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People undergoing TB screening and sputum collection after a meeting in Homa Bay County to engage and educate religious leaders on TB. Photo: Zacheus Muiruri/Komesha TB

KENYA

KOMESHA TB

The Komesha TB program supports the National Tuberculosis, Leprosy and Lung Disease Program (NTLD-P) in improving tuberculosis (TB) outcomes at the national, county, sub-county, community, and facility level, with a focus on private, faith-based, and affiliated organizations. The program's objectives are to improve access to high-quality TB services, strengthen service delivery platforms, reduce TB transmission and progression, and accelerate TB research and innovation.

OUR WORK

Komesha TB is implemented by the Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops (KCCB). Through KCCB's structures, collaborations with like-minded stakeholders, and an extended network of health facilities and educational institutions, Komesha TB is reaching out to communities to ensure access to quality TB services and improve overall TB outcomes for those being treated for TB. The program also supports faith-based facilities in mitigating the effects of COVID-19 on the implementation of TB services in the facilities and surrounding communities.

Komesha TB advocates for county-led and country-led implementation, strong health leadership, health system strengthening, and the co-creation of implementation plans to strengthen self-reliance. The program has aligned its processes to support Kenya's 2019-2023 National Strategic Plan for TB,

focusing on robust patient-centered management initiatives and social protection for all people with TB.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Since inception in October 2019, Komesha TB has:

- Collaborated with the national TB program (NTLD-P) and the county health departments to implement TB control activities in facilities and communities.
- Engaged cough monitors, community health volunteers, TB champions, and TB focal persons to strengthen TB control activities.
- Screened at least 1.2 million clients, with community health volunteers linking those presumptive of TB with diagnostic and treatment services.
- Initiated TB treatment for those diagnosed with TB, including drug-resistant TB, and reached their contacts with screening and diagnostic services.
- Offered TB preventive therapy to contacts of those with TB, including children.
- Supported TB sample networking in focus facilities through sample riders weekly.
- Provided continuous medical education and on-the-job training on TB for healthcare providers; comprehensively trained several other providers on TB diagnosis, treatment, and prevention; and
- Participated in the mid-term review of the National Strategic Plan for TB, as well as the review and development of TB guidelines and tools.

BUDGET: US \$3,500,000

DURATION: 2019-2024

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

Homa Bay, Kisumu, Busia, Siaya, Migori, Kisii, Vihiga, Bungoma, and Kakamega Counties

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops

KEY PARTNERS

Ministry of Health, Division of National Tuberculosis, Leprosy and Lung Disease Program
County Governments

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