



ACSM Core Group Conference Call Tuesday, 3 February 2009

Participants

Netty Kamp, Chair
Elected core group members:
Hara Mihalea, PATH Cambodia
Austin Arinze Obiefuna, National Partnerships Network
Elena McEwan, Catholic Relief Services
Alka Dev, Independent contractor
Chibuike Amaechi, NGO The Good Neighbour Inc, Nigeria
Jacob Kayombo, Community Representative
Banza Chela, Community Representative
Ogechi Eronini, NGO Media & Events Network, Nigeria

Secretariat and WHO:
Young-Ae Chu, ACSM Sub group
Monica Yesudian, PPM Sub group
Lana Velebit, Community involvement in TB care and prevention, WHO
Absent: Colleen Daniels, TB/HIV Working Group
Rep. MDR Working Group

ACSM Best Practice document

Young-Ae gave an update on the selection process of the best practices to be included in the final document. Around 35 entries were received, out of which 14 submissions were accepted (pending clarification of data for some). Decision on the final submission was made by incorporating the scoring sheets that 6 Core Group members completed. Some Core Group members cited difficulties in accessing the FTP site, and thus could not review the submissions. Alka, Netty and Young-Ae coordinated this process.

Alka Dev is currently working on following up with the countries and partners and will provide a first draft for Core Group review by next Monday (9 Feb). As we would like to have this document ready in time for the Partners' Forum at the end of March, we will have to be strict on deadlines for comments and revision. Hard copies will be made available after publication and sent to all Core Group members for dissemination at the country level.

Next steps: Alka to send first draft to Core Group for comments by Monday (9 Feb). Core Group to provide feedback by **Friday (20 Feb)**. Please note this deadline if final and no late comments will be accepted.

Media outreach document

Young-Ae gave an update on the media document "*Working with the media: how to make your messages on tuberculosis count*". The text has now been finalized and layout will begin very soon. The only weakness of this document, as noted also by some Core Group members, is the lack of short case studies at the country level that could show how the tips in this document have worked in real-life settings.

Next steps: If Core Group members have any concrete examples that strengthen the theoretical points made in the document, please send to Young-Ae by **Wednesday, 11 Feb**. Please keep the example short (2-3 paragraphs).

Partners' Forum update

ACSM Skills Building Workshop: More than 500 people have shown interest in this skills building workshop. Silvio Waisbord will be leading this workshop (there will be two, 3-hour sessions in the morning and afternoon of Sunday, 22 March). Specific curriculum remains to be finalized. It will be circulated to the Core Group for comments. Working with Silvio during the workshop will be Young-Ae, Netty and hopefully other ACSM members who will be able to attend the Forum.

Community Engagement Skills Building Workshop: Lana gave an update on this skills building workshop, also to be held on Sunday and in two sessions (AM and PM). Session outline is currently under development, to then be shared with the core group and other relevant stakeholders, for their input (by February 15 at the latest). Facilitation of the workshop will be decided on before end February, depending on the Forum participation and availability of tentative facilitators.

Thematic tracks: We are aware that several thematic track proposals focusing on ACSM have been sent. The decision on which thematic track sessions have been approved will be made within a week or two. Once decision is made, Young-Ae to make roadmap of ACSM activities in Rio and to schedule conference call with ACSM members planning a thematic session (in order to coordinate and avoid duplication).

Bursaries: The final decision has been made and bursary recipients notified. If you have applied, but not received email, it probably means your request was not approved. Please contact directly the Forum focal point at: stoptbpartnersforum@who.int. Please note that if you are being supported through the bursaries, you do not need to make separate hotel reservations. Air ticket and hotel reservation will be coordinated by OPCO tour and event agency.

Informal gathering in Rio: It was suggested that ACSM Sub Group and Core Group members try to find time to have an informal meeting while in Rio. Please note there is no extra room space, so we can have a meeting in open spaces around the conference centre, or perhaps during lunch or dinner.

Next steps: Please let Young-Ae know if you are going to be in Rio, and what activities you will be involved in. This will help with the ACSM roadmap.

Pool of ACSM consultants

Young-Ae updated the Core Group on the process of creating a consolidated pool of ACSM consultants. Hanan Twal (the Secretariat assistant) is currently working on compiling CVs that have come in through the ACSM at Country Level web site: http://www.stoptb.org/wg/advocacy_communication/acsmcl/acsmcd.asp.

Next steps: Please send Young-Ae information on any ACSM consultants you know are active in your respective country and/or region.

TB Control Report

Lana informed the Core Group that the deadline for revisions to the ACSM part of the questionnaire that goes out to all WHO Member States for the TB Control Report is at the end of April. The core group responsible for approving the final questionnaire is open to suggestions and is aware that the part for Component 5 of the Stop TB Strategy (which includes ACSM and Community Engagement) needs improvement.

Monica (from PPM) noted also that it was important to look at the [Revised TB recording and reporting forms and registers – version 2006](#) which is a guide for reporting at the country level.

Next steps: Lana to send to ad-hoc task force members (Netty, Young-Ae, Monica, and Alka) the old questionnaire along with suggestions on how we need to proceed.

M & E document

There is an M & E for ACSM document that has been produced, but never disseminated. This document could serve as a starting point for the M & E document that the Core Group agreed was a priority to develop. Young-Ae to find out what the issues were with the existing document so that concerns can be addressed in the new document. This document can also give ideas for indicators to be included in the questionnaire.

Core Group membership update

The Core Group agrees that we need to include an NTP manager from a country with active ACSM. It is important to engage at this level and to get important feedback from the NTP manager view.

Next steps: Core group members to send suggestions, and also outreach to NTP managers they know may be interested and have the time to be an active Core Group member.

Regional ACSM Planning Workshops

Young-Ae and Netty gave an update on the Regional Workshop that was held in Panama in December 2008. 8 countries participated and represented a vast range of experience in ACSM. The next workshop, which is specific to help countries with ACSM funds from the Global Fund, will be held in Belarus in July, 2009.

All WHO Regions have been covered after the Belarus workshop (except for West African countries). After the workshops, discussions will be held on whether to hold a second round, or whether to shift focus to basic ACSM capacity building-type workshops.