FROM EVIDENCE TO PUBLIC HEALTH ACTION
For nearly 100 years, The Union has drawn from the best scientific evidence and the expertise, experience and global reach of our staff, consultants and members to advance solutions to the most pressing public health challenges affecting people living in poverty around the world.


KFA
- Operational Research in India for TB Care and Control: Continuity and Change, a report summarising and analysing 20 years of operational research (OR) findings, resulted from the National OR Dissemination Workshop conducted by The Union South-East Asia Office.
- Pakistan announced a tobacco tax increase for the 2014-2015 budget as a direct result of a report published by The Union and the WHO, The Economics of Tobacco and Tobacco Taxation in Pakistan. The change could lead half a million tobacco users to quit and bring in new tax revenue.
- The Economics of Tobacco and Tobacco Taxation in Pakistan, a report published by The Union and the WHO, for the 2014-2015 budget as a direct result of the National OR Dissemination Workshop conducted by The Union South-East Asia Office.

SHARE
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PROJECT AXSHYA GOES DOOR-TO-DOOR TO FIGHT TB

Project Axshya is a 5-year project designed to support the work of the Revised National TB Control Programme.

Now active in 300 districts across 21 Indian states, Project Axshya entered Phase II in November 2013. Goals for this phase are to develop new approaches to intensify outreach to those with the greatest difficulty in accessing TB diagnosis and treatment; strengthen the engagement of community groups and healthcare providers; and establish sputum collection/transportation and directly observed treatment (DOT) services in vulnerable and marginalised areas.

From April 2013 – June 2014, through the Axshya SAMVAD (intensified outreach activity) campaign, project volunteers have reached over 3,252,680 households in vulnerable areas with information on TB. As a result, 235,761 people with TB symptoms were referred for testing; 132,317 sputum samples were collected and sent for examination; and 10,211 TB patients were diagnosed and put on treatment.

Axshya also trains Rural Health Care Providers (RHCP), who are the first point of contact for healthcare in rural populations. Since the start of the project, over 32,200 RHCP have been trained to make referrals, collect and transport sputum and provide DOT services.

INDIA EXPANDS COMPREHENSIVE TOBACCO CONTROL TO 220 DISTRICTS IN 24 STATES

Smokefree policies are gaining popularity in India, as evidenced by conformity with the laws. Since 2009, more than 90 jurisdictions that have received technical support from The Union have gone smokefree and achieved high levels of compliance. In addition, 220 districts in 24 states are achieving moderate to good compliance with smokefree and other tobacco control policies – a benefit to the 430 million people who live there.

Each year sees more areas adopt these laws: In 2014 alone, 14 cities/districts have been declared smokefree in the states of Kerala, Rajasthan and Punjab.