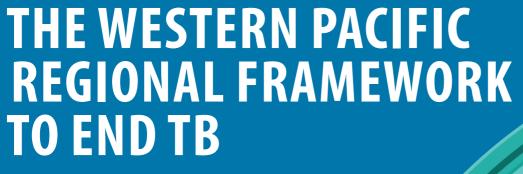
BRIEF SUMMARY



(2021 - 2030)







The Western Pacific Regional Framework to End TB (2021–2030) was developed at the request of and in consultation with the Member States in the World Health Organization (WHO) Western Pacific Region. It is aligned with the global *End TB Strategy* and with *For the Future: Towards the Healthiest and Safest Region* – a vision for WHO work with Member States and partners in the Western Pacific in the coming years. This new Regional Framework focuses on system development. People and communities – not diseases – are at the centre of the health system in the Framework, with universal health coverage (UHC) and multisectoral partnerships as key elements in facilitating the reduction of the burden and suffering caused by tuberculosis (TB) in the Region. The Framework can be adapted by Member States in formulating their national TB plans, based on their local experiences.

The aim of the 2030 Framework is to provide the basis (reasoning) and concepts for multisectoral actions that countries can adapt to their context and implement with all stakeholders to achieve the targets of the *End TB Strategy* by 2030.

The target audience for the Regional Framework is all those with an interest in the promotion of TB prevention, control and care, including: ministries or departments of health (TB and non-TB); industry; the commerce, education and environment sectors; social sciences; health-care workers in the public and private sectors; civil society; and TB-affected communities.

This Framework is applicable for all countries of the Western Pacific Region; however, priorities may differ in different countries based on their specific TB situation.

The objectives of the Framework are:

- to further accelerate progress on TB in the Western Pacific Region and to be an essential tool for national TB programmes and technical partners to develop their national strategic plans or national health plans;
- to strengthen health systems and UHC and leverage them for: a) ending TB in the context of a changing demographic, epidemiological and financial landscape; and b) introducing the future innovations in TB and health systems; and
- to be a thought-provoking advocacy document and tool for collaboration and partnership, targeting policy-makers of various levels and of various sectors, and to ensure that programme managers, policy-makers and decision-makers understand the complexities around the disease and support TB control through a wide, multisectoral set of interventions and policies.

The Regional Framework employs the principle of backcasting to address the End TB Strategy targets from a different angle.

Through the lens of 2030

The Regional Framework employs the principle of backcasting to address the *End TB Strategy* targets from a different angle – through the lens of 2030. It begins with the desired state – a reduction in TB deaths by 90% and new cases by 80% between 2015 and 2030, and ensuring that no family is burdened with catastrophic expenses due to TB – regardless of the current feasibility of those targets, but with the intention to determine the priority actions needed to achieve them.

The TB situation, service delivery system and surrounding environment are likely to be very different in 2030 than they are today. The progress towards ending the TB epidemic will not occur at a similar pace in all 37 countries and areas of the Western Pacific Region, with countries at different stages of social and economic development and TB epidemiology. Considering the scale of the TB burden and evolving national health priorities, there may be a risk of weakening essential TB functions at the central level, which could lead to a re-emergence of TB and a rise in drug-resistant strains. To prevent such a scenario, specific TB functions need to be maintained at the central level – and strengthened towards and beyond 2030.

Policy, monitoring and evaluation, and quality of services, can be thought of as "control levers" for managing and ending the TB epidemic.

The backcasting exercise has helped identify key areas of action for the future and essential TB functions that need to be strengthened, including a major emphasis on research and innovation. The exercise also found that health system strengthening and working with sectors beyond health are essential if the future vision of a healthier and safer region is to be realized.

The premise for the Regional Framework

Nearly 2 million people develop TB in the Western Pacific Region every year. An estimated 9.9 million people developed TB globally in 2020. About 18% of those people were in the Western Pacific Region. The Region had an estimated: 1.8 million people who developed TB (93 per 100 000 population) in 2020, 37 000 people who developed TB and were co-infected with HIV (1.9 per 100 000 population) in 2020, 101 000 people with multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB)/rifampicin-resistant tuberculosis (RR-TB) (5.2 per 100 000 population) in 2019, and 93 000 people with TB who died (87 000 were HIV negative, and 5900 were HIV positive) in 2020.

COUNTRIES AND AREAS OF THE WESTERN PACIFIC REGION BASED ON BURDEN OF TB DISEASE

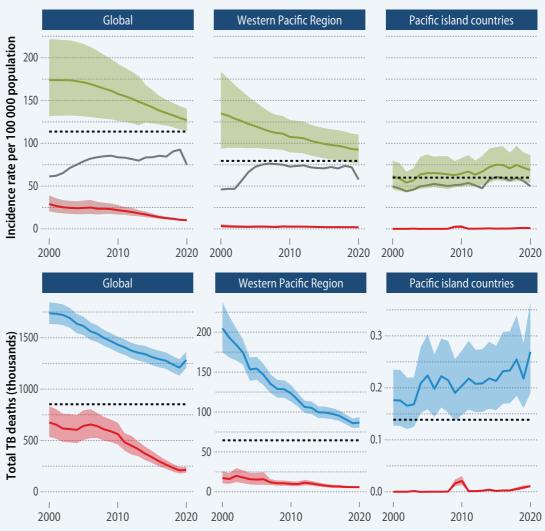
Estimated TB incidence (per 100 000)	> 500	300–499	100–299	50–99	10–49	< 10
Grouping	Severely endemic	Highly endemic	Endemic	Upper moderate	Lower moderate	Low incidence
Countries and areas	• Philippines	Kiribati Marshall Islands Mongolia Papua New Guinea	Cambodia Lao People's Democratic Republic Nauru Tuvalu Viet Nam	 Brunei Darussalam China Hong Kong SAR (China) Macao SAR (China) Malaysia Micronesia, Federated States of Northern Mariana Islands, Commonwealth of the Palau Solomon Islands Tokelau 	 Cook Islands French Polynesia Guam Japan New Caledonia Niue Republic of Korea Singapore Tonga Vanuatu 	American Samoa Australia New Zealand Samoa Wallis and Futuna



The Region has succeeded in reducing TB deaths and incidence; however, the progress thus far is not sufficient to achieve the End TB Strategy targets and Sustainable Development Goal targets for TB by 2030.

The Western Pacific Region has succeeded in reducing TB deaths by 13% and TB incidence by 6%, compared to the 2015 levels. But progress thus far has not been sufficient to achieve the targets contained in the *End TB Strategy* and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Regional milestones set earlier for 2020 have not been reached, and at the current rate of progress, subsequent milestones might be missed as well. Almost 20% of those in the Region notified that they have TB are older people. Also, more than 35% of the people with TB in the Region are either undiagnosed or never notified in 2020. Of the estimated number of people who developed TB, only two thirds have been successfully treated. The situation is worse for those with drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR-TB) or TB with HIV co-infection. More than one third of those people in the Region with TB face catastrophic costs.

TRENDS OF ESTIMATED RATE OF TB INCIDENCE AND NUMBER OF TB DEATHS AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL, REGIONAL LEVEL AND FOR PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES, 2000-2020



Note: Estimated incidence and numbers of deaths are shown in green and blue, respectively, and those among people who are HIV positive in red. The horizontal dashed lines show the 2020 milestones of the End TB Strategy. Shaded areas represent uncertainty intervals. The grey solid lines show notifications of new and release TB cases for comparison with estimates of the incidence rate.

Data source: WHO.



The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has resulted in the disruption of TB services and decreased detection of both TB disease and infections in several countries, which may have a major negative impact if TB services are not restored and maintained quickly. And while COVID-19 has imposed great challenges on TB programmes, it also has created opportunities to build back a stronger system.

A slow decline of TB incidence is expected if the current effort continues. However, a scenario analysis confirms that by scaling up a set of interventions – including the use of rapid molecular diagnostics for detection, active case finding with a treatment provision for both TB disease and infection, and support for treatment adherence – it will be possible to achieve the *End TB Strategy* milestones of a 50% reduction of the TB incidence rate by 2025 in comparison to 2015. However, the 2030 targets would be missed without a breakthrough, such as a new and effective vaccine.

Interventions in TB care already make economic sense, generating at least fourfold return on investment. The situation in each country needs to be reviewed in detail to select efficient, context-appropriate and acceptable interventions that together can put the Western Pacific Region on a path towards eliminating TB as a public health threat.

The Regional Framework recognizes future socio-demographic and economic trends, such as ageing, urbanization and income inequality. The ever-growing burden of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) in countries that are part of an epidemiological transition means additional efforts will be needed to keep TB under control, given the link between TB and risk factors, such as diabetes, the harmful use of alcohol, air pollution, malnutrition and tobacco. Therefore, all of these factors must now be considered in the design of TB programmes.

Challenges are categorized into four groups:

- 1. TB specific: missing cases (those undiagnosed and/ or unreported), inadequate quality of care and prevention efforts. These issues are equally important for both drugsusceptible TB and DR-TB cases.
- 2. Beyond TB, within health: inadequate systems for UHC, insufficient coordination to address risk factors, limited research and innovations, and inadequate engagement of civil society and community.
- 3. Beyond health: inadequate social protection mechanisms and limited multisectoral involvement with accountability to address the social determinants of health.
- **4. Overarching governance and accountability:** issues such as inadequate financing, weak coordination mechanisms and accountability.

CHALLENGES TO TB CONTROL AND ELIMINATION



Limited multisectoral involvement to address social determinants

The TB burden has shown a clear socioeconomic gradient between countries, within countries and within communities, and the poorest have the highest risk. Addressing these risk factors and the social determinants of TB requires a holistic approach with strong multisectoral involvement. At least 12 SDG goals are linked with TB.

INTERCONNECTEDNESS OF THE CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF TB Upstream determinants Urbanization Weak and inequitable social and economic policies – lack of social protection Migration Climate change Poverty, poor living and working conditions, low Stigma, discrimination and Unhealthy behaviours Food security socioeconomic status, and low education marginalization Downstream risk factors Vulnerabilities (e.g. children, older NCDs and their risk factors, Stigma, discrimination Silica dust, air Zoonotic risk Malnutrition people, women, migrants, substance HIV/AIDS e.g. diabetes, alcohol, and marginalization pollution abusers, health-care workers) tobacco Impaired host defence/susceptibility Environmental conditions favouring transmission 1 1 1 1 Death Active disease Cured

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