



World Vision

Approximately 56% of all Guatemalans live in poverty; 82% of these live in rural areas and 56% are indigenous. Tuberculosis remains one of the major public health problems in Guatemala, with lack of access to health services among remote populations and inadequate understanding of TB in these communities contributing to increasing numbers of cases. Greater effort is needed to scale up TB control, to find symptomatic patients and treat them especially in places such as Huehuetenango and San Marcos where the issues of poverty and poor access converge.

World Vision Guatemala is addressing this need with the goal of improved case detection through: building the capacity of health personnel and laboratory technicians; accurate diagnosis and appropriate, timely treatment; improved laboratory techniques; and better case notification and reporting. In addition to the improvements in case detection, World Vision is also strengthening the health systems so that people found with TB are likely to have better treatment outcomes.

At the community level, the project is mobilizing families and local authorities to refer symptomatic patients to health facilities for testing and to continue follow up monitoring during any resulting treatment. The specific goal is to detect and treat 608 additional TB cases through the duration of the project.

An innovative aspect of this project addresses the problem of timely diagnosis in remote areas. Peripheral microscopy centers are being established to enable immediate diagnosis locally, instead of patients having to travel four to five hours to reach a health facility and then waiting for as much as a month for results.

The project is also providing an ongoing educational program for health care and community workers to improve case detection through better recognition of TB symptoms.

In the last quarter of work alone, the project was able to screen 10,083 people for TB and 292 new cases were detected and treated and more work will be continued in the coming months.

Guatemala



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Stop TB Partnership
TB REACH



FINDING AND TREATING PEOPLE WITH TB IN THE WORLD'S POOREST COMMUNITIES

TB REACH

**The first wave of projects
increased case detection
by an average of 26%
compared to
the previous year**

More than nine million people around the world become ill with tuberculosis (TB) each year. About one-third of them fail to get an accurate diagnosis or effective treatment and are more likely to die from this curable disease.

By supporting the many partners working in the field, TB REACH offers a lifeline to people among this missing 3 million by finding and treating people in the poorest, most vulnerable communities in the world. In areas with limited or non-existent TB care, TB REACH supports innovative and effective techniques to find people with TB quickly, avert deaths, stop TB from spreading, and halt the development of drug resistant strains.

- TB REACH was launched in 2010 and will run until 2016, thanks to a CAD\$ 120 million grant from the Canadian International Development Agency.
- TB REACH is committed to getting funds to our partners with a very short turnaround time.
- TB REACH has committed nearly \$50 million to partners working on 75 projects in 36 countries covering a wide range of interventions.
- Preliminary analysis from Wave 1 shows that efforts of partners led to an increase of 26% in TB case detection over an area of 100 million people, while some areas saw increases of more than 100%. The average cost per person covered is US \$0.15.

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