

# TB Projects in Myanmar

## Country Profile: Myanmar (WHO, 2021)

TB Burden Estimates, 2020	Burma (Myanmar) Number	Population 2020: 54 million Rate per 100,000 population
Total TB incidence	167,000	308
HIV-positive TB incidence	14,000	26
RR/MDR-TB incidence	10,000	18.5
TB mortality	20,900	38.7

## TB profile, 2020

- 62%** TB treatment coverage
- 15%** Children <5 household contact enrolled on TPT
- 13%** TB case fatality ratio

## Dual Crises of covid-19 pandemic & military coup d'état



### Challenges

- Affects public health system
- Weakens national TB program (NTP)
- Interrupted TB control activities
- Poor engagement at all levels

## Infectious Diseases Detection and Surveillance (From May 2018 to February 2023)

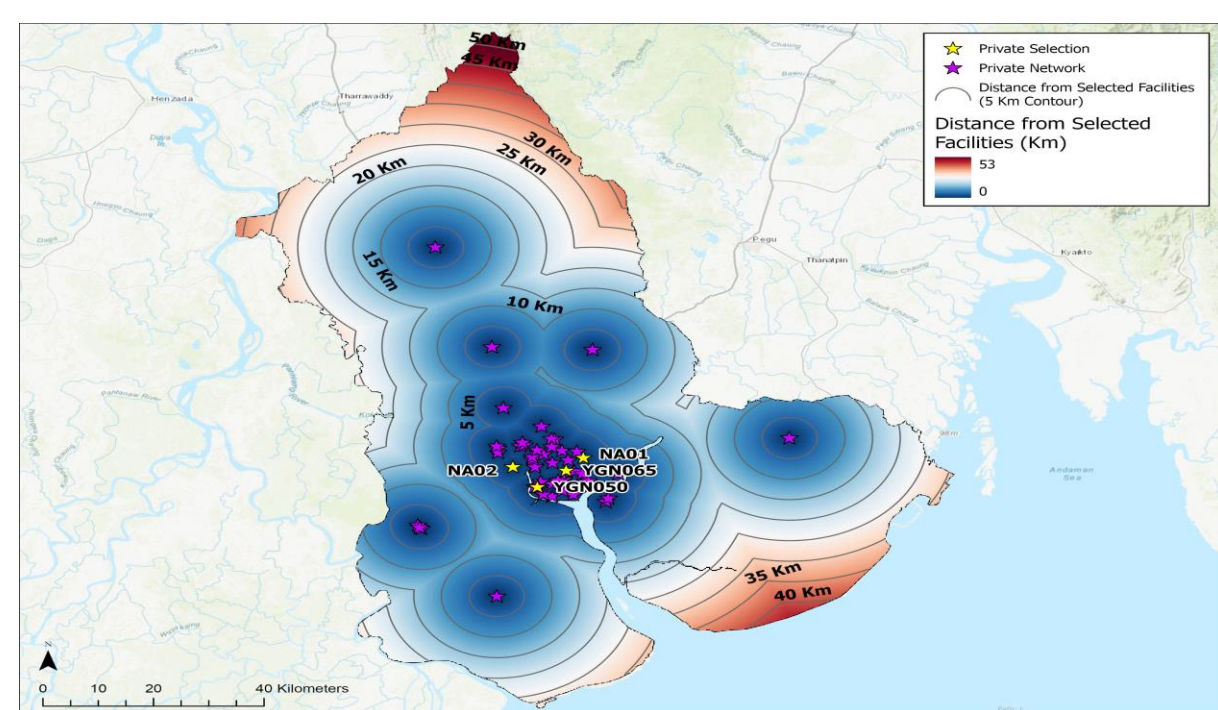
### PROJECT DETAILS

- In Burma, IDDS provides technical assistance to expand access to rapid, reliable, safe, and integrated molecular diagnostics for TB to all persons who access the diagnostic network.
- The strategies focus on increasing case detection of DS and DR-TB through expanded and strengthened diagnostic services, microbiological confirmation, and private sector engagement.

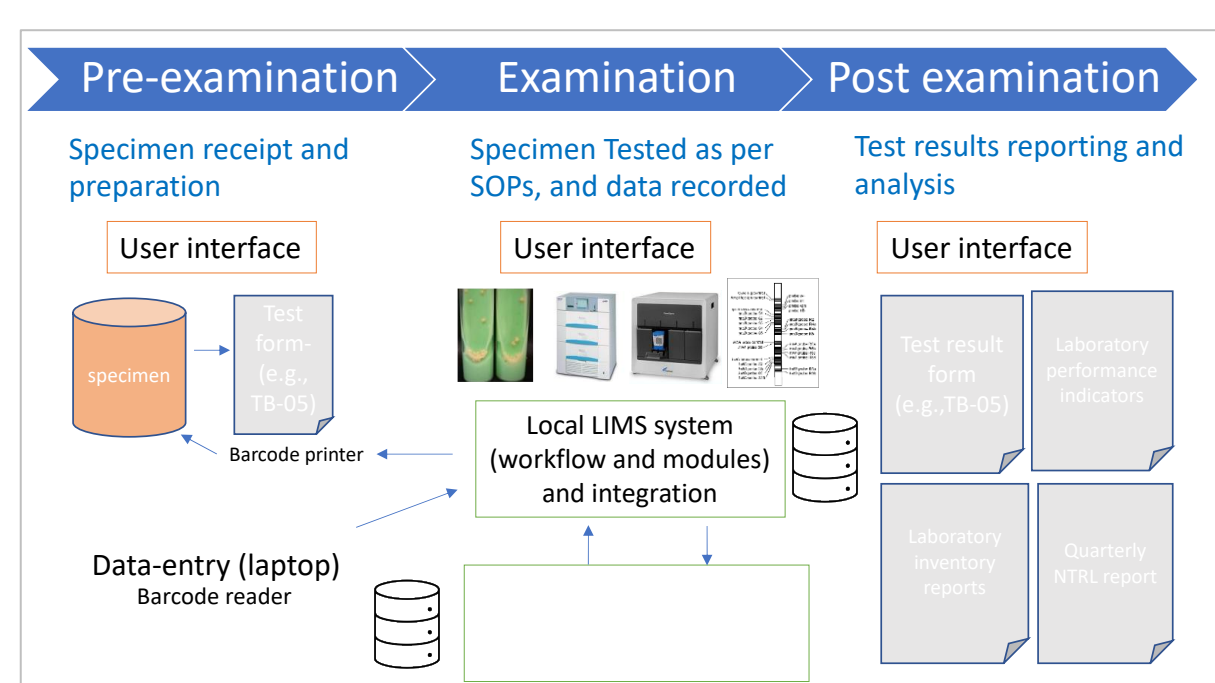
### SCOPE AND KEY APPROACHES

#### 1. Strengthen the TB diagnostic network and systems

Spatial analysis of TB diagnostic services



Laboratory information management system (LIMS)



#### 2. Increase access to quality TB diagnostic services

##### Diagnosis pathways

- TB diagnostic algorithms
- TB diagnostic education materials for professionals

##### Facilitating access

- Increase access to quality CXR with Computer Aided Diagnosis (CAD) with Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Web application for Specimen referral and transport system
- Strengthen the access to quality GeneXpert services in private sector

##### Explore new areas

- Use of stool specimen for TB diagnosis in children
- Truenat MTB to expand access to rapid TB diagnostics

#### 3. Strengthen TB and MDR-TB case detection at TB diagnostic facilities

##### Drug Susceptibility Testing

- TA in SOP development and revisions
- TA in strengthening Quality Assurance by key performance indicators (KPIs)

##### Biosafety

- TB laboratory infection control chapter
- Biosafety training and video clips to TB implementing partners

### ACHIEVEMENTS

- Spatial Analysis of TB Diagnostic Service in Yangon Region.
- Technical assistance to NTP in updating diagnostic algorithms for DR-TB guidelines and National Infection Control guidelines.
- Trainings for ZN staining solution preparation, GeneXpert advanced user training, Chest X-ray taking procedures and TB laboratory biosafety and biosecurity.
- Development of practical training videos for GeneXpert (4), Chest X-ray (2), ZN staining solution preparation (1) and TB laboratory biosafety.
- Development of SOPs and training aids for GeneXpert XDR, second line DST testing for new and repurposed anti-TB drugs and Chest X-ray training curriculum for radiographers.
- Private sector engagement to increase access to GeneXpert services, to strengthen inter-organizational network for specimen referral.

## Local Action Towards TB-Free Myanmar (From August 2020 to December 2023)

### PROJECT DETAILS

- Funded by USAID and aims to accelerate national progress towards ending the TB epidemic in the country by 2035 through mobilizing and establishing the first civil society TB community network.
- A network of local organizations led by Pyi Gyi Khin (PGK) in partnership with consortium members FHI 360 and the Phoenix Association.
- FHI 360 provides technical assistance in developing skills and building capacity of both TB community networks and self-help groups, and the consortium partners.

### SCALE AND SCOPE OF WORK

States and regions covered - Yangon, Mon, Kachin, Shan, Sagaing, Ayeyawaddy and Bago

### KEY APPROACHES



Build and strengthen the TB network



Expand the network by mobilizing a TB community-led advocacy and service system



Improve quality across the TB care cascade by TB community led services that enable and narrow the gaps in linking to care



### We provide technical assistance in achieving



Capacity strengthening to TB community network and consortium partners



Improve access to high quality, people-centered TB & DR-TB services



Organization Capacity development



Accelerate uptake of TB Preventive Treatment (TPT)



Reduce TB stigma & discrimination in access to treatment and diagnosis

### ACHIEVEMENTS

- Developed organizational capacity assessment tool and did assessment of consortium partners and the TB community network under formation. **14** Total number of trainings/ ToTs given
- Conducted numerous trainings/ ToTs for the consortium partners and the TB community network in line with the project's work scope. **377** Total participants
- Provided TA support on communication messaging through social media platforms as well as the LATT-M online chatbot service.
- Developed a community feedback mechanism and a conceptual framework for identifying TB/MDR-TB Champions.
- Provided TA to develop feasible implementation strategies, tools and implementation plan to pilot the comprehensive DR-TB care package.
- Developed short health promotion video on TPT.