

Ghana National TB Voice Network

Ghana

Grantee Profile

Organization

Ghana National TB Voice Network

Where we work

Ghana



About Ghana National TB Voice Network

The Ghana National TB Voice Network was set up in 2008 and restructured in 2015 forming a network of cured TB patients and other stakeholders who are committed to fighting TB in Ghana. The network seeks to ensure equal rights, opportunities and responsibilities for TB infected and affected persons just like everyone else. It also seeks to contribute to effective advocacy by working together with partners and other stakeholders in the areas of enhancement of diagnostic services as well as better treatment options.



Objectives of Round 7

- 1 Strengthen existing or new national level TB constituencies that engage, represent and are accountable to communities.
- 2 Reinforce the capacities & responses of local communities who are part of the TB response.
- 3 Tighten linkages, collaboration and coordination between communities and government.

TB in Ghana

A recent TB prevalence survey identified Ghana to be burdened by TB more than had been previously anticipated. The study revealed the prevalence of TB to be 286/100,000 as opposed to 90/100,000 population. An estimated 44,000 people have TB with another 400 identified MDR-TB cases. There is a total of about 224,488 persons living with HIV in the country.

Challenges faced by communities in Ghana in the TB response

There are several challenges faced by the community response to TB in Ghana. These include high levels of TB-related stigma, including misconceptions about TB. In some

cases people think that it is a spiritual disease. There is also inadequate screening by health care workers especially in private health facilities. There is also a lack of civil society engagement in the TB response, including those infected and affected by TB. As such bottom up community engagement and grassroots participation is very limited.

The Challenge Facility for Civil Society in Ghana

The Ghana National TB Voice Network strives to be a national body representing the TB infected and affected constituencies. With the support of the Stop TB Partnership's Challenge Facility for Civil Society our goal will be achieved through the engagement of a wide variety of stakeholders. Stakeholder meetings will be held in the three zones of Ghana -- southern, middle and northern zones. The outcomes from the stakeholder meetings will provide a road map for the transformation of the Ghana National TB Voice Network into a nationally representative TB constituency with a strong and vibrant bottom up community response. We will also ensure effective outreach and conduct community mobilization activities among the general population, educating them on the need to have a voice in TB matters through the formation of active communities.

The Challenge Facility for Civil Society Grant in Ghana will be implemented in two phases:

- **Phase I:** The Ghana National TB Voice Network will undertake a resource mapping exercise to identify existing resources, coverage gaps, and perspectives of stakeholders about the quality of existing services.
- **Phase II:** The Ghana National TB Voice Network will collaborate with existing resources to identify key TB-related issues to bring to the national level, develop plans to fill the coverage gaps, and reassess the perspectives of the stakeholders about the quality of the newly developed network.



Get involved!

If you are a community or civil society organization or patient group (those working on TB or interested in working on TB) in Ghana and you want to engage in the Challenge Facility for Civil Society work in Ghana please contact **MICHEAL ANNOR: info@tbvoicenetwork.net**

For more information about the Ghana National TB Voice Network: www.tbvoicenetwork.net