



Masoyise
iTB
Let's beat TB

TACKLING TB IN MINING

GOVERNMENT, LABOUR AND BUSINESS UNITE IN THEIR EFFORTS TO REDUCE TB IN MINING

INTRODUCTION

When Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa launched a major anti-tuberculosis campaign in SA on World TB Day in March 2015, the country's mining sector and regions were always going to be an important part of it. The theme of the national campaign is "Ending South Africa's TB epidemic: Accelerating our response in Key Populations". Tuberculosis (TB) prevalence on mines and in surrounding mining towns is higher than the national average.

That is why the departments of Health and of Mineral Resources, the four primary mining unions – Association of Mineworkers and Construction Union (AMCU), the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), Solidarity, UASA – and the Chamber of Mines in December 2015 launched Masoyise iTB, a major TB screening campaign in South Africa's mining sector.

THE GOALS AND TARGETS OF MASOYISE ITB

The Masoyise iTB initiative is planned to run over three years from 2016-2018. The ultimate goal is to reduce TB incidence on mines and in mining regions to below the rate for the general population. Of course, it is hoped that the national campaign will reduce TB incidence in the country as a whole in that period too. To achieve that goal we have the following targets:

TARGET 1

Every mine employee to be screened for TB each year

TARGET 2

Every mine employee to be offered voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) for HIV each year

TARGET 3

Extend contact tracing into mining communities

TARGET 4

Support to small mines

TARGET 5

Support to mine contractors





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WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Latest data shows that the TB incidence rate for Chamber member companies was 1066 cases/100 000 population compared with the overall TB incidence in South Africa of 740 cases/100 000.

The companies affiliated to the Chamber of Mines already run extensive TB screening and VCT programmes and offer comprehensive treatment services for employees. These diagrams show the situation in 2016.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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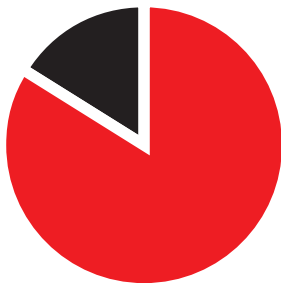
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EMPLOYEES SCREENED FOR TB



84%

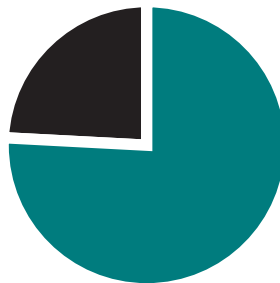
352 857

Total employees

296 400

Screened for TB

EMPLOYEES COUNSELLED FOR HIV



73%

352 857

Total employees

279 110

Screened for HIV

THESE NUMBERS SHOW:

- 1) Chamber members are close to meeting the targets in their own ranks. A final push is required to get there.
- 2) But small mines and contractors require help and persuasion to embrace the campaign targets.
- 3) Development of a contact tracing programme into communities is another of Masoyise iTB's big challenges.

