



Early Detection and Integrated Management of Tuberculosis in Europe

PJ-03-2015
Early diagnosis of tuberculosis

D2.7 Final Dissemination Report

WP 2 – Dissemination

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Definitions and acronyms

Acronyms	Definitions
UCL	University College London
UNIBS	University of Brescia

1. Introduction

The project “Early Detection and integrated management of Tuberculosis (TB) in Europe (E-DETECT TB)” has been carried out by a consortium of an EC co-funded group which brought together world leading TB experts in national public health agencies (Dutch, Italian, Romanian, Romanian, Swedish, and of United Kingdom), with industry (Delft diagnostics) and major academic centres (Karolinska, OSR, SMI, UCL, UNIBS).

It aims to contribute to the elimination of TB in the European Union by utilising evidence-based interventions to ensure early diagnosis, improve integrated care and support community and prison outreach activities in low and high-incidence countries.

The project-specific objectives include:

- (i) to reduce the prevalence of TB in the community and prisons through the implementation of outreach activities in Romania and Bulgaria;
- (ii) to reduce the prevalence of TB in asylum seekers at their first arrival on Italian coasts by early TB detection (active TB and LTBI);
- (iii) to collect, harmonize and analyse data coming from EU countries on migrant screening by national TB programs;
- (iv) to strengthen European TB surveillance in order to support the development of national TB strategies and action plans.

The vulnerable populations targeted by the project include migrants arriving at Southern European coasts and homeless persons, prisoners, drug users and those with multi-drug resistant TB in Eastern Europe.

The dissemination work-package (WP2) aims to give voice and visibility to the project by effective sharing of the outputs of the work with intra and inter member state organizations and communities.

The strategy is multifaceted and based on the use of diverse communication tools.

We are pleased to report that we have met all of our objectives that we established at the outset of the project. Furthermore, we have found opportunities to produce additional resources to enable the wider dissemination of E-DETECT TB and communicate its successes, including multi-language factsheets and video tutorials.

1.1. Deliverable objectives

The table below summarises the deliverables of this work package:

Deliverable	Deliverable Title	Lead beneficiary	Type	Dissemination level	Due Date (months)
D2.1	Project leaflet	6-UNIBS	Report	Public	3
D2.2	Website	1-UCL	Report	Public	3
D2.3	Dissemination plan	6-UNIBS	Report	Public	6
D2.4	Policy brief-early diagnosis and case holding of TB	6-UNIBS	Report	Public	6
D2.5	Project video-early diagnosis	1-UCL	Report	Public	24
D2.6	Training and peer-learning events	1-UCL	Report	Public	13
D2.7	Final dissemination report	6-UNIBS	Report	Public	54
D2.8	Layman version of the final report	6-UNIBS	Report	Public	54

2. Summary of activities and results



14 journal publications
(to date at
November 2020)



project leaflet, work
package factsheets,
newsletters



project website and
social media



dissemination activity to collaborate, inform and engage



presented at 15
conferences, led civil
society engagement
meetings, invited to
Romanian Parliament



three webinars hosted
by the European
Respiratory Society



project overview, app
tutorials and mobile
unit tour videos
(all on YouTube)

Figure 1. E-DETECT TB Dissemination Results Infographics

2.1. Dissemination Plan

The E-DETECT TB Consortium and its unique membership presents an opportunity for the dissemination and communication strategy due to the wide range of expertise available including academic, governmental and NGO members coming from different countries and professional backgrounds.

Each organisation/member brings specific communication expertise and capacity with a shared attitude for effective dialogue with national and international partners.

Therefore, the E-DETECT TB dissemination strategy has been characterised by a multi-sectoral approach, involving different communication specialists (web-designers, visual artists, video experts, social-media communicator, graphics designer) as well as E-DETECT TB Consortium members and staff.

Objectives included:

- a) To create an E-DETECT TB image through the design of a specific logo, website and leaflet.
- b) To set up the E-DETECT TB community through the use of a dedicated mailing list, web-site and social networks.
- c) To keep its image updated and attractive through the regular follow up of its website and social networks.
- d) To establish a continuous dialogue with the project target audience through participation in key-meetings.
- e) To share knowledge through the design, dissemination and implementation of webinars.
- f) To disseminate project results through the elaboration of articles and manuscripts and through the participation to the most relevant international conferences and scientific meetings.

The Primary target audience of EDETECT TB is shown in Table 1 and was represented by:
National health staff, including regional and local Public Health departments, working on TB and vulnerable populations:

- Civil society organisations and NGOs working with TB and vulnerable populations (Europe TB Coalition and national level organisations)
- European Union
- Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of each European member state
- International agencies and organizations (WHO, UNHCR, IOM, ECDC)
- Research institutions and scientific societies (the European Respiratory Society, the Federation of European Societies for Tropical Medicine and International Health, the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases; the International Society of Travel Medicine, the International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases)

Table 1. E-DETECT TB target audience

GROUP	COMMUNICATIONS ISSUED
CIVIL SOCIETY and NGOs <p>They represent the first and wider interlocutor. The Civil society includes representatives of each vulnerable group, TB activists, TB survivors representatives, community health workers, social assistants, representatives from the school-system and local authorities (citizens, religious leaders, etc.). National and international NGOs working on TB and on vulnerable groups from different countries will be contacted and involved as influent recipients.</p>	<p>To achieve strong linkage to the civil-society and the NGOs for an effective dissemination strategy we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> organise community events participate in focal meeting organised by civil societies and NGOs use social media create and disseminate a video with direct and active community as active participation.
NATIONAL HEALTH STAFF <p>Medical doctors, Public Health Officers and other health staff working on TB and/or working specifically with migrants/Roma, (infectious diseases specialists, pneumologists, family doctors, Public Health and Hygiene specialists, paediatricians, internal medicine doctors, nurses, health assistants etc.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct involvement in the WP activities of the project (such WP4 and WP5) Design, upload and implementation of webinars on TB and migrants and active case finding Internet and social media: website and twitter Publication and dissemination of articles
SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES AND COMMUNITIES <p>The following societies will be included as priority recipients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The European Respiratory Society The European Society of Clinical Microbiology on Infectious Diseases The International Society of Travel Medicine The Federation Society of Tropical Medicine in Europe The International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease 	<p>Targeted for dissemination of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> newsletter articles website <p>We will also actively participate in international conferences and congresses organised by these organisations.</p>
INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS/AGENCIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECDC WHO Euro WHO Headquarters IOM UNHCR 	<p>Continuous dialogue will be maintained on the relevant topics of the project (early detection, screening for active TB and LTBI) by encouraging participation in workshops and multilateral meetings.</p> <p>The existence of a website, regular publication of the E-DETECT TB newsletter and of scientific articles on the project results, will also be used to communicate with these agencies.</p>
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY <p>The European Community is the main intended beneficiary of the project and therefore a key stakeholder and target of the dissemination strategy.</p>	<p>The EC will be informed of all the project activities and results through regular reporting/articles/newsletter and website.</p>

2.2. Internal Communication

Virtual meetings (teleconferences) of all partners have been organised every month to ensure internal communication within the consortium. Information on progresses, achievements, and barriers in project implementation were discussed during the meetings.

The Sharepoint platform is an additional tool used for data sharing between consortium members. This platform hosted at UCL has been secured and allowed access to all project consortium members to the same up to date versions of all study documents.

Each Work-Package also organized face-to-face and virtual meetings in order to plan, discuss and agree upon the activities and deliverables of the project.

Annual face-to face meetings with the participation of the full consortium members and the members of the External Advisory Board (EAB) were conducted in order to ensure wider and direct discussion:

- 2016 Luxembourg
- 2017 London
- 2018 Bucharest
- 2019 London
- 2020 Final meeting, organised in online modality due to the COVID-19 restrictions



Figure 2. Kick-off meeting in Luxembourg, June 2016

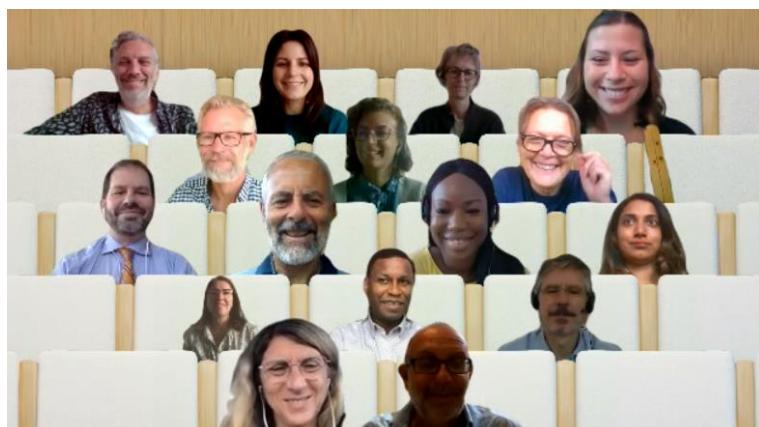


Figure 3. Final meeting held online, September 2020

2.3. External Communication

2.3.1. Logo

Graphic and creative visual designers developed an original logo (*Figure 3*) and finalised this through consultation with, and consensus between, partners. The official E-DETECT logo was launched at the project kick-off meeting and is in use throughout in all communication material related to the project.



Figure 4. E-DETECT TB Logo

2.3.2. Toolkit

A toolkit, which includes E-DETECT templates for PowerPoint presentations, meeting documents, letter headed paper and compliment slips, was created to represent an additional visual identity tool.

2.3.3. Website

The E-DETECT TB project website was created on the domain named <https://e-detecttb.eu/>. It was launched on June 23rd 2016 and it is regularly maintained. The webpage language is English.

The objective of producing a website is to facilitate communication within and dissemination of the E-DETECT TB project. The website serves several purposes:

- (i) It acts as a source of information for a variety of stakeholders, such as academics, industry and governmental agencies conducting similar work and interested in collaboration with E-DETECT TB partners and CHAFEA.
- (ii) It disseminates information to the public in an easily digestible form, informing them of the importance of the research and project activities.

It initially consisted of six main pages: Home, About, Partners, News, Contact and External Links.

The *Home* page features the project's tag line and the main information about the project, the consortium's publications and latest news (See Figure 2).

The *About* page provides a quick summary of the project and links providing details of project's Work Plan and the composition of the consortium. The Publications subpage (which was promoted to a main page once outputs began to accelerate) hosts all the documentation and publications of the project and lists all public deliverables and their planned delivery date.

The *Partners* page introduces the consortium and includes a mosaic of tiles presenting the partners individually.

The *Contact* page provides email addresses for the Project Manager. It also includes a form through which interested visitors can sign up to receive news about the project by email (the project's mailing list).

The *External Links Page* provides a short description and links to relevant international and European initiatives. It will be populated and updated as the consortium creates links towards other initiatives and projects.

UCL performed the web design through WordPress, and registered the domain name with Names.co.uk. The website is regularly maintained and updated by WP2 (Dissemination)'s UCL Communications and the Project Managers, supported by leaders at UNIBS.

The website is regularly reviewed and refined to meet the demands of the stakeholders and target audience, and ensure optimal dissemination of the project's results. News posts, downloadable resources and new pages are frequently added.

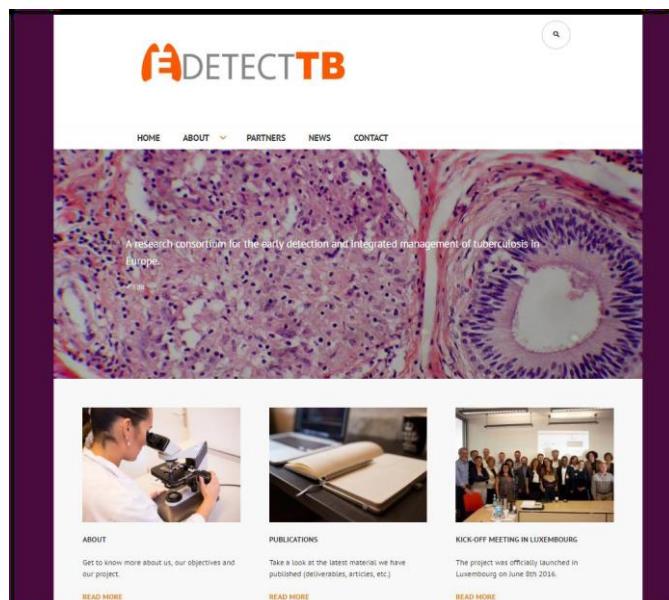


Figure 5. Web site, Home (2016 version)

In 2020, the website structure was significantly refreshed in order to include separate pages for work packages 4, 5, 6 and 7, ("Outreach for Early Diagnosis", "Migrant TB Detection, Prevention and Treatment", "Establishing a European TB Database" and "Supporting National TB Programmes") as well as a prominent TB Strategy Toolkit page.

The website will be further refreshed following the completion of the project in order to provide optimum visibility of E-DETECT TB's achievements and the resources produced that are available to the TB community. The domain and website will be maintained for a minimum of three years (to 2023) following the official end date of the project.

To date, the E-DETECT TB website has been viewed by 4,846 unique visitors in 136 countries.

2.3.4. Mailing List

Two mailing lists have been created. The first list, including all E-DETECT TB Consortium Members and the other one with representatives of our target audience. These lists allowed easy sharing of newsletters, articles or any relevant document.

Interested individuals could sign up to the mailing list through the website that includes a specific subscription form in the “Contact” section.

2.3.5. Newsletter

Every 6 to 9 months a newsletter describing the most important achievements of the project has been created using MailChimp and [uploaded on the website](#) and shared through the mailing list, upon clearance by Consortium Members.

Achievements and news from the E-DETECT TB project has also been regularly featured in other newsletters with wider audiences, such as [UCL's Global Health newsletter](#) (over 3,000 subscribers).

2.3.6. Individual Work Package Factsheets

In order to raise awareness of our project’s activities, the team decided in early 2018 to produce a series of factsheets. A two-page (one sheet of A4) template was created for each of the four main work packages to complete themselves. The dissemination team then released all four factsheets to coincide with World TB Day (March 2018).

The factsheets were written in English and additional versions were translated into Romanian (work package 4) and Italian (work package 5), given the country-specific focus of these work packages.

These documents were publicised via our newsletter, networks, website and social media, and were uploaded onto the EU portal. They were printed for distribution at external events including the Union World Conference on Lung Health (The Hague, October 2018).

The factsheets were updated in 2019 and were once again publicised via our communication channels.

This output was a cost-free product and a highly successful collaboration involving all E-DETECT TB partners. [They can be accessed via our website](#). Some example images are shown below.

Figure 6. Work Package 4 factsheet (2019 version) in English (left) and Romanian (right).

Figure 7. Work Package 5 factsheet (2018 Italian version on the left, 2019 Italian version on the right).

2.3.7. TB Strategy Toolkit Promotional Factsheets

Following the release of the TB Strategy Toolkit by work package 7 (Supporting National TB Programmes), the project team proposed creating a brief, one-page document which could be disseminated widely to raise awareness of the Toolkit and its benefits.

The E-DETECT TB team agreed that the resulting document (which for ease of reference we will refer to as a “promotional factsheet”) should not be available solely in English and should be translated into other European languages in order to facilitate its distribution among groups throughout the European Union/EEA.

The resulting document was co-written by members of work package 7 and work package 2 and is arranged over two pages in order that it can be printed onto a single sheet of A4 paper.

It introduces the reader to the TB Strategy Toolkit and summarises why and how it was created, what the Toolkit offers and where it can be accessed.

E-DETECT TB leadership agreed that, for the purposes of speed and comprehensiveness, professional translations into [all official EU languages](#) could be funded by the project.

All 24 versions of the document are available [on the E-DETECT TB website](#) and EU platform. Images of the English and Greek versions are shown below as examples.

Various communication tools were used to raise awareness of the promotional factsheets, for example via Twitter:

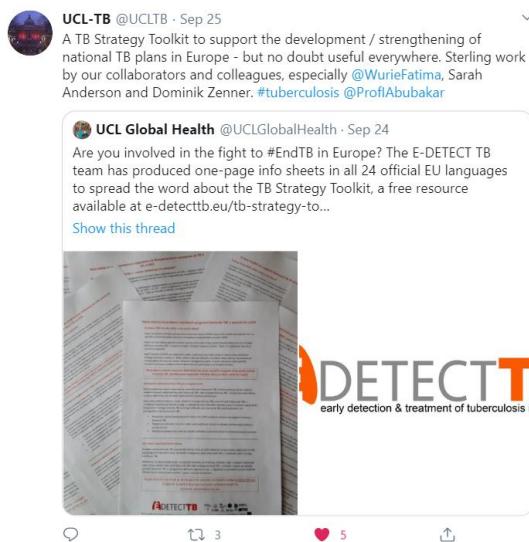


Figure 8. Dissemination post on Twitter on the TB Strategy Toolkit.

A new toolkit to support National TB Programmes in the EU and EEA

Ending TB by 2030: what needs to be done?

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control data for 2018 show TB notification rates of 10.2 per 100,000 in the European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA) countries.

Although the rates have been declining steadily, more action needs to be taken if we are to meet WHO "End TB Strategy" targets by 2030 – in low- as well as higher-incidence countries. This will require a robust and coherent response.

There are significant variations with the progress of developing and implementing national strategic plans and guidelines across the EU/EEA. The WHO and some European member states have previously published a toolkit, aimed at providing the methodological approaches to draft national strategic plans. However, more targeted and supportive approaches are needed which include bold and European context-specific goals to support delivery.

To support this vital objective, we have produced a European TB Strategy Toolkit, commissioned by CHAFEA, which is freely available and accessible to all.

A TB Strategy Toolkit for European Countries

The Toolkit supports national TB plan development or improvement by providing up-to-date guidance on core components of a TB Action Plan or TB Strategy. It consolidates the latest EU/EEA-focused evidence and expert opinions from 31 EU/EEA Member States.

It serves as a practical instrument for developing country-specific TB Strategies or TB Action Plans and to facilitate TB strategy implementation drawing upon principles from the previously published WHO generic toolkit, the Collaborative TB Strategy for England and The National TB Plan for The Netherlands. This TB Strategy Toolkit aims to:

- Provide a point-of-reference for EU and EEA-specific priority areas for intervention to improve TB control and prevention;
- Support national level planning and resource allocation based on peer-reviewed evidence and primary data;
- Provide support for mobilising high-level commitment and for engaging with stakeholder groups

Getting and using your copy of the Toolkit

The European TB Strategy Toolkit is a practical tool which is aimed at all professionals dealing with TB, to inform the development of national strategic TB plans and to move countries and Europe towards TB elimination.

It is expected that the Toolkit will be validated further in the European context for which it was designed, for example in settings which do and do not have an existing TB Action Plan or TB Strategy, in settings of low to medium-high TB incidence, and in geographically varied regions (e.g. East and West EU/EEA settings). The Toolkit is expected to be piloted in different settings.

You can download a copy of the toolkit via our website e-detecttb.eu. Please email dominik.zenner@ucl.ac.uk for further information.

How we produced the Toolkit: the collaborative process

The development process and content of the E-DETECT TB Strategy Toolkit focused on prioritizing key areas of TB control and was underpinned by a portfolio of evidence, within the context of the EU/EEA. The evidence portfolio consisted of:

- A pan-European survey of national TB Control Plans and TB Strategies, including prioritisation of action areas and barriers to the implementation of interventions for TB control and prevention
- A systematic review of systematic reviews of the evidence base for interventions to control and prevent TB
- A systematic review and evidence synthesis of barriers and enablers to the implementation of policies, strategies and guidelines for TB control and prevention
- Expert opinion from EU/EEA programme representatives and national focal points obtained during a key Stakeholder meeting, convened in October 2018 in Leiden, the Netherlands, and follow-up dialogue with stakeholders.

We collaborated with a wide range of stakeholders including the official National Focal Points and TB control programme leads from all EU/EEA, European Commission, European Centre for Disease Control (ECDC), WHO Europe, other TB experts and civil society representatives, academia, and the non-governmental and civil society sector.

How we produced the Toolkit: Building consensus and Findings

Despite the availability of WHO's methodological guide to developing a national strategic plan from 2015, findings from our pan-European survey identified substantial gaps in strategy development and implementation, in that 14 of 31 EU/EEA member states did not have a TB control strategy in place.

After considering the findings from the evidence portfolio, experts agreed on nine core components for a National TB Plan or TB Strategy:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising awareness of TB amongst health professionals and other providers • Targeted BCG vaccination • Improve multi-drug-resistant TB care and prevention • Contact tracing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of HIV-TB co-infection • Tackling TB in underserved groups • Targeted TB screening in high risk groups • Surveillance and monitoring • Training and developing a specialist TB workforce
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Of these core components three were worked on further, these were:

- Raising awareness of TB in the community and primary care
- Reaching underserved groups
- Targeted TB screening in high risk groups

These areas were interrogated further not because they are more important than the other core components but because of the practical barriers to deliver them. These three components, and possible solutions, were discussed at the October 2018 meeting in Leiden and are covered in more detail in the Toolkit.

Decision-making as to which core components to include in a national strategy or action plan should be guided by local epidemiology and the local knowledge of stakeholders of their communities. Data-driven approaches which utilise national and sub-national epidemiological analysis of TB case registries for routine and enhanced surveillance are explored in the Toolkit.

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Health Programme (2014-2020) under grant agreement No 709634

Figure 9. Original version of the TB Strategy Toolkit (English).

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Version 1.1

Figure 10. Greek translation of the TB Strategy Toolkit.

2.3.8. Social Media

Social media and social media engagement are key to the success of every communication action aimed at the general public, particularly when dealing with complex and articulate contents and information generated by a research project. The team selected the more suitable social media in accordance to the identified targets and the communication goals and the community of researchers behind it.

2.3.8.1. Twitter

Twitter was used throughout the project to announce news, advertise events or share results with the wider community. Partners have been encouraged to share stories of E-DETECT TB activities via their personal or institutional social media. A few examples are below:

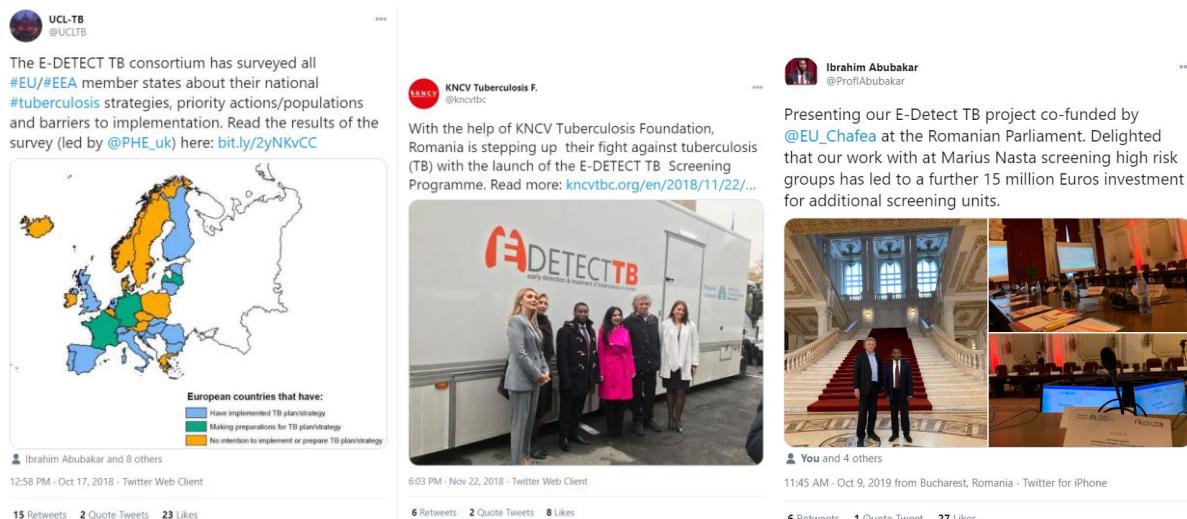


Figure 11. Examples of Twitter posts stories of E-DETECT TB activities

A few more examples:

- <https://twitter.com/UCLTB/status/1052529227176833024>
- <https://twitter.com/UCLGlobalHealth/status/1309142647114792962>
- <https://twitter.com/kncvtbc/status/1065667134804713472>
- <https://twitter.com/ProfIAbubakar/status/1181883307312762880>
- <https://twitter.com/TBECoalition/status/1096332694819090433>
- <https://twitter.com/UCLTB/status/1057644238471606273>
- <https://twitter.com/DelftImaging/status/1115613648968474630>

2.3.8.2. Facebook

In some European countries, such as Romania, Twitter is less widely used and therefore our partner NTPR opted to use Facebook (which is popular in Romania) instead. A few examples are below:

- <https://www.facebook.com/1188407690/posts/10215925669313119/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/salondiyona/videos/2254247007932027/UzpfSTY1NzM2NDQ3NjoxMDE1NzAyMjg3NTIzNDQ3Nw/>

2.3.8.3. YouTube

The well-established [UCL Global Health channel](#) on YouTube has been used for dissemination of short videos created during core E-DETECT workshops, and to post the Project's official videos produced. The video uploads on YouTube have been embedded throughout our website.

2.3.9. Leaflet

A project leaflet was produced as the identity card of E-DETECT TB project (Figure 12). It briefly introduced the project background, objectives, work-packages and outputs. The aim of the leaflet was to give a direct, catchy, snapshot of the E-DETECT TB project. It highlighted the Consortium members and the existence of the E-DETECT TB dedicated website.

The E-DETECT TB leaflet has been designed in order to respect the following criteria:

- to deliver a clear message
- to catch immediately the reader's attention
- to give a sense of trust and professionalism
- to provide the project with a serious but also appealing image

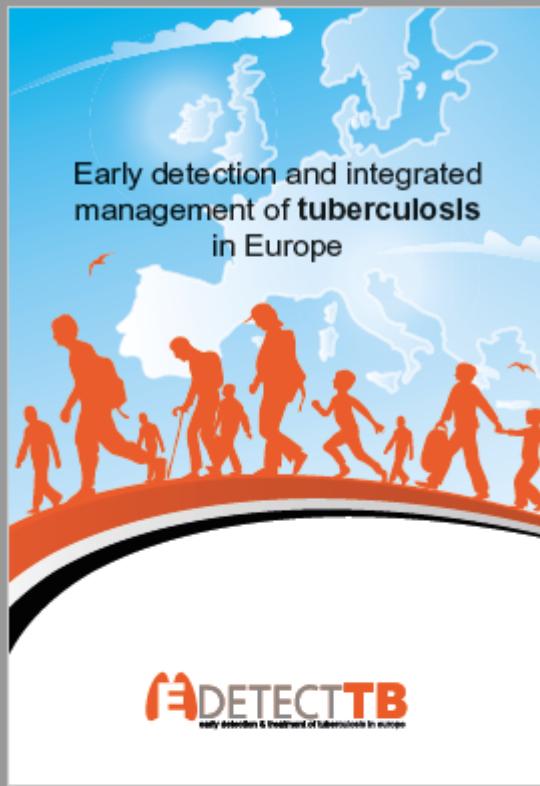
The leaflet target recipients are research and academic institutions and national and international organizations. It has been disseminated during major events, e.g. international congresses/workshops on TB, some specific national conferences or other significant events, including The Union Conference (Den Haag, October 2018) and The World TB Day Symposia (London, March 2017, 2018 and 2019).

The project leaflet was created in English. About 2,800 copies were printed and distributed to each partner for dissemination: 200 copies/member except for UCL, UNIBS, KNCV and NTPR, who each received 500 copies, reflecting their increased requirements for dissemination and field activities.

The leaflet is also available electronically [on the project website](#) and other relevant and related websites (ECDC;ERS;WHO). An easy-to-print version of the leaflet has been developed for partners. This version differs only on graphic definition and printing characteristics, while content and structure did not change.

The leaflet content and structure was designed by UCL in collaboration with UNIBS between July and November 2016 (M2-M7). Its graphic was developed by a visual artist, specialised on creation and communication.

E-DETECT TB members have been involved throughout the elaboration of the leaflet and its definitive version is the result of a global consultation which has taken into account suggestions and experience of all the partners.



Early detection and integrated management of tuberculosis in Europe

E-DETECT TB
early detection & treatment of tuberculosis in Europe

What is E-DETECT TB about?

E-DETECT TB – early detection and integrated management of tuberculosis in Europe is a project co-funded by The European Commission's 3rd Health Programme.

Our aim is to contribute to the elimination of TB in the European Union by applying evidence-based interventions to ensure early diagnosis, improve integrated care and supporting community and prison outreach activities in low and high-incidence countries.

E-DETECT TB is a practical programme of translational research targeting homeless people, prisoners, high-risk drug users and those with multi-drug resistant tuberculosis in Romania and Bulgaria, migrants arriving on Italian coasts and asylum seekers in Italy and improved control of tuberculosis in migrants in other European countries.

UCL is the coordinating centre for our network of partners from six member states (Bulgaria, Italy, the Netherlands, Romania, Sweden and the United Kingdom (UK)). We work jointly to evaluate the implementation of evidence-based interventions, taking best practice approaches from countries where national strategic plans have been developed. In collaboration with the European Commission (DG SANTE), the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), WHO EURO and civil society partners, we will work towards the adaptation of guidelines and policies to strengthen TB control across the European Union.

"E-DETECT TB brings together a unique group of TB experts, world-leading universities, non-governmental organisations, charities and national TB programmes to contribute to the global and European effort to end the TB epidemic. The project combines the diverse and rich contributions of our partners in order to exploit new technology and advances in knowledge to control TB"

– Professor Abubakar, Scientific Coordinator for the project



Our approach

Outreach for early diagnosis and treatment
A mobile x-ray unit equipped with computer aided detection software and molecular testing implemented in Romania and Bulgaria.

Migrant TB detection, prevention and treatment
Screening new and settled asylum seekers and refugees in Italy for active and latent TB infection (LTBI), ensuring optimal care for TB/LTBI patients and generating evidence to support future European policies.

Establishing a database of latent and active TB screening of migrants in Europe
Starting with data from Italy, Sweden, the Netherlands and UK and creating a unified data reporting system to enable epidemiological analysis and better tailor future TB control interventions.

Supporting national TB programmes
Analysing best practice approaches from countries where national strategic plans have been most effective to create tools and comprehensive country-specific plans to reduce TB, which will assist other countries to develop their own frameworks for action.

Our Objectives



The E-DETECT TB consortium

University College London (London, United Kingdom)
Public Health England (London, United Kingdom)
Delft Imaging Systems (Delft, The Netherlands)
Public Health Agency of Sweden (Stockholm, Sweden)
KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation (The Hague, The Netherlands)
Maria Kresti Institute of Pneumology (Bucharest, Romania)
Tzaneer Za Zdrov'el Strategy I Program (Sofia, Bulgaria)
National Institute for Infectious Diseases (Rome, Italy)
Karolinska Institutet (Stockholm, Sweden)
Ospedale San Raffaele (Milan, Italy)
University of Greece (Athens, Italy)



More information: contact@e-detecttb.eu
Website: www.e-detecttb.eu

This project E-DETECT TB has received funding from the European Union's Health Programme (2014-2020) under Grant Agreement No. 700624

Figure 12. E-DETECT TB Leaflet

2.3.10. Policy Briefs

The E-DETECT TB project uses policy brief as a marketing tool, to convince the target audience of the urgency of the problem of tuberculosis in vulnerable populations in Europe, and to serve as an impetus for action.

The first policy brief is a concise description of the E-DETECT TB objectives, actions, and expected results that also describes Consortium Members. The target audience of the policy-briefs consists of health staff in participating countries (public health and clinical staff), scientific societies and communities, international organizations and agencies, representatives of the civil society (including representatives of vulnerable groups, TB activists, TB survivor representatives, community health workers, social assistants, representatives from the school-system and local authorities), NGOs, and the European Union.

Dissemination has been achieved through a multichannel strategy that includes the website, newsletters, and a dedicated mailing list of the representatives of the target audience.

Specific briefs on early diagnosis and case holding and any relevant results have been produced during the life-time of the project to be shared and disseminated to national and international institutions.

Table 2. Final version of the full Policy Brief

POLICY AREA: Health Briefing: Tuberculosis Project title: Early DETECTION of tuberculosis consortium (E-DETECT TB). Date: 01/10/2016 Author: Professor Ibrahim Abubakar, Coordinator, E-DETECT TB on behalf of the dissemination work package
Project background Key facts and background Tuberculosis (TB) is a major public health priority in the 30 EU/EEA countries. The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control reported 64844 TB cases in 2013, a rate of 12.7 per 100,000. 4.1% was multidrug resistant (MDR) TB, an emerging epidemic which cumulatively takes more lives than all deaths from the recent outbreaks of Ebola fever.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of those affected are adults, who present with pulmonary tuberculosis, but about 4% of cases in high incidence countries are under 15 years old. • The overall trend and the stagnant/rising rates in many countries is in sharp contrast to the global target of a 10% annual decline and the eventual World Health Organization goal to end the TB epidemic by 2035. • The EU and neighbouring European countries also have a high burden of MDR TB. Extensively drug-resistant (XDR) TB was reported for 17.5% of 963 MDR TB cases tested for second-line drug susceptibility, and 4.9% of all TB cases with a known HIV status were co-infected. • The current overall impact of M/XDR TB on European health systems is substantial and will progressively enlarge unless novel diagnosis and care pathways are implemented.

To address the high disease burden of TB in vulnerable EU populations we have formed the Early DETECTION of tuberculosis consortium (E-DETECT TB).

The E-DETECT TB Consortium

The E-DETECT TB consortium is an EC co-funded group which brings together world leading TB experts in national public health agencies (Swedish, United Kingdom, Dutch, Italian and Romanian), with industry (Delft diagnostics) and major academic centres (UCL, Karolinska, SMI, OSR, UNIBS), and reflects the incidence of TB in different European countries. The overall objective of the consortium is to contribute to a decline, and the eventual elimination of TB in the EU.

Programme/interventions

The programme is organised in six work packages:

1. Coordination: Ensure the delivery of the benefits of the work programme within time and budget
2. Dissemination: Lead the effective sharing of the outputs of this work with intra and inter member state organisations and communities.
3. Evaluation: Assess progress, effect and value of the work programme
4. Early diagnosis using an outreach service with a mobile x-ray screening van combined with social support to ensure care integration in Romania and Bulgaria
5. TB in migrants
 - a. Implement and evaluate migrant TB detection in Italy
 - b. Collate, analyse and evaluate multi-country data on TB in immigrants to low incidence countries to inform effective strategies for early diagnosis of active and latent TB
6. Support the strengthening of national TB programmes

Major challenge(s) and potential impact

We have brought together a multidisciplinary, multi country consortium of tuberculosis expert investigators who play a major role in several Europe wide policy and delivery groups; our outputs will therefore have direct relevance to EU member states over and above any project that can be achieved in an individual member state.

The high burden of MDR-TB in Europe and the associated challenges linked to the movement of populations into Europe and between member states pose specific challenges to which we will aim to provide innovative solutions as part of this work programme.

We will collate and package best practice in tuberculosis control and disseminate this to member states through policy briefings, meetings, e-media and civil society advocacy.

2.3.11. Press Release

At the beginning of the project and at other strategically important time points (i.e publication of articles, World TB day, World day of Migrants and Refugees, etc.) a [Press Release](#) officially informed the public of the most important events of E-DETECT TB.

2.3.12. Webinars

Webinars took place in 2017, in 2018 and in 2019 to disseminate project results related to TB prevention and care among vulnerable populations. The format and content of each webinar was agreed between the relevant work package and the dissemination team.

All three webinars were hosted by the European Respiratory Society (ERS), who offer [Continuing Medical Education \(CME\) credits](#) for those who participate.

The ERS and E-DETECT partners advertised the webinars in advance (and after they had taken place, when recordings became available) via their websites, social media, newsletters and other communication tools.

Recordings and programmes of the webinars are available to all via the E-DETECT TB website as below:

- November 2017, [“TB detection, prevention and treatment in immigrants”](#)
- November 2018, [“Establishing a European TB database”](#)
- October 2019, [“Outreach for Early TB Diagnosis”](#)

2.3.13. Videos

The grant agreement stated that “The video will only address early TB diagnosis and case holding”, which gave us a degree of creative flexibility.

It was decided early on that the project video would provide a description and overview of E-DETECT TB’s objectives in the short and long term, with as much live footage as possible. The delivery date would be during the project and so we sought to use the video as an explanation of our objectives and progress to date, rather than a presentation of all results and findings.

The purpose of the film was to provide an accessible introduction to E-DETECT TB, which can be disseminated to a wide audience.

The preference from E-DETECT leadership was to use filmed interviews with representatives from each work package alongside other elements to set the scene, illustrate achievements (where applicable) and demonstrate work in progress.

The initial deadline for this deliverable was M24 of the project but, due to delays from other work packages, CHAFEA agreed that the deliverable date could be adjusted accordingly, to ensure that the final video would reflect the project accurately.

Due to the geographical spread of the project, timeframe variations and cost considerations, work packages were asked at an early stage to gather filmed and photographed footage of project activities being carried out, rather than for video producers to travel to activities and gather the footage themselves (where they could very possibly face logistical problems).

Posters for display at filming locations and consent forms for individuals who agreed in advance to be photographed were drafted according to industry standard and checked with UCL lawyers to ensure that they adhered to EU law including GDPR. These were shared with all project personnel and placed on the E-DETECT TB SharePoint for future reference.

Material produced has supported various dissemination activities, with no limitation of using. Material gathered in this way was delivered at no cost to the users.

The video was produced by WP2 and Health Creatives; the running time is eight minutes and subtitles were added in order to adhere to UCL accessibility guidelines.

The video was premiered at The Union Conference in The Hague in October 2018 during the E-DETECT symposium session and is available via the E-DETECT TB website, the CHAFEA website and YouTube. It has been shown at various other meetings and will continue to be available for dissemination of the project results. Health Creatives continue to be available to adapt the video as and when necessary.

In addition to the main project video, the following have been produced:

E-DETECT app tutorial

In June 2017 WP5 personnel approached the dissemination team and project leadership to enquire whether the dissemination budget could fund two videos (one being a briefer version of the full video) demonstrating the E-DETECT screening app that they had developed. It was agreed that this output fitted the dissemination objectives of the project overall and not just WP5, and was a suitable method of not only instructing Italian healthcare professionals on use of the app, but would be an appropriate way to showcase the app for a wider audience.

WP2 and WP5 worked together to gather the app demo videos, completing the work in December 2017.

The videos have been disseminated widely among healthcare professionals in Italy. They are available via YouTube, the E-DETECT website, the CHAFEA website and are featured within the overall E-DETECT TB project video.

- [E-DETECT tuberculosis screening app short tutorial 00:46, English captions accompanied by music](#)
- [E-DETECT tuberculosis screening app full tutorial, Italian voiceover 06:57](#)

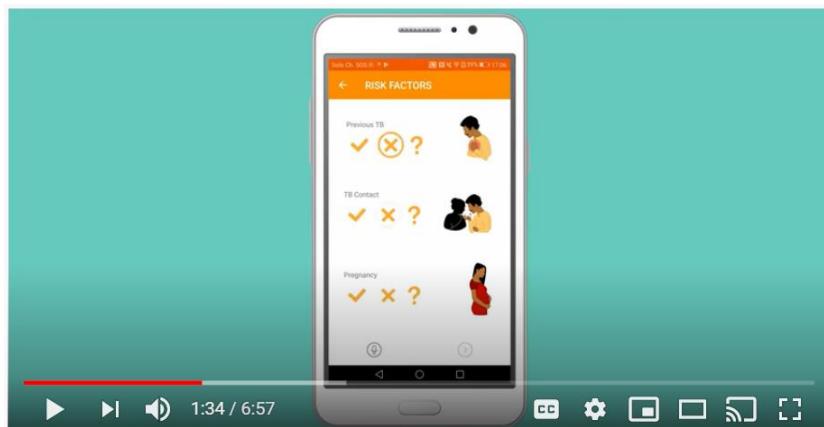


Figure 13. E-DETECT tuberculosis screening app tutorial

Video tour of the mobile x-ray unit

The mobile x-ray unit was officially launched in Bucharest on 20th November, 2018. The Romanian team produced a non-audio short video tour of the unit (duration 54 seconds), to be shown at the launch. Although this was too late to be included in the main E-DETECT promotional video, [we have uploaded it to YouTube](#) and it is accessible via our website. It was shown at the official launch and is being screened at other meetings.

Bulgarian version

In February 2019, E-DETECT TB contributed to a workshop run by TBEC for civil society organisations in Sofia, Bulgaria. A significant proportion of attendees did not speak English and therefore we decided to change the intertitles and subtitles to Bulgarian so that it could be shown to attendees. A TBEC contact provided a translation by email and the Health Creatives producer make the appropriate changes, which were then checked by the TBEC contact. The Bulgarian version was shown at the civil society meeting and will be used for further communications leading up to the pilot in Bulgaria. It is available on YouTube and via the E-DETECT website.



Figure 14. Still of the project video, subtitled in English.



Figure 15. Still of the project video, subtitled in Bulgarian.

Full list of E-DETECT TB videos:

- [E-DETECT TB project video \(8'46", English\)](#)
- [E-DETECT TB project video \(8'46", English with Bulgarian subtitles\)](#)
- [E-DETECT TB app tutorial \(45", English\)](#)
- [E-DETECT TB app tutorial \(6'57", Italian\)](#)
- [E-DETECT TB mobile unit video tour \(54", no audio\)](#)

2.3.14. Training and Peer Learning Events

A training and peer-learning event was organised in London in late August/early September 2017 to provide support to our Romanian partners through training on TB control in migrants and other vulnerable groups and to conduct field visits to screening sites across London.

This training exchange visit aimed to provide colleagues working with E-DETECT in Romania with practical and applicable knowledge of the evidence based tailored interventions implemented by the

Find &Treat team to promote early diagnosis of TB and support care and treatment completion among the target populations.

In addition, the training provided the participants with an opportunity to work on the Mobile Health Unit (MHU) in a wide variety of settings and directly learn from and share experiences with the Find &Treat team and partners from across London working in homeless and substance misuse services.

The training was conducted through a series of short presentations, group discussions and outreach activities. Emphasis was placed on identifying key elements within the Find &Treat model that could practically translate into the E-DETECT programme in Romania. The programme included multiple field visits in a wide variety of settings where the MHU provides screening including street projects (soup kitchens), hostels and day centres for homeless people, drug treatment services and drop-in services).

[A report on the training exchange, including first-person accounts from participants, is available on our website.](#)

Earlier in 2017, training was also arranged in Romania for the pulmonologists who would be operating the CAD4TB system. [A report is available on our website.](#)

2.3.15. Meetings

An agenda of relevant institutional, research, and social meetings that are relevant to the project objectives was created. Participation to such events was strategic in order to strengthen the relations with the different stakeholders and to promote the E-DETECT TB Project visual identity and results.

Several meetings were organised throughout the project:

- The kick-off meeting was organized in Luxemburg on 8 June 2016
- Annual face-to-face project meetings took place in 2017, 2018 and 2019 to convene all partners and shared results.
- The final annual meeting was held online in September 2020.

Ad-hoc technical meetings included:

- Workshop on active case finding event in Bucharest in 2017 (WP4)
- Presentation of the WP5 advancements during the Italian TB day in Milan (24 March 2017)
- WP6 data management summit (October 2017)
- National programmes consensus meeting in 2018 (WP7)
- Engagement of civil society event at TB Europe Coalition/TB associations (see further detail below).

2.3.15.1. Civil Society Engagement

The E-DETECT TB team is committed to working closely with civil society and TB advocates across Europe, and thus planned to fund an event at which our project's activities and aims could be communicated to, and discussed with, civil society personnel.

Ultimately, we were able to support two separate events with our allocated funds. These focused primarily on the activities of Work Package 4 (WP4) and are described in more detail below.

The E-DETECT TB project has also been able to collaborate directly with European TB civil society in other ways. For example, in Work Package 7, civil society leaders across Europe provided significant input into the TB Strategy Toolkit, and attended the stakeholder meeting in Leiden in October 2018. Civil society also formed part of the target audience of the toolkit information/promotional sheets, which were released in all 24 official EU/EEA languages in September 2020. Furthermore, established civil society contacts were involved in disseminating the sheets to their networks.

Civil Society Engagement Event 1*: Bulgaria

At an early stage of the E-DETECT TB project, contact was made with Tuberculosis Europe Coalition (TBEC) leader Fanny Voitzwinkler. The TBEC group was enthusiastic about proposals for this partnership and event. It was agreed that the E-DETECT TB would provide funding for the event, and TBEC, who have considerable relevant experience, would take on organisational duties.

Anete Cook, a representative of TBEC in London (based at the RESULTS UK office), led on organisation of the event. Anete recommended that, for the budget available (€5,000), an event in a particular region and targeted at advocates from a particular country would be the most productive use of funds. The travel and interpretation costs would otherwise absorb the vast majority of – or even exceed – the available budget. Furthermore, the time commitment required for a pan-European or an event covering a large region may have deterred invitees from attending.

Following consultation with CHAFEA, TBEC and E-DETECT TB leadership, it was mutually agreed to proceed with a two-day residential workshop in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Bulgaria was identified as a location as:

- 1) it had relevance to the E-DETECT TB project, especially WP4 (outreach for early diagnosis), primarily located in neighbouring Romania but with a pilot study planned for Bulgaria
- 2) TB incidence in Bulgaria at the time was over three times higher than the EU average
- 3) TB programme funding from the Global Fund was being gradually reduced/withdrawn in the country (and fully by 31st March 2019), and there was widespread concern among the TB community regarding the uncertain futures of activities throughout Bulgaria.

The workshop took place on 14th and 15th February 2019. Given the impending withdrawal of Global Fund finance, it was agreed that, while the workshop should feature the E-DETECT TB activities prominently, the attendees would welcome the rare opportunity to discuss the situation in Bulgaria in general, and this was reflected in the agenda.

Dr Dan Gainaru, a senior member of the team operating the screening programme in the mobile X-ray unit in Romania, attended and presented on behalf of E-DETECT TB. Dan showed the group the project video (which had been translated and subtitled into Bulgarian for the occasion), which

provides an overview of the wider E-DETECT TB project. Dan then described WP4 activities in Romania in more detail, and led a discussion with the other delegates.

A subsequent session at the meeting was attended by Director of national TB and HIV programmes in Bulgaria, Dr Tonka Varleva, and her team. KPMG representatives (on behalf of the Global Fund) were also in attendance.

Anete Cook posted on social media during the meeting and wrote a report blog afterwards, [which can be read on the TBEC website](#).

The workshop received very positive feedback from attendees (all rating the workshop and its relevance to their roles/objectives as 4/5 or 5/5).



Figure 16. Attendees at the workshop.



Figure 17. Dr Dan Gainaru presents E-DETECT TB.

Civil Society Engagement Event 2*: Romania

It became apparent during the later stages of planning of the Sofia workshop that there would be an underspend of the allocated budget, and that the E-DETECT TB project would be able to support further civil society engagement activities.

It was agreed that the official launch of the mobile x-ray unit in Romania would be a suitable event to support, as it was already being planned and would require minimal extra organisational input, yet could be enhanced significantly by the addition of funds to enable civil society involvement and engagement.

The launch took place on 20th November 2018 in Bucharest, Romania and was co-organised by the Marius Nasta Institute (an E-DETECT TB project partner) and the Romanian Health Ministry. Costs such as venue hire and catering were covered by these two organisations.

The additional funding from the E-DETECT TB project, earmarked for civil society engagement, allowed the organisers to contract the Sănătatea Press Group to provide enhancements such as live translation of presentations, earpieces for delegates requiring audio translation, and videos of the

truck (which were subsequently incorporated into the general project video). All of these enhancements improved the experience for attendees, including civil society personnel, several of whom were also involved in the planning of the event, with additional benefits as reflected by the media coverage and newly-formed relationships between parties. A civil society advocate from Bulgaria was invited by E-DETECT TB to attend the truck launch the project which was of benefit to all.

The launch event, attended by the Romanian Minister for Health, was a huge success and received widespread media coverage, as documented elsewhere. [A report of the launch is available on the E-DETECT TB website.](#)



Figure 18. E-DETECT TB members at the launch.



Figure 19. The Romanian Health Minister faces the media.

* “Event 1” has been described thus as it was our primary civil society engagement events, with discussions taking place from late 2016, although it was held in February 2019. “Event 2” was held slightly earlier than “Event 1”, in November 2018, but was allocated financial support for civil society engagement once it became clear that “Event 1” would underspend.

2.3.16. Articles

Every year at least one scientific publication on E-DETECT TB project and its results has been produced by Consortium members and submitted for publication in international journals. Once published, articles have been uploaded on the website.

In addition to the publications listed here, the consortium has a further seven publications at various stages of pre-publication, with more expected to follow.

- **October 2016** | abstract presented at the 47th Union World Conference on Lung Health, Liverpool: “Monitoring migrant LTBI screening – a comparative analysis of data sources for surveillance in selected European countries.” [[view via Union 2016 website](#)]
- **August 2017** | publication: “Tuberculosis and latent tuberculous infection screening of migrants in Europe: comparative analysis of policies, surveillance systems and results.” [[view via PubMed website](#)]

- **May 2018** | publication: “*Towards tackling tuberculosis in vulnerable groups in the European Union: the E-DETECT TB consortium*” [\[view via European Respiratory Journal website\]](#)
- **July 2018** | poster exhibited by Gerard de Vries, KNCV at AIDS 2018 Conference, Amsterdam [\[Download PDF\]](#)
- **October 2018** | publication: “*Tuberculosis in the European Union and European Economic Area: a survey of national tuberculosis programmes*” [\[view via European Respiratory Journal website\]](#)
- **October 2018** | publication: “*Screening for active and latent tuberculosis among asylum seekers in Italy: A retrospective cohort analysis*” [\[view via Travel Medicine and Infectious Disease website\]](#)
- **December 2018** | E-DETECT TB acknowledged by the publication: “*The UCL–Lancet Commission on Migration and Health: the health of a world on the move*” [\[view via UCL-Lancet Commission website\]](#)
- **March 2019** | publication: “*Building a European database to gather multi-country evidence on active and latent TB screening for migrants*” [\[view via International Journal of Infectious Diseases website\]](#)
- **April 2019** | poster exhibited by Fatima Wurie, Public Health England at Public Health Research and Science Conference 2019, Manchester [\[Download PDF\]](#)
- **April 2019** | article: “*E-DETECT TB maakt succesvolle start met vroege tbc-screening in Roemenië*” – special edition of Tegen de Tuberculose [\[Download PDF\]](#) or [\[view online\]](#)
- **May 2019** | article: “*Effectiveness of interventions for reducing TB incidence in countries with low TB incidence: a systematic review of reviews*” [\[view via European Respiratory Review online\]](#)
- **July 2019** | article: “*App-based symptoms screening with Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra assay used for active tuberculosis detection in migrants at point of arrivals in Italy: The E-DETECT TB intervention analysis*” [\[view via PLOS One online\]](#)
- **August 2020** | article: “*Evaluation of the latent tuberculosis screening and treatment strategy for asylum seekers in Stockholm, Sweden 2015–2018 – a record linkage study of the care cascade*” [\[view via European Respiratory Journal online\]](#)
- **October 2020** | poster exhibited by Fatima Wurie, Public Health England at The Union World Conference on Lung Health, held online [\[Download PDF\]](#)

2.3.17. EU Health Policy Platform

Throughout the project, appropriate outputs, such as factsheets, were uploaded onto the EU Health Policy Platform and included in their newsletter for dissemination to members on the platform and its mailing list.

3. Timeline and future steps

The E-DETECT TB Consortium anticipates a minimum of seven further publications in academic journals in the coming months, as well as dissemination of results via events such as conferences.

The E-DETECT TB website will be maintained for several years following the completion of the project and will be managed by UCL in consultation with partners as appropriate.

The timeline of E-DETECT TB dissemination activities is shown below:

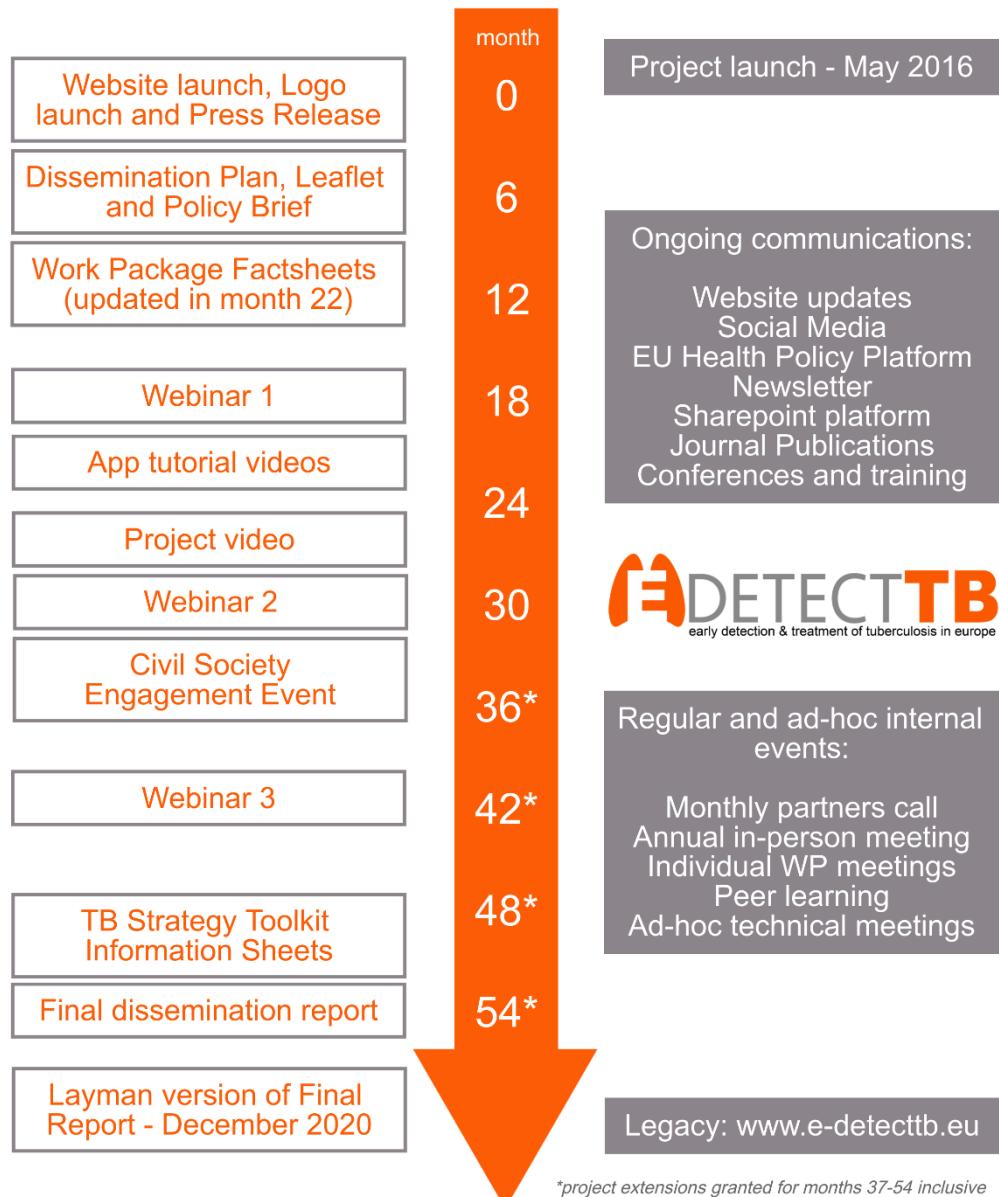


Figure 20. E-DETECT TB Dissemination activities timeline.

The E-DETECT Partners are:



Figure 21. E-DETECT TB Partners