

Curatio International Foundation

Georgia

Grantee Profile

Organization

Curatio International Foundation (CIF)

Where we work

Eastern European & Central Asia-Georgia specifically for CFCS Round 7



About Curatio International Foundation

CIF was established in 1994. We started as a small company at the end of the Soviet Union era. Our goal was originally to support healthcare sector reforms in transition economies, and to assist Georgia and other countries in shaping effective and high quality health care systems.

In 2015, we became the secretariat of Health Systems Global (HSG), the first international membership organization, fully dedicated to promoting health systems research and related knowledge translation. Despite significant progress over the last 20 years, the field of health care remains a key concern in Georgia and other transitional countries.



Objectives of Round 7

- 1 Strengthen existing or new national level TB constituencies that engage, represent and are accountable to communities.
- 2 Reinforce the capacities & responses of local communities who are part of the TB response.
- 3 Tighten linkages, collaboration and coordination between communities and government.

We remain determined to continue our work on improving health through better functioning health systems, including community health systems by delivering quality and creative solutions and supporting the development of human resources in the health sector.

Tuberculosis in Georgia

Georgia is one of the 18 high-priority countries of the World Health Organizations European Region's plan to end TB, and one of the 27 countries in the world with the highest Multi-Drug Resistant TB (MDR-TB) rates. MDR-TB prevalence is 12% among new cases and 39% among previously treated cases. Georgia demonstrates fluctuating TB notification rates, although steady reduction has been observed during the last five years. According to the National TB Programme,

a total of 3,850 TB cases were registered in the country in 2014 (103.3 per 100,000 population). Another alarming fact is the increase in previously treated cases among all notified (27.1% in 2014) cases. The overall TB treatment success rate in 2013 was 78%, which is well below the global average and that of the high burden countries. The MDR-TB treatment success rate was 48% in a 2012 cohort study, with 36% lost to follow-up.

Challenges faced by communities in Georgia in the TB response

Generally civic engagement, especially civil society organization (CSO) volunteering activities, is noticeably low in Georgia especially in the health care. In addition CSOs are not evenly distributed throughout the country. A majority of influential and well-established CSOs are operational in the capital city. Another structural challenge for the civil society sector is its fragile financial sustainability. The operation of CSOs is largely dependent on the donor assistance. As such CSOs become responsible for the implementation of donor-driven agendas. The community TB response is far less advanced than the HIV community response. It is underdeveloped in terms of organizational, technical and advocacy capacity. With access to grants on TB key populations in 2013-2014 TB specific CSOs emerged, which is finally increasing the engagement of communities in delivering community-based care to the most vulnerable key populations in TB. However the sustainability of these initiatives will be undermined if the government does not establish reliable funding mechanisms for local community systems.

The Challenge Facility for Civil Society in Georgia

With the support of the Stop TB Partnership's Challenge Facility for Civil Society, CIF will build recognized civil society and community networks that represent, support and are accountable to communities and who can partner with one another and successfully engage in national tuberculosis responses.

The Challenge Facility for Civil Society Grant in Georgia will be implemented in two phases:



- **Phase I:** CIF will undertake a resource mapping exercise to identify existing resources, coverage gaps, and perspectives of stakeholders about the quality of existing services.
- **Phase II:** CIF will collaborate with existing resources to identify key TB-related issues to bring to the national level, develop plans to fill the coverage gaps, and reassess the perspectives of the stakeholders about the quality of the newly developed network.

Get involved!

If you are a community or civil society organization or patient group (those working on TB or interested in working on TB) in Georgia and want to engage in the Challenge Facility for Civil Society work in Georgia please contact: **IVDITY CHIKOVANI:** i.chikovani@curatio.com or **MAIA UCHANEISHVILI:** m.uchaneishvili@curatio.com

For more information about CIF:
www.curatiofoundation.org