



KANCO Weekly Bulletin: March issue 3

Issue no. 13

## *In this issue:*

- ♦ *Runner up to World TB celebrations in Kenya*
- ♦ *Marking World TB Day 2018*
- ♦ *KANCO World TB Day 2018-County Activities*

## World TB Day 2018.....

The World TB day 2018 themed “Wanted: Leaders for a TB-free world” made a resounding call to leadership to make history together by ending TB. The call for leadership to end TB started with buildup activities to the world TB day aimed at creating awareness and calling on multi-sectorial leadership and political commitment to end TB in Kenya and globally. The theme for Kenya was be a leader, for a TB free generation: Mulika TB, Maliza TB”

This is against a background where TB claims 53,000 lives each year in Kenya meaning that 145 Kenyans die from TB each and every day as well as being the leading cause of death among people living with HIV being responsible for more than half of all HIV-related deaths in Kenya.

In addition according to the National TB prevalence survey 2017, there are roughly 80,000 “missing” TB cases in Kenya each year, disproportionately affecting some populations such as older people and the youth who portend a risk of infecting others and thus heightening the disease burden amidst the rise in the new strains of TB such as multi drug resistant TB.

[www.kanco.org](http://www.kanco.org)

**Our Vision:** Healthy People, Empowered Communities

**Our Mission:** To improve the Health and Well Being of Communities through Capacity Building and Promotion of Innovative

Leadership

Facebook: KANCO

Twitter:@KancoKE

Compiled by : Wachira Charity, Communications Officer KANCO

Edited by : Denis Gaturuku: TB Program Manager-KANCO

## Runner up to World TB celebrations in Kenya



**Children chasing kites during the kite flying TB awareness pre- World TB day event- Kihumbuini grounds Kangemi**

KANCO in Partnership with RESULTS Japan and other partners came together to build awareness on TB in Kangemi an informal settlement in Nairobi County. The build up events that brought together over 2000 school children, and multi-sectorial representatives sought to sensitize care givers, children and communities in low income and informal settlements like Kangemi on how to prevent, treat and control infectious diseases like TB in their localities.

This is premised on the recent study that calls for urgency in addressing the problem of TB in children, whose full scope is still not fully known yet cannot be underestimated. According to WHO estimates, 1 million children became ill with TB and 250 000 children died of TB in 2016 (including 52 000 children with HIV associated TB).

In 2016, Kenya's Ministry of Health reported nearly 7,000 cases of TB in infants and children, with those under age five at greatest risk of having severe forms of TB and dying from the disease. However, the actual burden of TB in children is likely higher given the

challenge in diagnosing childhood TB.

Since TB is more prevalent in places that are over crowded, with poor ventilation and sanitation characteristic of the informal settlements like kangemi.

maintaining proper hygiene becomes a necessary measure in mitigating the spread and prevalence of the disease thus the sensitization on modes of transmission. As such a week-long clean up exercise was conducted by community volunteers and schoolchildren in Kangemi environs from March 19 to March 22 as a precursor to the main event soon after followed by a kite flying event in Kihumbuini primary school with Messaging around culminating to the event where children were sensitized on TB both as agents of change as well as pary of a group adversely affected by the the TB burden

Addressing the participants Denis Gaturuku the TB manager at KANCO called on leadership to end TB stating " The responsibility to end TB starts with us" adding that it is important to have a TB test every time one has a cough of whatever duration, and in children when reduced playfulness and poor weight gain are noted.

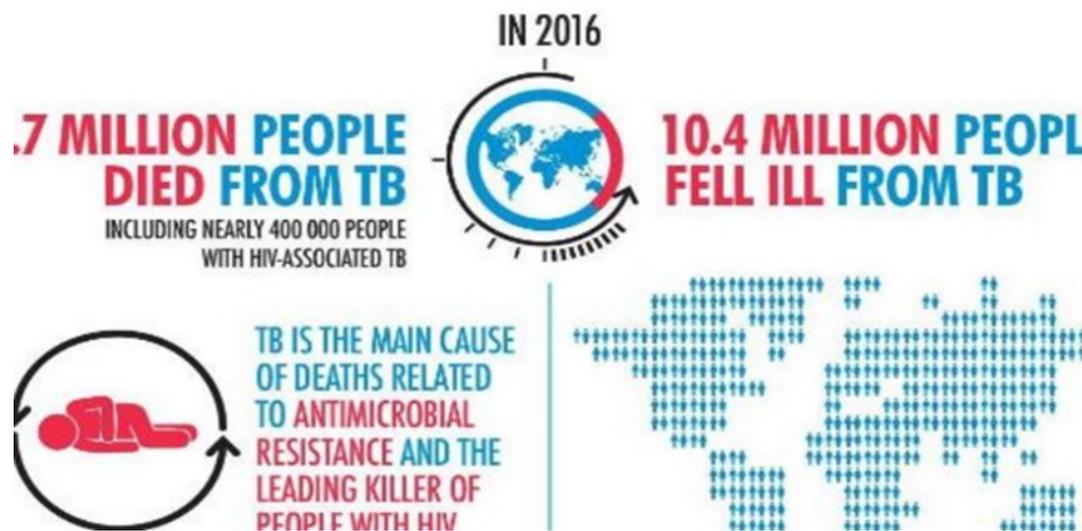
**Giant Kite flown during the pre WTDB event at Kibumbuini grounds Kangemi**



# Marking World TB Day 2018

Infograph Courtesy-star newspaper

## TB IS THE TOP INFECTIOUS DISEASE KILLER IN THE WORLD



KANCO joined the nation in marking the National World TB day 2018 commemoration hosted by Nairobi County. Under the national theme “Be a leader for a TB free generation’ in line with the yearly campaign tagline ‘Light up the World for TB’ ad campaign tagline “Mulika TB! Maliza TB! Ni jukumu langu” anchored on the Global world TB day 2018 theme “Leaders for a TB-Free World: *You can make history.*”

The celebrations held at MUSA stadium Nairobi were graced by state and non-state dignitaries including the cabinet secretary health, the US ambassador to Kenya among others and representation from all the 47 counties.

The cabinet secretary health Siciliy Kariuki terming TB as a public health care concern , reiterated on the national commitment to end TB towards achievement of universal health coverage noting ‘ Kenya reported and treated 85,188 TB patients, among them 7,771 children last year. Kenya has made progress towards universal access in TB diagnosis and treatment in all 47 counties and to the lowest level of the healthcare system’

Addressing the participants, the United States Ambassador Godec emphasizing on the need for partnership to reach, cure and prevent TB reiterated on the US government to work with the national TB program towards finding the 80,000 missing TB cases through the USAID and CDC saying ‘When TB cases are found, treatment is essential. The Kenyan Ministry of Health reports a TB treatment success rate of 82 percent, which is an impressive accomplishment, considering treatment often takes six months and requires sustained effort. But, while 82 percent is very good, we all want to do better. So, to improve this success rate, CDC is leading research efforts in Kenya to study a new four-month regimen, which we hope can improve the TB treatment success rate to almost 100 percent. We also know that some patients suffer from drug-resistant TB, meaning that their illness cannot be cured by the normal medicines available. Through USAID support, Kenya is now accessing donated bedaquiline the first new drug developed to treat TB in more than 50 years, which is effective against many forms of drug-resistant TB.”

WHO called on the government and leaders to ensure that the patients are treated to eradicate more deaths stating more than 2.4 billion people are infected with tuberculosis. Where every day there are 28,500 new cases, 4, 600 deaths and 11,100 missed cases.

Other activities during the day included a procession, entertainments, photo booth, football tournaments, Public Health education, TB/diabetic screening, HIV testing activities, exhibitions, TV/Radio talk shows/spots and Speeches among other activities offered at state entities-huduma centers in the respective counties alongside a call to high burden counties governors to declare TB county disasters amidst calls for more grassroots engagement to combat TB.

# KANCO World TB Day 2018-County activities Pictorials



Procession to mark World TB Day 2018 in Kakamega County



Training of informal health service providers on TB referral in Makueni County