'Reimagining Global Health: Decolonization of Global Health Governance'

Strengthening Myanmar's TB response by investing in local ownership

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BACKGROUND AND CHALLENGES TO IMPLEMENTATION



Figure 1: Geographic distribution of TB community network

In Myanmar, a tuberculosis (TB) high burden country, widening inequality due to persistent political instability and the unprecedented effects of the COVID-19 pandemic has hindered TB service access. Within this compromised national health system, grassroots leadership is required to revitalize TB elimination efforts, including TB active case finding, treatment support, and prevention.

INTERVENTION TO RESPONSE



Completed participatory, contextualized Organizational Capacity Assessments (OCA), as a first step intentionally aimed at empowering a community network of people affected by TB including 90 civil society organizations (CSO) and self-help groups (SHG)



Built CSO and SHG shared awareness and momentum on selfreliance and the importance of collective action and networking to drive TB elimination locally.

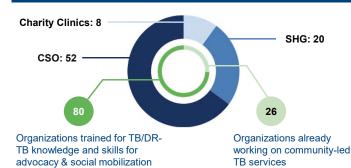


Responded to these demand-driven capacity-strengthening needs by facilitating platforms for information sharing and tailored technical assistance on TB awareness, advocacy and communication.





RESULTS/IMPACT



Advocacy for TB services

TB health education and raising awareness

TB treatment support

Referral for diagnosis

TB screening and contact tracing

CONCLUSION

A model resulting in empowered local grassroots organizations to lead and own elimination efforts through TB community networks.



A best practice enabling more proactive and coordinated ways of decolonizing global health via accelerating the transition from national and international initiatives to local civil society.



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