



Youth United for Impact in TB Elimination

2024



YOUNITE Global Launch Report

Friday, 15th-Nov-2024

Venue: Community Connect, The Union World Conference, Bali

YOUTH VOICES FOR TB FREE WORLD!

YOUNITE Global: Empowering and Mobilizing the Youth to Lead



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Introduction

YOUNITE Global is a dynamic global youth network aimed to drive impactful change in the fight to end TB through youth leadership and involvement. YOUNITE mobilizes young leaders and advocates, engaging them in efforts to eliminate TB, especially among people affected by TB and KVPs.

Vision: World free of TB

Mission: YOUNITE Global's mission is to make youth involvement a key part of the global fight to end TB. We support young leaders in advocating, creating, and applying effective solutions, ensuring their voices and experiences are heard worldwide. By highlighting the perspectives of young people affected by TB and those from vulnerable communities, YOUNITE Global works toward a fairer, more inclusive global health system.

Youth Voices for TB Free World!



Empower Youth Leadership for TB Elimination



Mobilize Support Across 65+ Countries



Raise Awareness and Education

Message From Our Leaders



Chief Austin Obiefuna, Vice Chair of the Stop TB Partnership: Youth will be solving future problems and implementing future policies, which will be key to ending TB in our lifetime.



Dr. Lucica Ditiu Executive Director Stop TB Partnership: "The TB response needs youth engagement. It requires young people who are full of energy and ideas, ready to challenge the status quo, bring forward demands, and offer smart innovations and solutions. When you see a movement of youth, it has to be led by youth. If we want to end TB, we need the youth."



Dr. Prof. Erlina Burhan: "Now is the time to listen to youth-driven innovations and work together to fight TB. Let's unite, take action, and create a world free of TB."



Timur Abdullaev, Board Member of TB People Global: YOUNITE Global is a wonderful platform led by young people coming together to end TB. I encourage young people to join YOUNITE Global and be part of this energetic youth network.



Abina Aher Global Transgender Rights Activist (Tweet Foundation): "We need to listen to young people and provide them with a platform. Yes, we all need to come together to END TB."

Message From Steering Committee Members



Aman Shukla, India, Founder YOUNITE Global: Young people are not just the future; we are the present. In the fight against TB, our voices, innovations, and leadership are crucial to breaking barriers, dismantling stigma, and driving change. Together, through YOUNITE Global, we are building a youth-led movement that inspires action, empowers communities, and accelerates progress toward a TB-free world."



Robyn Waite, Canada Steering Committee Member: Young people can bring so much to the fight to end TB - new energy, innovation, disruption, dissatisfaction with the status quo, a succession plan for the future, and more! To realize our shared goal of ending TB it is critical that we support and light young people's fire to learn, engage, and take action NOW!



Amit Singh Gusain, India Steering Committee Member: Youth are the new future. Together we are united for a brighter tomorrow, we innovate, lead, and dedicate — empowering youth to pave the way toward a world free of TB."



Dr. Tanaka Mukuhwa, Zimbabwe Steering Committee Member: With YOUNITE Global we aim to achieve the set targets of ending TB by 2030. We are the leading force as Young people in the fight against TB and we believe Together we can end TB



Joshua Shipp, Scotland Steering Committee Member: Youth engagement is crucial in the fight to end TB. The energy, creativity, and innovation of the next generation can drive transformative solutions and inspire progress. By actively involving Key and Vulnerable Populations (KVPs) and empowering young leaders, we can build a united front against TB, bringing new perspectives and impactful ideas to this global challenge



Vivian Faith, Kenya Steering Committee Member: When youth lead, change follows, our generation can be the one to EndTB. Let's strategize, advocate, and act together. Let's join hands together , unite strength, sustain gains, and make TB history.



Nyiko Kubai South Africa Steering Committee Member: NYOUNITE Global is addressing a missed opportunity in the TB response. Bridging meaningful youth engagement in TB global efforts and development. Let us all join hands to foster optimal youth engagement, youth leadership and invest necessary resources to help meet the desired results.

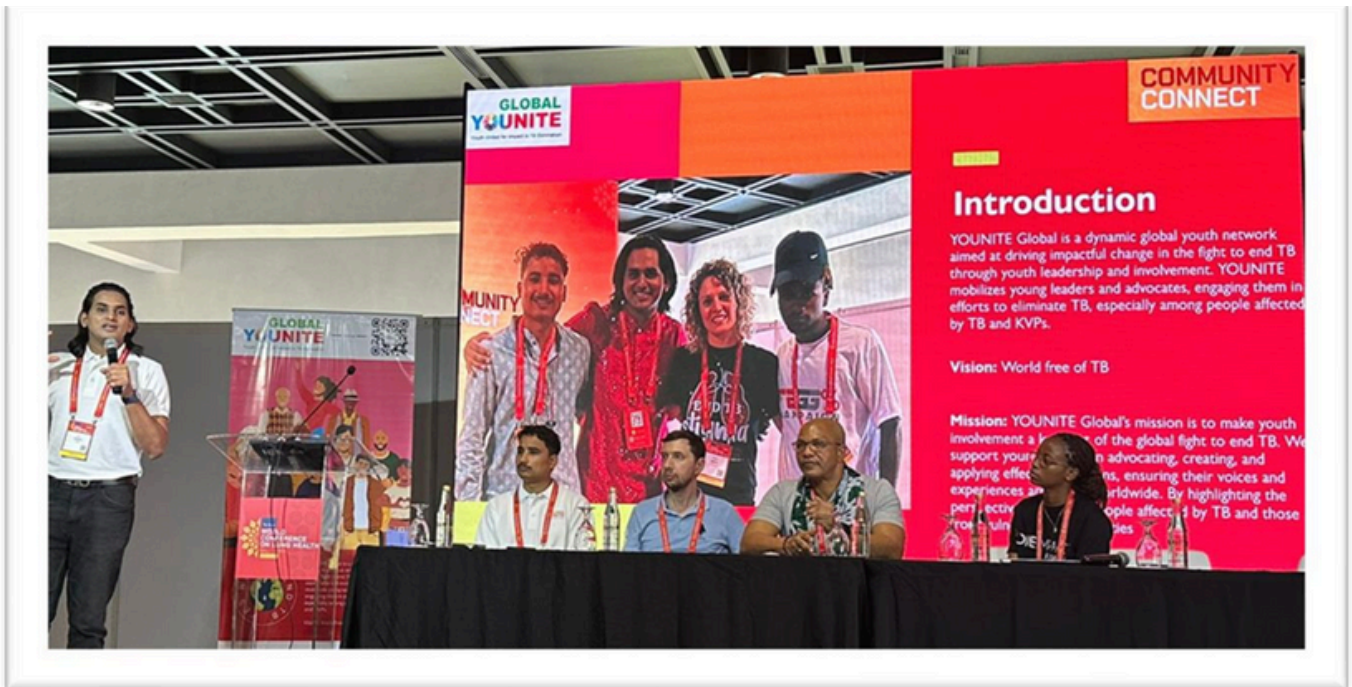
Together we can END TB!

@younite_4tb

Programme Schedule

Time	Session	Details	Speakers
3:00 pm – 3:10 pm	Opening Remarks and Workshop Overview	Introduction to YOUNITE Global, goal of youth empowerment and community mobilization in TB	Chair: Aman Shukla – YOUNITE Global
3:10 pm – 3:40 pm	Segment 1: Empowerment of Youth	Discussions on roles and challenges of young TB champions, LGBTQIA+ leaders, PLHIV, and youth leaders	Chief Austin Obiefuna (Ghana): CSO role in youth capacity-building for TB
			Timur Abdullaev (Uzbekistan): Community perspective on building a youth movement to end TB.
			Enael John Tarimo (Kenya): Youth TB champion roles in TB elimination
			Amit Singh Gusain (India): KVP youth contributions to TB elimination.
3:40 pm – 4:40 pm	Segment 2: Capacity Building and Community Mobilization	Interactive exercises on:	
		Best practices and human stories in community-based TB care	Stephen Anguva Shikoli (Kenya): Young TB Champion Rida Shullai (India): Young MDR-TB Survivor
		Inauguration of YOUNITE Global Launch via Website for Engagement of Youth to End TB - Chief Austin Obiefuna and Timur Abdullave	
4:40 pm – 5:10 pm	Segment 3: Engagement Activities	Interactive Activities: 1. Selfie Corner Activity 2. Superculosis Song	Richa Maheshwari (India): TB Advocate
5:10 pm – 5:15 pm	Closing Remarks and Expected Outcomes	Summary of insights and goals for YOUNITE Global, next steps for youth involvement in TB elimination	Nyiko Kubai (South Africa): SC Member - YOUNITE Global

Program Proceedings: Opening Remarks and Workshop Overview



Chair: Aman Shukla - YOUNITE Global

The workshop began with an engaging and insightful session led by Shree Aman Shukla, Chair of YOUNITE Global. His introductory session set the tone for the workshop by providing a comprehensive overview of the goals and vision of YOUNITE Global.

He emphasized the importance of empowering young people as pivotal agents in the fight against TB, highlighting their potential to drive advocacy, innovation, and community mobilization. Aman Shukla underscored the pressing need for spaces that prioritize youth participation, especially considering the youth's ability to connect with diverse and often underrepresented communities. She also shared the upcoming challenges occurring at the global level that can be coupled with the active participation of youth from the KVPs.

Key objectives outlined during this session included:

- Mobilizing youth leaders to engage in TB advocacy campaigns.
- Building the capacity of young individuals to take on leadership roles in TB elimination.
- Developing sustainable, community-driven approaches to tackle TB.

The session also provided an overview of the workshop structure, introducing participants to the thematic segments and expected outcomes. This initial interaction created an atmosphere of enthusiasm and collaboration, effectively bringing together a diverse audience committed to the shared mission of ending TB.

CSO's role in youth capacity building for TB

Austin Obiefuna (Ghana)



Chief Austin Obiefuna, Vice-Chair of the Stop TB Partnership, highlighted the pivotal role of young people and youth-led initiatives like YOUNITE Global in achieving the global target of ending TB. He emphasized how young advocates can empower their peers to actively participate in the fight against TB and drive sustainable progress toward a TB-free future. He elaborated on the need for the TB response to harness the energy and ideas of young people, which serve as critical enablers. Through tailored training programs, mentorship opportunities, and resource allocation, we can uplift the youth participation in TB elimination through a tailored framework established by young people. This framework ensures that young leaders are not only equipped to advocate for change but are also positioned to address challenges specific to their local contexts.

By fostering a supportive environment, a well-structured platform can amplify the voices of youth, empowering them to build awareness, drive community mobilization, and implement innovative solutions. Moreover, Chief Austin emphasized that this partnership between CSOs and youth creates a ripple effect of positive change, extending beyond immediate project goals.

As young leaders grow in confidence and capacity, they inspire their peers and communities, fostering a culture of collective responsibility in tackling TB. This cascading impact not only strengthens TB control efforts but also builds sustainable community networks capable of addressing broader public health challenges.

“Youth are the Future”

Community perspective on building a youth movement to end TB



Timur Abdullaev (Uzbekistan)

Timur Abdullaev, Founder of TB People Global, expressed his complete support for YOUNITE by committing to provide all the resources and technical assistance needed to make it a larger, youth-driven community network. In a compelling speech, he emphasized how community-driven movements have changed the world. Drawing from his experience, he outlined the significant impact this young network can have on TB elimination and its potential to bring together young advocates to amplify the voices of communities worldwide.

He emphasized the importance of giving youth space and the pressing need for leaders, communities, donors, and stakeholders to empower young people through meaningful engagement. According to Timur, meaningful engagement begins at the community level, where young leaders are closest to the challenges and opportunities for intervention. By fostering partnerships with local organizations and creating platforms for youth to share their perspectives, an inclusive and impactful movement can emerge.

Timur also highlighted the importance of implementing supportive policies that enable young leaders to play active roles in TB control efforts. These policies should address structural barriers, provide financial and logistical support, and ensure that youth voices are represented in decision-making processes. His insights reinforced the belief that when youth are empowered with resources and opportunities, they can make substantial contributions to the global fight against TB, achieving progress not only in their communities but also at national and international levels.

“We are ready to Welcome the new leaders”

YouthTB champion roles in TB elimination



Eneal John Tarimo (Kenya)

Eneal John Tarimo, a TB advocate from Kenya, shared a deeply personal and inspiring account of her journey as a youth TB advocate. In her speech, she detailed the advocacy efforts she has undertaken, highlighting both the successes and challenges encountered along the way. Eneal described how she has worked tirelessly to mobilize communities and foster awareness about TB and its prevention, thereby shedding light on the immense potential of youth-driven advocacy in addressing the stigma and misconceptions surrounding TB, which often function as barriers to effective care and treatment.

Eneal also discussed the hurdles she has faced, such as limited resources, societal stigma, and resistance to change within her community. Despite these challenges, her determination and innovative approaches have led to considerable progress in raising awareness and encouraging collective responsibility for TB elimination. Her narrative demonstrated the resilience and creativity of young advocates, serving as a powerful reminder that youth can be agents of transformative change in public health.

She also shared her role in addressing the issues and challenges within her own country and her contributions to other advocacy groups working for broader community advancement, including the promotion of community rights and improved access to treatment.

KVP youth contributions to TB elimination



Amit Singh Gusain (India)

Amit Singh Gusain delivered an insightful presentation focusing on the critical contributions of youth from KVPs—such as marginalized and underserved groups—in TB control efforts. He emphasized that these populations often bear a disproportionate burden of TB due to factors such as poverty, limited healthcare access, and social exclusion. Empowering young individuals from these groups to participate in TB initiatives is not only a step toward equity but also a strategy to enhance the overall effectiveness of TB programs.

Amit highlighted various initiatives that have successfully integrated youth from key populations into TB advocacy and service delivery. During his presentation, he also shared a personal story about how his perspective changed after recognizing the needs of communities in coping with TB challenges, particularly for the younger generation. He explained how his own experiences motivated him to support TB-affected communities and advocate for the TB community's rights.

Through his presentation, he outlined the challenges, and the support required that can contribute meaningfully to TB control efforts. Amit also stressed that youth leaders bring unique perspectives and insights, making them invaluable in designing culturally sensitive and context-specific interventions. He concluded by emphasizing that empowering marginalized KVP youth strengthens the broader fight against TB, fostering a more inclusive and equitable public health response.

Segment 2: Capacity Building and Community Mobilization

The second segment focused on equipping participants with practical tools and strategies for effective TB advocacy and community engagement. The session combined knowledge sharing with interactive exercises.

Presentations of Best Practices and Experiences:

1. Stephen Anguva Shikoli (Kenya): He delivered an energetic speech, inspiring and energizing all the listeners as he underscored his vision of a world driven by youth engagement and the transformative changes youth can bring. He shared successful strategies from his work in community-based TB care, emphasizing the critical role of localized efforts in driving sustainable impact.

2. Rida Shullai (India): She captivated everyone with her extraordinary story of resilience, transforming immense challenges into a testament of strength and determination. After losing her parents and one lung to TB, she faced daily battles with severe side effects and setbacks. Yet, her unwavering hope became the driving force behind her fight against multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB).

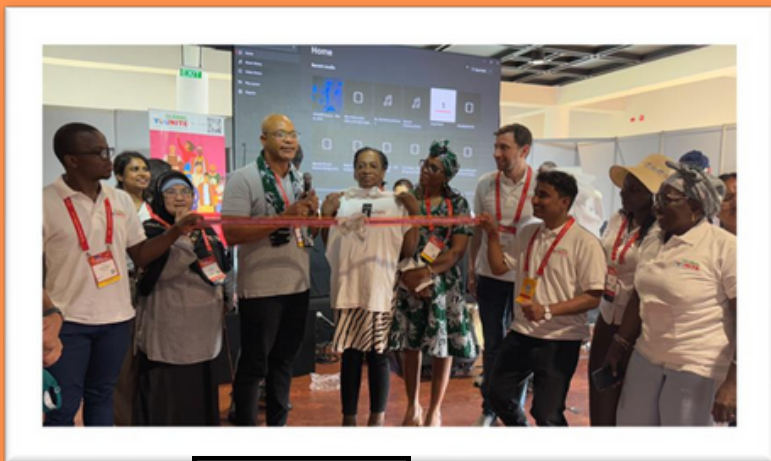
Sharing her powerful journey as a survivor, she emphasized the crucial role of resilience and the impact of personal narratives in advocacy. Rising above her circumstances, she not only rebuilt her life but also emerged as a successful entrepreneur and a passionate advocate, dedicated to supporting the TB community in her state. Her story is a beacon of inspiration, proving that even in the face of devastation, the human spirit can triumph.



Positive Energy Bring Positive Hope

Inauguration of YOUNITE Global Platform and Website for Engagement of Youth to End TB by Chief Austin Obiefuna, Timur Abdullave, Dr. Prof. Erlina Burhan and Carol Nawina

A key milestone of this session was the launch of the YOUNITE Global Platform and Website, led by **Chief Austin Obiefuna** Vice Chair Stop TB Partnership, **Timur Abdullaev** Board Member TB People Global, **Dr. Erlina Burhan** Board Member Stop TB Partnership and The Union and other key TB advocates to show their support. The platform seeks to unite youth leaders from around the globe, offering resources and fostering collaboration in the fight to eliminate TB. We are also grateful for the inspiring remarks shared by our esteemed leaders and mentors:



IT'S TIME → END TB



YOUTH VOICES FOR TB FREE WORLD!



YES!
WE CAN END TB

Segment 3: Engagement Activities

The third segment introduced a more interactive and light-hearted approach to advocacy through creative activities. These activities were designed to foster collaboration and promote TB awareness in innovative ways. Richa Maheshwari, a TB advocate, facilitated the session, ensuring that the activities remained meaningful while maintaining a vibrant and engaging atmosphere.

Selfie Corner Activity: Participants were encouraged to capture moments from the event at a designated selfie corner, promoting social media engagement to raise awareness about TB elimination efforts.



Closing Remarks

The workshop concluded with a summary of key insights, delivered by Nyiko Kubai, Steering Committee Member of YOUNITE Global, Nyiko reflected on the workshop's discussions, emphasizing the importance of youth-led initiatives in achieving TB elimination goals.

Key takeaways from the session included:

- Enhanced networks and collaborations among youth advocates and stakeholders.
- Practical insights into effective community-based TB interventions.
- Clear next steps for leveraging the newly launched YOUNITE Global platform to drive sustained engagement and impact.

After the Closing remarks YOUNITE Global signed an MOU with TB People Global as a Youth Chapter for uniting young people from Globe for a Mission to END TB



Picture Gallery





Youth United for Impact in TB Elimination



Let's YOUNITE for a TB Free World



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