**Information on implementation of the Global Fund grant under NFM in the RK by results of 12 months of 2018 (“Tuberculosis” component)**

During 2018 the GF grant implementation unit fulfilled the following work in accordance with the main tasks of the GF grant under NFM with technical support of the external and national consultants.

**Within the task No 1 “Support to reforming of the National TB Program”:**

1) Amendments and additions were made to the acting NLAs on TB (No.77 dated 02/02/2016 “On approval of the Standard of TB aid rendering organization in the Republic of Kazakhstan”, No.284 dated 28 April 2015 “On approval of the state normative of healthcare organizations network” and No.994 dated 25 December 2017 “On approval of the Instruction for medical aid rendering organization”);

2) Work on development of new Guides (GX introduction at PHC level; system of quality management; TB laboratory diagnostics; ADSM; NGO; DM) and update of acting documents (on TB and DR TB management, including PV, M&E, PHC, TB/HIV issues).

3) 2 coordination meetings were organized and held: on discussion of the first project year results (Almaty, 6-7 February 2018) and on actual issues of TB service reform, including introduction of MDR-TB outpatient treatment, integration with PHC, NLAs revision and discussion of M&E results, as well as positive experience of Akmola oblast on TB activities integration with all services and authorities in the oblast (Burabay, 22-23 November 2018);

4) 453 specialists (representatives of HD, CPCS, TBO, PHC, medical universities, AIDS centers, PCS institutions, NGO) were trained at the national level during the year at 21 various trainings, including on TB service reform – 2, on GX introduction and other actual laboratory aspects – 5, on IC – 3, on treatment with new drugs and PV – 6, on TB/HIV – 2, on NGO issues – 3 trainings. At the level of 4 pilot regions 8 trainings and 9 additional trainings were held with the saved funds. In total 428 PHC and TBO specialists were trained on issues of MGM and other approaches in treatment of M/XDR-TB patients;

5) 48 M&E visits were performed to all RK regions, including 23 trips performed by GF PIU specialists jointly with NSCP, 11 trips – by NSCP specialists.

6) New IEM on TB were developed and approved (2 brochures, 2 posters, 3 video clips), which were printed out and distributed to all regions, including TBOs, NGOs, city and district PHC, AIDS centers, “Atameken” Chamber of entrepreneurs, adaptation centers, HLS service, detention facilities and other organizations, involved in TB prevention, detection and treatment;

7) 3 various video clips on decrease of TB stigma (2 minutes each) were broadcasted on the national television “7 channel” from 5 September to 6 November 2018 throughout RK (4 times per a day, 50% in prime time in State and Russian languages): TB patient’s history, Reporting clip and Social clip;

8) Work on improvement of the informational system (IS) “National TB patients’ register” (NTBR) and synchronization of IS NTBR and IS “Electronic tracking of HIV cases” was started. 22 reporting algorithms and interfaces for IS NTBR were updated, out of them 9 were new ones. Official permissions for testing synchronization of IS NTBR and IS “Electronic tracking of HIV cases” were obtained from MoH of RK and RCEH. Testing synchronization was successfully completed by the authors of both informational systems. Service is ready for use.

Obtaining of a table for calculation of TB drugs’ need in QuanTB and patients’ list in QuanTB was firstly introduced. New algorithms for NTBR laboratory module were implemented for a practical use, a new inset “DOT” was created for a purpose to ensure transparency of TB drugs consumption and receipt of data on TB drugs consumption for each registered TB patient for treatment (for the first time);

9) Work on calibration of TIME model and creation of an instrument “Single medical and sanitary service” (under the Contract with Avenir Health) continued;

10) an innovative project for holding of CMC, consultations for complicated clinical situations online, as well as training cycles on management of TB, M/XDR-TB patients by type of ECHO®- Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes were started for the first time at the level of all oblast TBOs. Introduction of this project allowed oblast/city TBOs to connect online with NSCP directly from their institutions. The first performance of visual connection with the regions was held on 5 November 2018. Guide for holding of online CMC was developed and approved.

**Performed activities within the task 2 “Improvement of timely and qualitative TB and M/XDR-TB diagnostics”:**

1) training was conducted for heads of outpatient polyclinic care/deputy head doctors of PHC, CPCS, AIDS Centers on issues of introduction of molecular-genetic methods for TB detection at the district level, proper selection of persons for diagnostic algorithms;

2) Supply of cartridges for new and existing machines in quantity of 53000 pieces was carried out in August 2018. A decision on reduction of marginal prices for Xpert MТB/RIF cartridges and procurement through the single distributor – SK Pharmacy with GDF prices was for the first time made at the MOH level;

3) Calibration of modules for all new Xpert MТB/RIF machines was performed;

4) Trainings “DST method to the new TB drugs – Bedaquiline, Delamanid, Linezolid” were for the first time held;

5) Work on development and preparation of final drafts of Laboratory guides was completed;

6) During 2018 2 coordinating meetings (26-27 April and 24-25 December) on actual issues of increasing access to the express methods of TB detection and diagnostics in RK;

7) Bactec reagents procured through UNDP were distributed to all regions in September; Hain reagents – in November 2018;

8) Bactec maintenance was made in September 2018;

9) A contract for supply of TB drugs substances, including new substances for Clofazimine, Linezolid, was concluded with UNDP. Delivery to the country is planned in 2019.

**Performed activities within the task No 3 «Timely and qualitative treatment of TB and M/XDR-TB confirmed cases”:**

1. Workshops (26-27 April 2018, 28-30 November 2018, Almaty) on issues of expansion of entire outpatient treatment in the regions, discussion of patients’ enrolment plan for the individual, shorten regimes, as well as introduction of pharmacovigilance and active drug safety monitoring in treatment with new and reprofiled drugs were held;
2. 2 coordinating meetings were held: on 6-7 February 2018 in Almaty by results of 2017; on 28-29 August 2018 in Semey by results of implementation of the GF Project activities for the first half-year of 2018 with discussion of the Roadmap issues on pharmacovigilance, patients’ enrolment for ITR, STR, entire outpatient treatment and introduction of patient-oriented approaches;
3. Introduction of the project of outpatient treatment of DR-TB patients in 4 pilot regions continued. Thus 595 (101,4%) P/MDR-TB patients were included to the OT cohort with the enrolment plan of 587;
4. At least 15 patients on OT per a day were covered in 4 pilots within the Sputnik program, out of them at least 70% were persons from the vulnerable groups. There were no violators of the regimen (doses failed);
5. National trainings on PV at ITR, STR for TBO, CPCS and medical institutes’ specialists were held;
6. 2 trainings for drug coordinators from all regions were held: 24-26 September 2018 in Aktau on issues of forecasting and calculation of need in TB drugs at ITR, STR and on 5-7 December 2018 on issues of the informational system and calculation in QuanTB;
7. Contracts were concluded with all regions on compensation of funds for biochemical researches of patients on ITR, STR (Contracts with OTBDs);
8. All regions and 3 PCS institutions were supplied with pyridoxine (vitamin B6) and panangin in tablet form for M/XDR-TB patients enrolled for ITR, STR under the GF Project;
9. 6700 peripheral vasofixes were procured and distributed to all regions, including 3 PCS institutions (Karaganda, Akmolinsk oblasts);
10. Visual observed treatment project (VOT) was started in the pilots;
11. Jointly with the working groups on treatment and reforming 3 new documents were developed and sent to the regions and CPCS: 1. “Practical recommendations on use of shorten, standard and individual treatment regimens of RR and M/XDR-TB using new and reprofiled TB drugs”. NSCP letter dated 14 February 2018 (Ref. No 1-330); 2. “About introduction of active pharmacovigilance basic package”. NSCP letter dated 6 June 2018 (Ref No 1-1357); 3. “About VOT introduction”. NSCP letter dated 3 September 2018 (Ref No 1-1779);
12. The following TB drugs shipments were made during the year:

- for STR for 350 patients, two shipments of TB drugs were made and sent to the regions;

- 2 shipments were made for children with TB weighting under 25 kg. Supply of TB drugs for 140 children with TB weighting under 25 kg is planned in 2019.

- 2 shipments for ITR (433 M/XDR-TB patients) and for MDR-TB at the standard regimen in PCS institutions (for 100 patients);

- in September-December 2018 TB drugs were supplied for the 2019 cohort on ITR (462 M/XDR-TB patients) for the treatment period till June 2019. Supply of TB drugs for continuation and completion of the entire treatment course for the ITR 2018-2019 cohort is planned in January-February, April 2019 and in August-September 2019.

13) ITR was prescribed for 564 DR-TB patients (with plan of 517), 353 MDR-TB patients were for the first time enrolled for STR (with plan of 350). Pediatric doses of TB FLD were prescribed to 134 (74,4%) children out of planned 180.

**Performed activities within the task No 4 “Strengthening of collaboration and control of TB/HIV co-infection”:**

1. A workshop was held in Almaty on 05/09/2018 to discuss problematic issues and solutions concerning TB/HIV, integration of electronic TB and HIV tracking bases and access for migrant patients with HIV to ARV therapy and laboratory tests: viral load, CD4 and biochemical researches;
2. Activities on increase of PLWH access to the TB express diagnostics across the regions in comparison with the pilot regions were conducted. Coverage with the molecular and genetic methods was 67,8% (597 out of 880 PLWH) in 2018 году versus 32,7% in 2017;
3. A draft clinical protocol of TB/HIV co-infection diagnostics and treatment was presented and sent to the RCHD for approval (within technical assistance of a consultant from the HIV service side);
4. 2 trainings were held on 25-27 June and 28-30 June 2018 in Astana on “New approaches in TB/HIV management” for TB doctors, AIDS centers infectiologists, where features of detection, diagnostics and treatment of TB/HIV patients on STR and ITR were first given;
5. A quarterly analysis of GeneXpert machine operation installed first on the base of AIDS OC of Karaganda oblast in 2017, was conducted during the year. In the Quarter 1 of 2018 in total 101 tests were performed and 4 TB cases (4%) were detected, and in the Quarter 4 of 2018 there were 615 tests and 18 (2.9%) TB cases detected;
6. For the first time an access to ARV therapy was ensured for PLWH foreigners within the GF Project. The drugs (8 titles in total) were procured and distributed in November-December 2018. As of 31.12.2018 95 (63,3%) PLWH in total were enrolled for treatment out of 150 planned. Within the project all foreign patients covered with ARVT will be provided with access to the quarterly tests for VL, BCR, CD4.

**Performed activities within the task No 5 «Strengthening of TB and DR-TB control in the penitentiary system”:**

1. Under the Contract with the external consultant the project “Model of TB, M/XDR-TB treatment in the detention facility” was developed.
2. On 14/06/18 a workshop with CPCS managers on introduction of the project in the pilot institutions was held, but an answer was received in the letter dated 13/07/2018 No 2-011204-18-47469 on impossibility to introduce this project as at the legislative level TB patients’ treatment is ensured solely in the period of pre-trial investigation and sentence;
3. According to the ITR enrolment plan at the penitentiary institutions for 2018 50 patients were planned, 50 patients (100%) were enrolled for treatment for 12 months;
4. An analysis of accessibility of TB and M/XDR-TB diagnostic MGM and their rational use (load) in the penitentiary system, including peripheral CI and detention facilities was conducted. It was defined that coverage with rapid molecular researches, namely GeneXpert among TB suspects in the penitentiary system was 87,6% (2017 - 57,3%);
5. A National seminar “On TB and DR-TB control in prisons” was held in Almaty (April, 2018);
6. A draft Guide on TB and M/XDR-TB infection control in the PSC institutions was developed;
7. 2 trainings for PCS specialists were held: 1 – on treatment and PV at ITR, STR; 2 – in IC measures. 54 persons in total were trained.

**Performed activities within the task No 6 «Strengthening of collaboration with the civil society for effective fight against TB, DR-TB and TB/HIV”:**

1. The National Partnership “Stop TB in Kazakhstan” was established and included 32 organizations. According to the work plan 8 regional Partnerships “Stop TB in Kazakhstan” were established in Aktobe, Almola, East-Kazakhstan, Karaganda, South-Kazakhstan, Pavlodar oblasts and Semey for the reporting period;
2. All missions and state organizations (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Information and Communication, “Atameken” Chamber of Entrepreneurs, “Kazakhstan Temirzholy” CA, “Air Astana” CA, UN agencies, oblast and city Akimats) were informed about establishment of the Partnership “Stop TB in Kazakhstan”;
3. A draft Methodical guide for the non-governmental organizations on work in TB service delivery was developed;
4. On 10-14 December 2018 a training “Counseling on TB treatment adherence” was held for NGO psychologists and social workers;
5. On 21-25 May 2018 a training “Advocacy, communication and social mobilization (ToT, ACSM)” was held for TBO specialists responsible for ACSM and work with NGO;
6. Training for new NGO specialists on TB issues was held on 9-10 October 2018;
7. Information materials for work with key groups were developed, copied and distributed to all NGO;
8. Round Table was held in August 2018 for NGO staff, partners and TBOs to discuss a new proposal for GF Grant;
9. Coordinating workshop with all NGOs under the GF Project was held on 14 December 2018;
10. KNCV office in CA organized “Summer school” on 10-13 September 2018 (2 4-day trainings) to improve NGO capacity in organization of outreach work and development of social projects/fundraising. 39 workers of NGOs received grant at the “small grants” tender under GF NFM, participated at the trainings.
11. Contracts for provision of grants were renewed with 12 acting NGOs, a new contract was concluded with 1 NGO (Astana). In total as of the end of 2018 NGO work with vulnerable groups and potential regimen violators in 9 regions of the country was introduced (7 oblasts, 1 city and 1 region). Expansion of small grants by 3 lots (NGOs in Atyrau, Kostanay and North-Kazakhstan oblasts) was agreed with GF using saved funds.