



CHANGE TB:

Intersectional approaches to empower communities to explore, challenge and transform TB-related stigma

BACKGROUND

TB remains highly stigmatized in Nepal. Our previous research has shown that half of people affected by TB in Nepal experience severe stigma. Perceived and self-stigma are high and stigma is severely gendered through patriarchal social structure.

The Nepal Communities, Rights, and Gender (CRG) assessment (Stop TB Partnership CFCs 2022) highlights a lack of successful interventions to reduce stigma, emphasizing the urgent need to co-create effective stigma interventions with affected communities.

CHANGE TB project, funded by Stop TB Partnership, aims to develop skilled networks of TB survivors from key vulnerable populations in Nepal, empowered to identify, challenge, and reduce prevalent stigmatizing behaviors at individual level, relational and structural level.

OBJECTIVES

1. Train TB survivors from key vulnerable populations from three provinces in community rights and gender (CRG) and stigma recognition, reduction and advocacy using the STOP TB toolkit.
2. Co-create culturally appropriate stigma reduction interventions with TB affected communities.
3. Conduct stigma assessments in three provinces with diverse ethnic cultures and key vulnerable populations to understand variation in the lived experience of TB-related stigma through a gender and culture lens.
4. Orient households on their rights and improve access to social and economic support through a TB club network to support people affected by TB.



ACTIVITIES

- ❖ Baseline stigma assessment in key vulnerable populations and highly affected communities
- ❖ TB-related stigma awareness murals in highly visible areas of community health centers
- ❖ Training to people affected by TB on Communities Rights and Gender (CRG) and stigma recognition, reduction and advocacy
- ❖ Convene TB clubs to support people affected by TB for six months of treatment
- ❖ Activism training with experienced activists
- ❖ Dissemination of CHANGE TB experience and results
- ❖ National Policy Dialogue on TB-related stigma



TARGET BENEFICIARIES

- ❖ People with TB and affected families, community stakeholders, National TB Program leaders and decision makers.



COLLABORATION and PARTNERSHIP

Funded by: STOP TB PARTNERSHIP / UNOPS

Partners: Ministry of Health and Population, National Tuberculosis Control Center, Provincial Health Directorate, Health offices, municipalities and TB partner organizations.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. Establish a strong, empowered, and skilled network of community-based activists from key vulnerable populations and diverse cultural groups in three provinces of Nepal.
2. In depth understanding of TB related stigma in Nepal within different communities, through a gender lens.
3. Creation of health enabling environments within TB service provision by reducing healthcare provider related stigmatizing behaviors.



Project districts (Bardiya, Banke, Mahottari, Dhanusha, Sunsari and Morang) are colored in dark red

PROJECT LOCATIONS

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