



## MOZAMBIQUE TUBERCULOSIS ROADMAP OVERVIEW, FISCAL YEAR 2024

This document provides an overview of the USAID/Mozambique FY 2024 Tuberculosis (TB) Roadmap, implemented with the FY 2023 budget. The roadmap was developed in consultation with the National TB Program (NTP) and with the participation of USAID’s implementing partners involved in TB prevention, diagnosis, and treatment in the country.

Mozambique is included on all World Health Organization (WHO) TB high burden lists for TB, TB/HIV, and drug-resistant TB (DR-TB). In 2022, TB incidence was estimated at 119,000, and 110,084 (93 percent) people were diagnosed and notified with TB. This represents an increase in notifications compared to 2021, when 97,921 people were notified. Despite this achievement, challenges with TB diagnosis persist, with only 43 percent bacteriological confirmation of TB disease. Of the estimated 4,300 people with multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB), only 29 percent were diagnosed and notified to the NTP. All people with TB reported in 2022 had a known HIV status, with 25 percent being HIV positive; the treatment success rate for TB was 94 percent, and for MDR-TB, it was 75 percent.

The NTP National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2023-2030 proposes critical strategies and interventions aligned with a person-centered approach throughout the continuum of care, specifically addressing barriers to access, diagnosis and treatment, maximizing case detection, and ensuring successful treatment outcomes. These interventions will be supported through patient-friendly policies, community involvement, multisectoral collaboration, well-established supply chain management, enhanced domestic resources, and intensified political commitment. In addition, relevant research, robust monitoring and evaluation, and digitized strategic information systems will be prioritized. The proposed interventions and related activities are linked to the Pillars of End TB Strategy.

The proposed FY 2023 USAID TB budget for Mozambique is \$8 million. With this level of funding, USAID will support the following technical areas:

### REACH

#### *TB diagnosis*

The near-final NSP states that the program will increase the number of notified cases of new TB episodes from 97,093 in 2020 to 110,846 in 2025 and that 70 percent of all TB cases will be bacteriologically confirmed by 2025.<sup>1</sup> USAID implemented an array of activities to support the NTP in reaching its objectives despite ongoing challenges related to general health facility access

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<sup>1</sup> MOH.NTP. National Strategic Plan



in rural/underserved areas, including maintenance of Xpert machines. USAID will continue supporting these existing activities and TB case detection with FY 2023 funds in four key areas:

- Development, implementation, and monitoring of promising case finding strategies.
- Diagnostic network strengthening.
- Improved screening and diagnosis of childhood TB.
- Improved screening, diagnosis, and treatment support for DR-TB.

### *Engaging all care providers*

In 2024, USAID's efforts in Mozambique will continue engaging private sector entities, traditional healers, and the mining sector to enhance tuberculosis (TB) diagnosis and treatment services. This involves refining the Public-Private Mix (PPM) strategy, including ongoing evaluation and potential adjustments to improve case findings and outcomes. Activities will focus on working with private pharmacies, traditional healers, and private sector companies to educate them on TB, train cough officers, and facilitate screening and referral processes. Collaboration with private sector companies, such as the Mozambique Leaf Tobacco Company, will persist despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, ongoing training, screening campaigns, and referral of individuals with TB between private and public health facilities. USAID will also explore opportunities to expand partnerships with additional private clinics for enhanced TB service delivery. Synergies between PPM strategies related to TB and HIV activities will be leveraged, ensuring a comprehensive approach to addressing public health challenges in Mozambique.

### *Community TB care delivery*

In 2023, USAID's efforts will focus on continued support for community-based case-finding efforts in LTBR-supported provinces that involve utilizing paper-based and electronic tools to quantify the contribution of these efforts to case notification. Additionally, USAID will support case-finding and treatment support efforts, including door-to-door screening in known TB hotspots and contact investigation for all forms of TB. The project will conduct ongoing analysis to identify the most promising activities likely to produce a high yield of TB cases. USAID will strengthen coordination with other stakeholders at the community level to improve TB screening and referral processes, including integrating TB screening into interventions targeting malaria, HIV, and other health issues. Promoting and supporting the FAST (Find cases Actively, Separate safely, Treat effectively) strategy in health facilities will also be prioritized, particularly in districts without USG-supported clinical implementing partners. Finally, efforts will continue to address TB screening and treatment among internally displaced populations (IDP), including conducting TB, COVID-19, and malaria screening in IDP camps and organizing bimonthly cough days to raise awareness among this vulnerable population.



## CURE

### *Drug-susceptible TB (DS-TB) treatment*

USAID has been supporting efforts to improve the quality of care and treatment outcomes for individuals with TB from the beginning of the mission's work in Mozambique, which steadily increased the TB case detection rate and treatment coverage rate for drug-susceptible TB and achieved a 94 percent treatment success rate for new and relapse cases.<sup>2</sup>

With FY 2024 funds, USAID Mozambique will continue supporting activities to improve treatment outcomes for people with TB, particularly DR-TB. These include community-based directly observed therapy (DOT) for individuals residing in remote areas and active follow-up of individuals who miss DOT appointments. USAID partners will continue supporting the introduction of new technologies to collect and report data needed to monitor these efforts. USAID will also continue to (a) support clinical mentoring and on-the-job training for providers who manage DR-TB, pediatric TB treatment cases, and children on TB preventive therapy (TPT) to ensure their unique needs are addressed; (b) address human rights and gender-related barriers that hamper access to TB services in the program; (c) improve capacities of the health and community staff to provide high-quality services to individuals with TB; and (d) update existing training modules to align with current global guidelines.

### *DR-TB treatment*

Mozambique has greatly improved DR-TB treatment outcomes in recent years, yet clinical and programmatic management of DR-TB remains a challenge. USAID will continue supporting the NTP to increase DR-TB detection from 1,388 in 2019 to 3,425 notifications by 2025 and improve the treatment success rate from 59 percent to 76 percent in the same timeframe.<sup>3</sup> The DR-TB treatment regimen in use currently is not particularly patient-friendly due to the long duration of treatment. The NTP introduced the short-term oral regimen under operational research in 33 sites. USAID will continue to support NTP in this intervention and in introducing the new 6-month WHO-recommended regimens, such as BPaM and BPaL, when approved by the NTP.

USAID will also provide ongoing support for training and clinical mentoring of providers who care for individuals with DR-TB to ensure comprehensive follow-up of people with confirmed DR-TB who do not initiate second-line treatment. In addition to regular technical assistance and supervision visits, USAID will continue implementing a learning exchange model between provinces and districts. In this arrangement, the better-performing NTP teams will visit lower-performing health facilities to share good practices and experiences working in similar

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<sup>2</sup> WHO Global TB report 2022

<sup>3</sup> MOH.NTP. National Strategic Plan



conditions. USAID will also continue reinforcing technical assistance to improve the quality of services.

## **PREVENT**

### *Prevention*

USAID will continue supporting contact investigation for all TB cases and linkage between contacts under 15 years old who are eligible for TPT with the Clinic for Children at Risk (CCR) to ensure that they initiate a TPT regimen, recorded on CCR registers and followed up until TPT completion by the same activist supporting the index case at the community level. USAID is also working closely with the NTP to support the rollout of 3HP. To improve TPT initiation, retention, and completion, training and technical assistance, mentorship, and quality improvement cycles will also be implemented.

With FY 2024 funds, USAID will prioritize training and supervision for the Finding TB cases Actively, Separately safely, and Treating (FAST) strategy at high-volume facilities, referral of contacts supported by community health care workers for TB screening and TPT when eligible, and monitoring of TPT to ensure completion of the complete regimen. This includes TPT for contacts of both DS- and DR-TB cases. Lastly, USAID will support the training and supervision of community cough officers in highly congested areas such as markets, schools, and churches, as well as training for religious, school, and community leaders on TB education.

## **INNOVATE**

### *Research*

USAID will continue supporting the national research agenda to guide policy, adopt updated treatments and diagnostic procedures, and better understand community responses and barriers to TB. USAID will also continue supporting the NTP's study on a short all-oral regimen in 33 sites to evaluate the implementation of STR oral treatment of Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis within programmatic conditions in Mozambique.

### *Scale up of New Tools*

USAID will support NTP in introducing and scaling up the GeneXpert MTB/XDR test that detects resistance to amikacin, ethionamide, fluoroquinolones, and isoniazid.

USAID will also support NTP in scaling up of stool-based Xpert testing as an alternative sample for TB diagnosis in children. To align with new WHO guidelines for managing TB among children, USAID will support NTP to develop, pilot, and expand TB screening strategies for children.

USAID is actively working with the NTP and implementing partners to optimize the utilization of digital CXR systems with CAD.



## SUSTAIN

### *Commitment and sustainability*

Mozambique's TB strategies focus on comprehensive people-centered services and psychosocial, nutritional, and socioeconomic support for successful treatment that includes interventions to reduce stigma and discrimination through the involvement of communities and civil society. USAID will work with the NTP to support TB services to meet the needs of high-risk groups and others who are vulnerable or in vulnerable situations, such as women and children, indigenous people, health-care workers, migrants, refugees, internally displaced people, people living in situations of complex emergencies, prisoners, people living with HIV, people living with diabetes, miners and ex-miners, people with mental and physical disabilities, people with alcohol use disorders, and people who use tobacco.

Mozambique is committed to mobilizing sufficient and sustainable financing for universal access to quality prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and care of tuberculosis from all sources. For this reason, the Government of the Republic of Mozambique (GRM) has been increasing the domestic budget allocated to the TB sector and with the support of its partners, raising more funds for TB.

The GRM and USAID mission signed a statement of partnership in August 2019, and the mission leveraged this commitment to request data to support the planning and monitoring of USAID TB activities. Moving forward, the mission will conduct regular meetings with the NTP to review commitments made under the partnership statement, discuss successes and challenges, and jointly monitor key projects within the USAID TB portfolio. GRM contributes to a larger portion of the total national investment in TB, and USAID will continue supporting that trend.

### *Capacity and functioning systems*

In 2023, USAID's support in Mozambique will focus on updating and upgrading data information systems and associated dashboards to enhance stock management and avoid medication stockouts for drug-sensitive, drug-resistant, and pediatric TB cases. Additionally, efforts will be made to develop a more robust dashboard for monitoring TB medications and lab commodities. Furthermore, USAID will continue supporting the national laboratory sample transport project, ensuring its responsiveness to the needs of TB sample transport for diagnosis, Drug Susceptibility Testing (DST), and follow-up testing during treatment.

### *Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and Health Management Information Systems (HMIS) [and implementation of the Performance-Based Monitoring and Evaluation Framework (PBMEF)]*

In 2023, USAID's focus in Mozambique will include efforts to address the fragmented HMIS/M&E systems by supporting the implementation of a more coherent digital strategy for TB within the anticipated National Strategic Plan (NSP). USAID will streamline data collection and analysis processes, particularly at the facility level, where the NTP reporting system remains



primarily paper-based. LTBR's successful implementation of a DHIS2 system and dashboard layer for key indicators will serve as a model, with ongoing evaluation of pilot initiatives like the DHIS2 patient tracker to capture community health worker (CHW) and patient-level data. Translating existing Tableau dashboards into Portuguese and using standardized analysis tools will further enhance data utilization for decision-making and quality improvement processes. The automation of data extraction and transformation processes will be explored, and various options will be assessed to inform future implementation. Collaboration with the NTP and MOH will ensure alignment with national priorities and strategies.

### *Human resources for health (HRH)*

USAID aims to improve the capacities of local partners (CBOs) in implementing the National TB Strategic plan in the targeted provinces with the capacity to manage funds and fulfill key activities. USAID will continue supporting pre-service training in coordination with local training institutions on organizational and programmatic/technical areas. It will support the expansion of mentorship programs and on-the-job training for MOH staff at the health facility level, especially for DR-TB.