

# GPP at TB Alliance

**Engagement across discovery, development and delivery**

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GPP Webinar

June 12, 2024



TB Alliance is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the discovery, development and delivery of better, faster-acting and affordable tuberculosis drugs that are available to those in need.





# Delivering on the Promise



## Discover

- Immunotherapies
- Artificial intelligence
- Long-acting injectables
- Active disease and latent infection
- Adjacent diseases (NTM)

Novel Targets and Classes  
New Technology



## Develop

- Clinical efficacy
- Formulation sciences
- Multilateral consortia
- Active disease and latent infection
- Adjacent diseases (NTM)

Novel, Universal  
Treatment



## Deliver

- Global, national subnational
- Earlier market and feasibility work
- Increased diagnosis for increased treatment

Widely Adopted, Affordable  
Available Treatment

..... GROUNDED IN COMMUNITY, EQUITY AND CONTINUOUS FEEDBACK LOOP



# Engagement in TB Drug R&D: TB Alliance CE Program

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- Good Participatory Practice (GPP) a cornerstone of our CE strategy
- CE program began in 2007 – Phase 3 clinical trial (ReMox) – to develop new models for engagement in TB R&D
- Developed a large network of site-level CE strategies for TB drug trials using a variety of site-level engagement mechanisms
- Support CE from site selection to results publication and dissemination
- Funding site-level CE strategies in Phase 2 and Phase 3 clinical trials
- Helping to build sustainable models of CE at the research site-level, while committing to engagement at all levels and across the entire discovery, development and delivery pipeline

# GPP-TB Guidelines

Adapted by the Stakeholder and Community Engagement Workgroup of CPTR in 2012

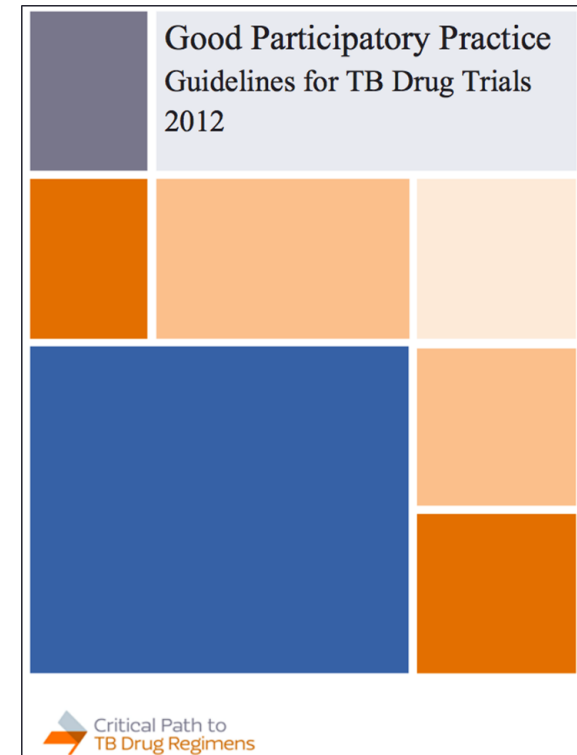
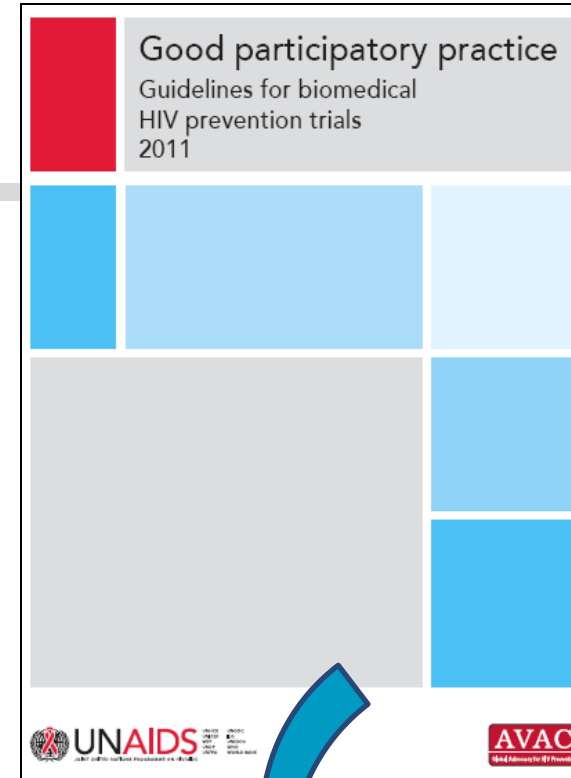
Represents a commitment of all stakeholders to:

- Create a beneficial, respectful, sustained and transparent partnership between researchers and communities throughout the trial process
- Address the interests of *all* stakeholders in specific clinical trials

Supports the ethical and scientifically rigorous conduct of TB drug clinical trials

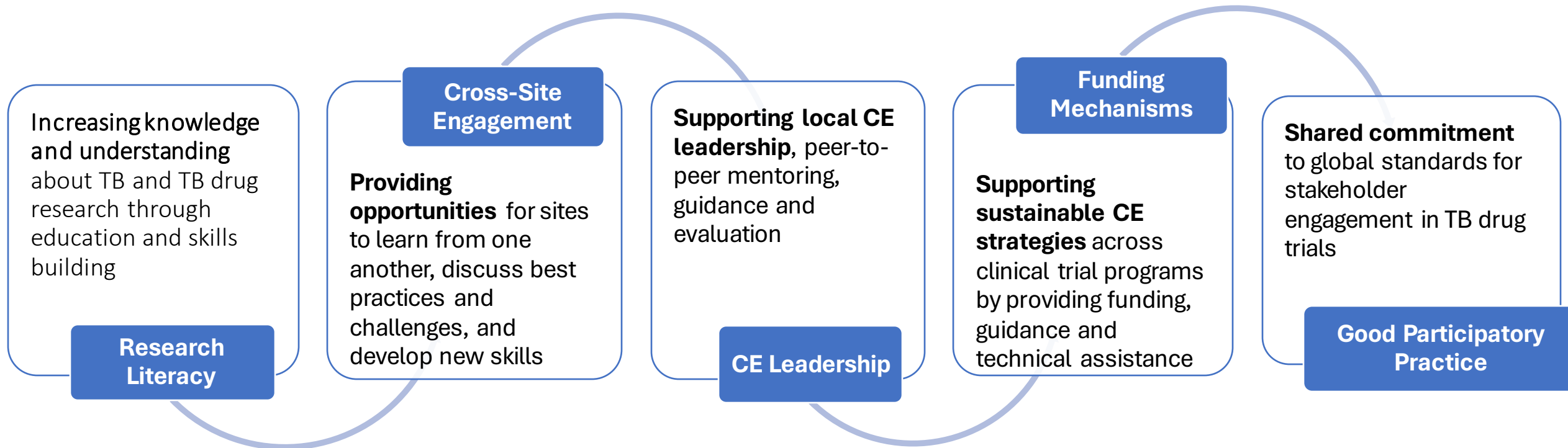
Promotes a shared responsibility for implementation of TB drug trials

View guidelines [HERE](#)



# Supporting CE Strategies at the Site Level

Empowering stakeholders to participate in the TB R&D process by supporting an **enabling environment**



# Principles of Community Engagement

## Responsibility

Enabling and participating in engagement

## Sustainability

Supporting CE from planning to results dissemination

## Consultation

Proactively seeking input from stakeholders

## Respect

Understanding the needs of local stakeholders

## Partnership

Strengthening relationships

## Transparency

Preparing stakeholders for research outcomes

## Advocacy

Joining communities in the fight to end TB



Patience Molefe, CAB Member, PHRU

# Supporting CE Strategies at the Site Level

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## Best Practices

- Early CAB consultation: study design, feasibility and acceptability, possible barriers to participation
- CE start-up at least 6 months prior to trial initiation
- Strong relationships with clinic nurses, frequent visits, education, reinforcement of knowledge
- Broad community sensitization to clinical trial
- Co-development of local and cross-trial CE strategies based on shared principles of engagement
- Incorporation of CE staff into clinical operations teams at sponsor and local research site levels

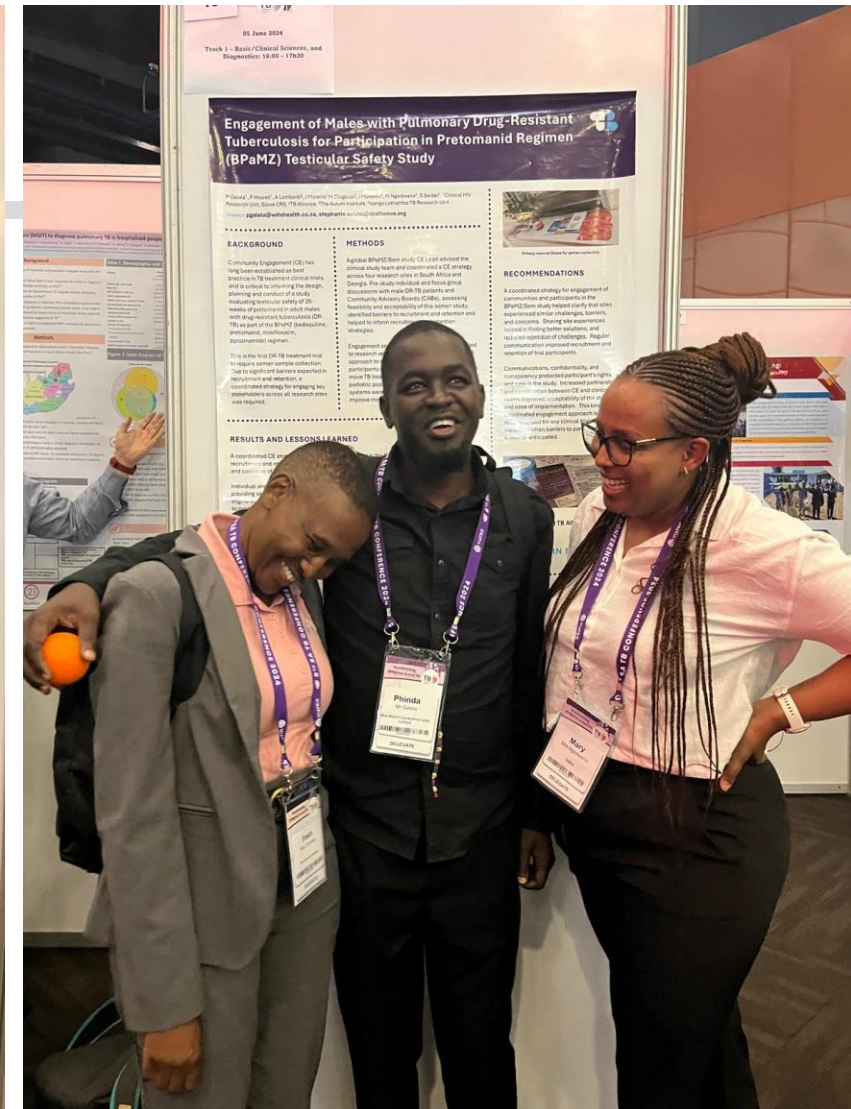
## Lessons Learned

- Trust and understanding of trials can lead to partnership and advocacy
- Engagement with community at local and global levels is critical for success of TB drug R&D
- Dedicated CE staff on site-level research teams play a key role in clinical trials and need to be supported with funding
- CABs need to be supported for their time and participation and given autonomy
- Recruitment and retention can be improved where strong engagement mechanisms are in place
- Inclusion of groups underserved by TB trials in CABs can improve the R&D process



# Cross-Site Coordinated Strategies for Successful Trial Outcomes

Case Example:  
BPamZ/Semen Study



Phinda Galela, 8<sup>th</sup> South African TB Conference, June 2024. *Engagement of Males with Pulmonary Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis for Participation in Pretomanid Regimen (BPamZ) Testicular Safety Study*





# GPP in Access

## Delivering TB Treatments

# Securing Access to New Treatments for All

We work with community partners in high-burden countries on custom approaches in countries.



Awareness raising and education



Advocacy and political engagement



Community education and capacity building

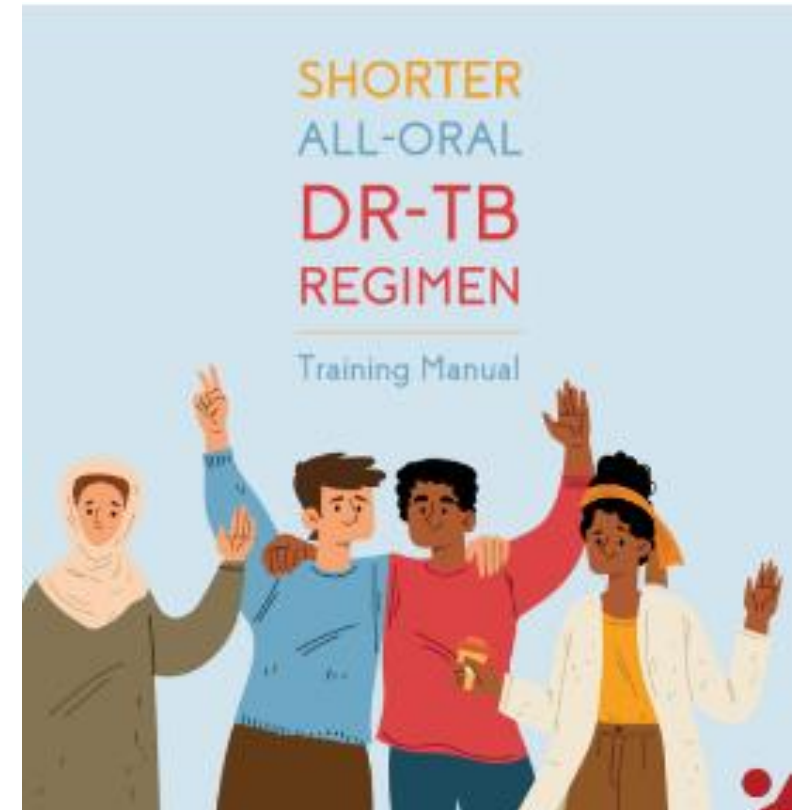


# TB Community Education and Capacity Building

**GCTA creates and distributes community brochures and training manuals on new DR-TB treatments.**

Empowering communities and civil society to engage effectively in the TB response can play a major role addressing challenges:

- finding missing people with TB
- ensuring early diagnosis and initiation of treatment
- treatment adherence and loss to follow up
- treatment success rates
- stigma
- reaching and working with key vulnerable populations
- demand for new tools
- low engagement between the NTP with civil society and TB affected communities
- and more (recall Declaration of Alma Alta, September 1978).





# Public Awareness Raising and Education

## FastTrack the Cure and #6MonthsMax social media and influencer campaigns

- Check out [@FastTrackTheCure](#) on Instagram, YouTube, Twitter and Facebook.
- Partners are finding, developing, and delivering BPaL/M user stories.
- With greater public awareness of new treatments, people are equipped and empowered to demand access and understand treatment options.
- With greater understanding of the facts of new treatments, people are less hesitant, more likely to complete treatment and better supported by their peers.



Screenshot of the [@FastTracktheCure](#) Instagram page

# Advocacy and Political Engagement

**TB People Philippines engages local mayors across cities with an ask to Fast Track the Cure.**



Mayor Lucy Torres Gomez representing Ormoc City records a video message making a commitment to fast-track access to new treatments for DR-TB in her community.

- Despite new treatments becoming available and being recommended by WHO, national TB programs could take a long time to shift from old to new regimens. Targeted advocacy can help speed adoption.
- With political champions and buy-in, new regimens can be rolled out programmatically nationwide fast.
- Without champions, roll-out can be unduly protracted.
- Political support means resources for the cause.
- Strong civil society is worth investing in to Fast Track the Cure and create healthy societies.

# Supporting NTPs with Community Engagement

Together with partners, we launched PeerLINC as a model for peer-to-peer learning and knowledge exchange — with community engagement at the core of training and planning.



This is a slide from the PeerLINC community engagement training module, which is presented to all NTP staff participants on country trainings.

## Where and how to engage communities

### Communities should for example, engage in:

- development of strategic plans for TB,
- programme reviews,
- technical working groups,
- advocacy (including for resource mobilization and/or demand creation)
- monitoring and evaluation activities,
- community-led monitoring,
- research and provision of TB services.

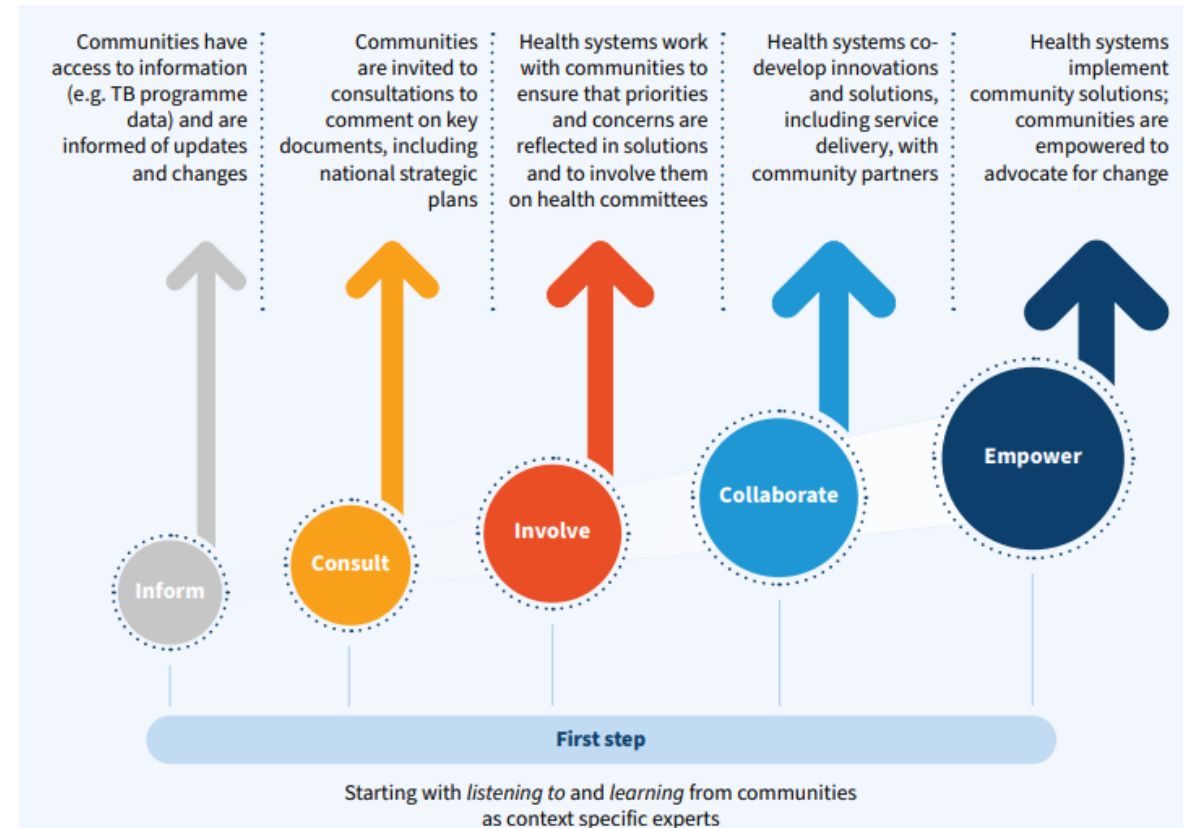
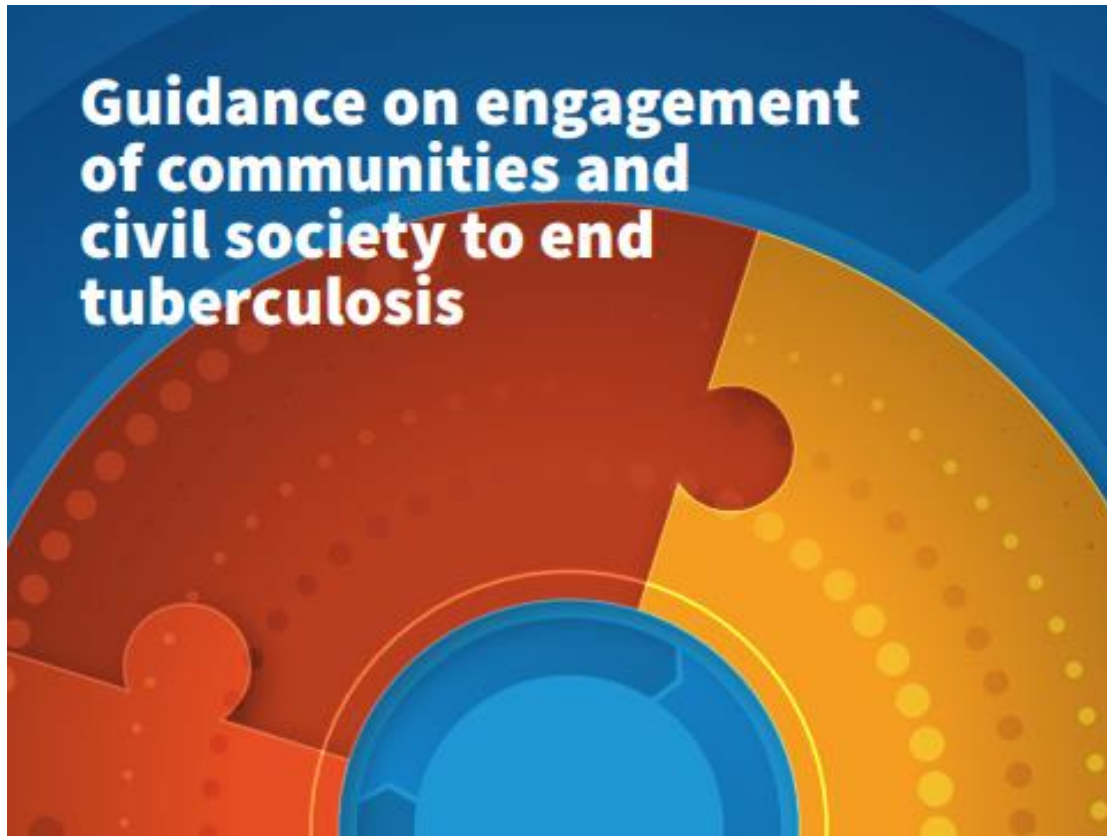
### To engage meaningfully and effectively, communities need enabling environments with:

- sustainable financing,
- supportive legal and policy frameworks,
- coordination platforms to discuss with ministries of health and their NTPs,
- continuous learning and capacity building,
- access to information,
- support for an “equal partnership” in the entire process (planning to service delivery monitoring)

15 | COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

# Foundation for Delivery GPP Work and PeerLINC

Best practice published in 2023 and developed by the WHO Civil Society Task Force





# TB Alliance Donors



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