In October 2012, the Ethiopian government with key national and international partners launched a multiyear initiative to build sustainable capacity for operational research (OR) funded under the USAID TB CARE I initiative with the aim to develop strong technical capacity at national and regional levels to enhance the use of TB research for evidence based TB control. Using a “learning by doing approach” and a local mentorship programme, new capacity was built and existing capacity enhanced. During this symposium the OR initiative and results of OR projects conducted will be presented focusing on the impact on TB control and how to continue building sustainable OR capacity.

TB researchers, policy-makers and representative of national TB programmes who like to learn how operational research capacity can successfully be build.

1. To share experience on sustainable operational research capacity building
2. To share result of OR projects conducted under the Ethiopian OR initiative and their implications for TB control
3. To discuss best practices and way forward in building sustainable operational research capacity that is used to improve programme performance

Keywords
Operational research

Coordinator(s)
Dawit Assefa Lemma (Ethiopia), Eveline Klinkenberg (Ethiopia)

Chair(s)
Andargachew Kumsa (Ethiopia), Abraham Aseffa (Ethiopia)

Presentations

17:00 - 17:10 Overview of the Ethiopia OR initiative
   Dawit Assefa Lemma (Ethiopia)

17:10 - 17:20 Centralised versus decentralised tuberculosis care: the case of Oromia Region, Ethiopia
   Kassa Hailu (Ethiopia)

17:20 - 17:30 A quarter of health centers had poor symptomatic tuberculosis screening practice in Amhara region, Ethiopia
   Gebremedhin Gebregergs (Ethiopia)

17:30 - 17:40 Opportunities and challenges in the management of MDR-TB patients in the treatment follow-up centers in Addis Ababa
   Daniel Fiseha Adhana (Ethiopia)

17:40 - 17:50 Factors associated with case notification of smear-positive TB in Southern Nations, nationalities and Peoples' Region
   Tarekegn Solomon (Ethiopia)

17:50 - 18:00 Building sustainable capacity for operational research, lessons learnt and the way forward
   Eveline Klinkenberg (Ethiopia)

18:00 - 18:30 Roundtable discussing the best approach to build OR capacity