Challenges and prospects of meeting TB targets and commitments

Suvanand Sahu
Stop TB Partnership Board Meeting, Geneva
28 September 2021
Major targets for TB

2018 UNHLM targets & commitments to be achieved by 2022

2025 (WHO End TB)
- 75% decline in deaths
- 50% decline in incidence rate

2030 (SDG and WHO End TB)
- 90% decline in deaths
- 80% decline in incidence rate

UNHLM Targets

People on treatment (2018-2022)

• TB treatments total: 40 million
  • Children with TB: 3.5 million
  • MDR-TB: 1.5 million
  • Children with MDR-TB: 115,000

• TB preventive therapy: >30 million

Funding commitments

• USD 13 billion average per annum between 2018-2022
• For research in new tools: additional USD 2 billion per annum between 2018-2022

Other commitments: e.g. on CRG

Country level indicative targets are on Stop TB website http://stoptb.org/resources/countrytargets/
Prospects of achieving UNHLM TB treatment targets in **27 priority countries** representing 75% of the global TB burden

| UNHLM TB treatment Targets | 29.9 million |
| Achievements (realistic scenario) | 82% |
| Achievements (optimistic-realistic scenario) | 85% |

82-85% of the 5-year target will be achieved

- 2018-2019 is actual notifications
- 2020 is provisional notifications
- 2021 is projected provisional notifications
- 2022 is projected recovery & rebound based on 2 scenarios – “realistic” and “optimistic-realistic

Country level indicative targets taken from [http://stoptb.org/resources/countrytargets/](http://stoptb.org/resources/countrytargets/); Actual and provisional notifications taken from WHO website.
Prospects of achieving UNHLM TB treatment targets in 27 priority countries representing 75% of the global TB burden. 63%-100%

This projection uses:
- 2018-2019 actual notifications;
- 2020 provisional notifications;
- 2021 projected provisional notifications;
- 2022 is based on projected recovery & rebound using 2 scenarios – “realistic” and “optimistic-realistic”

- Country level indicative targets taken from http://stoptb.org/resources/countrytargets/
- Actual and provisional notifications taken from WHO website
Prospects of achieving UNHLM TB treatment targets - Global

- **2018-2019** is actual notifications
- **2020** is provisional notifications
- **2021** is projected provisional notifications
- **2022** is projected recovery & rebound based on 2 scenarios – “realistic” and “optimistic-realistic

**83-86% of the 5-year target will be achieved**

Extrapolated from 27 countries representing 75% of global TB burden
Prospects of achieving UNHLM MDR-TB treatment targets - Global

54-57% of the 5-year target will be achieved

- 2018-2019 is actual notifications
- 2020-2022 is estimated based on TB notification projections under 2 scenarios

Extrapolated from TB notifications in 27 countries representing 75% of global TB burden
Prospects of achieving UNHLM treatment targets in children - Global

**UNHLM children TB treatment Targets**

- Achievements (realistic scenario) 71%
- Achievements (optimistic-realistic scenario) 74%

**UNHLM children MDR-TB treatment Targets**

- Achievements (realistic scenario) 21%
- Achievements (optimistic-realistic scenario) 22%

71-74% of the 5-year target for TB treatment in children will be achieved

21-22% of the 5-year target for MDR-TB treatment in children will be achieved

- 2018-2019 is actual notifications
- 2020-2022 is estimated based on TB notification projections under 2 scenarios
Prospects of achieving UNHLM TB Preventive Therapy Target - Global

• Target:
  • 30 million
  • 6 million PLHIV & 24 million contacts

• Likely achievements:
  • PLHIV on TPT target is exceeded
  • Contacts on TPT – less than 30% of target will be achieved

2018-2019 is actual data; 2020-2022 is estimated based on two scenarios of scale up.
Prospects of achieving UNHLM TB Funding Targets - Global

About 50% of funding target will be achieved
End stigma and all forms of discrimination and promote equity, ethics, gender equality, human rights and social inclusion, focusing on key vulnerable groups and involving communities

- CRG assessment, action plan and its implementation is a way to achieve these commitments
- Achieving these in all Global Fund (GF) eligible HBCs is possible by 2022, provided funding is made available from GF grants
- In the remaining high burden countries, it is uncertain if this will be achieved

Where are we in reducing incidence and mortality

(source WHO GTB Report 2020)

**Incidence**

- Target is **20%** decline in incidence rate between 2015-2020
- Progress 2015-2019:
  - Global **9%**, EUR 19%, AFR 16%, SEA 8.7%, WPR 6.1%, EMR 3.5%, AMR no decrease
  - 78 countries on track, 7 HBCs already reached, 3 HBCs on track

**Mortality**

- Target is **35%** reduction between 2015-2020
- Progress 2015-2019
  - Global **14%**, EUR 31%, AFR 19%, WPR 17%, EMR 11%, SEA 10%, AMR 6.1%
  - 46 countries on track, 7 HBCs already reached and 1 on track
Reasons for not meeting the UNHLM targets

- COVID-19 pandemic has become a big barrier in achieving the targets
  - The secretariat has consistently highlighted this since the start of the pandemic
- Lack of funding is another big barrier
- Other reasons are linked to specific targets
  - Some targets, especially the 40 million TB treatment target, would have been achieved if there was no COVID-19 pandemic
  - Some other targets would not have been achieved even without C19 pandemic
    - E.g. MDR-TB (including children with MDR-TB); and TPT for contacts
  - Reasons include:
    - Lack of access to rapid molecular tests and DST
    - Lack of priority for TPT for TB contacts
Implications of not meeting the UNHLM targets

• Ending TB now becomes much more difficult
• Important not to give up but to double-down on our efforts
• Opportunities for TB offered by COVID-19 pandemic must be taken
• Ongoing Global Plan 2023-2030 development work is focussing on this issue using modeling
  • More aggressive and comprehensive approach will be required to end TB
  • Diagnosis and treatment for all is a must, but not enough to end TB
  • Early diagnosis and prevention at scale will be needed
  • New tools will need to be developed and deployed earlier, and scaled up faster
    • New tools for active case finding at unprecedented scale, tools for predicting disease among infected and early diagnosis (including sub-clinical TB), and new effective vaccines
Secretariat proposal for Board steer

1. All stakeholders should stay united behind the SDG target of ending TB, but should be fully aware that going forward more aggressive and comprehensive efforts are needed to end TB.

2. The Global Plan should include bold activities and targets that are needed to end TB despite the COVID-19 setback, along with a full resource needs estimate.

3. Informed by the Global Plan the upcoming UNHLM 2023 will be an opportunity to make the commitments needed to end TB, including resources.
Thank you