

Biographies



AWAD IBRAHIM AWAD Sudan (North) // TV presenter

Dr. Awad Ibrahim Awad is a well known Sudanese broadcaster, anchor and presenter. He has been working on TB care in Sudan (North) with the National TB Program and Sudan Partnership to Stop TB. He also is chair of Stop TB Partnership Sudan and has made major contributions by way of his networking and partnering skills acquired after

years of being in the media industry and owning his own television channel. He has been very successful in generating support for TB care in both the private and public sectors. Dr. Awad has also effectively utilized his connections in the media industry for dissemination of awareness on TB in Sudan.



ZAAL CHIKOBAVA Georgia // Theatre Director

Mr. Zaal Chikobava is the managing director of the Rustaveli National Theatre in Georgia the, which is renowned throughout Europe. He also has performed in a number of films and on stage. In 2009 Zaal was appointed as a goodwill ambassador for the National TB Program of Georgia.

In 2010 and 2011 he directed charity concerts at the Rustaveli theatre dedicated to World TB day. The concert raised funds that were transferred to a Georgian TB centre. Zaal uses his international networks to raise awareness about the issue of TB in Georgia.



DEEPAK RAJ GIRI & DEEPA SHREE NIRAULA Nepal // Actors

Mr. Deepak Raj Giri is a popular performer who has appeared in many Nepali films. In 2009 he was appointed as Goodwill Ambassador for the National TB Program of Nepal.

Ms Deepa Shree Niraula is a popular performer who has appeared in more than a dozen Nepali movies. She is also a Goodwill Ambassador for National TB Program of Nepal.

Since 2009, the two actors have regularly participated in World TB Day events and have performed together in a programme to raise awareness about TB symptoms, how to access TB care and how to reduce stigma associated with the disease. They also have run a TB awareness programme in Nepali prisons in Birtanagar and Kathmandu and appeared in a televised public service announcement about TB. The focus was on reducing stigma and encouraging viewers with TB symptoms to seek care.



GERRY ELSDON South Africa // TV presenter

As her career as a television personality began in earnest, Gerry Elsdon was diagnosed with TB. Living in an affluent Johannesburg suburb, Gerry was shocked to find her closest TB clinic was hidden behind a number of buildings, “as if it was something to be ashamed of”. It was this experience that prompted her to become an advocate for the rights of people affected by TB.

Gerry grew up in the time of South Africa’s liberation struggle in an under-privileged community. As a young person she began working closely with some of the early leaders of the new democratically-elected South African government. Gerry’s humanitarian work began when she was appointed as an

AIDS Ambassador by the Office of the President of South Africa. She is the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Advocate for TB, and a volunteer for CHOC Childhood Cancer Foundation, the Othandweni Children’s Home and the Lilly MDR-TB Partnership. A frequent speaker at international conferences, she gave a keynote address at the 2009 International Council of Nurses Conference. A well-known television personality in South Africa, Gerry has hosted many on air programmes, including the African version of the reality show, Big Brother. She has appeared on the covers and social pages of many of Africa’s leading glossy magazines.



SONIA GOLDENBERG Peru // Journalist

Sonia Goldenberg is a Peruvian journalist and director. Her documentary, *Amor en el aire* (Love is in the air) documents the pioneering experience of the fight against MDR-TB in Peru and shows how Peru has achieved its high cure rate. It has been used by the Peruvian branch of Partners in Health as a tool to disseminate information about the Peruvian experience and to teach countries in different parts of the world how to fight MDR-TB.

Goldenberg has also been actively exploring partnerships in the fight against TB in the government, civil society, the private sector and the press. As a result of advocacy with the Foreign Ministry of Peru, Goldenberg helped to secure \$15 million which will be allocated to fight XDR TB in Peru. Goldenberg also works closely with famous Peruvian Chef, Gaston Acurio, who is an active and vocal advocate for TB care and together they implemented a communications strategy which, for the first time, put TB on the agenda of the news media in Peru.



RANIA ISMAIL Jordan // Actress

Rania Ismail is a Jordanian Actress with over 18 years of experience in experimental theatre. Her profile includes acting in several international literature plays and working as a director, writer and actress for a well known Jordanian series called 'Zaal and Khadra'. The Jordanian series in which she portrays the role 'Khadra' is designed to address issues such as family, youth, children and fertility while offering solutions through drama. The show's success has allowed Rania to secure support from the Ministry of Culture, the UN, The Jordanian Hashemite Fund for

Human Development and USAID to act out these plays throughout Jordan as well as in orphanages, jails and senior homes. Since accepting her post as TB Goodwill Ambassador, Rania has been active in spreading awareness about this disease through the introduction of 20 shows in Jordan about the issue which were viewed in schools, jails, local villages and hotels. She also has produced a TV drama, co-produced a cartoon animation (10 episodes), wrote articles and has made regular television, newspaper and radio appearances all in line with working to stop TB.



OBOUR Ghana // Pop singer

Bice Osei Kuffour (Obour) was born in the Ashanti Region of Ghana and is currently the president of the Musicians' Union of Ghana (MUSIGA). After being appointed as a National TB Ambassador in 2010, Obour composed a song dedicated to raising TB awareness. Additionally, Obour has recently created a musical documentary that is aired on national television and focuses on reducing the stigmatization of TB patients and advocating for

TB treatment by explaining that treatment is free in Ghana and that TB is curable if you complete your treatment For World Health Day 2011, Obour created a musical performance aiming to educate Ghanaians about TB care and control. Obour's stature as one of the top five musicians in Ghana lets him to connect with the public and build partnerships with traditional and political leaders in various districts to advocate for TB care and control.



BEHROOZ SABZWARI Pakistan // TV movie actor

Mr. Behrooz Sabzwari was born in Karachi, Pakistan and built his career starting as a radio host and later began acting on television and in theatrical plays. In 2009 he received the Presidential award (Pride of Performance) for his services to the Pakistani television industry for more than 40 years.

Since his appointment as National TB Ambassador he has made important contributions by preparing media awareness products and conducting meetings with media and the private sector. He has secured free access for the Stop TB Partnership to air advertisements for TB awareness campaigns.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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