

INTERNATIONAL HIV/AIDS ALLIANCE CALL FOR TB STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

On the eve of UN High-Level Meeting on TB the International HIV/AIDS Alliance global partnership is calling to prioritise the meaningful engagement/inclusion/participation of civil society and communities in ending TB.

The International HIV/AIDS **Alliance global partnership** is a movement that unites 34 national organizations over the world who support civil society and community actions in fighting AIDS and TB. For almost two decades, Alliance partners in Cambodia, Cote d'Ivoire, India, South Africa, Ukraine and many others have been working and gaining expertise on TB and TB/HIV with the most marginalized populations. This has been done in collaboration with the [Stop TB Partnership](#), [WHO](#), [UNAIDS](#), Global TB Caucus, and TB Europe Coalition. The work of the partnership has been implemented with support of the Global Fund, USAID and other donors. On the basis of this experience we have developed best practice case studies, [guidance](#) and tools. **In 2017 we provided 2,231,646 people with integrated TB and HIV services.**

From our experience and learning, **we call for the five strategic priorities critical to end TB:**



Person-Centred Approach

A person-centred approach should become the cornerstone of the TB response. The Alliance is known for putting the person at the centre of our responses to HIV and HIV/TB, in order to address the structural, legal and political barriers. Tackling these barriers are essential for effective TB and HIV prevention, diagnostics and treatment – as well as tailoring specific responses to the needs of the most marginalized and stigmatized people.

Civil Society

Learning from successful approaches in the HIV response, civil society and affected communities can, and must play, a more substantial role in the TB response, especially at a time when countries are making the transition from donor to domestic funding. There is scientific [evidence](#) demonstrating that the engagement of civil society and community representatives increases treatment success and helps to find overlooked cases of TB. This critical area needs investment to ensure ending TB become a reality.

Integration

TB is not a stand-alone issue. TB cannot be dealt with in isolation of HIV, viral hepatitis and other health issues. In the context of Universal Health Coverage, we have many lessons to share on how integrated, rights-based approaches bring synergies in responding holistically to the most marginalized populations (such as people who inject drugs, sex workers, LGBT people, prisoners, migrants and homeless people). We must ensure that equity within Universal Health Coverage means those furthest behind are reached first. This reinforces the 'leave no one behind' principle of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

Effective and Affordable Treatment

Treatment of MDR and XDR tuberculosis is a challenge today. New medicines and more effective treatment regimens need to become available. Countries should apply all possible mechanisms to achieve affordable prices, including using TRIPS flexibilities and generic competition. We have experience of successful advocacy from the HIV movement, which can be applied to advocating for TB.

Accountability

The End TB by 2030 target in the Sustainable Development Goals requires independent accountability mechanisms. The UN HLM Political Declaration serves as a blueprint document to be implemented at country level. It has a strong accountability framework for civil society and other actors to monitor national governments' ability to increase funding and be more effective in addressing rights-based TB/HIV issues with the most marginalized populations.

The Alliance welcomes signing the Political Declaration on the Fight against TB that will be endorsed at the UN High-Level Meeting on TB on 26th of September 2018 in New York.

The text of the [Declaration](#) is also available on the official website of the President of the United Nations General Assembly.

The Alliance endorses and joins the global key asks from civil society and affected communities [United to end tuberculosis: an urgent global response to a global epidemic. Key Asks from TB Stakeholders and Communities document](#)

The document calls for the following priority actions to be taken by Heads of State and Governments to accelerate progress and achieve the goal of ending TB:

- Reach all people by closing the gaps on TB diagnosis, treatment and prevention
- Transform the TB response to be equitable rights-based, and people centered
- Accelerate development of essential new tools to end TB
- Invest the funds necessary to end TB
- Commit to decisive and accountable global leadership, including regular UN reporting and review

The time to act is now!
Prioritise, engage civil society, and invest to ensure ending TB become a reality!

Alliance call for TB strategic priorities is signed by the following Alliance partnership members



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