



# Addressing TB during Covid-19



## Community DOTS - 08

Some DRTB patients in Nairobi on facility DOTS to be considered for community DOTS

## TB Screening - 07

Screening of TB for those in quarantine and isolation facilities

## GF Funding Proposal-06

Developing and submitting proposal for GF funding on COVID-19. Part of support is towards procurement of PPEs to HCWs and CHVs to be able to carry on with community TB activities

## Fund Re-allocation - 05

Reallocation of funds to procure PPEs for healthcare workers

## 01 - Communication

Communication issued to counties through the office of the DG Health on guidelines on continuity of TB services during COVID.

Transitioned to Injectable free regimen

## 02 - Drug Collections

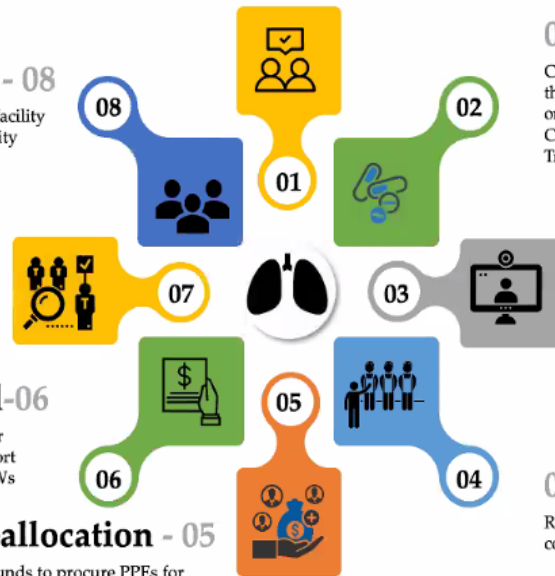
Longer period of drug collections provided to minimize patient interaction with the health system

## 03 - Virtual Meetings

Virtual meetings to sensitize staff on TB and COVID-19 and allay fears

## 04 - Restricted TA

Restricted technical assistance visits to counties with some virtual TAs



# Weekly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1, July 2020

## Announcement

World Hepatitis Week- July 28<sup>th</sup> 2020

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## Accelerating Commitments and Actions on Addressing TB during and beyond COVID-19

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of June, 2020, KANCO hosted a webinar that brought together the Ministry of Health, CSOs and cross cutting health stakeholders to discuss accelerating commitments and actions on addressing TB during and beyond Covid-19.

Addressing the current state of the pandemic and its implications on TB and health, Allan Ragi Executive Director KANCO, observed that ‘Even though Covid-19 had initially been thought of a passing wind, its advent has had dire consequences, creating major disruptions in the health service delivery and uptake, disrupting up to 85% HIV, 78% TB and 73% Malaria services.’

He impressed on the need to scale up TB and HIV interventions, increase awareness and strengthening of referrals system and community response through equipping CHWs with Protective gear and knowledge to effectively operate during the pandemic. He further called on the need to accelerate budgets executions and release of funds to stakeholders at both levels of government, continued support for CSOs advocacy and push for accountability for both Covid-19 and TB as well as increased resources for building resilient health systems.

Speaking on the impact of the pandemic on the TB service delivery at the community level, Timpiyan Leseni Director Talaku CBO, stated, “Covid-19 is adversely affecting gains made in TB with misdiagnosis, stigma, fear, delayed results, nutritional challenges, transportation challenges due to the curfew affecting treatment adherence and access to services”

Addressing the forum Dr. Pacifica Onyancha, Head Preventive and Promotive Health Services, commended KANCO for the webinar initiative saying it was an important step to facilitate reflection and learning as stakeholders mount responses. She noted that fear and panic were major hindrances in the access to health care services.

**KANCO**  
Healthy people, empowered communities

**WEBINAR**

### Accelerating Commitments, Investments, and Actions on Addressing TB During, and Beyond COVID 19.

**Moderator:**  
Rahab Mwaniki, Campaigns Manager, KANCO

**Allan Ragi**  
Executive Director, KANCO

**Dr Pacifica Onyancha**  
Head, Preventive and Promotive Health Services, Ministry of Health

**Dr Elizabeth Onyango**  
Head, Division of National Tuberculosis, Leprosy and Lung Diseases

**Timpiyan Leseni**  
Director, Talaku Community Based Organization

**29<sup>th</sup> June, 2020** | **11:00 a.m. – 12 Noon**

**Link:**  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7N\\_AOZkoIXRTDsQ56XXHK1OcA](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7N_AOZkoIXRTDsQ56XXHK1OcA)

[www.kanco.org](http://www.kanco.org) | [Kenya.AIDS.NGOs.Consortium.KANCO](https://www.facebook.com/Kenya.AIDS.NGOs.Consortium.KANCO) | [@KancoKE](https://twitter.com/KancoKE)

“The latest DHIS data indicates a significant drop in the outpatient services and we are generally concerned with the decline in the health seeking behavior,’ she noted. She further informed that the government has put in place policies to guide the TB response, is operating under the one health approach, a platform facilitating multi- stakeholder collaboration for health ad is keen on integration of services.

Collaborating these sentiments Dr. Elizabeth Onyango Head of the TB Division noted that in regard to TB case notification there was a Drop of 9% in 2020 (Jan-May) compared to similar period in 2019. In regard to Covid 19 /TB Funding she informed that a total of Ksh. 114,641,040 has been allocated for TB specific activities under Priority I of the COVID-19, while US\$ 2,660,339 has been allocated for TB seeking to reach 3,088 (37%) TB patients with severe malnutrition affected by loss of livelihood resulting from COVID-19. She added that the 2018-2021 GF Contribution has increased standing at Ksh. 10.2 Billion a 20% increase.

She reiterated the Ministry’s commitment to case finding, reduce transmission under the lockdown, reduce the TB burden and incidence and called on support for CHWs as key pillars in the community TB response.

## Results International Conference 2020



*Photo Courtesy: Results 2020 Conference*

KANCO under the ACTION partnership participated in the RESULTS International conference 2020, the first ever virtual conference on the 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> May 2020 following the advent of the pandemic. The conference facilitated a mix of plenary discussion and presentations facilitating learning, action, and connecting with advocates across the globe.

RESULTS is a movement of passionate, committed everyday people. Who together use their voices to influence political decisions that will bring an end to poverty. The 2020 virtual conference saw the participation of over 800 delegates from 20 countries and marked the movements 20th year.

Addressing the conference Dr. Joan Carter the Executive Director observed that it's about holding out the vision of where the world need to be or return to normal post the pandemic which is not an option, she called on the delegates to "Be daring and bold, that we not only rebuild but reimagine and then enact policies that will create a more equitable world."

The Executive Director and Chairperson ACTION, Mr. Allan Ragi, made a presentation on Country Leadership on Nutrition Policy and financing: with a focus on what it takes to tackle Malnutrition. He shared on the challenges around nutrition including; lack of awareness about the right kind of nutrition funding to reduce malnutrition and lack of strong investment in food security. i.e. nutrition sensitive programs.

These two challenges he observed result to resistance in the push for increased investment for nutrition. Mr. Ragi Proposed advocacy solutions to raise awareness of how to reduce malnutrition; Targeted political leader's engagements at all levels of government and getting the Members of Parliament attention on malnutrition through issues that interest them.

Other key note speakers during the conference included; the WHO Director Dr. Tedros and other delegates from across the globe.

## *Responding to Malaria in the Community amid the Covid-19 Pandemic in Bungoma County*



According to the World Malaria Report 2019, sub-Saharan Africa accounted for about 93% of all malaria cases and 94% of deaths in 2018. More than two thirds of deaths occurred among children under the age of five. To date, the number of reported cases of Covid-19 in sub-Saharan Africa has represented only a small part of the global total, although cases are increasing every week.

The COVID-19 pandemic is spreading rapidly around the Country, there is an urgent need to tackle the Corona Virus as well as ensuring malaria services are not affected through interventions that are tailored in the COVID-19 response and control.



The Global Fund through AMREF Health Africa and KANCO, has invested in combating Malaria while providing protection from Corona Virus at the Community Level for continued Community Case Management of Uncomplicated Malaria by Community Health Volunteers. 1,020 CHVs and 204 CHEWs in Bungoma County were provided with 50 pairs (1,224) packets of gloves and 30,600 pieces of disposable Surgical Masks across all the 10 Sub Counties of Bungoma County for effective health service delivery

The Event was flagged off by the County Director of Health Dr. Johnstone Akatu and the County Malaria Control Coordinator Mr. Moses Wambusi at Bungoma County Referral hospital on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020, AMREF Health Africa and KANCO staff participated in the Event.

This comes at a time when the Global fund has reported a 73% service disruption for malaria services, and WHO calling countries to move quickly and distribute malaria prevention and treatment tools at this stage of the Covid-19 outbreak in sub-Saharan Africa in effort to keep these essential services for malaria control safe.

### *Flagging of the Personal Protective Equipment's at Bungoma County Referral Hospital*



***PPE Distribution at Ngalasia Dispensary, Kabuchai and Kibisi Dispensary in Tongaren Sub Counties***



***PPE Distribution at Kimalewa H/C, Kabuchai and Kamenjo Dispensary in Mt. Elgon Sub Counties***

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#StaySafe

# KomeshaCorona

