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Policy and Advocacy Bulletin

September 2010

U.S. Congressional & Senatorial Aids Visit ZAMSTAR Zambia



In mid-August 2010, a team of U.S. government aids visited Zambia to gain a better understanding of how funding is being spent on science and research. While in Zambia, the team had a chance to view ZAMBART's operations in both Livingstone and Lusaka.

In Livingstone, the group took a tour of a ZamLab CTL, the first-of-its-kind containerized TB laboratory, which is being used to process 100 sputum samples per day as part of the 2010 ZAMSTAR Prevalence Survey. In Lusaka, the government aids had an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of TB and the current tools used to fight the disease at Kanyama Clinic. Throughout the tour of the TB diagnostic area, the team took time to view and speak with the Open Access Point (research assistants and sputum collectors), the ZAMBART and Zambian Ministry of Health laboratory staff, the TB corner (TB nurses, counselors, supporters) and the Odelca-DR digital chest x-ray machine.

Towards the end of their visit, the ZAMSTAR team took the delegation into the field to view an enhanced TB case finding activity within the surrounding community which included a drama group performance in a busy thoroughfare.



Rebroadcast of TB/HIV Radio Program Series Begins in Southern Province

Following the successful broadcast of an eleven week TB/HIV radio program series held on the Zambia's only country-wide radio station (Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation's Radio Two) the series is going on the road.

In an attempt to reinforce the impact and reach of this program series, it will begin to be rebroadcast for three weeks on two community radio stations in the Southern Province of Zambia, covering four ZAMSTAR study site areas. Six of the eleven programs focusing on TB basics, the TB & HIV relationship, ZAMSTAR study overview, TB stigma and TB and its effect on local communities will be broadcast on Sky FM (Monze, Mazabuka and Choma) and Zambezi FM (Livingstone) in the months of September and October.

ZAMBART's Website Redesigned

The ZAMBART Project website has been redesigned and officially re-launched. Please refer to the site (zambart.org) for information on the organization's research activities, an update-to-date publication list, photo galleries, news items and a multi-media center.

KICK TB UPDATE (South Africa's National TB Awareness Campaign)



The Kick TB campaign is on the verge of rolling out simultaneously in the provinces of

North West, Mpumalanga and Limpopo in September 2010. The campaign is now geared with cutting-edge elements, over and above the Kick TB soccer ball, to maximize the impact of the campaign on the lives of children. The campaign also focuses on various legacy elements that aim to keep the campaign alive in the minds of learners long after the school activation has taken place. There is even an element/activity that encourages learners to do their own 'TB case finding' in their households!

Twenty four thousand learners will be reached in the month of September 2010.

Please see our brand new Kick TB website: www.kicktb.co.za.

ZAMSTAR Prevalence Survey (South Africa)



The ZAMSTAR Prevalence Survey has entered into its 7th month and we have reached the half way target of 20 000 participants enrolled, which equates to 20 000 questionnaires completed and 20 000 sputum samples sent through to our ZAMSTAR laboratory for cultures, smears, and drug sensitivity testing for TB. Many participants have also tested for HIV, undergoing full VCT, as well as having their blood sugar tested and being weighed and measured.

Colleagues from Zambia visited us in the month of June to ensure that the process in Zambia and South Africa is as similar as possible. The FIFA World Cup came and went as well, with lots of excitement and a continual sound of Vuvuzelas. Teams have done exceptionally well to keep their enthusiasm alive to ensure that our targets are met.

CREATE Participates in Millennium Development Goals Meeting

CREATE has joined the Global Health Council and its partners in providing comments to the United States Government on its Strategy for meeting Millennium Development Goals. These efforts precede the United Nations Summit meeting called by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to accelerate progress towards the MDG's. The Summit, which takes place September 20-22 in New York, will review progress in achieving the MDG's and "be a crucially important opportunity to redouble our efforts to meet the Goals", according to S.G. Ki-Moon.

CREATE on Facebook

Now CREATE has its own [community page on Facebook](#). You can find the latest CREATE news there, video documentaries, materials and discussions.

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