

Improving TB Monitoring, Evaluation, & Surveillance with a Virtual Center of Excellence Model

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Introduction

The TB Data, Impact Assessment and Communications Hub (TB DIAH) project, funded by the US Agency for International Development, aims to ensure optimal demand for and analysis of TB data. One strategy to achieve this uses a center of excellence (COE) model. The goal was to create three virtual COEs around the world to contribute to TB M&E research, dissemination, expertise, and teaching and serve as a model for best practices in TB M&E.

Methods

TB DIAH developed standard qualitative and quantitative criteria to select the COE host countries. A COE website was created to establish and promote best practices with TB data collection, reporting, visualization, analysis, and use; engage national TB programs with assistance and resources; support trainings on TB M&E; and provide leadership.

Results

A pilot COE was established in Georgia for the Eastern Europe and Eurasia (EEE) region. The COE focuses on two pillars of success: (1) standardization (promoting global best practices and standards in TB M&E) and (2) leveraging assets (capitalizing on relationships, human capacity, and artifacts). The project is in the process of selecting COE countries in Africa and Asia.

Discussion

The Georgian COE has become a reliable platform for TB M&E resources and information sharing in EEE. With TB DIAH's assistance, the COE is being implemented by Georgia's National Center for Disease Control and Public Health (NCDC) and National Center for TB and Lung Disease (NCTLD). These organizations are supporting TB M&E capacity building and knowledge exchange in the region.

A center of excellence (COE) model was used to establish a **virtual COE** in TB monitoring and evaluation (M&E) in Georgia.

The COE is contributing to **TB M&E research, dissemination, and expertise** and serves as a model for **best practices in TB M&E** and surveillance.

COE Website


