Update from the (vice) chair

Ben Marais
Annual meeting of the Child and Adolescent TB Working Group

Hyderabad, 30 October 2019

Outline

- Epidemiology update (Global TB Report data 2019)
- Progress in notifications and TB preventive treatment provision
- Activities in 2018/2019
- Progress since UNGA HLM on TB
- Meetings and coordination
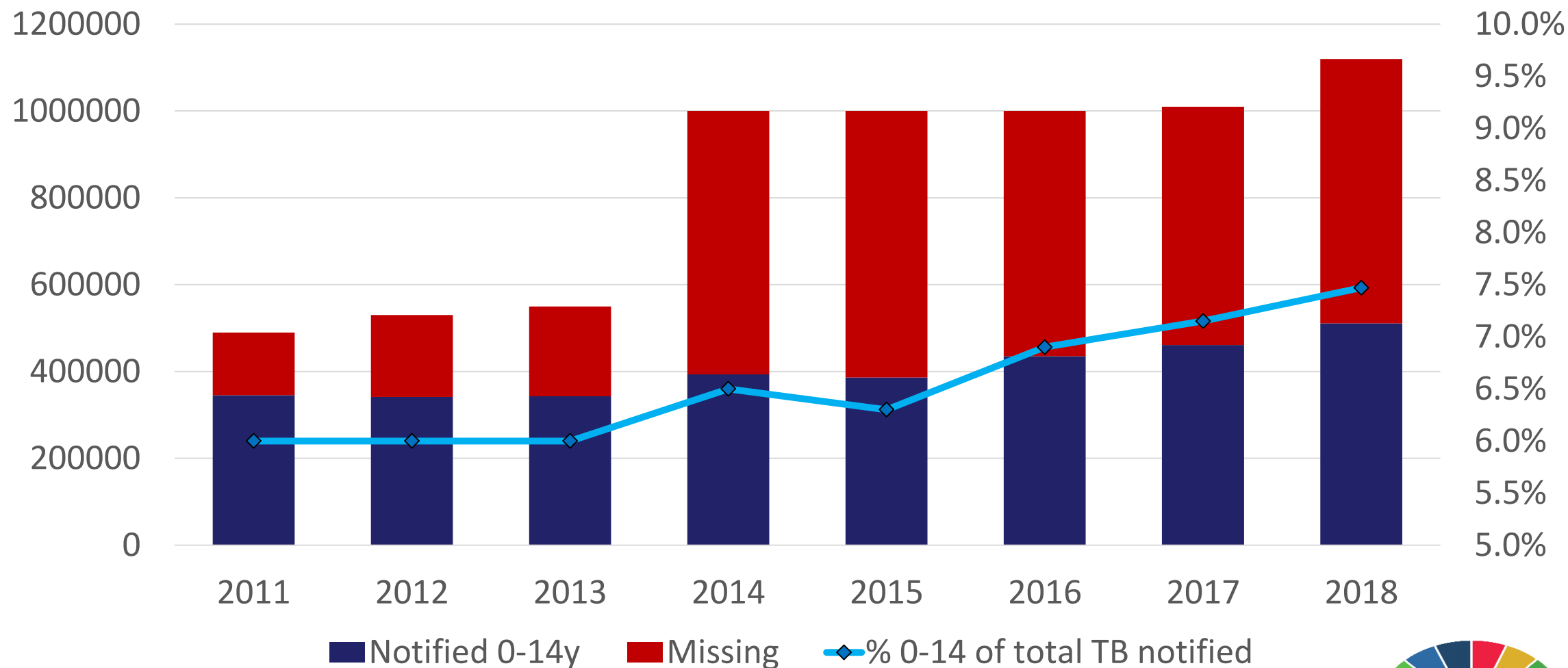- Planned activities for the next year
- Acknowledgements

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Epidemiology update

- An estimated **1.12 million children (<15y)** became ill with TB in 2018[1], **~50% <5 years**

- Children represent ~10% of all TB cases; higher (~ 15%) in high burden countries

- An estimated **205,000** children died of TB, including **32,000** TB deaths (15.6%) among children living with HIV [1]

- Data on TB among adolescents (10-19y) cannot be easily analysed as countries report on age groups 0-4, 5-14 years (children) and 15-24 - reporting mechanisms need further refinement

- In addition, researchers estimate that **~70 million** children are infected with TB (have LTBI), while at least **25,000** develop multi-drug resistant TB every year[2]

1. Global Tuberculosis Report, World Health Organization 2019
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
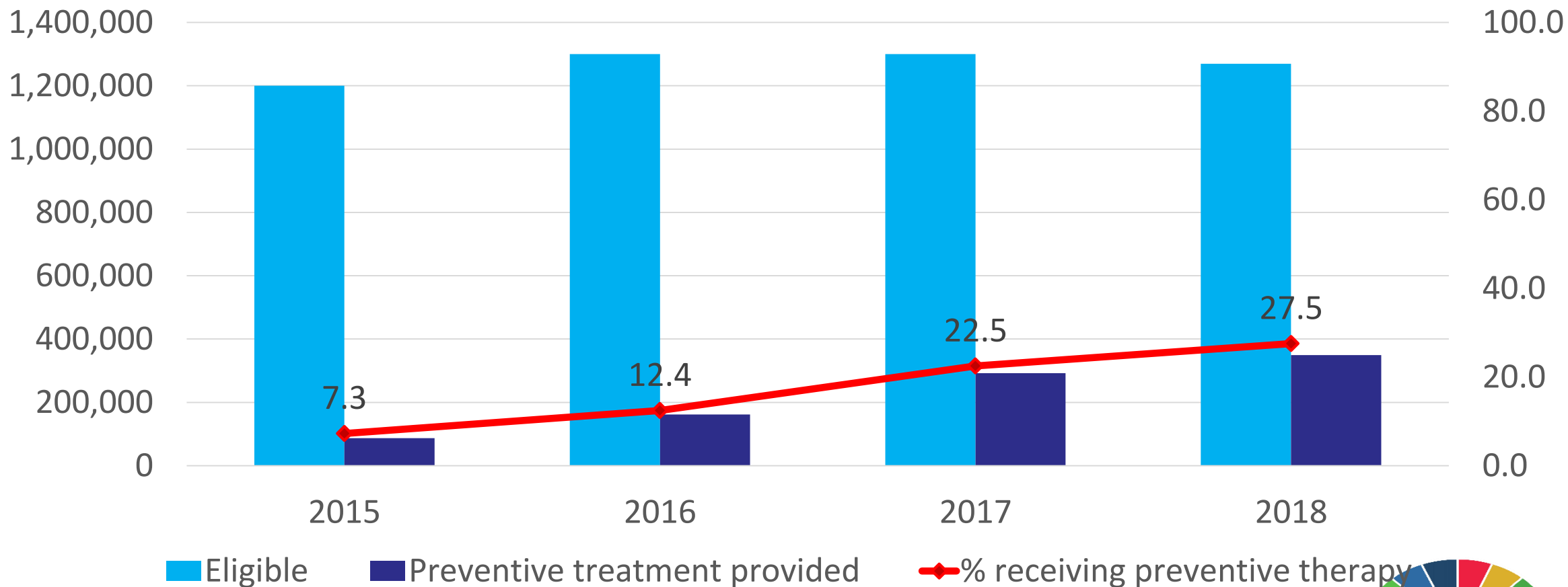
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Child TB notification trend, 2011-2018

Progress in provision of TB preventive treatment

Case detection and prevention gaps

The case detection gap

The prevention gap

% of missing TB patients in different age groups

	0-4 years	5-14 years	All <15 years	All >15 years
Missing	63.3	45.9	54.3	32.6
Reported	36.7	54.1	45.7	67.4

■ Missing (under-diagnosis and under-reporting)
■ Reported
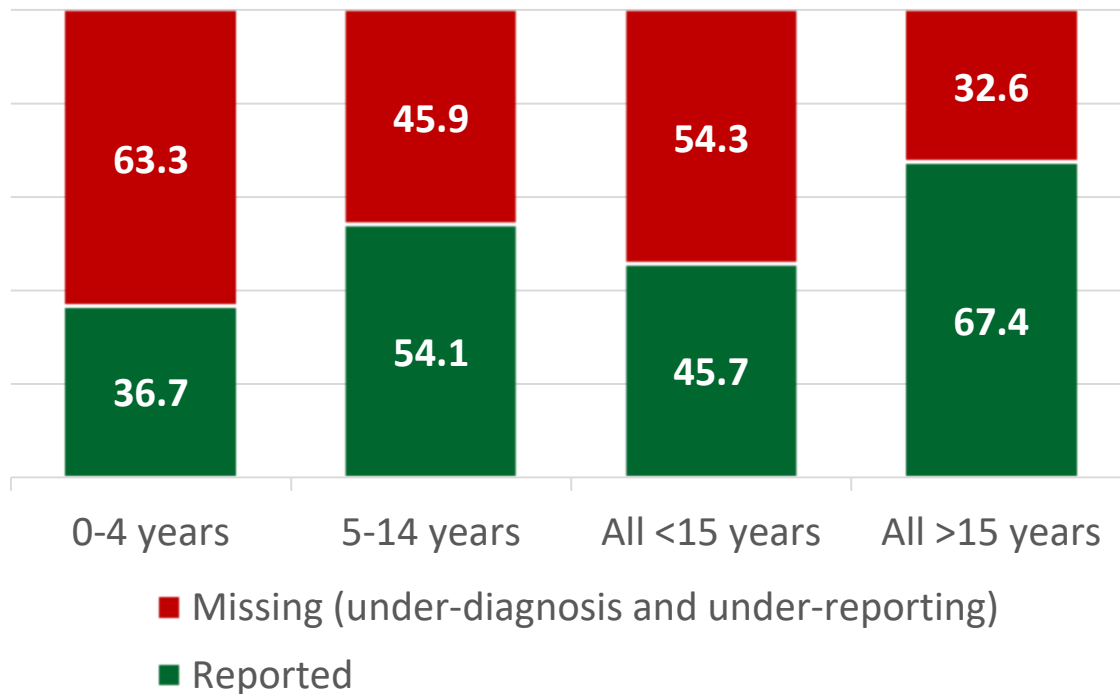
In 2018, **72.5%** of almost 1.3 million eligible contacts <5 years did **NOT access TB preventive treatment (TPT)**

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**

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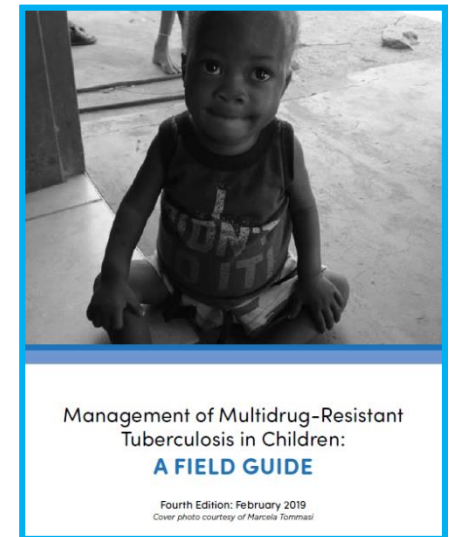
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Activities in 2018/2019

Farhana Amanullah

- elected to represent the Implementation Working Groups in the Stop TB Partnership Board (2019-21)
- Participation in the Strategic and Technical Advisory meeting on TB (STAG-TB) from 11-13 June 2019

Core team members

- provided input to the revision/updating of the Global Fund Modular Tool, which now includes children as a vulnerable population for TB
- Several partners (EGPAF, UNICEF, CDC, TAG, STP and WHO) set up the "Paediatric Operational and Sustainable Expertise Exchange (POSEE)" group to support countries with NSP development and GF applications
  – The group is preparing costing tools to assist countries in applying for child and adolescent TB funding

Progress since UNGA HLM on TB

- Roadmap translations:
  - French – completed in May 2019 (available at:
    https://www.who.int/tb/publications/2018/tb-childhoodroadmap)
  - Russian and Spanish in progress

- New field guide for managing MDR-TB in children
  - WG members provided input into "Management of MDR-TB in children, a Field Guide" – published by the Sentinel Project in February 2019 (Jen Furin, Simon Schaaf, James Seddon, Mercy Becerra ..)
  - WHO regional meetings (AFR March 2019; WPR April 2019; SEAR May 2019) - considering ways to reach the UNGA HLM targets for LTBI and DR-TB management; including sessions on children and adolescents

Feuille de route pour mettre fin à la tuberculose de l'enfant et de l'adolescent
Deuxième édition

Management of Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis in Children:
A FIELD GUIDE
Fourth Edition: February 2019
Cover photo courtesy of Marcela Tommasi

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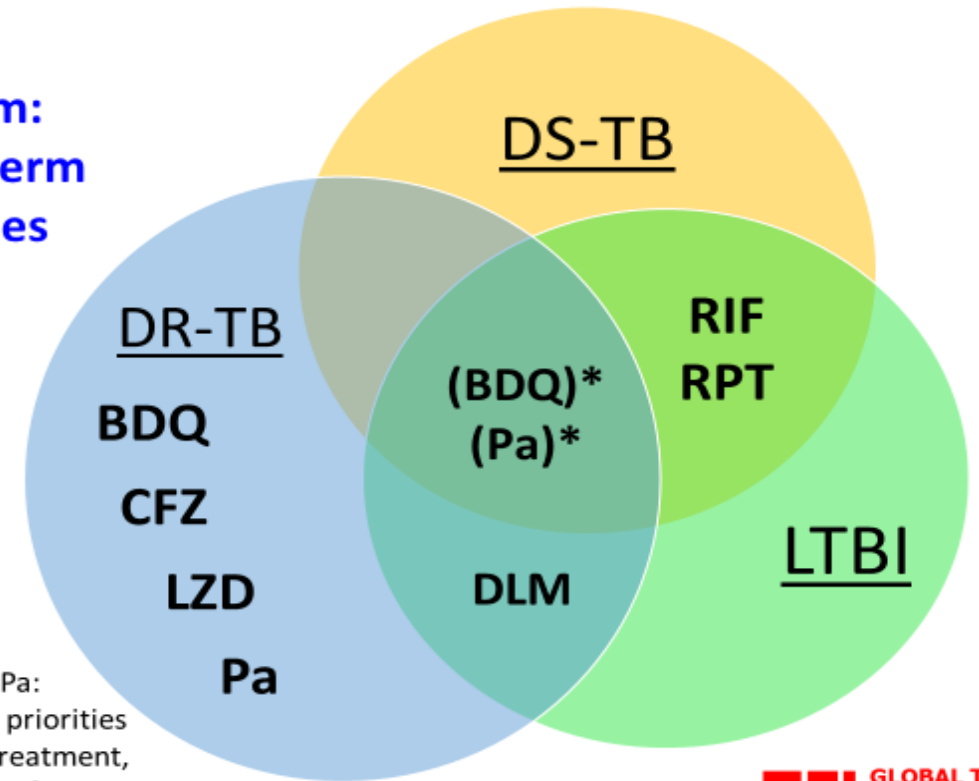
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Progress since UNGA HLM on TB

- National TB Programme reviews with paediatric TB experts:
  - Mozambique, Nov 2018
  - Pakistan, Febr 2019
  - Papua New Guinea, May 2019
  - Nepal and Cambodia, June 2019
  - Liberia, July 2019
  - Myanmar, Aug 2019
  - Bangladesh and Cameroun, Sept 2019
  - Timor Leste (MTR), Sept 2019
  - eSwatini, Oct 2019
- Comprehensive tool for assessing child and adolescent TB programmes developed

- Alena Skrahina presented in The Union Asia-Pacific conference and provided a briefing to the NTP Philippines and WHO country office on the implementation new drugs and injectable free regimens in April 2019.
- Lisa Obimbo provided an update on childhood TB and launched a call for action to end Child and Adolescent TB during the Kenya Paediatric Association Conference in April 2019 and during the Kenya Lung Conference in June 2019.
- GF/TDR/WHO WCA TB organized a workshop to take forward best practices and lessons learned in TB case finding and treatment, with a special focus on community approaches and childhood TB, 1-3 July 2019
- Shakil Ahmed and Rina Triasih participated in the PPM working group meeting and a youth advocacy event in Jakarta 15-18 July 2019

Meetings and coordination

- Annual meeting of the CATWG – The Hague, 24 October 2018
- Core team meeting – The Hague, 25 October 2018; Core team calls April and September 2019
- First Paediatric Anti-TB Drug Optimization meeting (PADO-TB1) meeting, 14-15 February 2019
  - Consensus on priorities for single drug development for DS-TB, DR-TB and LTBI.
  - Priorities presented by WHO during the GAPf webinar on 27 February 2019

Venn-diagram: short-term priorities

DS-TB

DR-TB

BDQ

CFZ

LZD

Pa

(BDQ)*
(Pa)*

RIF
RPT

DLM

LTBI

* BDQ and Pa: Short-term priorities for DR-TB treatment, on watch list for LTBI

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Planned activities for next year

For rest of 2019

- Planned regional meetings (focus on implementation of key actions from the Roadmap):
  - 26-28 November, Hanoi, Vietnam: inter-regional consultation for EMR/SEAR/WPR
  - Q1/2, 2019: Consultation on scalability of Unitaid paediatric TB projects, possibly as part of the AFR End TB summit (tbc)
- Development of a Child and Adolescent TB Handbook
- Update to the 2018 LTBI guidelines

For 2020

- Revise the 2014 Childhood TB guidelines
- Programme reviews (joint monitoring missions) with paediatric experts: India, SA, Indonesia
- Continue to highlight challenges and opportunities in all relevant fora; Promote research and development
- Continue to organize annual meetings of the Child and Adolescent TB working group with regional engagement of all relevant stakeholders
- Assist countries to move from single projects to programmatic approaches

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Acknowledgements

- Farhana Amanullah, Chair
- WHO secretariat: Malgosia Grzemska, Annemieke Brands, Sabine Verkuijl
- Core team members
- Sentinel Project
- Implementation partners
- Funding agencies
- Researchers

- PADO participants
- National TB Programmes
- Paediatricians
- Healthcare workers
- Community volunteers
- Child TB advocates