



# Report on recent activities of the Child and Adolescent TB Working Group

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15<sup>th</sup> Child and Adolescent TB WG annual meeting, the Hague,  
Netherlands

October 24<sup>th</sup> 2018

# Outline

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- Quick facts update
- WG activities in 2017/2018
- The Child and Adolescent TB Roadmap update-2018/ Best Practices Document/ Research Priorities
- UNHLM- Key commitments relevant to children and adolescents
- The role of WHO and its partners

## Quick facts

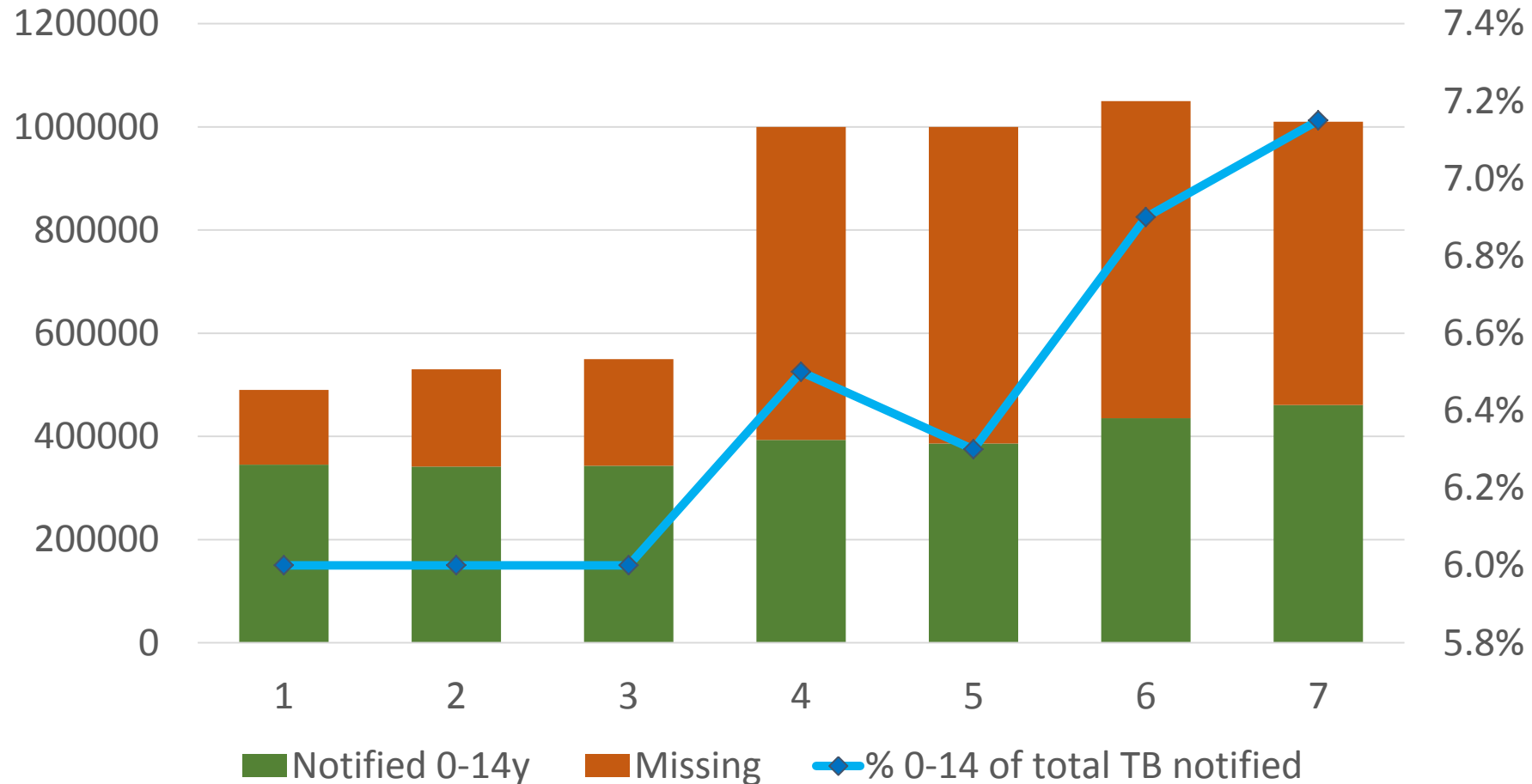
- At least 1 million children (<15y) become ill with TB every year<sup>1</sup> (~527,000 boys and 476,000 girls in 2017), 52% under 5 years of age
- Children represent about 10-11% of all TB cases; higher (15%) in high burden countries.
- In 2017, 233,000 children died of TB including 39,000 TB deaths (17%) among children who were HIV positive<sup>1</sup>.
- **Mortality rate in children 23% compared to overall 16%**
- It is estimated that 67 million children are infected with TB and therefore at risk of developing disease in the future<sup>2</sup>.
- Researchers estimate that 25,000 children develop multi-drug resistant TB every year<sup>2</sup>.
- Data on TB among adolescents (10-19y) cannot be easily analysed as countries report by 0-4, 5-14 years (children) and 15-24 - reporting mechanisms need further refinement

1. Global Tuberculosis Report, World Health Organization 2018

2. Dodd P., Sismanidis B., Seddon J., Global burden of drug-resistant tuberculosis in children: a mathematical modelling study. Lancet Inf Dis, 21 June 2016

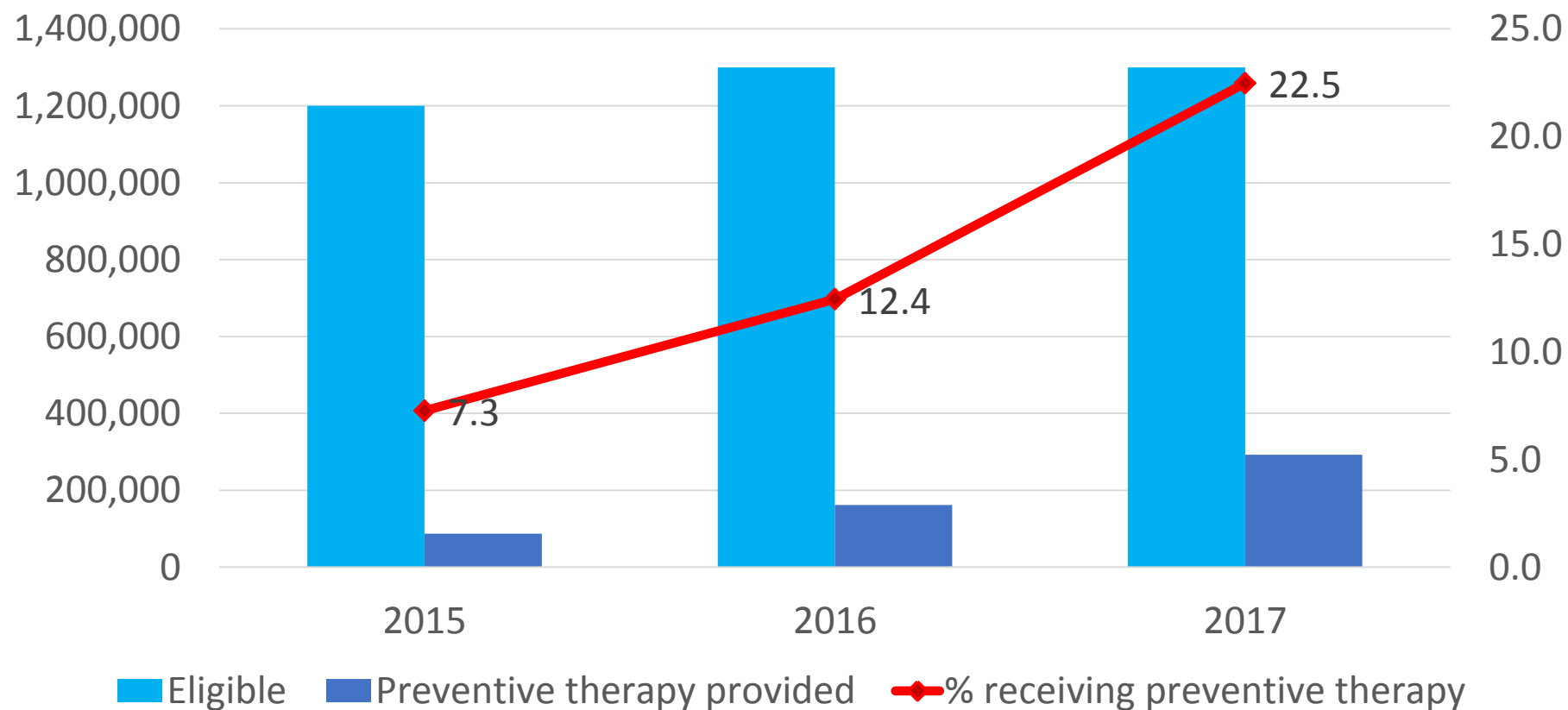
# Progress in child TB case notification

Trends in TB case detection in children (0-14 years)



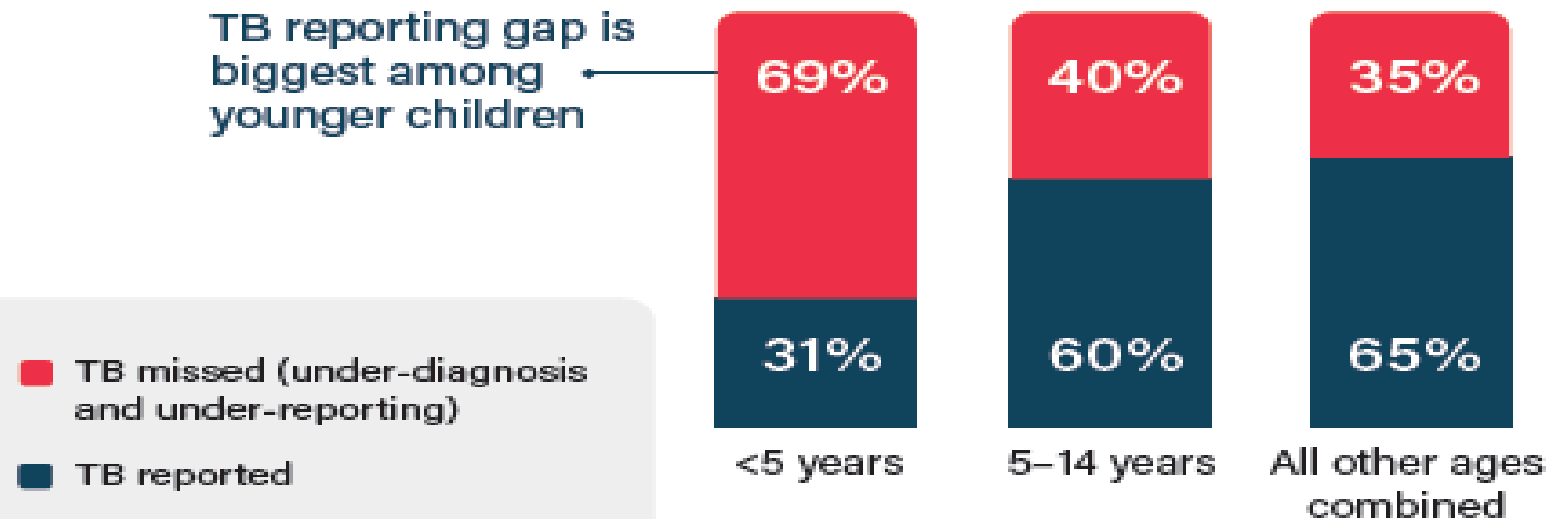
# Progress in provision of preventive therapy to household contacts under 5 years of age

Trends in provision of preventive therapy to under-5 household contacts



# The case detection gap

## % of TB patients that are missed in different age groups



**Overall 55%** of estimated children with TB (0-14 years) are **not reported** to national TB programmes



**TB can be a cause or co-morbidity of common child illnesses, especially pneumonia and malnutrition.** More specific tests are needed to improve diagnosis.

(Oliwa, 2015; Patel and Detjen, 2017)

# The prevention gap



Globally in 2017, **over 75%**  
(of 1.3 million eligible household contacts under 5 years of age)  
**did not access preventive therapy**



## WHO recommends TB prevention including:

- ✓ Preventive therapy
- ✓ Infection control measures
- ✓ BCG vaccination

In the 158 countries for which data on BCG coverage are available, **120 reported coverage of at least 90% in 2017**

## Activities of the working group in 2017: Global

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- Annual meeting of the Child and Adolescent TB Working Group,
  - 9 October 2017, Kigali, Rwanda
- 47th Union Conference,
  - 11-14 October 2017, Guadalajara, Mexico
- First Global Ministerial Conference "Ending TB in the SDG era: a multi-sectoral response",
  - 16-17 November 2017, Moscow, Russian Federation.





## Activities of the working group in 2018: at global level

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- Sentinel Group meeting on Child friendly formulations for second line TB drugs, 29-30 January 2018, Cape Town, South Africa

### **New DS-TB Formulations** (Added to GDF Catalog May 2018)

Ethambutol 100 mg\*

Isoniazid 100 mg\*

### **New DR-TB Formulations**

(Added to GDF Catalog May 2018)

Pyrazinamide 150 mg\*

Ethionamide 125 mg\*

Levofloxacin 100 mg\*

Moxifloxacin 100 mg\*

Cycloserine 125mg

# Activities of the working group in 2018: at global level

- Launch updated WHO position on BCG vaccination
  - February 2018
- Launch of the WHO Updated and Consolidated Guidelines for Programmatic Management of LTBI
  - February 2018
- Commentary in Lancet Global Health
  - World TB Day



## Activities of the working group in 2018: at global level

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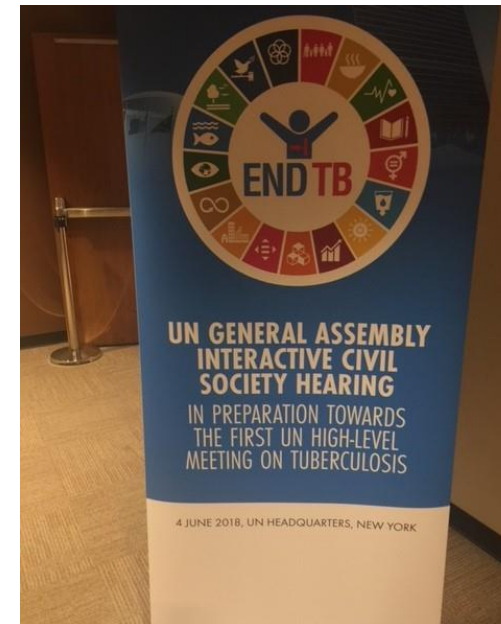
- 2nd International meeting on Childhood Tuberculosis, pTBNet
  - 21-23 March 2018, Vilnius, Lithuania
- Launch of WHO Quality of care standards for children and young adolescents in health facilities with quality statement on children at risk for TB and/or HIV infection
  - 24 May 2018
- Small writing team meeting to review first draft of the updated roadmap hosted at KNCV
  - 14-15 May 2018, The Hague



## Activities of the working group in 2018: at global level

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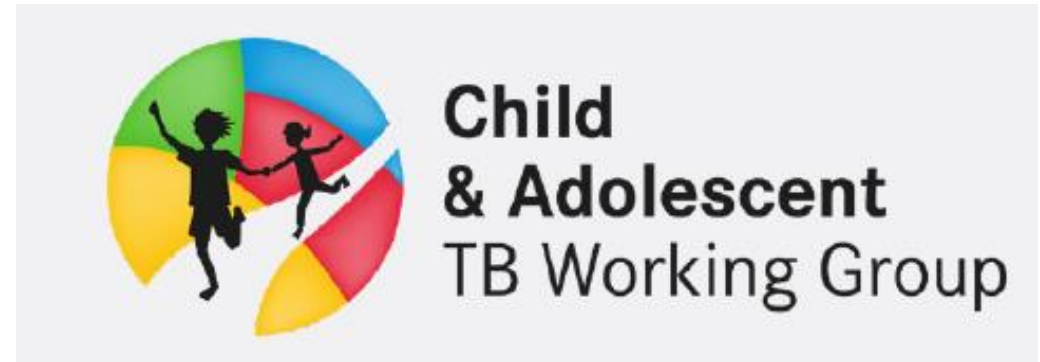
- Union side event to WHA "United to end TB - priorities for the UNHLM on TB" with launch of Union publication on "Silent epidemic: a call to action against child tuberculosis"
- GDF includes child-friendly formulations of second-line drugs in catalogue,
  - May 2018 – GDF
- UN HLM Civil Society Hearings on 5 June 2018, NYC, USA –
  - Farhana, Anne, Lindsay, Catherine Connor (EGPAF)
- 18th Strategic and Technical Advisory Group meeting, 6-7 June 2018, NYC, USA



## Activities of the working group in 2018: at global level

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- Initiative on Stigma in Children by the Global Coalition of TB Activists
  - Aug 2018- Bless Kumar
- Child and Adolescent TB Working Group has a logo
- WHO Rapid Communication for MDR and RR TB,
  - Aug 2018
- XIIth International Child TB training course organized by the Desmond Tutu TB Centre,
  - 9-14 September 2018, South Africa

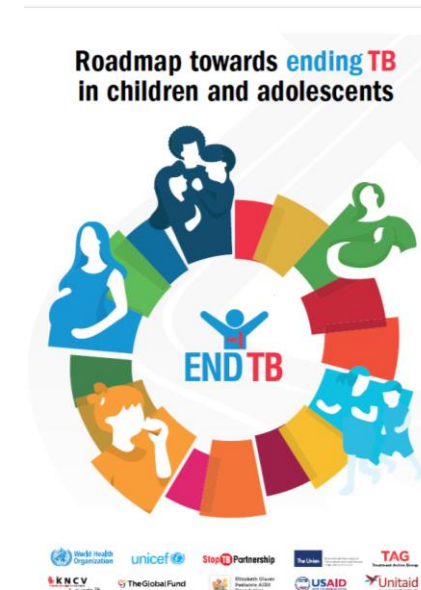


**Rapid Communication:**  
**Key changes to treatment of multidrug- and rifampicin-resistant tuberculosis (MDR/RR-TB)**



# Activities of the working group in 2018: at global level

- Committing to end TB in Children, Adolescents and Families/side event to UNHLM on TB to launch 2018 Roadmap and accompanying documents,
  - 24 September, Scandinavia House, NY
  - UNICEF/WHO/STP
  - Roadmap, best practices document, research priorities
  - Social media kit for child and adolescent TB



# Child and Adolescent Roadmap: Key actions



## Roadmap towards ending TB in children and adolescents



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**<http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/274373/9789241514651-eng.pdf>**





**Key action 10:**  
**Encourage child and adolescent TB research**

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[http://www.treatmentactiongroup.org/sites/default/files/pediatric\\_tb\\_research\\_priorities\\_9\\_24.pdf](http://www.treatmentactiongroup.org/sites/default/files/pediatric_tb_research_priorities_9_24.pdf)



Roadmap towards **ending TB**  
in children and adolescents

RESEARCH PRIORITIES FOR  
**PAEDIATRIC TUBERCULOSIS**



## Activities of the working group in 2018: at global level

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- UN High Level Meeting on TB, 26 September 2018, NY, USA
- Meeting with project countries of Unitaids paediatric TB grants, Monday 22 October 2018, The Hague, The Netherlands

# UNHLM Key Commitments

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The declaration includes two major global targets for the next five years:

- (i) **40 million people with TB to be reached with care during the period 2018 and 2023, including 3.5 million children** and 1.5 million people with drug-resistant TB; and,
- (ii) **At least 30 million people to be reached with TB prevention services during the period 2018-2023 including 4 million children under 5 years of age**, 20 million other household contacts and 6 million people living with HIV (including children).

## Activities of the working group in 2018: at Regional level

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- RMNCH & Nutrition Program Managers' meeting for Eastern and Southern African countries
  - 10-13 October 2017, Kigali, Rwanda
- Global Fund/TDR workshop on finding missing TB cases in countries of West and Central Africa
  - 26-28 March 2018, Cotonou, Benin

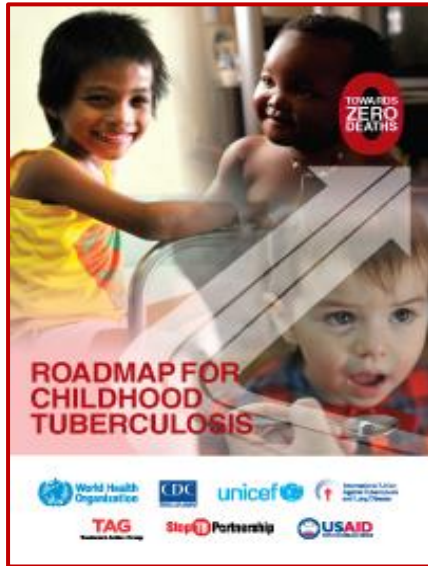


# Global and regional action: WHO and partners (1)

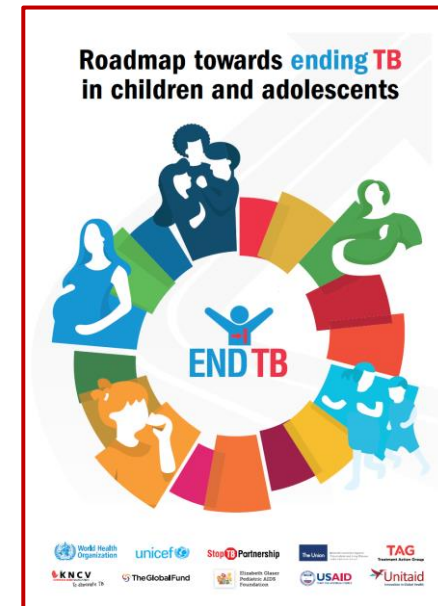
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- Highlight challenges and opportunities in all relevant fora
- Address childhood TB as a child health issue within WHO across departments as well as with partners through better collaboration and harmonization
- Continue to organize annual meetings of the Child and Adolescent TB working group with regional working groups and variety of stakeholders
- Assist countries to find ways and mobilize resources to move from projects to a programmatic approach
- Promote research and development: point of care diagnostic test for TB disease and infection; shorter treatments; more effective vaccines; country specific pathway analysis with an equity focus; cost savings of integrated versus NTP alone (“vertical”) approaches; analysis of the cost of action versus cost of inaction

## Global and regional action (2)



Child TB firmly on global agenda; Better burden data; Increased advocacy, awareness; Guidance, guidelines, training and assessment tools; Global and regional task forces and national child TB working groups; ongoing decentralization of TB services and capacity; prioritization of GeneXpert MTB/RIF; integration of TB into child health programmes and approaches; child-friendly FDCs; inclusion of children in clinical trials; increased funding through international donors; New coalitions.



# Thank you for your attention!

## Acknowledgements

- Ben Marais, Co-Chair Child and Adolescent TB Working Group
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- Babis Sismanidis, WHO/HQ
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- Brenda Waning, GDF/TBP/UNOPS

