

## TB and Global Fund Grant Support in Namibia

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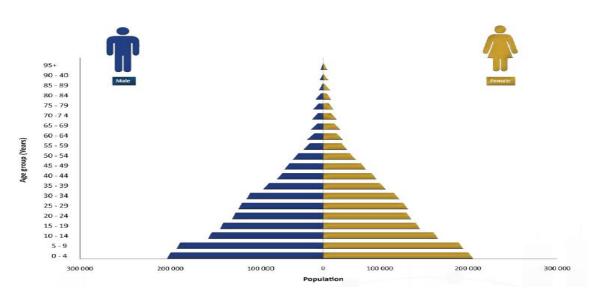




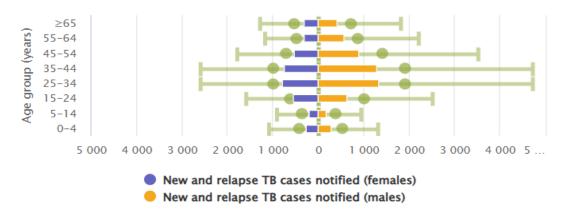
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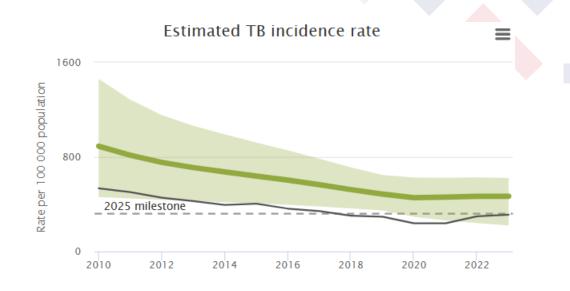
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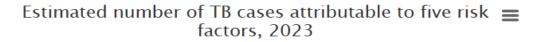
#### 1. Country profile

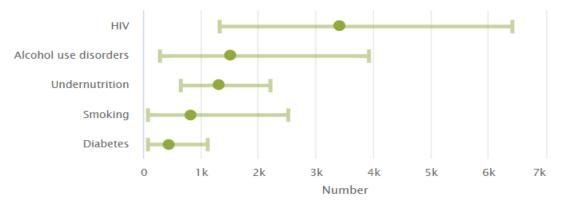


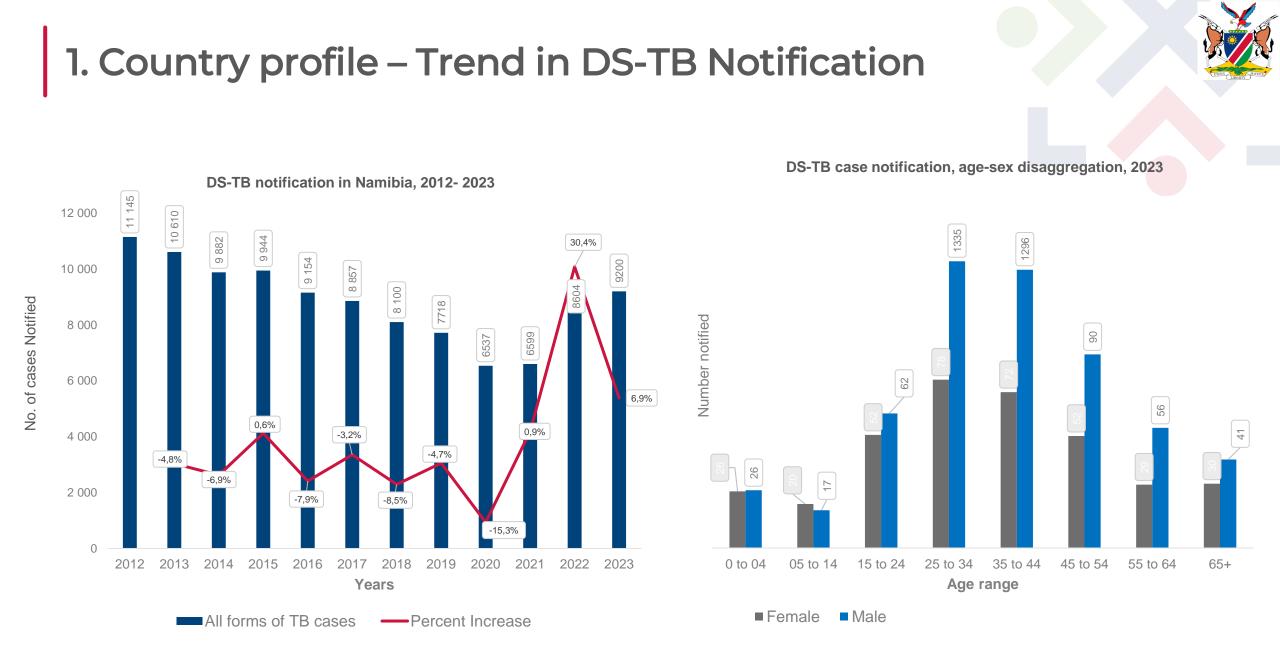
Estimated and reported number of TB cases by age group and sex, 2023





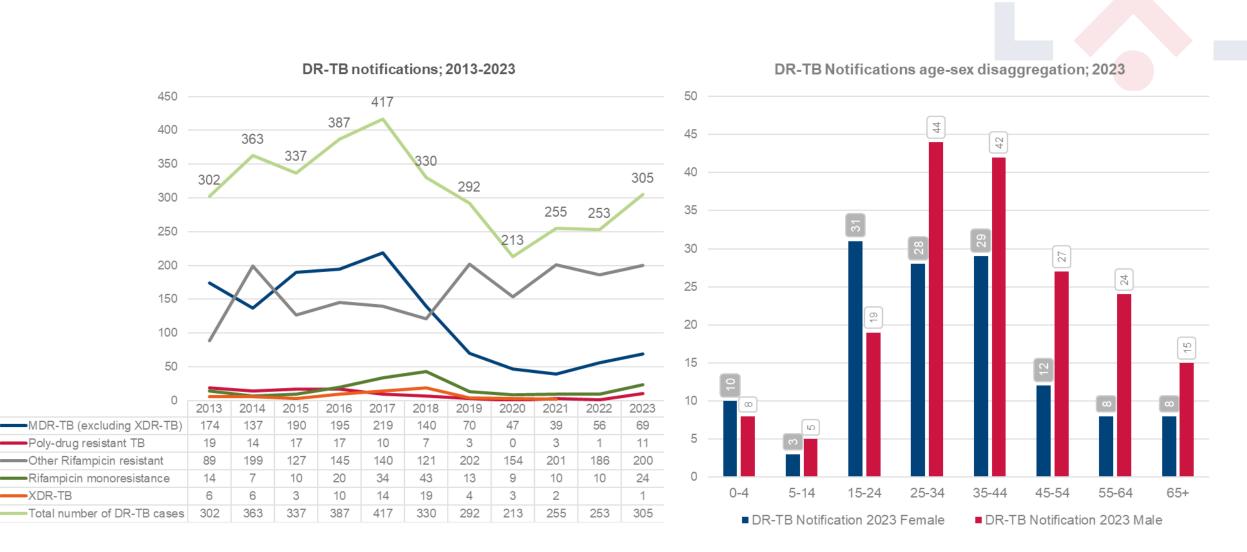




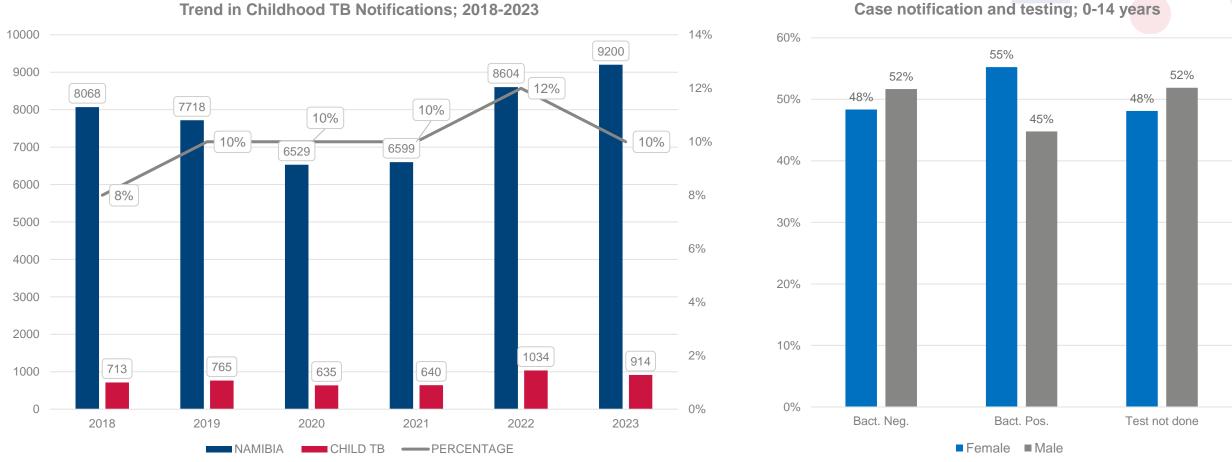


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### 1. Country profile – Trend in DR-TB Notifications



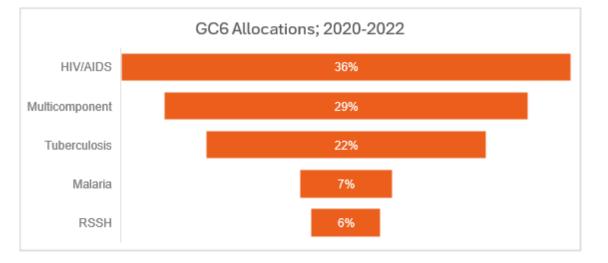
### 1. Country profile – Trend in Childhood TB

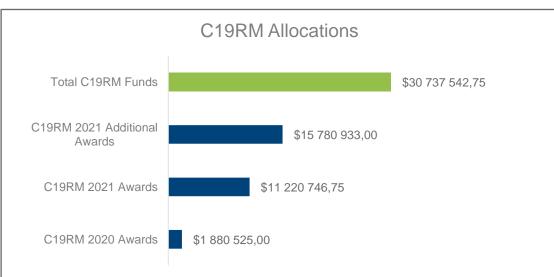


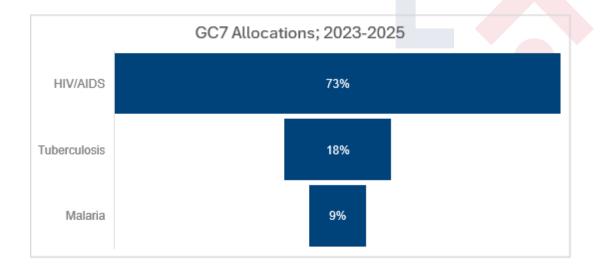
Case notification and testing; 0-14 years

# 1. Country profile – Global Fund Grant Allocations









#### GC7 Goals

- Reduce new HIV infections to < 1/1000 people annually
- Reduce AIDS-related deaths to < 1/1000 people
- 62% reduction in TB incidence rate by 2027
- 90% reduction in TB deaths
- Achievement of zero indigenous malaria cases by 2027
- Prevent re-introduction and establishment of malaria transmission in eliminated and non-receptive areas

# 2. Objectives of Technical Assistance

Based on scope of work and adjusted to country context

- Support the NTLP to develop and update national policies, guidelines, and technical directives to ensure timely adoption of the latest WHO recommendations
- Support NTLP in TB case finding and implement new and innovative approaches and systems to increase case detection
- Support NTP to implement the new recommendations and scale-up patient-centred approaches to TB prevention, care, and management
- Contribute to improving overall M&E systems, by assisting NTLP in improving data quality assurance, conducting supportive supervision
- Assist in developing programmatic reports
- Support the program in the implementation of the GF grant including proposal writing, addressing grant conditions and liaison with PMU and CCM
- Support the programme in conducting research project including operations research.
- Facilitate consultative processes and coordination between NTLP and its stakeholders
- Overall technical assistance to NTLP staff on various aspects of the programme

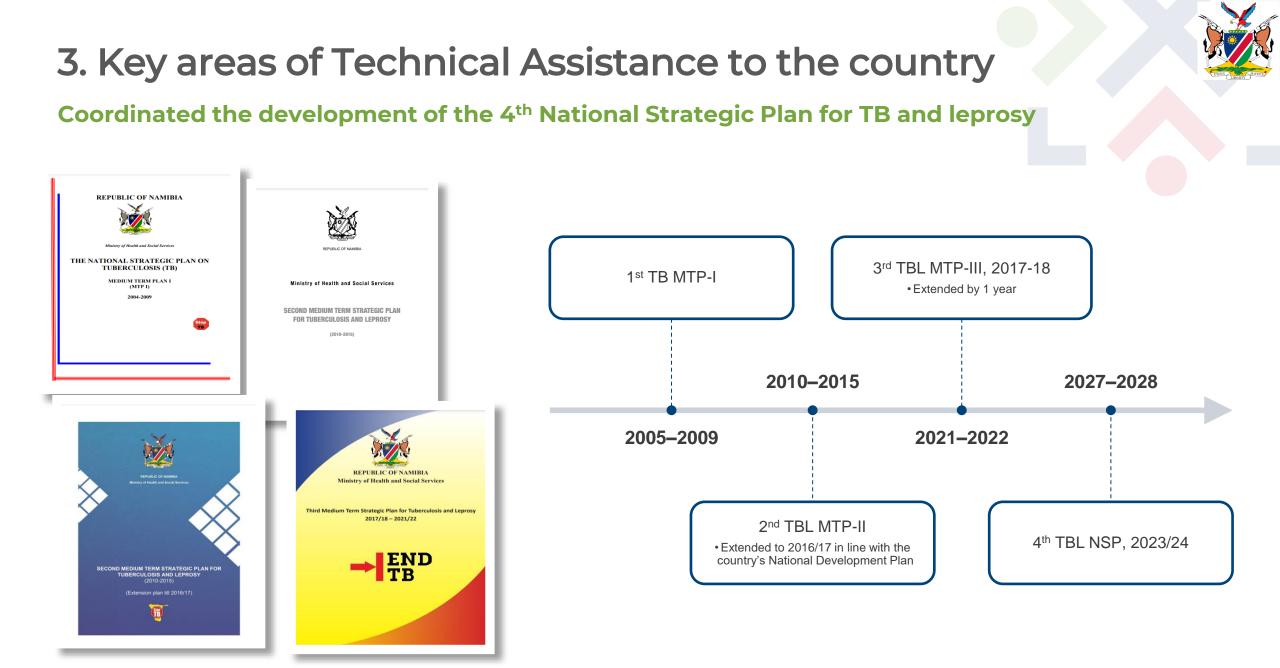
1. Development of the 4th National Strategic Plan for TB and leprosy

2. Revision of the guidelines on Child and Adolescent TB



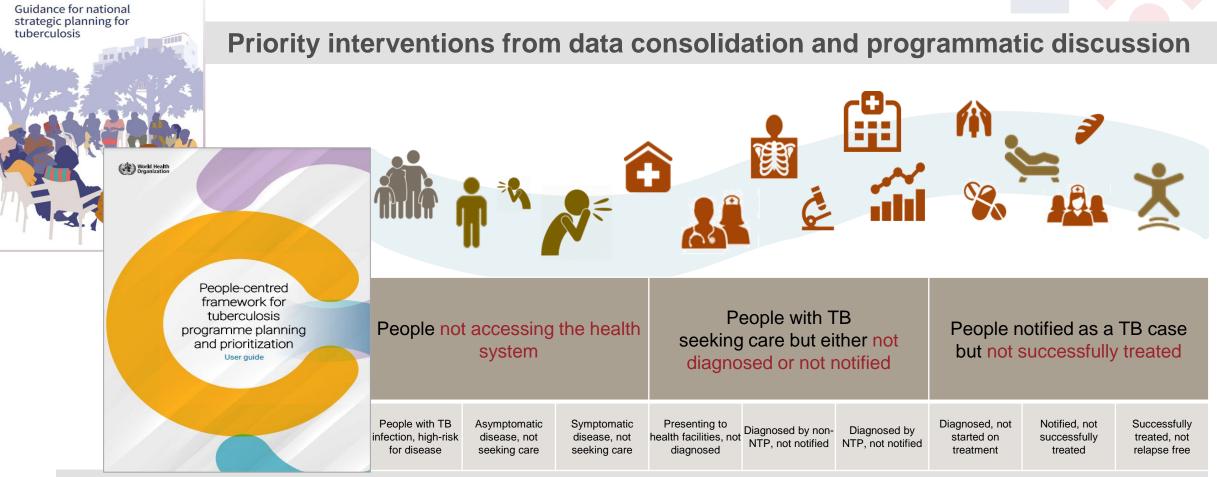








#### Coordinated the development of the 4<sup>th</sup> National Strategic Plan for TB and leprosy



Evidence-based discussions leading to evidence-based driven planning



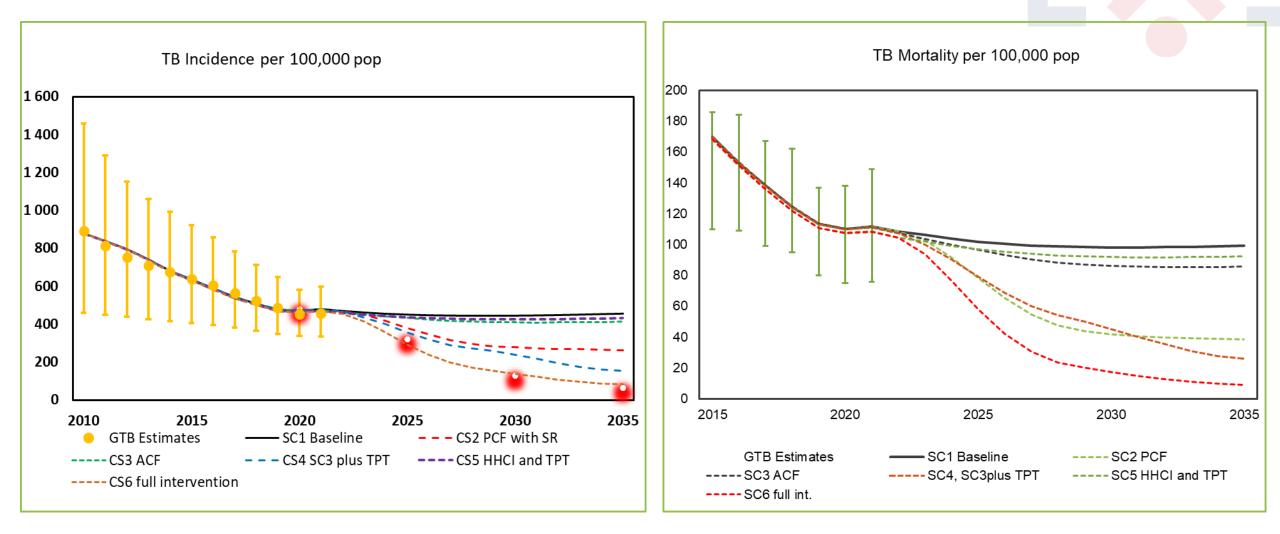
#### Coordinated the development of the 4<sup>th</sup> National Strategic Plan for TB and leprosy

Scenarios	Interventions	Description	Baseline (2022)	2027
1	Status quo	Continue as it is		
	Improve passive TB case finding			
2	and expanding of mWRDs	Expansion of mWRDs test for all presumptive TB cases	82%	100%
		Scale-up of ACF among high-risk groups using highly sensitive		
		tools (Double X: X-ray screening and use of mWRDs for diagnostic		
3	Active TB case finding	test)	7,900	70,000
	Scenario 3 plus TPT for selected			
4	high risk groups	Scenario 3 plus introduction of TPT for selected high risk groups	0	4000
	Household Contact Screening and	(1) Increasing household contact investigation and (2) TPT	(1): 8886(70%),	(1): 10955(95%),
5	provision of TPT	coverage (%)	(2): 2000(37%)	(2): 4500(90%)
6	Full package	All scenarios in one		

epidemiological modelling of impact was applied in combination with cost models and a sub-set of interventions needed to be selected to optimise the impact of available resources on the epidemic overall and for selected special populations.

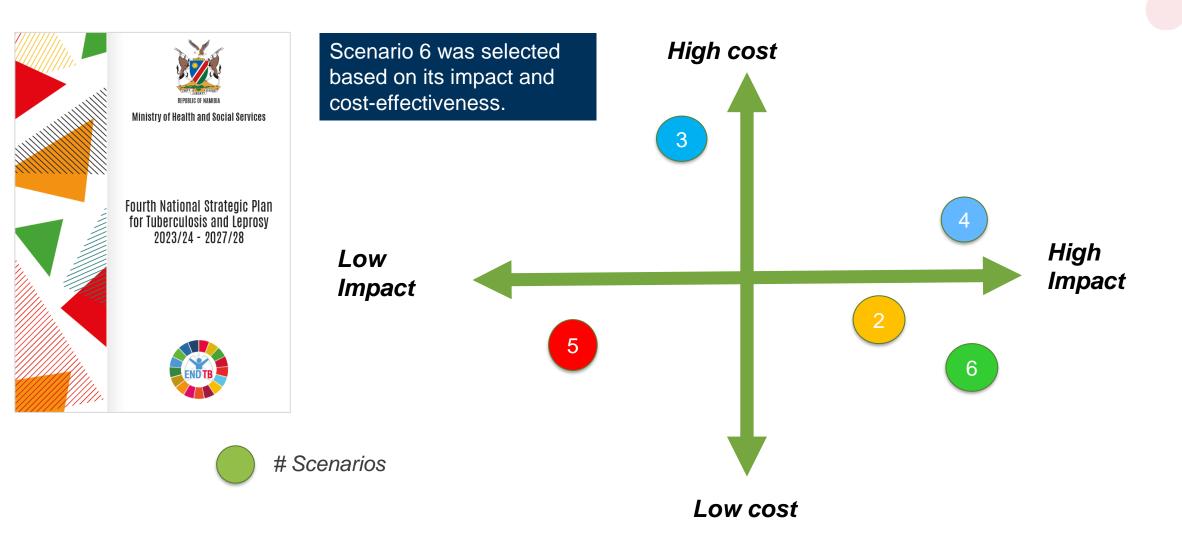


#### Coordinated the development of the 4<sup>th</sup> National Strategic Plan for TB and leprosy





Coordinated the development of the 4th National Strategic Plan for TB and leprosy





#### **Revision of the guidelines on Child and Adolescent TB**

Key findings from the 2022 End-term review:

- Namibia had not adopted innovative TB testing for children
- The country has yet to adopt WHO-recommended treatment regimens
- Sub-optimal HCW capacity in screening and diagnosing CATB
- TPT not provided to all eligible children



- 4<sup>th</sup> TBL NSP provides for dedicated Strategic Objective addressing child and adolescent TB to:
- Strengthen TB preventive treatment for children and adolescents
- Strengthen case finding among children and adolescents
- Enhance TB care and treatment for children and adolescents
- Optimize TB/HIV and other co-morbidities collaboration for improved case detection, treatment, and care by implementing the WHO Framework on TB and other comorbidities



**Revision of the guidelines on Child and Adolescent TB** 

- Stool-based testing included to enhance TB diagnosis
- WHO-recommended Treatment Decision Algorithms for settings with and without CXR; *with local adaptation*
- Revised treatment regimens
  - 4 months intensive regimen for nonsevere TB
  - 6-months intensive regimen for TB meningitis

Child and Adolescent TB pocket guidelines developed

Clinical training curriculum developed, and national ToT held

> SOS training curriculum developed, and ToT conducted for lab technicians

#### 4. Partner collaboration

- Namibia Government Ministries, Offices and Agencies
- USAID Namibia and HQ
- CDC Namibia
- The Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria
- World Health Organisation
- Namibia Institute of Pathology
- Uganda Supra-national Reference Laboratory
- KNCV TB Plus
- Advanced Community Health Care Services Namibia (CoHeNa)
- Health Poverty Action
- Total Epidemic Control (TCE)/DAPP

#### 5. Lessons learned

- Wide stakeholder engagement ensures inclusivity and fosters rich discussions
- The PCF approach and evidence-based decision-making helped create a comprehensive plan, ultimately contributing to a stronger foundation for TB and leprosy control in Namibia
- Some challenges with timing were encountered as NTLP was simultaneously preparing for the GF grant application
- Widescale orientation required to optimise TB case finding and management in childhood and adolescent TB; beyond the health sector
- It is critical to have knowledge and expertise in the full spectrum of TB-related aspects and infectious diseases as a Technical Advisor
- In addition to having technical skills, cultivating soft skills helps to navigate the role of being a technical advisor

# 6. Priorities for 2025



- Support active case-finding initiatives; *in selected communities and health facilities*
- Support the scale-up of capacity building and technical support on childhood and adolescent TB; *including improving diagnosis and treatment at sub-national levels*
- Support the process of finalizing the revision of DS-TB guidelines
- Support the finalization of geospatial analysis of laboratory diagnosis and optimization project
- With NTLP colleagues, explore opportunities for operations research on the implementation of TDA and shorter treatment regimens for childhood TB
- Support revision of the national leprosy guidelines
- Support the revision and updating of M&E tools
- Continue assistance on TB GF grant implementation and oversight
- Continue supporting and providing technical assistance to the NTLP Officers



# Thank You





