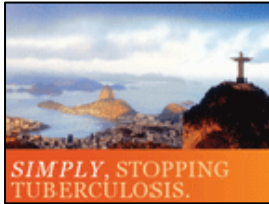


## Advocacy, Communications and Social Mobilization (ACSM) Sub Group

### *e-Update for May 2009*

#### NEWS

#### ACSM at Partners Forum in Rio de Janeiro



Key issues in ACSM were presented and discussed during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Stop TB Partners' Forum, which took place in Rio de Janeiro from 23-25 March. Partners organized sessions in thematic tracks ranging from increasing access and equity to empowering communities. From these sessions, partners developed and submitted clear and concrete recommendations that aim to give guidance to the Coordinating Board, Working Groups, Constituencies, Secretariat and other partnership bodies on actions required to address the concerns and priorities of Stop TB Partners for the next five years.

Recommendations for action by ACSM Sub Group include:

- Successful involvement of community health workers in TB treatment in vulnerable and impoverished populations goes beyond merely giving DOT but should strengthen the capacity of patients to obtain existing state subsidies, and create community support networks of local enterprises.
- All Terms of reference for NTP review missions should include evaluation and recommendations for ACSM by December 2009.
- Standardized outcome indicators for routine monitoring of ACSM activities should be available by end of 2010. The ACSM 10-year framework should be reviewed and updated by June 2010.
- Training for ACSM to be harmonized to create uniform understanding of definitions and skills. The ACSM subgroup at country level should develop standardized ACSM training content and based on best practices of definitions and a share skill base for effective implementation of activities.
- The partnership should organize more activities and support a higher level of participation of people affected by TB in events and bodies (such as the Forum). Facilitate ongoing working sessions and tools that could serve as networking opportunities to share best practice and experiences among different associations of people affected by TB.

All submitted recommendations are available on a [new online social network site](#) where all partners can continue or start new discussions and meet other members with similar interests.

The Rio Recommendations will be forwarded to the Executive Committee and Stop TB Partnership Coordinating Board for consideration and implementation as appropriate.

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#### ACSM Core Group informal meeting during Partners' Forum

The ACSM Core Group took advantage of the presence of many of its members in Rio and gathered over two days for informal discussions over lunch break. Many important issues came out of the discussions with Core Group members feeling there was still confusion and lack of clarity on the integration of the ACSM Sub Group into the DOTS Expansion Working Group. Members also asked for review and revision of the Terms of Reference for the Sub Group (in light of the disbandment of the ACSM Working Group) as well as those for the SG Chair and the Core Group.

Based on discussions, it was agreed that Core Group would revise current Terms of Reference and also that the Chair and the Secretariat will draft a 1-pager on the ACSM Sub Group stating

missions and objectives and priority activities for 2009. This year's ACSM Core Group meeting is tentatively planned to take place in conjunction with the DEWG meeting in Geneva in October.

The note for the record of the meeting can be found on the ACSM Core Group site at: [http://www.stoptb.org/wg/advocacy\\_communication/acsmcl/core.asp](http://www.stoptb.org/wg/advocacy_communication/acsmcl/core.asp).

## Journalists training and Panoscope in Rio



The Stop TB Partnership supported 8 journalists from high-burden countries to attend a skill-building workshop on health reporting prior to the Partners' Forum in Rio. After the training, which focused on providing background needed for good reporting on TB, the journalists worked with Panos Global AIDS Programme to produce a daily Forum newsletter, *Panoscope*.

Produced in English and Portuguese, *Panoscope* covered key TB topics as they emerged from the Forum and featured in-depth stories as well as an "eyewitness" section where reporters shared their

thoughts and opinions. *Panoscope* can be found online at [http://www.stoptb.org/events/partners\\_forum/2009/](http://www.stoptb.org/events/partners_forum/2009/) under "Latest News and Media".

## World TB Day 2009 - Country-level activities

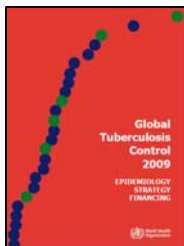
World TB Day 2009 was marked by countries all over the world and partners were encouraged to upload their event notices and material on a special blog created by the Partnership. "I am stopping TB" - part of a two-year campaign which began in 2008, was the theme this year, and in this spirit of celebration, partners used the blog to document their various activities ranging from poster and essay competitions, health education at health centres, costume parades and involvement of communities in raising awareness. Click "Blog" on the [World TB Day 2009](http://www.stoptb.org) site to view all submissions.



Photo: IDF

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

### Global TB Control Report 2009



The 13<sup>th</sup> annual report on global tuberculosis control was launched in March. The report contains data from 196 countries and territories who reported to WHO via its standard TB data collection form. According to the report, there were an estimated 9.27 million incident cases of TB in 2007, with 55% of the cases reported in Asia. An estimated 1.3 million deaths occurred among HIV-negative incident cases of TB (20 per 100 000 population) in 2007. There were an estimated 0.5 million cases of multidrug-resistant TB, with 27 countries accounting for 85% of all such cases. The report and its findings are posted

online at: [http://www.who.int/tb/publications/global\\_report/2009](http://www.who.int/tb/publications/global_report/2009).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### [ACSM Country-Level technical assistance now available](#)

The Stop TB Partnership, with support from PEPFAR through USAID, is coordinating technical assistance to Global Fund grants in order to accelerate absorptive capacity and to improve performance of ACSM activities.

### [Submit best country examples](#)

The Stop TB Partnership is looking for best practice examples to showcase in web sites, presentations, and events. Share with us your stories of success in implementing advocacy, communication and social mobilization activities in your neighborhood, town, city or country. For more information, visit:

[http://www.stoptb.org/wg/advocacy\\_communication/acsmcl/bestpractice.asp](http://www.stoptb.org/wg/advocacy_communication/acsmcl/bestpractice.asp)

### [Submit your news](#)

If you, or partners that you know, have news or resources you would like to announce or share through this e-update, please forward to [chuy@who.int](mailto:chuy@who.int) for inclusion in the next e-update.

## RESOURCES:

[Sub Group on ACSM at Country Level](#)

## CONTACT US