



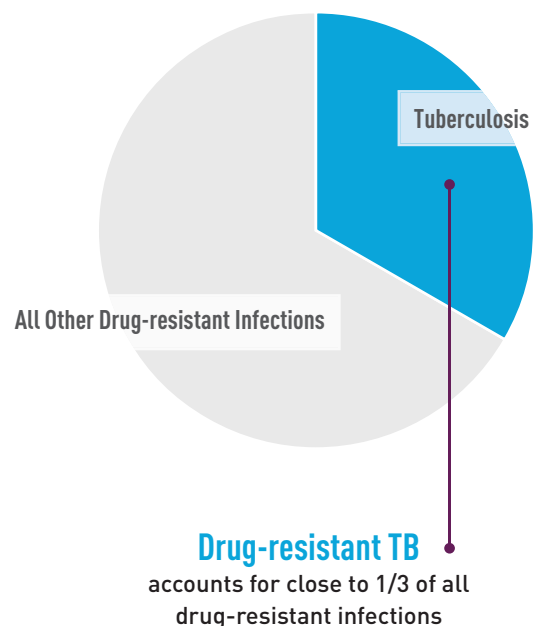
# TB Drug Research and the UN High-Level Meeting on TB

## Expected Outcomes and Commitments from Global Leaders to Tackle the TB Epidemic

The first-ever UN High-Level Meeting on Tuberculosis (HLM) is a landmark opportunity to marshal political will and resources to end TB. Galvanizing this progress will require strong commitments to key elements of the fight against TB, including research and development for transformative new drug regimens, as well as mechanisms to enforce those commitments. Here are four ways TB Alliance expects the HLM to impact the fight against TB.

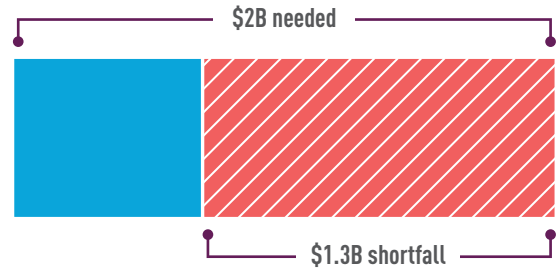
### Defeat TB and Put an End to Antimicrobial Resistance in TB

- With 10 million new cases and 1.6 million deaths each year, TB is the deadliest infectious disease in the world. TB is also the world's deadliest drug-resistant infection; drug-resistant TB is found in more than half a million people each year. With funding and political will, we can defeat it.
- Success is possible. In the years to come, the introduction of transformative new drug regimens can remove the need to distinguish between what we now call “drug-sensitive” TB and drug-resistant TB. These regimens can only be developed with the help of sufficient additional R&D funding delivered in the wake of the HLM. With support from member states, new cures could treat all forms of TB in the same way, substantially shortening treatment durations while significantly reducing the death toll of the disease. Without support for the development and introduction of new regimens, this future is at risk. We can't afford to settle for less.



## Implement Equitable Financing for Innovations

- World leaders are expected to commit to increase funding for TB research and development. This commitment is essential. Action to meet the rhetoric is needed.
- High income countries cannot close the R&D funding gap alone. Emerging economies like the BRICS and other high-burden TB countries must also invest in research and development to finance tomorrow's cures. We are encouraged by one potential solution: a commitment for all countries to spend 0.1% or more of their annual Gross Domestic Expenditure on Research and Development, which would be enough to close the \$1.3 billion gap in annual R&D funding for TB.



### \$1.3B Annual Investment Shortfall

WHO estimates an annual investment of \$2B is needed to develop the tools needed to end TB. The annual shortfall is \$1.3B

## Secure Universal Access to TB Medicines

- TB Alliance is committed to access, ensuring that all new TB treatments developed through our R&D efforts are adopted, available and affordable to everyone who needs them. This means everyone affected by TB, especially high-risk populations such as people living with HIV/AIDS—where TB is the single largest cause of death—and healthcare workers working hard every day and putting their own health at risk in dealing with this deadly disease.
- Intellectual property plays an important role in incentivizing the development of transformative new medicines, and if managed properly can also contribute to ensuring widespread access to quality products. TB Alliance recognizes the importance of global trade mechanisms to protect people around the world and secure access to necessary medical interventions. TB Alliance expects the HLM to stimulate strong partnerships with private sector entities, including generic manufacturers, that will preserve and strengthen R&D capacity and ensure that new tools—including effective, high-quality diagnostics, vaccines and medicines—are accessed worldwide.

“The costs of treating people with drug-resistant TB with current therapy is cost prohibitive in many settings, meaning they can’t always afford to be cured.”

## Collaborate – Don’t Just Coordinate

- TB is a global threat; it crosses borders freely. Countries cannot be left to fight TB on their own—we must collaborate to leverage efficiencies and better deliver TB services and advance product development. In the wake of the HLM, TB Alliance expects member states to more widely share research learnings and mobilize resources to drive innovation.
- World leaders must pledge to convene again to plan and account for sufficient levels of R&D funding and jointly assess scientific advances and challenges. At the next high-level meeting, we expect to be able to accurately evaluate progress made based on substantially more in-depth reporting on investments and expenditures as well as advances in R&D and the introduction and scale-up of new tools.

