

Priority Tuberculosis and HIV Operational Studies in Jordan

Project Information

- Department: Center of Excellence for Applied Epidemiology
- ♦ Unit: Research and Policy

SCOPE OF WORK

The overall goal of this project is to "contribute to Tuberculosis (TB) and Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) control leading to mortality, morbidity, and disease transmission reduction". The project aims at "increasing the understanding of TB and HIV/AIDS burden in the kingdom and to improve the efficiency of the current surveillance system" through conducting three studies. The project will be implemented in Jordan.

BENEFICIARIES

The project's main beneficiary is the Ministry of Health (MOH). This project will ensure steady progress towards Goal three of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Jordan Vision 2025 "to ensure health prosperity and access to all Jordanians". HIV/AIDS Knowledge, Attitude and, Practice (KAP) & TB KAP -two separatestudies target general population, refugees and migrants, healthcare providers, and people living with HIV and TB. And the third one is an assessment of the TB, HIV/AIDS, and Sexual Transmitted Diseases (STDs) surveillance system.

REGIONS OF WORK

Three main activities under this project will be conducted in Jordan targeting four governorates including Amman, Zarqa, Irbid, and Mafraq

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Due to the poor understanding of TB and HIV/AIDS in the kingdom and the poor reporting and surveillance system. With the aim of improving global health security, EMPHNET will implement a project titled "**Priority Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Operational-Studies in Jordan**" in collaboration with the MOH. The implementing activities of this project will contribute to improving the effectiveness of the public health systems in the kingdom, in particular the TB and HIV/AIDS diseases, through enhancing the knowledge, attitude, perception, satisfaction, and practices of the two defined diseases among general population, refugees and migrants, care givers and People living with HIV/AIDS and TB. Moreover, this project will provide an assessment of the current surveillance systems for TB, HIV/AIDS, and STDs in Jordan, that entails a detailed description of the current efficiency of the surveillance systems, needed enhancements, and required resources for scaling-up.

| Project Start and End Date | January 1 st , 2021 – December 31 st , 2021 |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Partner Organizations | Ministry of Health, Jordan |
| Funded by | International Organization for Migration (IOM). |
| Collaborators | Global Fund, United Nations High Commissioners for Refugees (UNCHR), Forearms of Change to Enable Community, World Health Organization (WHO), The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). |

PROJECT ACTIVITIES/PHASES

The project involves three main activities that will be conducted in the form of operational studies simultaneously.

<u>Activity 1</u>: Conducting Knowledge, Attitude and, Practice (KAP) survey among general population, refugees, migrants, healthcare providers, and people living with HIV (PLHIV) and Client Satisfaction Survey.

<u>Activity 2:</u> Conducting a comprehensive assessment of Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice (KAP) and behavior regarding tuberculosis among refugees, migrants, host community, patients, and health care providers.

Activity 3: Assessing TB, HIV/AIDS, and STDs surveillance system. The main objective of the assessment is to evaluate the accuracy and completeness of the current surveillance and reporting system.

Currently...

The pre-identified gaps for the initiation of this project are: First, there is limited information on KAP of HIV/AIDS and TB among the general population and other special groups in Jordan. Second, widespread ignorance, poor information, and misconceptions about the diseases in the society are responsible to cause a social stigma and discrimination and stigmatization. Third, accurately assessing the tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS burden over time in Jordan is difficult because of the paucity of high-quality data, underreporting and lacking good-quality vital registration system. Finally, although the Jordan National Tuberculosis Program (NTP) reached the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) for TB reduction in 2011 and was preparing to shift to TB elimination, its efforts have been disrupted due to the influx of Syrian refugees. Since then, the IOM has supported the National TB Program in detecting and treating TB among Syrian refugees.

What is next...

Under this project, the epidemiologic profile of these two diseases will be recognized, assessed, and evaluated through conducting three operational studies aims at understanding the HIV/AIDS and TB burden in the kingdom. The project will contribute towards knowledge capacity sharing, building, communication among the participating entities. Consequently, it will help the MOH to make informed decision and to design effective solutions for better programming and policies related to TB and HIV/AIDS. This project will ensure steady progress towards Jordan vision 2025 and Goal three of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) for health that identifies ending the HIV/AIDS and the TB epidemic by 2030. These studies will also pave the way for future in depth studies.

OUTCOMES BY NUMBERS

HIV/AIDS-Related KAP Survey:

- 2276 questionnaires from general population, refugees, and migrants
- Six interviews of the healthcare providers
- 152 questionnaires from PLHIV and 22 Satisfaction Surveys

Number of Questionnaires Collected for the TB-Related KAP Survey:

- 2332 from general population, refugees, and migrants
- 110 from the Healthcare providers 452 from patients and 262 from caregivers
- Two Assessment workshops for TB, HIV, and STDs surveillance system
- 12 reports

EMPHNET Information: Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) works at achieving its mission by responding to public health needs with deliberate efforts that allow for health promotion and disease prevention.

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