

# 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.

## REGIONS OF WORK

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

## PROJECT ACTIVITIES/PHASES

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

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

Activity 2 – 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.

## 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 IOM. 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.

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

## 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 separate- studies 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 Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) surveillance 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, under-reporting 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's 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 sharing, capacity building, and 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.

## HIV/AIDS AND TB FACTS

**HIV/AIDS is a manageable chronic condition that allows infected people to live a long and healthy life**

**TB is a preventable and treatable condition**

**Goal three of the SDG for health, identifies ending the HIV/AIDS and the TB epidemic by 2030. Target 3.3 indicates: “end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases, and other communicable diseases.”**

**HIV/AIDS was responsible for the death of 690,000, in 2019**

**TB was responsible of the death of 1.4 million, in 2019**

### **GHD and EMPHNET: Working together for better health**

Global Health Development (GHD) is a regional initiative created to support countries in the Eastern Mediterranean Region strengthen their health systems in response to public health challenges and threats. GHD was initiated to advance the work of the Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) by building coordination mechanisms with Ministries of Health, International Organizations, and other institutions to improve population health outcomes. As an implementing arm to EMPHNET, GHD aligns its strategies with national policies and directions, while serving as a collaborative platform dedicated to support national efforts in promoting public health policies, strategic planning, sustainable financing, resource mobilization, public health programs, and other related services.

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