The Secretariat in Results UK will be a main hub for collecting all blogs, translate and post them; activities to be documented are NTP reviews, country visits, participation in consultations, conferences, etc.
- TBEC PowerPoint presentation to be design for a use of the Steering Committee when presenting on behalf of TBEC

Country visits

Members of the TBEC Steering Group led a country visit to the following countries:

- Georgia
- Latvia
- Tajikistan
- Turkmenistan
- Uzbekistan

The Steering Committee discussed how to improve the impact of country visits:

- Have a list of countries’ focal points for TBEC in each country of the WHO Europe region that can be used for coordination and organisation of a country visit

- Best practice: a workshop conducted during a country visit to be designed the way that a meeting with high-level decision makers will tie with a workshop
- Involvement of MEPs and MPs from the Global TB Caucus when planning a country visit in their country
- Design training materials/packages according to a country's political context

NTP Review

In 2015 TBEC members as representatives of civil society participated on two WHO National TB Programme reviews in Kazakhstan and Belarus. This is seen as a huge step forward in including civil society organisations into review processes of NTPs in the countries of the WHO Europe region.

Discussion:

- Design a training for NTP managers and officials on involvement of civil societies in National TB Programmes
- Design and/or update an existing guide for civil societies participation on NTP reviews

Conferences, Consultations

TBEC Steering Committee members were involved throughout 2015 in policy consultations and participated in main conferences:

- High Level Ministerial Meeting on TB and MDR-TB in Riga, Latvia
- Wolfheze Conference in Hague, The Netherlands
- The Union Conference in Cape Town, SA
- WHO Regional Committee Meeting in Vilnius, Lithuania
- WHO Regional Collaborative Committee on TB Care and Control Meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark
- TB AP Development 2016-2020
- Regional Consultation on Global Fund strategy 2017-2021 in Chisinau, Moldova
- Regional Consultation on Global fund strategy 2017-2021 in Istanbul, Turkey
- Global Fund Partnership Forum – consultation on strategy 2017-2021 in Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Consultation on the Global Plan to Stop TB 2016-2020 in Istanbul, Turkey
- Regional High Level Dialog “Road to Success” on Successful transition to Domestic Funding of HIV and TB response in the EECA region, Tbilisi, Georgia

Policy submission & Reports

- Policy Consultation on the ENP
- Global Fund Strategy 2017-2021
- Riga Declaration
- Tbilisi Resolution
- Position Paper - Health Matter: EU political leadership needed to end HIV, TB and Hep.C
- Report – After Aid: What is next for Tuberculosis in Europe?

IV. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Approved Funding

- The European Commission: Operational grant (approx. 79,000Euro) for 2015
- The European Commission: Operational grant (approx. 83,000Euro) for 2016
- Regional EECA platform for CRG (\$25,000) for 2015
- The Global Fund: TB-REP (\$1.5 million) for 2016
- ACTION

The EC grant:

Main objectives of this grant is to increase understanding of the civil society contribution on the TB response; by the end of 2016, maintain and strengthen the TBEC website as a regional platform serving 376 civil society stakeholders working within the TB response; provide access to TBEC support and representation to civil society stakeholders in at least 75% of countries within the WHO Europe region; strengthen the voice of civil society in all accessible EU and regional forum/consultations; and manage TBEC's governance and internal processes for the successful implementation of the work programme.

Supported activities:

- Monthly SC calls, Annual SC meeting, TBEC governance strengthening
- Coordination/Planning meetings (Brussels & London secretariats)
- Country visits incl. workshops
- Thematic report, Promotional material, Position papers
- The EU Advocacy tour
- Conferences (The Union, Regional Union, Ministerial meeting, International AIDS Conference, Wolfheze Conference)
- Communication (website, social media, printing)

TB-REP:

Overall goal is to decrease the burden of TB and DR-TB in 11 project targeted countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan) through increasing political commitment and implementation of patient-centered TB models of care.

TBEC is responsible for implementation of the following activities:

- Coordinates top-down advocacy with bottom-up actions
- Develops and implements Regional Advocacy Strategy
- Technical Assistance through:
 - online consultations
 - mailing
 - monitoring visits
 - F2F meetings
- Monitor progress
- Document advocacy success
- Stimulates exchange of best practices

Next steps:

- Open Call for proposals was announced on 16th November
- Proposals are expected to be submitted by 10th December
- Selection process for 11 NGOs - NGOs develop country advocacy strategy aimed at transition to ambulatory care model – by May 2016
- 1st meeting – May 2016 – Strategies discussion and finalization
- June 2016 – Implementation stage starts
- Dec 2016 – assessment of the 1st stage of strategies implementation decision making.

Regional EECA Platform:

TBEC's activities:

- relevant information is being posted in a closed Facebook group for TB/CCM members
- assistance was provided to Tajikistan Coalition and AFI in Moldova to formulate Challenge TB round 7 proposals.

- Symposium “HR and gender landscape” was put together for the Union
- Presentation on CRG regional platform given during the RCC meeting in Copenhagen
- support was provided to formulate Stop TB TA requests: as a result, funding received by: (1) Kyrgyzstan Coalition Against TB: to conduct gender and rights assessment; (2) TB Patients union in Georgia: to conduct elections to CCM

Potential Funding for 2016:

- *CITIES Project*
- *Robert Carr*
- *Stop TB TA*

Discussion:

- TB-REP potential collaboration with Regional EECA Platform and CITIES project
- TB-REP – only locally registered national NGOs are eligible to apply
- To look at a funding option from Robert Carr and applying in 2016 for TBEC

V. PLANNING 2016 ACTIVITIES

Opportunities and focus in 2016 (Brainstorming):

- Continue strengthening of communication within the TBEC network
- Bring more TBEC members from CSOs to TBEC events at a regional, international level
- Focus more on cooperation with ministries of health on TB issues
- Improve and increase a trust in TBEC – members more confident to ask questions and for TA assistance
- More TA provided to local NGOs during a proposal development process
- Set a regional network of TB communities – coverage: post-soviet countries with possible registration in Bulgaria; TBEC role will be important – cooperation and support

Community involvement in 2016:

TBEC will be using most of the resources to bring community together on the side of the Regional Union in Bratislava (and not in Liverpool).

- Regional Union Conference in Bratislava (22-24 June 2016)
 - 18-19 June: 2 DAY RUSSIAN-ENGLISH COMMUNITY ADVOCACY TRAINING (this will include a training for community representatives on NTP reviews (Nonna, CRG).
 - 20 June: 1 DAY MEETING: CREATION OF REGIONAL EUROPEAN COMMUNITY MOVEMENT (as a sub movement of TBEC) (Timur)
 - 21 June: 1 DAY: merging with NTP Managers meeting: “how to involve communities in practice”
 - TBEC SYMPOSIUM on uniting TB and HIV stakeholders for greater European leadership in the fight against communicable diseases
 - TBEC/EATG/WHO/KNCV/ECDC SYMPOSIUM on TB/HIV
 - Side meetings with Slovak government leaders (MPs, MoFA, President, etc.)
 - Launch of an European TB Caucus of Parliamentarians (Rachael)

- Ministerial Conference in Bratislava (2-4 October 201) - exact form to be determined

Country visits in 2016:

- Kyrgyzstan: oriented on capacity building; establish a dialog between NTP, government, etc. ; potential points of contact Project Hope, KNCV, a SC member Bakyt;
- Romania: in May 2016 with a workshop; potential points of contact Romanian Angel Appeal, ASPTMR, Romanian Patient Organisation
- Establishing a collaboration relationship with Russia – focal points PIH, Russian Red Cross, Natalya Vezhnina (awarded this year Kochon Prize)

Relations with external stakeholders:

- Formalize TBEC working partnership with the relevant partners, e.g.: WHO Europe, Stop TB Partnership, the Global fund, Global TB Caucus
- Continue with an online General Assembly for TBEC network – 2 times a year

VI. GOVERNANCE

TBEC's Secretariat in 2016 will be hosted by three organisations in three different countries: London (Results UK), Belgium (GHA) and Kiev (Alliance Ukraine). This situation requires a good cooperation between the three Secretariats and to define their roles.

The governance of TBEC has been on a fairly ad-hoc basis and, as you know, the Steering Committee has primarily consisted of the most active members of the network during TBEC's founding and recent development. Our strength obviously lies in the commitment of these members and the various areas of expertise.

Now, given that our network has grown significantly over the past year, we believe that we are moving into an essential phase of formalising our internal processes. This is to ensure sustainability and expand operations to meet demand. In this sense, it may be time to develop internal policies and procedures to ensure transparency, accountability, sustainability. Particularly, it will be useful to establish how we move forward with what has been outlined in our terms of references.

Discussion:

- Optional structure for Secretariats
- Election process of SC members – to look at a transition phase first and discuss further within the TBEC SC in a separate call

VII. ACTION POINTS

- Develop and agree on a new Election Policy + governance model, to be discussed in a special TBEC call. TBEC SC ToRs will be developed – Mira, December 2015
- Develop a standard TBEC PWP presenting our work, objectives and activities with pictures (to be updated every year) – Results UK Secretariat, Q1, 2016
- Develop a terminology glossary in ENG/RUS outlining main jargon, GF terminology, as well as names of organisations. See if we can get funding from WHO EURO & STOP TB to do this – Corina, Timur, Q1, 2016

- Have a list of countries' focal points for TBEC in each country of WHO Europe region – Q2, 2016.
- Redraft the advocacy factsheet of the RCC on Engaging Civil Society with a better design and more case studies - TBEC Secretariat, Q2, 2016
- EVERYONE: to document any trips, activities related to TBEC by writing a short blog for the website. Results UK Secretariat will centralise and translate it (NTP Reviews, country visits, participation in consultations, conferences etc.) – Q1-Q4, 2016
- TB REP: Selection of staff and NGOs in December. It will require the TBEC Steering Committee to actively look for recipients in potentially more 'problematic' countries, where TB CSOs are non-existent. Q1, 2016
- TB REP: Evgenia (Alliance Ukraine) to communicate with Paul/Timur/Nonna/Fanny the list of applicants by a country after deadline 10.12.15 (TBEC subgroup on TB REP).
- TB REP: Solve consultants' selection criteria with PAS. Look at how TBEC can provide TA for development of national and regional advocacy strategies – Q1-Q2, 2016
- Fundraising Officer from Results UK to investigate former RFP from Robert Carr and present feasibility of applying in 2016 for TBEC. Q2, 2016
- Best practice on country visits/workshops: to design a workshop with a meeting with high-level decision makers straight after the conducted workshop. Q1-Q4, 2016
- Kyrgyzstan country visit and workshop to be planned together with Bakyt from KNCV, Q1 2016 (Paul, Nonna/Timur, Marine)
- Romania country visit and workshop to be held in May 2016 and to be planned with Romanian Angel Appeal, ASPTMR (Mira, Rachael, Paul). Q2, 2016
- Get in touch with the Red Cross in Russia and see possibilities of collaboration + PiH and Natalya Vezhnina (awarded this year Kochon Prize). Q1-Q4, 2016
- Coordination between 3 Secretariats: Brussels, Kiev, London via phone every 2 weeks. Q1-Q2, 2016
- MoUs should be drafted between TBEC and WHO EURO as well as STOP TB to formalise relationships. Q2-Q3, 2016
- Next year TBEC Steering Committee Annual meeting will be held on the side of the Union in Liverpool: key issue to address: sustainability of TBEC operational capacity: a last year of the EC grant, TBEC Governance. Q3-Q4, 2016

Annex 1 : COMMUNICATION ANALYSIS

Chart 1: Social Media – Facebook

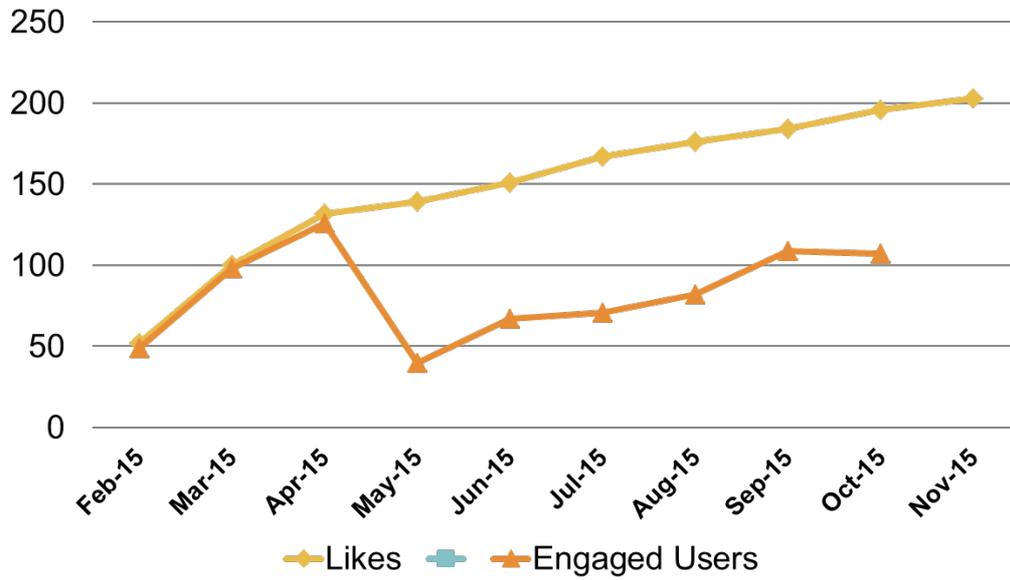


Chart 2: Social Media - Twitter

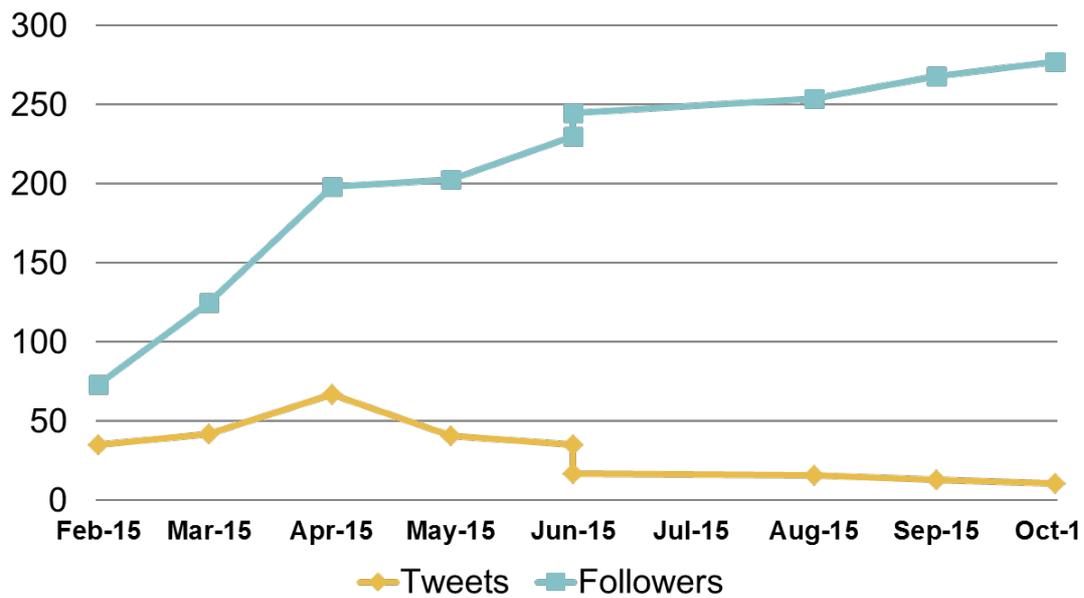


Chart 3: Newsletter – Open & Click Rate

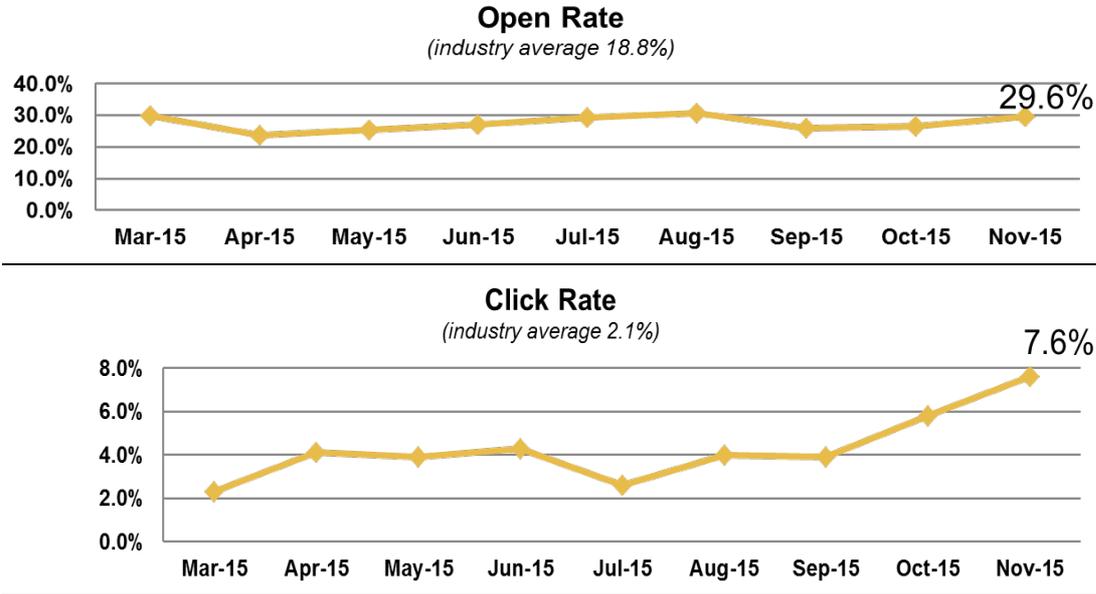


Chart 4: Website – Visitors

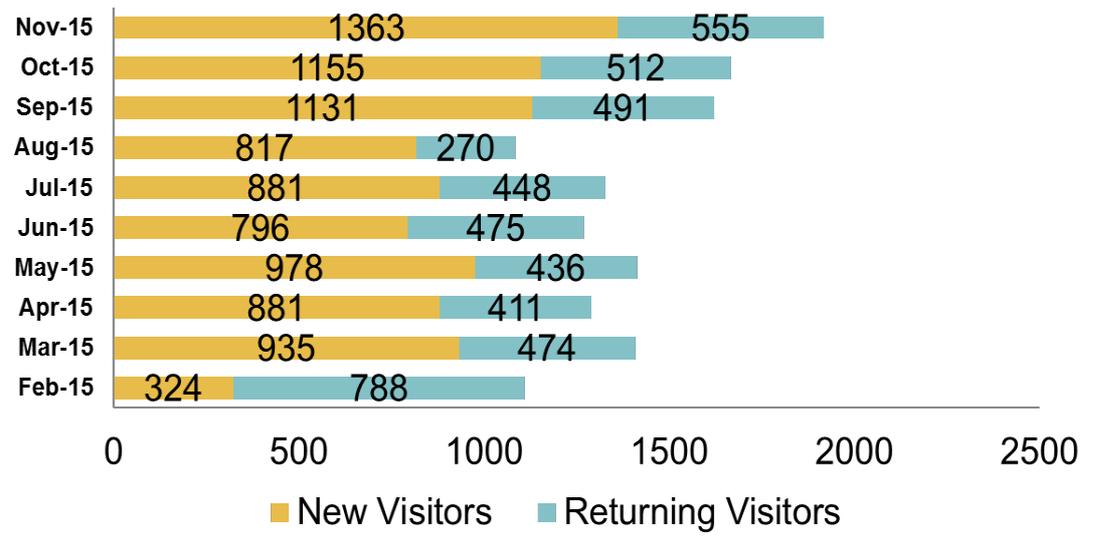


Chart 5: Website – social media referrals

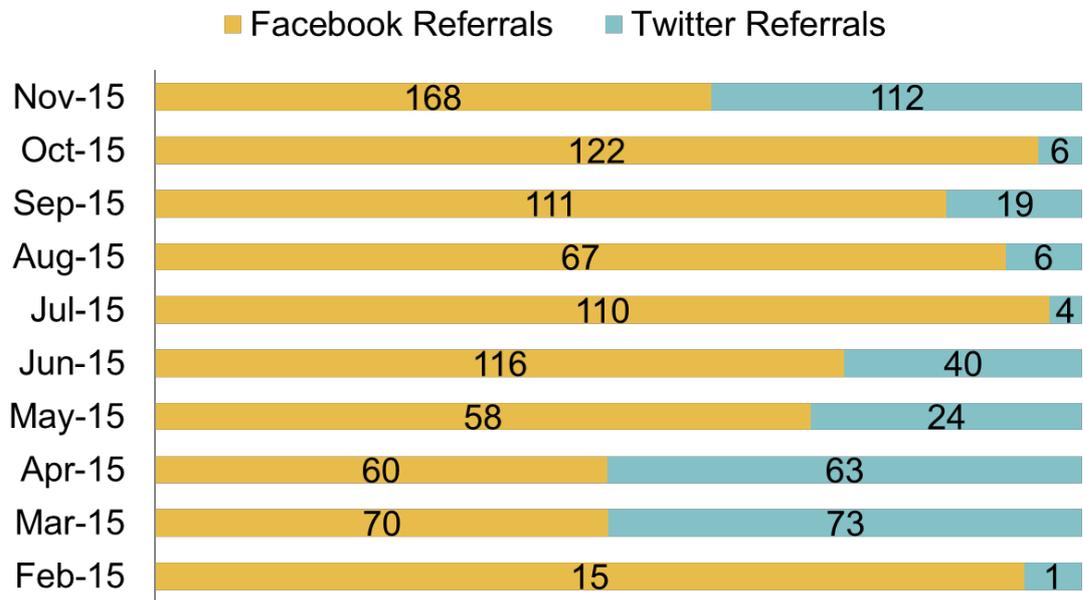


Chart 6: Website – visits by country

