

## **Feasibility study on role of INGOs in TB control in Kokang Self-Administered Zone, Northern Shan State, Myanmar**

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### **Abstract**

A cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted in resource limited hard-to-reach high TB burden Kokang Self-Administered Zone to explore potential of involving INGO staffs in raising community TB awareness, referral and defaulter tracing while conducting field activities. Fifty-three face-to-face interviews with INGO staffs and 14 key informant interviews with INGO representatives and public health care providers were done during July 2014. Asia Medical Doctors Association (AMDA), Asia Harm Reduction Network (AHRN), Health Poverty Action (HPA), World Vision (WV), CARE and Adventist Development and Relieve Agency (ADRA) were implementing health related or non-health related activities in the whole area. Median age of the staffs was 27 years with Inter-quartile range of 23-31 years. About 68% were male and over 87% were speaking local language. More than 86% met their target population at least once a month and mean working duration was 3.8±1.9 hours. More than 98% of the staffs were willing to share TB facts, 92.5% were willing to refer symptomatic patients. More than 81% said they could take anti-TB drugs on behalf of TB patients on their way to the villages if requested. Defaulter tracing could be done by themselves (52.8%) or through their target population (50.9%). All participants from qualitative finding stated that close coordination between local public health care providers and INGO staffs for future plan, training on TB management, available TB posters in Kokang language and referral form were crucial. It could be concluded that partnership with all INGOs can be a potential to improve community TB awareness, case detection and treatment outcome in Kokang Self-Administered Zone.