The Union

Workshop

Address to Inequity:
challenging the global End TB agenda

Date: **Tuesday 15 November 2022**
Time: **13:00 to 16:00 CEST**
Registration link for course:
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpce6gpjMjHdbtRTolEyzR-r77hYp2b5kd

Despite TB being recognized as a social disease, and research illuminating its social drivers, current responses to TB inadequately engender this social framing. This workshop will centerstage social and health equity to propel a radical shift in how we envision TB elimination. Through four brilliant speakers and forward-thinking participants, this workshop aims to provide a forum for candid, critical dialogue on the current TB policy architecture, funding landscape, and programming including translation of global guidelines, accountability, and intersectoral engagement, to support prioritizing a framework for equity in the global TB response. The interdisciplinary workshop will include video presentations, aired live, and intermingled interactive segments comprising breakout rooms, debriefing sessions, and Q&A.

After attending this workshop participants will be able to:

- Critical assessment of systemic structural gaps and inequities underlying the TB epidemic across and within countries.
- Approaches to pivot funding, research, and policymaking to (more) explicitly address the inequitable distribution of the social determinants and impacts of TB.
- Re-imagined TB programming to support community-engagement and decolonization in the development and translation of TB policies to practice

Session sponsor: Social Science and Health Innovations for Tuberculosis (SSHIFTB)

Chairs: Amrita Daftary, York University and Jeremiah Chikovore, Human Sciences Research Council

Coordinators: Angela Chen, York University and Nora Engel, Maastricht University

Target audience: Researchers, program managers, decision-makers, social scientists, community representatives

Ernesto Jaramillo (Colombia): Promoting equity to end the TB epidemic through the End TB strategy

There is great potential to harness the End TB strategy to tackle the forces creating and perpetuating inequities which shape the TB epidemic. Recent policy developments like the WHO TB Social Protection Guidance, Multisectoral Accountability Framework for TB, and World Report on Social Determinants of Health Equity could inform local policies and advance equity in TB. The protection and promotion of all human rights relevant in the chain of TB causality, beyond the right to health, is needed. This talk will describe what an equity-oriented TB response could look like, and challenges faced by decision-makers in realizing this vision.

Uzma Khan (Pakistan): Equity in TB demands addressing its colonial legacy

TB inequities are a product of unjust historical, political, and economic movements. Global health decolonization and allyship today provide an opportunity for actors engaged in TB elimination to dismantle redundant approaches to operationalizing TB policies and re-imagine research and service delivery practices. In this talk, approaches to elevate the voice and status of those living and working in communities and countries most affected by TB will be discussed to position them as central leaders in the global TB response. Participants will be invited to identify barriers to decolonizing TB practices in public health programs and community organizations in LMICs.

Seye Abimbola (Nigeria): Impact of decentralization on health equity, efficiency, and resilience

Decentralization is a lauded strategy for expanding health service coverage and access. The means through which decentralization is achieved, however, can have disparate impacts on equity, health systems efficiency, and community resilience. In this talk, three approaches to decentralization will be discussed to engage participants in a dialogue about the implications they each may have for TB-affected communities, and the potential ways through decentralization may exacerbate popul ation inequities. Bringing governance closer to communities, developing systems for mutual accountability, and supporting relations between multiple levels of governance may help to disrupt these patterns.

Yuliya Chorna (Ukraine): Promoting equity through partnerships beyond the health sector

Engaging sectors outside of the health arena, where the social determinants of TB often exist, is essential to achieving equitable TB outcomes. This talk will position the Multisectoral Accountability Framework to End TB as a means to address social determinants by solidifying linkages between different sectors, and enhancing engagement of civil society actors and TB-affected communities in the TB response. Universal health care, TB-specific social protections, and ethical, rights-based, people-centered frameworks in programming and legislation will also be discussed. Participants will be invited to share perspectives on the feasibility and relevance of multisectoral action and accountability in TB elimination

Grania Brigden (Geneva, Switzerland: The role TB funders should and could play in ensuring equity in the TB response

Identifying and tackling the inequities that limit progress against TB is a key component of the Global Fund's new strategy for 2023–2028. To ensure this happens there needs to be a full understanding of health inequalities and other non-health inequities so that Global Fund and other TB funders can adequately address these inequities in their investments. Participants will be invited to rank social and structural inequities that may challenge TB elimination efforts in their setting, and propose requirements that funders can place on applicants to ensure inequities are identified and enable concerted responses to address to them.

BIOGRAPHIES OF CHAIRS & SPEAKERS

Amrita Daftary is an assistant professor of Global Health at York University, Canada. Using social and behavioural approaches to research, including qualitative and implementation science methods, she inquires on the social determinants of TB, drug-resistant TB and TB-HIV co-morbidity. She contributes to the design and evaluation of psychosocial and programmatic interventions in South Africa and India, and helps to integrate patient and community voices into the development of global frameworks and guidelines. Amrita is Founder and Director of SSHIFTB.

Jeremiah Chikovore is a sociologist and Senior Research Specialist in the Social Aspects of Public Health Research programme at the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) in South Africa. His areas of research interest include social aspects of health, particularly of sexual and reproductive health, tuberculosis (TB) and HIV/AIDS. He holds an MPH and a PhD in Public Health from the University of Umea in Sweden. Before joining the HSRC in October 2008, he was a Lecturer in Behavioural and Community Health Sciences, College of Health Sciences at the University of Zimbabwe. Jeremiah is a Founder and Director of SSHIFTB.

Ernesto Jaramillo is a Colombian medical doctor with a PhD in Health Education from University of London, UK. He has covered clinical, programmatic and research issues in tuberculosis. From 2002 to 2018, Dr. Jaramillo was the tuberculosis drug-resistance policy lead at the WHO, an area in which he has published extensively and supported the uptake of innovative policies in countries. Since 2021, he is the lead for ethics/equity/human rights, social protection and disability at the WHO Global TB Programme in Geneva, Switzerland

Uzma Khan is a physician, a TB implementer, researcher, an advocate for TB and integrated health practices, and a fighter for justice and equity in all domains - not just in health. She is a TB survivor and has spent the last 12 years working in LMICs overseeing, implementing, and evaluating TB programs. Khan is based at IRD Global. She is Central Co-I in the endTB clinical trials, and a member of the regional Green Light Committee (rGLC) for the WHO EMRO region. Her interests are in implementation science, health equity, advocacy, and policy.

Seye Abimbola is Senior Lecturer and Research Fellow at the School of Public Health, University of Sydney, Australia. He is also Prince Claus Chair on Development and Equity in Global Health Research at Utrecht University, Netherlands, and Editor-in-Chief of BMJ Global Health. An interdisciplinary scholar, Dr. Abimbola's research focusses on health systems innovations, primary health care, global health governance and decolonization, to promote equity in global responses to communicable and non-communicable diseases.

Yuliya Chorna is a TB advocate with a background in social work. Through leadership roles in civil society and TB advocacy groups, Yuliya has supported community voices in TB and HIV to bring a people-centered perspective into decisions related to effective quality care. She consults on multisectoral collaboration and accountability to end TB with the WHO Regional Office for Europe, TB Europe Coalition, and other governmental and non-governmental partners in the countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia. She has also been a member of the WHO Civil Society Task Force on TB.

Grania Brigden is a senior TB advisor at The Global Fund, working in the Strategy, Investment and Impact Division. She has over 15 years' experience in service delivery, programming and research in TB, including drug resistant TB, child and adolescent TB, and TB comorbidities. Among her various leadership roles, Dr. Brigden has been TB and AMR advisor for Médecins sans Frontières and Director of TB at The Union where she helped to shape the global TB research and programming agenda. She has played a key role in TB knowledge translation, including developing TB Science at the annual The Union conference.