

Making progress on TB

An extract from the report *RESULTS UK Highlights 2006-07*, to be published in April 2008

RESULTS is the UK partner in the ACTION project, an international campaign to increase the political commitment and resources to tackle the global TB epidemic. It ran initially for three years to December 2007, and has now been extended to 2013. RESULTS focused on educating British parliamentarians, government officials, civil society organisations and the media about the scale of the global TB problem, and the interventions that exist to address the epidemic.

Working closely with the World Health Organization (WHO), Stop TB Partnership and other partners, we significantly raised the profile of TB in parliament. As a result, much more priority was given to tackling the disease over this period, and significant new funding was committed to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.

Since the ACTION project began in 2005 we estimate its targeted advocacy campaigns have helped to generate over \$120 million in additional resources for TB control.

Main activities:

- RESULTS helped to create an All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Global Tuberculosis in October 2006, and were appointed as the new group's secretariat.
- In March 2007, the APPG on Global TB launched its first report: *Scaling up the UK's response to the Global TB epidemic: an Agenda for Action*.
- In November 2007 RESULTS produced a report assessing the UK's response to the TB/HIV co-epidemic. *An Inadequate Response* highlighted the failure of the UK government and NGOs to fully incorporate TB in their response to HIV

and AIDS. In response to this report, Prime Minister Gordon Brown promised that TB would be included in DFID's new AIDS strategy.

- RESULTS organised five opportunities for advocates and experts from high TB burden countries to visit the UK and brief decision-makers, NGOs and the media.
- We took delegations of MPs, MEPs, and members of the House of Lords on educational visits to the Ukraine, Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa and India. These enabled decision-makers to witness the impact of TB first-hand, and prompted many of them to take action to further the campaign on their return to the UK.

Key successes:

- In 2006, RESULTS secured commitment from the three main UK political party leaders to the 'Global Call to Stop TB'.
- In 2006, the G8 committed to supporting the implementation of the Global Plan to Stop TB, following efforts by RESULTS and other partners to get TB onto the G8 agenda.
- The UK Department for International Development (DFID) committed £1 billion to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria over 8 years; made a 20-year commitment to UNITAID (an initiative to reduce the cost of treatment for AIDS, TB and Malaria); pledged to support the cost of TB drugs in India through the Global Drug Facility, and supported the Global TB Drug Alliance in its development of new, more effective TB drugs.
- The World Bank committed itself to do more to address the TB emergency in Africa following a campaign by RESULTS in the UK, Canada, Japan and USA.