

TB DIAH: Data-to-Action Continuum

Background

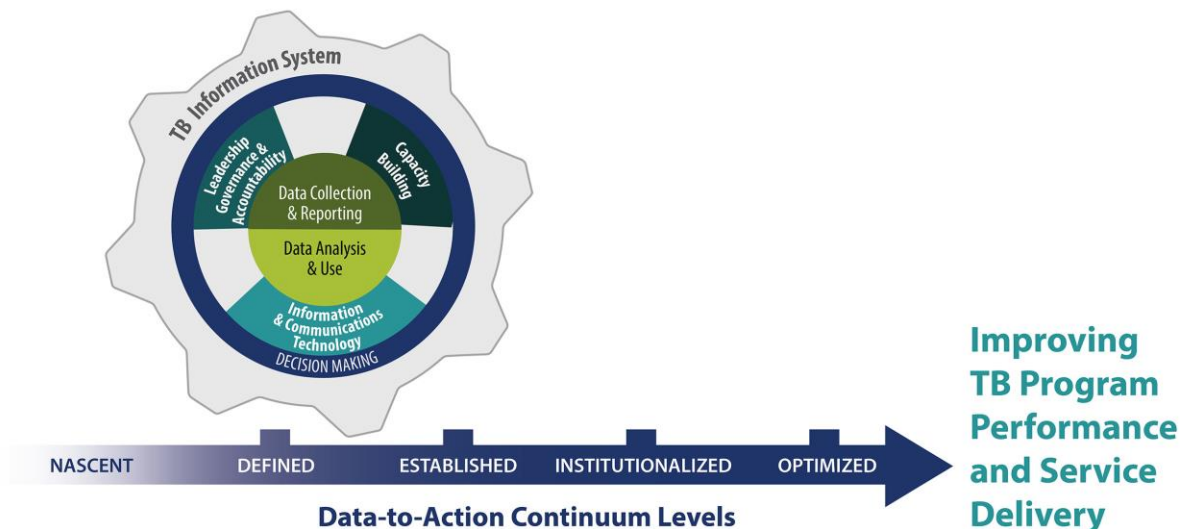
The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) leads the U.S. Government's global efforts to end tuberculosis (TB). USAID's [Global Accelerator to End TB](#) is the Agency's programmatic approach to fight TB. The Accelerator increases commitment from, and builds the capacity of, governments, civil society, and the private sector to accelerate national progress to reach global TB targets. The Accelerator focuses on countries with high burdens of TB where the Agency can unite with local communities and partners to deliver performance-based results. To ensure the Accelerator's effectiveness and increased transparency, USAID utilizes standardized data collection and performance-based indicators that align with the targets.

Under the Accelerator, USAID funds the TB Data, Impact Assessment and Communications Hub ([TB DIAH](#)). TB DIAH aims to ensure optimal demand for and analysis of TB data, appropriate use of that information to measure performance, and to inform National TB Programs (NTPs) and USAID interventions and policies.

The Data-to-Action Continuum

TB DIAH has developed a TB Data-to-Action Continuum (D2AC) Toolkit to measure countries' progress and guide efforts to improve their TB monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and surveillance systems. The D2AC defines five possible levels of system development, ranging from "nascent" to "optimized."

The D2AC builds on the work of the Performance-based Monitoring and Evaluation Framework (PBMEF), the Assessment of Reporting Capacity (ARC), and other existing documentation (i.e., joint program reviews, epidemiological assessments, etc.). It allows NTPs to precisely gauge the barriers to data use and assess the decision-making capabilities of different actors across their health systems. It also helps NTPs select appropriate interventions within the context of their health systems and develop implementation plans to apply them.



D2AC begins as a facilitator-guided workshop with stakeholders from different focal areas of the NTP (e.g., screening, diagnosis, and treatment) and levels of the health system. Participants discuss and achieve consensus on the relative maturity of elements of the NTP’s capacity. The Toolkit then yields suggested interventions—called priority actions—tailored to stakeholders’ assessments of NTP capacities. These priority actions help the NTP improve capacity to translate data into action, targeted to the stage of maturity at different levels of the health system.

The D2AC can be used on its own, or as a complement to other TB DIAH tools and products as part of an assessment of a country’s systematic TB M&E and surveillance. When used alongside other TB DIAH tools and assessments such as the PBMEF, ARC, or Quality of TB Services Assessment (QTSA), D2AC contributes to a holistic view of a country’s TB M&E system and its capacity to collect, analyze, and use key indicators for TB service delivery, performance improvements, and data-based decision making.

Elements of the D2AC

The expert-validated D2AC Toolkit includes:

- 1) An Excel-based D2AC Data Collection Tool for collecting individual responses with:
 - Five defined continuum levels
 - A country profile template to collect socio-economic, demographic, and epidemiological indicators
 - A D2AC scale, with capability statements organized into five domains and 17 sub-domains for each of the five continuum levels
 - Key user roles and decisions organized according to USAID’s TB objectives of reach, cure, prevent, and sustain
 - A data collection instrument
 - An analysis matrix
 - An analysis dashboard
- 2) An Excel-based D2AC Data Analysis Tool that automatically aggregates responses from all completed data collection instruments and generates data visualizations and recommended priority actions. This enables decision-makers to make sense of and apply the findings and develop an implementation plan using the template provided by D2AC.
- 3) A User Guide to facilitate the use of both tools.

TB DIAH field tested the D2AC Toolkit in Ghana and Nigeria in March and April 2022. In 2022, the Toolkit will be converted into an all-digital web-based tool linked to TB DIAH’s [Data Hub](#).

Questions?

For questions or more information about TB DIAH’s D2AC work, please contact:

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