



**Accountability
Consortium**

SUBMISSION BY THE TB ACCOUNTABILITY CONSORTIUM

TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS ON THE DIVISION OF REVENUE AMENDMENT

CONTINUED RESILIENCE IN FUNDING ACCOUNTABILITY

13 March 2024

THE FULL PICTURE

- According to WHO 2023 Global TB report, TB is the 2nd leading cause of death of an infectious disease. In South Africa, around 280 000 people developed TB. Of that, 152 000 are PLHIV
- TB Recovery Plan set up as a TB programme intervention to address care cascade loss & accelerate efforts
 - Find
 - Treat
 - Retrain
 - Prevent

THE FULL PICTURE

- TB services are mainly provided for in provincial budgets and the allocations fall within the District Health Services grant along with other primary health care services.
 - Increase in equitable share – District Health Services allocation from 113,1bn to 120bn
- NHI: We welcome the grant focus on health systems information
 - Importance of good data leads to good governance

WHAT IS AT STAKE?

- Apparent fiscal constraints
 - Growth of 0,6 down from 0,8 during the 2023 MTBPS
 - Large-scale debt relief for Eskom with new energy investments
 - Significant fiscal consolidation
 - Unless TB programme budgets are protected, it is unclear that people who require TB services will be able to get access to this important health need.
- TB performance
 - 56 000 to 54 000 in the 2022-2023 period
 - Unseen trend of TB-diabetes having higher likelihood of not completing treatment, a call for TB multimorbidity health policies. *
 - Better reporting on TB plans and explore ringfencing TB budgets in ensuring adequate fund to accelerate TB testing and linkage to care

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Pending leadership configuration post-election
 - Constitution affords everyone to have equal enjoyment of rights. Social determinant to rights and access to healthcare. Health funding administered through “national and provincial legislation, which is framed by the rights, duties and principles of governance and financial management established by the Constitution” * regardless of who will be elected.
 - National Health Act: Section 3 directs the minister to strive in the protection, promotion, improvement and maintenance of the health of the population
- Need for coordinated action, priority and transparency
 - Although there has been improvement in TB programme performance, we are still left with a National TB Recovery Plan that has no clear resourcing allocation at provincial and district levels. The imperative need for implementing a program aimed at diminishing TB’s grip on our communities remains critical.

SUSTAINED RESILIENCE

- Key requests
 - Safeguard TB funding: The government possesses the authority to safeguard funding for TB services including the TB Recovery Plan. Despite the development of the plan, there's still a lack of provisioning and implementation at provincial level.
 - Enhance accountability: There's a pressing need for improved accountability across all tiers of the health system, ranging from local facilities to district, provincial, and national levels. This is crucial for ensuring an increase in TB treatment rates and a decrease in mortality rates.
 - Multisectoral response including Civil Society
- We entreat in line with the global TB theme: **No. We cannot end TB without the adequate resources.** Put our citizens first in guaranteeing more lives are saved with adequate health services.