



ACSM at Country Level Core Group

Chair: Netty Kamp

Secretariat: Young-Ae Chu

ACSM Core Group Conference Call Wednesday, 26 November 2008

Participants

Netty Kamp
Alka Dev
Hara Mihalea

Chief Austin
Monica Yesudian
Young-Ae Chu

Outcome of Coordinating Board meeting in Tanzania and next steps (Netty)

Netty Kamp gave an update on decisions made regarding the ACSM Working Group during the Coordinating Board meeting held in Tanzania. As expected, the CB decided to put an end to the WG and to move the Country Level ACSM Sub Group into the DOTS Expansion WG (DEWG). The Global Advocacy Sub Group will be turned into an advocacy network. An official report of the decisions made will be sent out to all members once it is finalized.

Next steps for the ACSM Sub Group of the DEWG include discussions with DEWG counterparts on how this new structure will work in terms of links to the WG and other Sub Groups within DEWG (PPM, Childhood TB, TB and Poverty). We will also need to clarify how and when Core/Sub Group meetings will take place. Secretariat to initiate discussions with Chairs and other relevant staff and update Core/Sub Group.

The Secretariat focal point for the new advocacy network is currently working on the structure and TOR for the network. This will be shared once finalized. As Chief Austin noted, the new structure will take into account the need to have strong link to the ACSM Sub Group.

Matrix of Sub Group activities 2009 - appointing of focal points and task forces (Netty)

The Core Group reviewed the matrix of activities for 2009 (that was the result of discussions from Paris). For each activity, a focal person and a task force of those interested in being involved was assigned. Because there were not that many Core Group members present, it will be encouraged that other Core Group members sign on to any of these activities, by noting their interest via email.

ACSM Best Practice document

Young-Ae gave an update on submissions received so far (about 20) and next steps. Submission deadline has been extended until 9 December (template is available in Eng, Fr, and SPN). The plan is to then have all Core Group members review submissions and a consultant to be hired to follow-up on approved best practices and write up the best practice document.



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Criteria for best practice is that it should clearly show evidence that the ACSM intervention was effective. There is no limit on the number of best practices that will be included in the final document – but consideration will be made to ensure all Regions are represented.

Action point:

- Core Group members to widely disseminate and encourage partners to submit best practices.
- Core Group members to let Young-Ae know if they have suggestions for consultant who is a strong writer and is familiar with ACSM for TB control.

ACSM Symposium at Union Conference 2009

While the deadline has passed for submission of proposals for Symposiums at the 2009 Union Conference in Mexico, it was agreed that the Core Group should try to submit a late proposal for an ACSM Symposium. Alka Dev agreed to work on drafting a proposal that would fit the poverty theme of next year.

Action point: Alka to develop proposal and Young-Ae to discuss how we can submit the late proposal.

Pool of ACSM consultants

The Core Group agreed to first gather a list of consultants who are currently providing ACSM Technical Assistance to countries, who have been trained to provide ACSM TA, and who have ACSM in other areas but who are interested in doing TB ACSM TA. Young-Ae will compile the list of consultants.

In terms of the curriculum for consultant trainings, Young-Ae will look into what curriculum's exist from similar past trainings. Once identified, a Task Force will review and adapt curriculum to current needs. Netty, Hara and Chief Austin have volunteered to be part of this task force.

TB Control Report – ACSM data

In order to obtain better ACSM data from countries and to be able to use the data in a more effective way, a Task Force was formed to discuss indicators and questions that will go into next year's Questionnaire (which goes out to all WHO Member States for the purpose of reporting in the annual Global TB Control Report).

Focal point for this is Lana. Task force will be: Netty, Young-Ae, Monica and Alka.

M & E Tool for ACSM

The M & E Tool for ACSM was identified as priority during the Paris Core Group meeting. Core Group members are requested to identify partners or consultants with expertise in this area to begin a draft of this document for review by all Core Group members.



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Media booklet discussion (Young-Ae)

Young-Ae updated Core Group members on the status of the media outreach booklet. Comments received from Core Group members were positive, although there was confusion as to the objective of the document.

Young-Ae explained that the main objective of the document was to help country level TB programme implementers outreach effectively to the local media and to use the media to help spread important messages to a selected target audience.

The consultant hired to write this document has received all comments and will work on a second draft. Young-Ae will also look into adding concrete TB examples. The draft will be circulated again for Core Group members and we hope to finalize this document by mid-December.

Action point: If Core Group members have case studies to add to the document, please send to Young-Ae.

Partners' Forum - Registration and participation (Young-Ae)

Young-Ae briefed Core Group members on preparations for the Partners' Forum in Brazil, 23-25 March 2009. The final agenda for the Forum has been finalized and is now posted on the Forum website at: http://www.stoptb.org/events/partners_forum/2009/

In the agenda, there are thematic track sessions on the following topics:

1 Financing TB, 2 From Research to Retooling, 3 Increasing Access and Equity, 4 TB and Health Systems, 5 Addressing the needs of neglected Populations, 6 Empowering communities 7 Engaging all Care Providers.

All partners will be invited to submit track session proposals in the coming weeks. As ACSM is a cross-cutting issue and can be related to many of the above tracks, Core/Sub Group members should try to think of session proposals for as many track sessions. An announcement will be sent out once proposal submission is open.

Please note registration to the Forum is now open. All members interested in attending are encouraged to register as soon as possible. The registration site is: http://www.stoptb.org/events/partners_forum/2009/participate.asp.

Action point: Young-Ae to send out message to Sub Group to encourage those interested in participating to register online.

Update on National/Regional Partnerships Network (Chief Austin)



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Chief Austin gave a brief update of the Partnerships Network. The Regional Focal Points have now been elected and they are all working on a draft TOR and an Action Plan that will be shared with Core Group members once finalized.

** Chief Austin – please add additional items if you would like.

Other issues

Next teleconference: the Core Group agreed that because not many people were able to participate in this teleconference, it would be useful to have another conference call in January, between 2nd and 4th week. Young-Ae to send out proposed dates in December.