

## **STOP TB PARTNERSHIPS (STP) ACROSS THE WORLD CONTINUE TO WORK HARD TO MAINTAIN TB SERVICES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND LOCKDOWNS**

### **STOP TB PARTNERSHIP ROMANIA**

1. At this moment, the Romanian STP started working closely with the Romanian Angel Appeal Foundation, one of the members of the Partnership and the hosting entity of the STPR secretariat. They are preparing some advocacy activities to support the implementation of the TB Law, the HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan and more.
2. The contact with the members of STPR has been reactivated and they will soon get together to think strategically about how to keep STPR alive and functional.

#### **Shield for TB Dispensaries and Patients**

*Two and a half months, over three tons of gloves, masks, disinfectable visors, protective gowns, disinfectants, 22 TB dispensaries and a pneumophthisiology hospital.*

**March 11, 2020**, Romania. 29 cases of infection with the new coronavirus confirmed in Romania, of which 12 new. It was just beginning.

4 days before the beginning of the state of emergency, the Romanian Angel Appeal team starts one of the most intense and motivating brainstorming actions: what do we do? What do we do with the beneficiaries of our projects, especially with the TB patients?

They are more vulnerable, their lungs, whether they are cured patients or under treatment, are much more susceptible to any other respiratory infection. And COVID-19, that's how it kills: severely affecting the lungs. How can we help, how can we support the whole country's effort to overcome the pandemic?

On March 16, the first day of the state of emergency, we already had the answer, because we are many and we have many ideas: on the one hand we will distribute protective materials and disinfectants to medical staff in TB dispensaries in 5 counties, on the other hand we will explore



alternative ways to help patients with tuberculosis in the medium and long term so that the care and support system will be prepared for another emergency.

And we started the search: money, PPE materials and disinfectants.



For the money, we started a public fundraising campaign and turned to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the international donor that since 2004 has invested tens of millions of euros in Romania to fight HIV / AIDS and Tuberculosis. We were encouraged that the Global Fund also understood the exceptional situation of the whole world and supported the effort to limit the number of infections. After completing the needs analysis for 5 counties, we also received the answer we were waiting for: go for it! Our colleagues from the Stop TB Romanian Partnership also helped us in the discussions with the dispensaries and in collecting the needs from the grass-root level: Iulian Petre from UNOPA and Ștefan Răduț, Cătălina Constantin and Monica Ghiță from ASPTMR, to whom we thank for being so supportive and helpful!

For materials, it was a gruelling effort to find stocks available at a time when huge quantities of masks and gloves were being bought on all continents at prices that had become prohibitive. And not only the lack of materials was the problem but especially their quality. We checked that each manufacturer, each brand of masks, gloves or disinfectant, has the necessary quality characteristics and CE marking, i.e. to be certified for EU market.

It was an enormous effort in a context for new everyone, with obstacles and risks that we do not encounter in our regular activity. We have been constantly monitoring the InfoCons alert system to remove from our list those brands of products considered to be hazardous to health.

Little by little, like ants in moss, we managed to gather in our office, over 3 tons of products.

On Wednesday, May 27, the first loaded truck left for the TB Dispensaries Arad, Lipova, Sebiș, Craiova, Medgidia, Calafat, Hârșova, Cernavodă, Mangalia, Buhuși, Pașcani, Hârlău and Segarcea.

On Thursday, May 28, the second fully loaded truck left for the TB dispensaries in Iași, Constanta, Hârlău, Pașcani, Bacău, Onești, Moinești, Comănești, Segarcea and to the Leamna Pneumoftiziologie Hospital.

The TB dispensaries in the country are, for the most part, sections of city hospitals. The needs of the wards with beds will always take priority over the outpatient units, especially in hospitals

with limited resources. We want doctors and nurses who work with TB patients, who during this period have made enormous efforts to bring treatment to patients at home, to benefit from protective materials, to continue their work.

Our fundraising campaign continues, because, let's not forget, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) warn that not "if?", but "when will the second wave come?" it is the question that the governments of the world must answer.

Until then, the fact that the new coronavirus is in the community makes us all more careful when applying universal precautions, because anyone who comes to a service, be it medical, social, support, administrative, etc. might be infected. That is why health workers who work in communities must also be adequately protected. It is a reality that we will live with for a long time and that should not affect the continuation of essential services and the chances of healing of TB patients. Basically, we do not want to let the youngest pandemic (COVID19) amplify the world's oldest epidemic (TB).

## STOP TB CAMBODIA

In March 2020, South-East Asia saw an increase of COVID-19 cases across the region, including Cambodia. Several countries in the region closed their borders. With Thailand's borders closing, around 50,000 migrant workers returned home to Cambodia, adding to the national COVID-19 burden. As of 24 April 2020, there are 122 cases found as coronavirus, while 110 cases have been recovered.

### TB and Covid-19

To understand the COVID-19 pandemic impacts on TB programs of KHANA, a rapid assessment was conducted, which aimed at documenting the immediate response strategy for maintaining program activities. KHANA initiated and developed a survey using the Stop TB partnership developed OnelImpact community-based monitoring tool to ensure the maintenance of TB services and events. So far, 43 participants responded to the survey, and the results are stored in the dashboard, which managed by DURE Technologies.

The findings showed that 25% of affected people could not be tested for TB because of COVID-19 and at least 9% of them could not access treatment as a result of COVID-19. More than one-fourth said doctors were busy treating COVID-19. Slightly less than one-fifth reported health workers were not available. The majority of frontline workers reported that the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the TB services.





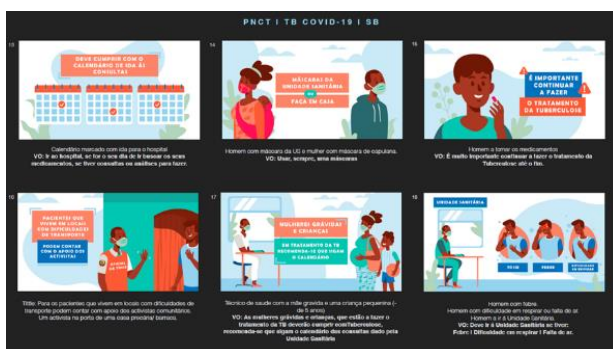
Women core group team conducted the Covid-19 Prevention Education amongst women living with HIV/AIDS in ROKA Commune under the “PLHIV Women Empowerment and Leadership Project,” KHANA

## STOP TB MOZAMBIQUE



- Currently, Stop TB Partnership Mozambique produces a media campaign to disseminate the measures that people with TB should take during the COVID-19 pandemic. This campaign will be broadcasted on the three most-watched TV and radio channels in Mozambique.

- See below some images of the storyboard of the TB & COVID-19 campaign:



- Stop TB Partnership Mozambique supported a series of TV programs with the NTP and CCS highly qualified staff participated in TV talk shows delivering TB messages (symptoms, treatment, where to go, etc.)



6. One of the protective measures against COVID-19 announced by MISAU was a temporary suspension of activists visiting people affected by TB.

To prevent lost to follow up and low adherence, Stop TB Partnership Mozambique developed the "FICHA DE REGISTO DIÁRIO DE CHAMADAS PARA O SEGUIMENTO DE DOENTES COM TB," a registration form to guide the community activists and support workers during COVID-19.

Based on this document:

- Daily, TB treatment form daily) and advise their contacts to go to the Health Facility in case of TB symptoms.
- During the phone call, activists advise about possible side effects of the medicines.
- During the call, COVID-19 relevant information (preventive measures) are being repeated and discussed.

**Lembrete:** esta é a versão antes de iniciar a chamada telefónica e siga as instruções para o preenchimento da ficha e as descrições dos efeitos adversos das medicações.

Nome do Activista: \_\_\_\_\_ Data: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Nome do Supervisor do Campo: \_\_\_\_\_ Data: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**ORIENTAÇÕES PARA EFECTUAR CHAMADAS AOS DOENTES COM TB**

**Orientações Gerais:**

1. Saude o/a doente com respeito usando o seu próprio nome (ex. Bom dia Sr. João/Tia/Mãe);
2. Apresente-se ao doente (seu nome, função e unidade sanitária onde está alocado);
3. Explique os motivos da chamada;
4. Pergunte se o doente está disponível para conversar (se estiver disponível, vá para a tabela correspondente, de acordo

**Monitoria do tratamento de TB (TAT):**

5. Faça a pergunta de confirmação, se o doente está fazendo o tratamento de TB;
6. Pergunte o nº de comprimidos que o doente toma por dia e a que horas os toma;
7. Procure saber se hoje o doente já tomou os comprimidos e quantos comprimidos tomou;
8. Procure saber se após a toma dos comprimidos teve alguma sensação anómala (se for sim, investigue com base nas reacções adversas na ficha de tratamento);
9. Procure saber do paciente sem tem alguma dúvida;
10. Agende a próxima disponibilidade. Antes de desligar, informe que voltará a ligar no dia seguinte;
11. Actualize a ficha de tratamento.

**Rastreio dos contactos:**

5. Procure saber do doente quantas pessoas vivem em sua casa;
6. Peça ao doente para falar com cada um dos contactos (insente para contactos >15 anos);
7. Desligue a linha telefónica se não houver mais ninguém a atender (Travar o telefone, desligue o aparelho, anote o número e o

**CCS** FICHA DE REGISTO DIÁRIO DE CHAMADAS PARA O SEGUIMENTO DE DOENTES COM TB

**1. DADOS DO PACIENTE**

Data de registo: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Distrito: \_\_\_\_\_ Unidade Sanitária: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nº: \_\_\_\_\_ Nome do Paciente: \_\_\_\_\_ Idade: \_\_\_\_\_ Sexo: M ☐ F ☐  
 Telefone: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. SITUAÇÃO DO PACIENTE:**

Nome do contacto: \_\_\_\_\_ Telefone: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. CHAMADAS EFECTUADAS**

Contato	Contatado via 1ª tentativa	Contatado via 2ª tentativa	Contatado via 3ª tentativa
(Nº-Nome-Sex)	(Nº-Nome-Sex)	(Nº-Nome-Sex)	(Nº-Nome-Sex)
1. Prá abandonado			
2. Falhou			
3. Perda de seguimento			
4. Perdeu os 100% Comprimidos			

**4. MONITORIA DE TRATAMENTO DE TB (TAT)**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**5. OBSERVAÇÕES**

7. Through paralegals, a series of measures to protect against COVID-19 has been promoted and implemented in the community:

- Follow-up and monitoring the existing cases of human rights violations
- Follow-up of individual sessions
- Coordinate actions required in case of occurrence of new cases



- Produced a wonderful video on TB & COVID-19

<https://wettransfer.com/downloads/ab27c5f92f4dd2aa80643cf5ff585dc620200429131315/51658e6b0c3e5727afa6cb4f1539286e20200429131411/6b2c70>

## STOP TB PARTNERSHIP UKRAINE

**17 April** - Story about the work of the Adaptation Center for the Homeless and Released from Prison of Light of Hope / CO "Light of Hope" in Poltava, which prevents TB. Based on the interview with Olena Chykurova, Head of Adaptation Center.

**16 April** - Stop TB Partnership Ukraine joined the Business partnership against tuberculosis, initiated by TB people Ukraine. This Partnership unites the efforts of Ukrainian and foreign entrepreneurs and employers with state and non-governmental organizations in the fight against tuberculosis.

**14 April** - Nesvat Nataliia, Head of Department 100% LIFE. Cherkasy shared with us her personal story of fighting COVID-19. This interaction became the basis for an interview published in the magazine "Borders of Health." Moreover, the topic "How the COVID-19 pandemic affects tuberculosis" is highly visible and popular on the Partnership's FB page.

**7 April** - Partnership "Stop TB. Ukraine" Steering Committee representatives Olga Pavlova and Yevgenia Kuvshinova spoke on NADIA TV Channel about vulnerable COVID-19 populations, how coronavirus affects people living with HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, and how important it is to ensure their continued access to the medicine during this period.

**April 6** - Online meeting of Partnership "Stop TB. Ukraine" Secretariat with National Health Service of Ukraine representatives to discuss providing continuous service delivery in the second phase of health reform, specifically TB service reform.

**2 April** - We started #successful projects section. The first story about the LHSI project, "You Should Know About Tuberculosis!", which introduces the LHSI "Social Initiatives for Health and Safety."

**From 28 February to 27 March**, the Partnership broadcasted five videos devoted to the World TB Day on the joint topic "Tuberculosis and society: how to change fear and hatred for compassion and support."

## **STOP TB INDONESIA**

8. STPI is leading the development of a monitoring system to examine the TB Protocol implementation through surveys conducted by a sub-working group for TB-COVID-19 was formed as part of a larger TB Technical Working Group, facilitated by the CCM.
9. STPI is supporting the MoH to coordinate with the Ministry of Home Affairs, to distribute a letter to raise attention to the TB protocol developed to non-health state actors, esp. the District Secretary. We led a virtual meeting with the two ministries. Relating to this goal, STPI is engaging the Association of District Health Office to do a webinar for the Planning department officers in DHOs to ensure that TB programs at the district level can have adequate funding (now our country is refocusing the state budget).
10. On April 14th, the House of Representatives stated that the TB program budget shouldn't be reallocated and, if possible, should increase during the pandemic ([https://19ebb8d2-41b2-4d02-bf64-c3ca4d8afe5a.filesusr.com/ugd/6b03b6\\_79d011bc1e114a96bef210f7a8c16802.pdf](https://19ebb8d2-41b2-4d02-bf64-c3ca4d8afe5a.filesusr.com/ugd/6b03b6_79d011bc1e114a96bef210f7a8c16802.pdf)). STPI is planning to follow-up on these efforts by hosting a webinar about 'Fighting COVID-19 and TB' to staff members of the Health and Workforce Commission (Commission IX) who support the Representatives.
11. STPI is exploring the idea of developing a national emergency response plan for the TB program during the pandemic, a more detailed and systematic plan in comparison the protocol and including multi-stakeholders (esp. the Disaster Response Agency), they will coordinate this with the MoH's NTP and their Health Crisis Center as part of a long-term advocacy agenda. It is hoped the initiative will inspire the government to establish a TB Program Emergency Response Plan to prepare for other natural/health-related disasters and to include a recovery plan for the TB Program so that we can close the (most likely) widening gap due to COVID-19.
12. Close communication with partners working on the ground is maintained continuously. There's an on-going discussion with TB Community PR of Global Fund about maintaining community support during the pandemic. Also, on-going dialogue with USAID Indonesia & their implementing partners for them to implement digital solutions in specimen- and drug-transportation (hopefully, at least, in the epicenter area). Also, with USAID Indonesia, STPI is planning to support LKNU in their expansion of Onelmpact potentially through the procurement of mobile phone(s) for DR-TB patients in Jakarta. They are in the intensive treatment phase and do not have access to gadgets for VOT.
13. Drafting of a policy recommendation infographic that the STPI network can forward quickly through WhatsApp groups addressing how several (old and new) regulations encourage that TB services must be maintained during the pandemic. The targeted

recipient are the MoH, district government officers (esp. district health office), other TB CSOs, community cadres, patient groups. The regulations are associated with the refocusing of district funding for 2020 & the socioeconomic safety net programs available during the pandemic that are accessible for TB affected communities. Currently, these regulations are not yet interpreted in the context of the TB community.

14. STPI also established a page on TB and COVID-19 that will be updated periodically <https://en.stoptbindonesia.org/informasi-tbc-covid-19>
15. Prepared a press release of the impact on COVID-19 on the global TB response in Bahasa (attached), summarizing the essential information from the press release and adding thoughts from TB communities regarding the country situation.
16. The press release has been shared with the presidential office's media network and forwarded to several highly populated media groups and WhatsApp groups. Two national media already reported about the lockdown impact (echoing The Guardian and AFP).
17. We are working closely with communities on enabling access to some existing social protection schemes.



## STOP TB PARTNERSHIP GAMBIA

1. The country is in lockdown, so all face to face activities are suspended.
2. STP Gambia is supporting the national public health education awareness campaign, an extensive campaign involving several stakeholders all over the country, through which they talk to communities and advise on the way forward (handwashing, no handshaking, social distancing, etc.) - using some of the FM radios to reach a broader audience on both TB and COVID-19.
3. STP Gambia is involved in several advocacy programs on TB/COVID-19 using the WHO guidelines.

## STOP TB PARTNERSHIP ZIMBABWE

1. The Partnership is facing the big dilemma of how to follow up on people affected by TB while reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 – Zimbabwe is in complete lockdown.
2. STPZ is working with and **training TB Volunteers and Field officers**, trying to come up with innovative ways of following up clients on TB treatment during the COVID-19 lockdown.
3. Trying to follow up Artisanal Small Scale Miners (ASMs) who are highly mobile and do not want to use mobile phones for virtual or digital programming, as they are afraid the police could track them - 40% of them get into mining due to crimes that they have committed.
4. Health care facility visits where most of them usually get their resupplies from for ART, TB or even family planning services are now offering limited critical services as health staff does not have PPE and to minimize patient contact with health facilities to reduce risks to recipients of care AND Group-based activities even where social distancing can be practiced has been suspended which for ASMs was the best strategy.
5. In this context, Volunteers and Field officers are **dropping off information sheets or writing on rocks with soapstone at strategic points to remind TB clients and those on ART not to default** but to be brave and pick up their resupplies through messages such as “Your health is more important than your mistake...go and get your resupply “ or “ Don’t just die, complete your treatment and live” or “ COVID-19 and TB may have the same signs and symptoms, but none of them is your friend, keep them out of your

system.”

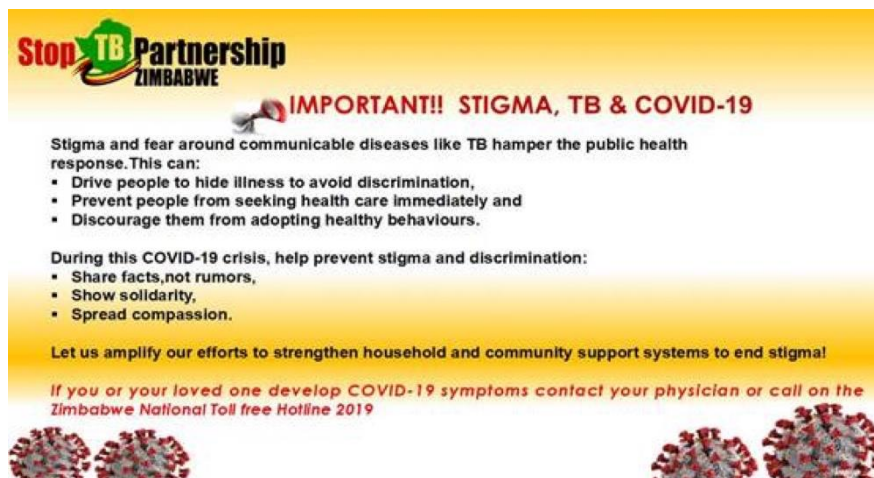
6. **Radio Session** -- STPZ carried out a random survey to ascertain if clinics were open during the lockdown and the results showed that public clinics had scaled down operations. Still, they were open to provide services that include TB services. In light of this, STPZ conducted two telephone radio programs to inform the public and people on TB treatment about the importance of strictly continuing their treatment and dangers of not taking treatment. The radio programs were also instrumental in informing the public that public clinics are open; hence they should go and collect their TB treatment with those presenting symptoms being tested.
7. **STPZ Statement on continued TB treatment during COVID-19 – STPZ lobbied the Government through the Ministry of Health** and Child Care for a review of the TB medicines dispensing method. This saw the development of reviewed TB medicines dispensing protocol. In this regard, STPZ stated Continued TB treatment during the COVID-19 outbreak period. The statement applauded the efforts by the Government in ensuring that TB treatment is dispensed for a 1-2month supply for those on intensive and continuation phases respectively. The statement further encouraged STPZ partners in all provinces to work closely with communities to ensure they are aware of the new protocol and make use of them to reduce the times they visit health facilities and adhere to treatment during the lockdown.
8. **Coordination and communication with partners** – STPZ is in constant contact with its partners on the ground to ensure TB response remains functional and those at risk continue to be assisted. This also included liaising with media houses for national coverage and information dissemination, which saw five newspaper articles being published during the month under review. Links of the newspaper articles are the following:
  - <http://commutalk.co.zw/index.php/2020/04/20/stop-tb-partnership-zimbabwe-applauds-governments-continued-tb-treatment-move/>
  - <https://www.hmetro.co.zw/boost-for-tb-patients/>
  - <https://spotlight.co.zw/stop-tb-partnership-zimbabwe-speaks-on-close-symptoms-of-covid-19-and-tb/>
  - <https://healthtimes.co.zw/2020/04/18/stop-tb-zim-applauds-new-tb-drug-dispensation-plan-during-lockdown/>
  - <http://www.thevoiceagency.co.zw/post.php?id=106>
9. **Awareness-raising with celebrities** -- STPZ is conducting outreach using social media. To date, the Partnership has worked with celebrities by asking them to self-record messages to raise awareness on COVID-19 and the importance of staying at home to flatten the curve. The messages are being shared on different social media platforms

- <https://twitter.com/StopTBZimbabwe/status/1252554987034599425?s=19>
- <https://twitter.com/StopTBZimbabwe/status/1253312577783894016?s=19>
- Celebrities are Soneni Gwenzi (Founder - Our Voices Zim, Motivational speaker, Broadcaster and disability activist, Ambassador for Action on Disability and Development (ADD) - Conrad Mwanawashe (Broadcaster, Presenter, TV/Film Actor, Radio personality), Xolisani Nyathi (Musician, actor, comedian).

10. Furthermore, the Partnership is carrying out **advocacy and awareness-raising through the development of information posters**, which are also being shared virtually.

Examples below:





## STOP TB PARTNERSHIP CANADA

1. Working hard to revive the Stop TB Partnership Canada network and to get the group functioning a bit more like a community. To this end, a **new website has been designed and the Twitter account revived** after a long period of silence – STP Canada started re-engaging with the global and domestic TB communities (the handle is @stoptbcanada);
2. Trying to engage in an **initiative within the ACTION Global Health Partnership aimed at supporting sector efforts to document and share experiences** of how COVID19 is impacting TB programs in the countries where ACTION works and elevate the Canadian experience.

## STOP TB PARTNERSHIP TAJIKISTAN

1. Organized and facilitated an online discussion on the protection of rights of people affected by TB with the participation of key national stakeholders, including Head of the Tajik National TB Caucus alongside seven Members of Parliament, National TB Program Manager, a representative from WHO country office, MSF Tajikistan. Representatives of 'STPT' spoke about the role of civil society in supporting the National TB Program Manager in crises. 'STPT' shared statement emphasizing the need for sustainability of CSOs work to ensure uninterrupted services to people and stressed the importance of social contracting mechanism, funding local NGOs/CBOs from the government budget. 'STPT' mentioned about its current efforts on updating Mobile App/ONEIMPACT to provide TB and COVID 19 knowledge, establish a line of communication to hear and respond to TB affected people as well as exploring the opportunity to update the mobile App to allow distance control of treatment process, the video DOTS.  
<https://www.globaltbcaucus.org/post/the-head-of-the-tajik-caucus-gathers-national-actors-to-discuss-the-protection-of-tb-patients-rights?fbclid=IwAR35TcT4kzUG->



[IKLLgxiSw5rY\\_PjdJk1I5JycE4D2jqdacPWXL29ULtcEnI](#)

2. 'STPT' started coordinating celebrities and journalists (members of the team "Our Champions: no TB") on information campaign spreading key messages on TB and Covid-19, particularly from psycho-emotional and socio-economical perspective. Hitherto: Film/theatre actor & TV anchor hosting TV program "Wisdom of Healing" in Partnership with national TV Channel "Jahonnamo," Republican Healthy Life Style Center under MoH, and Republican Center of Protection of Population from TB/NTP, a first program broadcasted on 22 April 2020 (enabled by Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria funding through TB-REP 2.0 grant).

- Broadcasted via national TV Channel "Jahonnamo" -- 97% countrywide coverage
- Shared via 'STPT' and YouTube channel  
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HHF646I7Kr0&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR00NQJiYVTn368m9SdlStDwj1ZpIL54coNrNhavSdH4qBTR0ET2w8yp-b4>)



3. Members of the team "Our Champions: no TB," a University Professor assisted by TB activists, organized a conference of medical students of the Tajik National University in coordination with the 'STPT.' The meeting addressed the issues of TB and COVID-19. It was attended by experienced teachers and specialists, representatives of public organizations working in the field of TB, representatives of the media, and students.





4. STPT contributes in implementation of a *COVID-19 Spread Response Operational Plan* that has been developed through an emergency meeting of country partners held at NTP with the participation of a representative of NCC and all country partners for the discussion, planning and preparation of TB services in the event of an emergency with the possible spread of coronavirus in the country. Partners were assigned different tasks. As proposed by participants/partners, the 'STPT' undertook the responsibility to integrate knowledge on COVID-19 into the Mobile App/Oneimpact and provide the link of the App to people on TB treatment to ensure necessary experience, establish a line of communication to hear and respond to TB affected people's needs. 'STPT' currently is working on updating the Mobile App/Oneimpact Tajikistan.

## STOP TB PARTNERSHIP PAKISTAN

1. Produced advocacy material such as posters and videos with a celebrity, puppet uncle Sargam



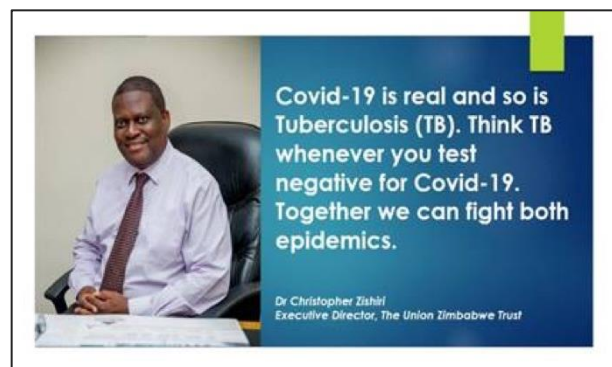
### The month of April

2. Announced the launch the federal TB caucus, due the first week of June 2020
3. Stop TB Pakistan and Dr. Nausheen, Parliamentary Secretary for National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination, will lead to this initiative (at least in the initial consolidation period).
4. Stop TB Partnership Executive Director, Dr. Lucica Ditiu, will be asked to participate in the launch and give a speech virtually.

## STOP TB PARTNERSHIP KENYA

1. Produced an excellent video on TB & COVID-19 <https://youtu.be/T5RUO02R2AQ>

2. STPK is working with CSOs on the ground to address the cases of human rights violations in Kenya – a petition letter was developed jointly with KELIN to address these violations.
3. STPK is creating social media content around TB/COVID-19 (videos and other materials), working closely with TB advocates and survivors. More will be shared early next week.
4. STPK is working with MPs from Africa with whom they have developed messages to promote COVID/TB screening (STPK is the Secretariat for the African parliamentary TB caucus) – images below



## STOP TB PARTNERSHIP COTE D'IVOIRE

- Launched a campaign called “*La CSC un util de gouvernance inclusive*” (CSC, a tool for inclusive health governance), which includes the below:
  - Roll out of engagement and advocacy projects in 100 health centers in Abidjan for the TB & COVID-19 emergency
  - 56 community members and volunteers trained on TB and ready to work on the ground
  - 56 health care workers trained on TB & COVID-19 (symptoms, testing, etc.)
  - PPE and other health materials distributed in 100 medical centers (masks, gloves, disinfectants, etc.)



- Collection of used hygienic material has been put in place (safe management of wastes from 100 health centers)



### STOP TB PARTNERSHIP ITALY

1. Launched a national campaign called 5/1000 ("*cinque per mille*"), aimed at raising funds for TB&COVID-19 -- donations here <http://stoptb.it/eventi/campagna-2020-per-il-5x1000/>
2. STPI awarded a prize, called *Premio Virchow* -- a literary competition among medical personnel working with TB – the best stories based on real-life situations got the award. <http://stoptb.it/eventi/premio-virchow/>
3. Preparing for annual mission in Senegal (hopefully) in November 2020 – STP Italia sends volunteers to the district of Diofior, where they work with TB survivors from the area. STPI developed a training course called *Jardins D'Afrique*, in which TB survivors can learn skills and tools on how to engage in agricultural production and create sustainable income. TB survivors will learn soil conservation techniques, such as crop rotation, to protect the soil from degradation and parasites. STPI will offer 10'000 m of land for this training.

### PHILCAT

**27th May 2020** – webinar on the impact of COVID-19 on the delivery of TB services in the Philippines. Dr. Celine Garfin, NTP, will talk about the response of DOH and the NTP adaptive guidelines in response to the pandemic. Other guests include pulmonologists, pediatricians, DOTS facility health care providers, and other professionals who will share their experience on the impact of service delivery and how to sustain TB services during the pandemic. Flyers will be available soon and shared on social media.

## COVID-19: Impact on TB Care and Prevention

PhilCAT has invited resource speakers from various professional societies in infectious diseases, pulmonary medicine, public health, advocates and experts in adult and pediatric tuberculosis:

- Philippine College of Chest Physicians
- Philippine Society for Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
- Philippine Pediatric Society, Inc.
- Pediatric Infectious Disease Society of the Philippines
- Philippine Academy of Pediatric Pulmonologists
- Philippine Ambulatory Pediatric Association, Inc.
- Child Neurology Society of the Philippines
- UP-PGH Department of Pediatrics / Infectious and Tropical Diseases (INTROP) Division
- Lung Center of the Philippines
- De Los Santos Medical Center
- De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute
- Tropical Disease Foundation, Inc.
- Samahan ng Lusog Baga

Moderated by:  
**Dr. Camilo C. Roa, Jr.**  
Founding Chair of PhilCAT

**When: 27 MAY 2020 (Wednesday)**  
**Time: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

Guest Speaker:  
**Dr. Anna Marie Celina Garfin**  
National Tuberculosis Program Manager  
Department of Health  
Photo credit: CHANGCO MAGALIS

This webinar was organized in collaboration with  
**ULIVaccines, Inc.**

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## STOP TB PARTNERSHIP AFGHANISTAN

1. Working with TB champion, Mr. Rohullah Nikpa, the first Olympic Medalist in Afghanistan, to share messages about TB with the public.



2. STP has been working closely with the community, providing patient support, support to volunteers on the ground and DOTS providers and established sub-national committees in the provinces of Herat, Kandahar, and Mazar to better support the TB program.
3. STP conducted a donation campaign for people affected by TB during the month of Ramadan (fasting), working closely with the Afghanistan TB patients Association.

4. STP conducted TB orientation workshops for high-risk people, particularly women, and “home to home” TB campaigns in 8 provinces, working closely with the government, Dr. Abdullah Abdullah (Chief Executive Officer of the Unity Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan), Dr. Ferozuddin Feroz (Minister of Public Health), both board members of STP.



5. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Sima Samar (Board Chair and Head of a human rights commission) and other Board members advocated for the continuation of essential TB services in the country and the need to support those affected by TB. Dr. Sima Samar on World TB Day convened a signing ceremony for the 3<sup>rd</sup> JICA grant from Japan for the procurement of TB medicines in Afghanistan, which will cover 2021 to 2023. In her speech, Dr. Sima talked about the vulnerability of TB patients to COVID-19.

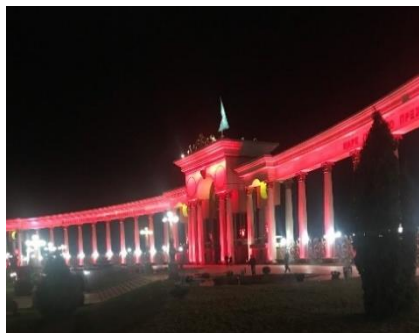
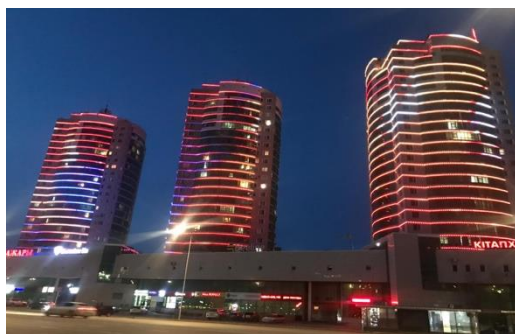
### STOP TB JAPAN

1. Translated Modeling COVID-19 Impact on the TB Response into Japanese and distributed among MOH, MPs, health care professionals and other relevant groups
2. STBJ supported advocacy and communication activities so that information and recommendations from cooperating organizations and experts can be passed on to the government, MPs and key agencies.
3. STBJ has identified some service gaps among TB patients who are not under hospital treatment – currently working with Japan Anti TB Association to research this matter.
4. STBJ has been reinforcing its current TB experts' network with over 2200 alumni, mostly from developing countries, who have attended international TB training courses in Japan, by offering additional online training on COVID-19 and TB
5. STBJ developed a Q&A page about COVID-19 and TB symptoms for the general public to consult at any time.
6. Globalization of Japan's Technology and Leadership – STBJ has been promoting public and private efforts for global expansion of new anti-TB drugs, new TB vaccines, and new diagnostic technologies developed in Japan, working closely with Japan Anti TB

Association.

7. STBJ has been working closely with some key agencies in Japan, such as the Research Institute of Tuberculosis (RIT), Anti-Tuberculosis Women's Society, and other organizations, to maximize TB control efforts towards the national TB targets. Playing a leading role in these actions, STBJ will provide technical guidance and support for the Government, local governments, and public health centers so that their fight against TB will be most effective.
8. Overall, STBJ is working on the following issues in Japan: 1. Strengthen TB prevention for the elderly, high-risk groups, and vulnerable groups 2. Intensify treatment of LTBI. 3. Restructure medical care provision systems appropriate to local needs. 4. Promote research on new tools for TB control. 5. Cultivate human resources and address technical support. 6. Reinforce TB control in megacities.

## STOP TB KAZAKHSTAN



1. Several press-conferences about TB & COVID-19 and the Stop TB Kazakhstan (shared on social media, journals, etc.)
  - [https://tengrinews.kz/kazakhstan\\_news/kazahstantsev-lechat-ot-tuberkuleza-cherez-smartfonyi-392573/](https://tengrinews.kz/kazakhstan_news/kazahstantsev-lechat-ot-tuberkuleza-cherez-smartfonyi-392573/)
  - <https://liter.kz/v-kazahstane-aktivno-vnedryaetsya-udal/>
  - <https://informburo.kz/novosti/polovina-bolnyh-tuberkulyozom-kazahstancev-lechatsya-pod-videonablyudeniem-bez-poseshcheniya-polikliniki.html>
  - <https://eadaaily.com/ru/news/2020/03/24/v-kazahstane-smertnost-ot-tuberkuleza-snizilas-v-56-raz>
  - <https://www.zakon.kz/5008741-polovina-bolnyh-tuberkulezom-v.html>
  - <https://rus.azattyq-ruhy.kz/society/5850-tuberkulez-v-kazahstane-nachali-lechit-cherez-smartfony>

Link to podcast : <https://podcast.gazradio.fm/.../tuberkulezden-qorqudyn-qazhe.../>



2. Information campaign through print and electronic media as part of the TB Monthly initiative – shared on national newspapers as well as social media platforms

- <https://liter.kz/24-marta-otmechaetsya-vsemirnyj-den-bor/>
- [https://www.inform.kz/ru/24-marta-kalendar-kazinforma-daty-sobytiya\\_a3627785](https://www.inform.kz/ru/24-marta-kalendar-kazinforma-daty-sobytiya_a3627785)
- <https://www.nur.kz/1846872-kakoj-segodna-prazdnik-v-kazahstane-i-mire-24-marta.html>
- <https://inbusiness.kz/ru/last/v-kazahstane-za-10-let-smernost-ot-tuberkuleza-udalos-snizit-v-shest-raz>
- <https://www.zakon.kz/5009158-smernost-ot-tuberkuleza-za-poslednie.html>
- [https://www.dknews.kz/inner-news.php?id\\_cat=17%20&&%20id=70377](https://www.dknews.kz/inner-news.php?id_cat=17%20&&%20id=70377)
- <https://www.nur.kz/1850514-sanvrac-bcz---ne-sredstvo-ot-koronavirusa.html>

3. Educational campaigns:

- Working with the education authorities in the country: informational letters on TB in Kazakh and Russian languages were sent to schools
- Working with the universities and youth health centers: informational material and video-reels on TB
- Working with the religious organizations: information on TB was shared with the Republican Muftiate (chief religious' institution) and Metropolitan county of Kazakhstan to be included in the sermons and religious services

4. "Light up for TB" international campaign:

- Organization of speeches and talks from TB service specialists on radio and television (I have asked for more details – hopefully, we can share the videos)
- The campaign carried out in 3 cities of Kazakhstan: Almaty, Taraz, Kostanay
- <https://informburo.kz/novosti/kazahstan-prisoedinilsya-k-akcii-osveti-mir-ot-tuberkulyoza-zdaniya-podsvetili-krasnym-cvetom.html>
- <https://liter.kz/v-kazahstane-podsvetili-znakovye-ob/>

5. Operational research on topics ranging from TB prevention, detection and diagnostics with a focus on the vulnerable target populations

- Study of the main challenges and delays in the provision of services for TB and DR-TB detection, diagnostics and treatment

- Tuberculosis in Kazakhstan – knowledge and attitude towards the disease, practical behavior of the general population and among vulnerable groups
6. In the period of the COVID-19 emergency, 7 NGOs continued to work with the beneficiaries remotely but ensured consultations, advise, psychological support by phone, addressing of specific needs and problems in TB patients, carried out awareness-raising activities to improve access to timely TB examination
  7. Informational letters about symptoms and required infection control measures for NGOs engaged in the implementation of the GF grant project, as well as instruction for TB patients, NGOs, medical workers under the COVID-19 quarantine, were developed and sent to the NGOs in addition to face to face training



8. Media campaign - A training program was developed to train and sensitize Mass Media representatives and bloggers on TB, TB/COVID-19
- [http://www.almoblub.kz/news/seminar\\_na\\_temu\\_profilaktika\\_tuberkuleza\\_shkola\\_10\\_im\\_sh\\_ualikhanova/2020-02-25-84](http://www.almoblub.kz/news/seminar_na_temu_profilaktika_tuberkuleza_shkola_10_im_sh_ualikhanova/2020-02-25-84)
  - [http://www.almoblub.kz/news/tuberkulez\\_turaly\\_o\\_tuberkuleze/2020-03-24-92](http://www.almoblub.kz/news/tuberkulez_turaly_o_tuberkuleze/2020-03-24-92)
  - <http://www.almoblub.kz/news/tubkrkulez/2020-03-24-91>
  - [http://www.almoblub.kz/news/vsemirnyj\\_den\\_borby\\_s\\_tuberkulezom\\_istorija/2020-03-24-90](http://www.almoblub.kz/news/vsemirnyj_den_borby_s_tuberkulezom_istorija/2020-03-24-90)
  - [http://www.almoblub.kz/news/vsemirnyj\\_den\\_borby\\_s\\_tuberkulezom\\_istorija/2020-03-24-89](http://www.almoblub.kz/news/vsemirnyj_den_borby_s_tuberkulezom_istorija/2020-03-24-89)
  - [http://www.almoblub.kz/news/11\\_03\\_2020g\\_v\\_srednej\\_shkole\\_26\\_g\\_taldykorgan\\_proveden\\_lekcija\\_posvjashhennaja\\_mesjachniku\\_borby\\_s\\_tuberkulezom/2020-03-11-86](http://www.almoblub.kz/news/11_03_2020g_v_srednej_shkole_26_g_taldykorgan_proveden_lekcija_posvjashhennaja_mesjachniku_borby_s_tuberkulezom/2020-03-11-86)
  - [http://www.almoblub.kz/news/vremja\\_prishlo/2020-02-27-85](http://www.almoblub.kz/news/vremja_prishlo/2020-02-27-85)
  - <https://www.instagram.com/p/B9qLbYLpA8E/>
  - <https://www.instagram.com/p/B9ET-JWpwRA/>

- <https://www.instagram.com/p/B8-Flpp1HO/>
- <https://www.instagram.com/p/B-HOURBJ3b2/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100015142089162>

9. Preparation of documents for the registration of the NGO "Stop TB Partnership Kazakhstan" (charter, minutes of meetings, application for registration, etc.)
10. Advocacy for extending the partnership work to 20 NGOs in all regions of the country AND coordinating with the public council and Health departments and mayors to promote the partnership activities mentioned above
11. Late news from World TB Day, celebrated from 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020 all over the country

As part of the "Tuberculosis Month" organized by the Zhambyl Regional Center for Tuberculosis and Pulmonology, which began on February 24, in the market, "Auyl-Bereke" in Taraz "It's time to contribute to the fight against tuberculosis!" A large-scale action was held under the motto during the campaign, market workers and visitors to the market underwent free testing and medical advice on TB, and received information and training materials on TB prevention. The event is also dedicated to the great holiday of the country, "Nauryz meiramy." Correspondents of the "Kazakhstan-Taraz" "77 TV" channel took part in the action and interviewed the organizers of the movement.



Also, 13 round tables on "Prevention of tuberculosis" were organized in all secondary schools, centers of social programs, colleges, outpatient clinics of Taraz, covering 682 people. Information training aids were distributed and video screenings were organized. Open days were held following the schedule in the primary health care organizations of the districts, city clinics.



On February 28, 2020, the next shooting of the program "Health of the Nation," held by the press service of the Department of Health of Zhambyl region, took place in the framework of the month of tuberculosis, which will be held from February 24 to March 24. This year in Kazakhstan, this month is held under the motto "It's time to contribute to the fight against tuberculosis." Specialists of the Zhambyl Regional Center for Tuberculosis and Pulmonology took part in the filming of the program. They talked about the activities and achievements in the fight against tuberculosis in the region.