

## Situational Analysis

### TB/HIV Collaboration in Kathmandu district, Nepal - 2009

**Background:** HIV is a major risk factor for the progression of latent or recent TB infection to active TB disease. Thus, collaboration between TB and HIV/AIDS programme is essential to improve access to comprehensive TB and HIV prevention, care and support services for affected populations and saving their lives. First situation analysis of TB/ HIV co-infection 2006 revealed the fact that there is absence of definite resource allocation from government for collaborative activities and lack of formal referral mechanism between two programmes.

**Objectives:** To assess existing situation and recommend possible interventions for implementing TB/HIV collaborative activities

**Methods:** Descriptive cross sectional study implemented among TB and/or HIV service providers; focal persons and TB patients/PLHIVs in Kathmandu district. In-depth Interviews with TB and HIV/AIDS focal persons and Focus Group Discussions (FGD) with TB patients and PLHIVs were carried. Out of total 53 DOTs centers of Kathmandu district, 25 were selected through stratified sampling method and 10 VCT and/or ART centers were selected out of 12 VCT and/or ART centers.

**Findings:** Out of total 53 DOTS centers, 17 working at peripheral level and only four hospitals delivered TB/HIV collaborative services. Half of the DOTS centers provided HIV prevention/counseling and condom promotion. DOTS center referred non TB patients with HIV (53%), syndromic STI treatment for TB patients (47%), clinical care for PLHA with TB (28%) and VCT service to TB patients (22%).

**Conclusion:** Public Private Partnership (PPP) needs to expansion and strengthen. Intensified TB case finding among high risk population (HIV positives and risk groups) could be useful for increasing the chances of survival, improving quality of life and reducing transmission of tuberculosis in the community.

