

Uzbekistan

Total population (millions): 29.5

High TB priority country

High MDR-TB burden country

Epidemiological profile 2010**

Estimates of TB burden	Number (thousands)	Rate (per 100 000)	MDR-TB burden	Number (thousands)	%
Mortality	5.4 (3.9-7.1)	20 (14-26)	Estimates among notified TB cases:		
Prevalence	62 (29-100)	227 (104-371)	MDR-TB among new cases	1.6 (1.2-2.1)	14 (11-19)
Incidence	35 (29-42)	128 (105-153)	MDR-TB among previously treated cases	2.3 (1.9-2.6)	49 (42-56)
Case detection rate	48 (40-58)%		MDR-TB cases on treatment	0.628	61

Estimated prevalence of HIV among TB (number, percentage); 710 (560-870); 2.1 (1.9-2.3)%.

Treatment outcome 2009	Successfully treated (%)	Died (%)	Failed (%)	Lost to follow up* (%)
New smear-positive cases	81.4	6.0	5.4	7.2
New smear-negative/extrapulmonary	88.4	3.4	0.8	7.4
Previously treated cases	68.9	11.2	6.6	13.3
MDR-TB cohort 2008	65.7	5.1	6.1	23.1

*Includes those cases that defaulted from treatment, those that were transferred out and those that were not evaluated.

**Data provided here are based on the latest WHO global TB database accessed on 9 December 2011. Extended epidemiological profiles can be found at: <http://www.who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en/index.html>

Major challenges

Uzbekistan is among the 27 high multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) burden countries in the world. The management of anti-TB drugs is suboptimal and as a consequence, first-line anti-TB drugs can be obtained without a doctor's prescription. Children are not treated according to international standards, neither with regard to the combination and dosage of anti-TB drugs, nor with regard to the duration of treatment and hospitalization.

The staff in the new culture laboratories is insufficiently trained. Furthermore, the country lacks coordination with neighbouring countries to ensure cross-border TB control and care.

Achievements in collaboration with WHO

- A nationwide anti-TB drug resistance survey was carried out in 2010-2011 and finalized in 2011.
- An extensive review of the National TB Programme was carried out and formed the basis of the approval of the governmental programme on TB control for the period 2010–2015.
- WHO provided assistance with an assessment of TB recording and reporting, which led to the implementation of e-TB manager in collaboration with Management Sciences for Health (MSH).
- The WHO Country Office (CO) is coordinating the implementation of the Practical Approach to Lung Health (PAL) Strategy in line with the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) project framework in Karakalpakstan.
- Organization of a Green Light Committee/Global Drug Facility (GLC/GDF) mission, 16–25 May 2011.
- The following educational activities were organized by the TB Programme at the WHO CO in Uzbekistan:
 - During the last two years, all general practitioners and nurses at primary health care facilities have been trained in the PAL Strategy, and WHO has provided the necessary medical equipment to improve case detection and management of respiratory diseases in Karakalpakstan.
 - The 3rd central Asian regional workshop on TB laboratory diagnosis, 31 March – 2 April 2010.
 - An international conference on “M/XDR-TB, call for action” for the national TB programmes of central Asian countries was organized in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 27–28 April 2010.

- A special topic seminar on the management of drug-resistant TB in the prison system in central Asia was held in Tashkent, 15–17 September 2010. This seminar was organized by the WHO TB programmes in the central Asian republics, and the Ministries of Health and Internal Affairs of Uzbekistan.

Planned WHO activities

- Revision of national TB and MDR-TB guidelines (2011–2013).
- Updating and endorsing the M/XDR-TB Response Plan in line with the Regional M/XDR-TB Action Plan.
- Regular routine assessment of the implementation of the Stop TB Strategy.
- Coordination of the activities of partners.
- Assistance with the analysis and reporting of the nationwide anti-TB drug resistance survey.
- Development of a mechanism of coordination to improve subregional cross-border TB control and care.
- Technical assistance in collaboration with the TB Coalition (TB CARE) on TB in prisoners, migrants, children and other vulnerable groups (2012–2014).
- Establishment of a working group on the development of a national protocol on infection control, and finalization of the draft national protocol on infection control (during first half of 2012).
- Technical assistance to expand countrywide MDR-TB case management (2011–2014).
- Technical assistance to establish new culture and drug susceptibility methods in the laboratory network at oblast level (2011–2012).
- Development of a laboratory module within the e-TB manager software will be finalized and tested.

Main partners of WHO

- Ministry of Health
- National TB Programme (NTP)
- Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (The Global Fund)
- German Development Bank (KfW)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID); TB Care
- Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)
- Project HOPE
- Quality Health Care Project
- Management Sciences for Health (MSH).