

## Mid Term Review of the HIV and TB National Strategic Plans



To inform and inspire action towards eliminating HIV, AIDS, and tuberculosis, TB Voice Network joined its CSO partners in the Ghana AIDS Committee's Midterm Review of the HIV and TB National Strategic Plans. This project, led by Christian Gunneberg from the WHO, acquired data on the impact of TB and HIV and evaluated access to the necessary care in communities across Ghana's regions.



During the Orientation Meeting on March 7th, the methods and goals of this field research project were discussed and followed by an epidemiological review of HIV and TB by Dr. Samuel Dery and Aibon Ronoh. Participating CSOs formed to survey patients and healthcare workers of facilities in each of Ghana's regions.

## Field Research

Between March 7th and March 10th, each team went out to collect data on reported cases, diagnoses, community impact, and equipment available for HIV and TB treatment.



Consultant interviewing TB Champions



CSO Engagement with healthcare workers  
Greater Accra Regional Hospital

## Areas of Importance

- Low Treatment Coverage: Understanding and addressing social and economic barriers is necessary to improving access to treatment.
- Children with TB: Research teams will look to optimize diagnosis and reporting of affected children. Particularly through contact tracing and line listing.

- TB/HIV Co Infection: Co-infected individuals generally have lower treatment success and experience social stigma that can affect access to necessary care.

The GAC Midterm Review will ensure that as much of the population as possible is represented in the available data on HIV and TB. In order to progress towards reducing the prevalence of these diseases, a complete understanding of the impact and the infrastructure surrounding high-risk populations will be critical to inform resource mobilization.

### **Debriefing**



March 17th, 2023

During the debriefing meeting, the following high level recommendations were presented for tuberculosis and hepatitis.

### **TB**

- High level political commitment through public political advocacy and multi-sectoral engagement should be strengthened at all levels through the TB Advisory Board and the 2023 UN High Level Meeting on TB

- Funding/Resources should be allocated based on program priorities and through the better involvement of the program in decision making processes
- Ensuring social security, labor protection, and protection from stigma to TB patients
- Strengthening PHC's role in TB diagnosis, treatment and care through CHPS and community actors
- Sustaining current engagement of the private sector and quantifying the level of under-reporting to national surveillance

#### Viral Hepatitis B & C

- Strengthen coordination of the VH response at National, Regional and district level through a review of current policy documents and development of a prioritized and costed National strategic plan
- Increase political and public awareness of the implications of viral hep B & C at all levels of the national response, including cost of inaction
- Improve access to viral hepatitis prevention, testing, and treatment
- Improve national data collection and reporting of hepatitis using electronic platforms and expanding hepatitis indicators within DHIMS2
- Mobilizing of national financing; increase allocation in insurance schemes and current Global Fund application

