

30 March 2017

REPORT ON MASOYISE iTB CONTACT TRACING PILOT FOR 2016

1. INTRODUCTION

The Masoyise iTB Project was established in 2015 with the primary intention of reaching out to all employees including contractors in the mining sector. The focus is on offering employees HIV Counselling and Testing (HCT), including TB screening over a 3 year period from 2016 to 2018, using 2015 as the baseline. The project has since established governance structures e.g. Steering (principals) and Project (technical) Committees. Sub technical task teams on data collection, small mines, contact tracing and outcomes data were established.

In 2016, a pilot project was initiated in the West Rand district of Gauteng with the main purpose of exploring mechanisms of improving contact tracing in the mining sector. Identification of TB contacts is believed to be the most important tool in TB management and control.

This report will outline the performance of the sub technical task team on TB screenings in terms of how many index cases were identified, how many contacts were traced from the index cases, it will look at how many patients were lost to follow up and how many were initiated on treatment. The data presented on this report is for the year 2016 and is from Sibanye Gold, Harmony Gold, AngloGold Ashanti and Gold Fields companies in the West Rand district of Gauteng only. Also this report will outline the achievements, challenges and recommendations from the 2016 pilot.

2. PROGRESS REPORT FOR 2016

During the year 2016 the West Rand task team attempted to implement some of the key program actions of Masoyise iTB which are:

- Data collection and monitoring of treatment outcomes
- Improving access to diagnostics and treatment
- Improving contact tracing

2.1. Achievements:

The West Rand task team met regularly to formulate a strategy for the pilot and to ensure the pilot becomes a success. Some of the highlights were:

- Contact tracing reporting tool was developed, this tool indicates the mining company in which the index case is identified, which peri-mining community or labour sending area the tracing was done. This tool also lists the identified contacts to each index case and includes a section on treatment outcomes e.g. referred to clinic or initiated on treatment.
- Tracing contacts within the companies and the community has been a success. With numbers growing every quarter, showing that the momentum has been increasing due to companies confidence in the project, collaborations etc.
- Use of NGO's in the labour sending areas has been a success, this initiative needs to be intensified and expanded to reach more contacts.
- Partnerships with Aurum institute and ICAP has been useful and resulted in more contacts being reached both in the community and labour sending areas.
- Some of the TB presumptive traced contacts have tested positive for TB and initiated on treatment and the children under 5 years started on Isoniazid Preventative Therapy (IPT).

2.2. Challenges

With every new initiative some challenges are expected either from resistance to new program from professionals or from patients or funding based, which is why the Masoyise iTB had a pilot program to identify such challenges. Some of the challenges were:

- The core purpose of Masoyise iTB is to screen all employees (permanent and contactors) in the industry for TB and HIV over the next three years (2016- 2019). In 2016 not all the employees were screened because of slow implementation within

individual mining companies, very few index cases were identified in some companies and therefore resulting in few contacts traced which does not give a full picture of TB incidence or prevalence within the companies.

- Contact tracing in collaboration with Department of Health has not yet been successful. Some mining houses makes use of DOH to do contact tracing in the peri-mining communities and that brings a big gap.

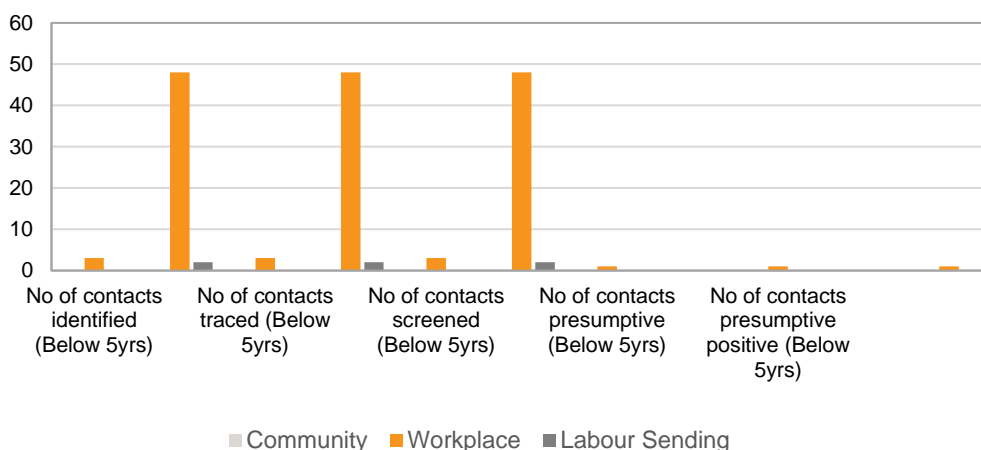
2.3. Most common challenge from the mining companies resulting in few contacts traced are:

- Many index patients provided health care providers with incorrect addresses
- Many contacts are not available during the day because of work or other commitments and this is the time where NGOs can do contact tracing.
- Contacts are hard to find in the community due to movements from one area to another, e.g. Movement from West Rand to Labour sending area etc.

3. PROGRESS REPORTS PER MINING COMPANY

3.1. AngloGold Ashanti Contact Tracing Stats for 2016

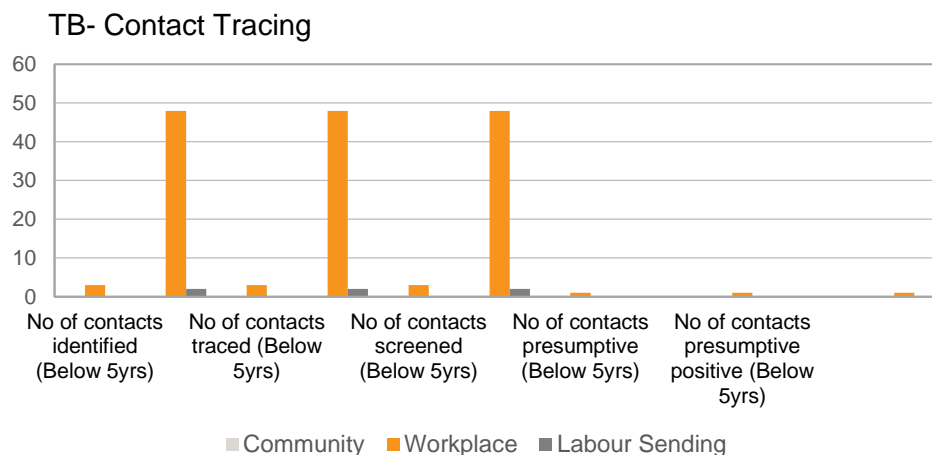
TB- Contact Tracing



ANGLOGOLD ASHANTI					
Data Element	Age	Number of employees in the Community	Workplace	Labour Sending	Total
No of Index cases	Below 5	0	0	0	0
	Above 5	14	108	0	122
No of contacts identified	Below 5	0	0	0	0
	Above 5	20	493	0	513
No of contacts traced	Below 5	0	0	0	430
	Above 5	6	424	0	430
No of contact lost to follow up	Below 5	0	0	0	0
	Above 5	14	0	0	14
No of contacts screened	Below 5	0	0	0	0
	Above 5	6	424	0	430
No of contacts presumptive	Below 5	0	0	0	0
	Above 5	1	12	0	13
No of contacts presumptive positive	Below 5	0	0	0	0
	Above 5	0	6	0	6
No of those initiated on treatment	Below 5	1	0	0	1
	Above 5	0	6	0	6

AngloGold Ashanti had a total number of 122 for the year of 2016 divided between community and workplace. They have an overall low lost to follow up rate, maybe that is related to a relatively low index cases found in the community for the reporting period. They have not yet started with contact tracing in the labour sending areas. According to the reports labour sending contact tracing will commence during March using i-CAP and TEBA organisations. A total number of 6 people were initiated on treatment and 1 child was initiated on IPT through this contact tracing pilot.

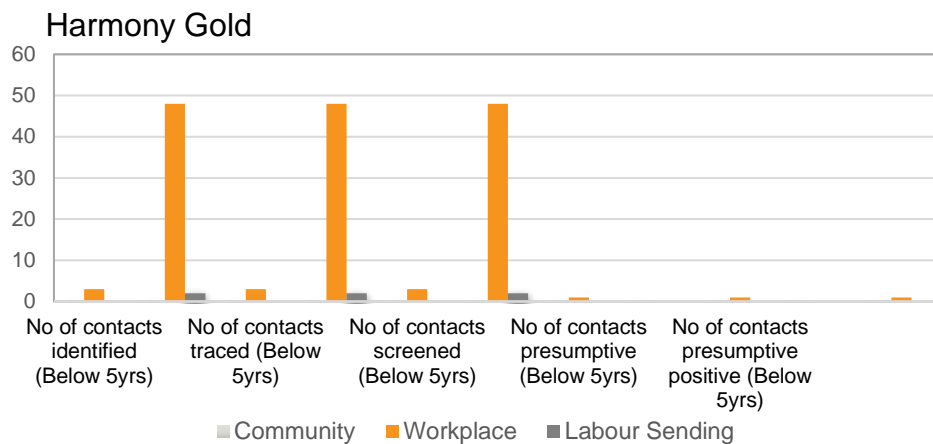
3.2. Sibanye Gold Contact Tracing Stats for 2016



SIBANYE GOLD					
Data Element	Age	Number of employees in the Community	Workplace	Labour Sending	Total
No of contacts identified	Below 5	11	0	0	11
	Above 5	121	430	36	587
No of contacts traced	Below 5	12	0	6	18
	Above 5	109	430	30	569
No of contacts lost to follow up	Below 5	1	0	0	1
	Above 5	5	0	0	5
No of contacts screened	Below 5	12	0	6	18
	Above 5	109	430	30	569
No of contacts presumptive	Below 5	0	0	0	0
	Above 5	0	16	2	18
No of contacts presumptive positive	Below 5	0	0	0	0
	Above 5	0	7	2	9

Sibanye Gold has a total of 198 index cases, they also have a low lost to follow up rate. They have a relatively low number of indexes from the community. They have a positive labour outlook on labour sending and cross border contact tracing. 9 individuals have been initiated on TB treatment through this initiative.

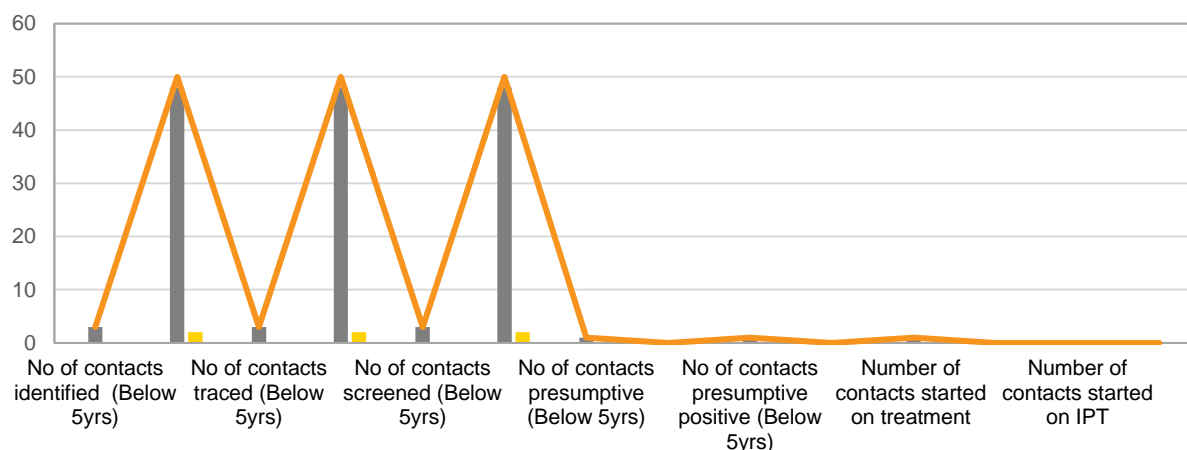
3.3. Harmony Gold Contact Tracing Stats for 2016



HARMONY GOLD					
Data Element	Age	Community	Workplace	Labour Sending	Total
No of contacts identified	Below 5	2	0	0	2
	Above 5	15	2 300	6	2 321
No of contacts traced	Below 5	1	0	0	1
	Above 5	13	2 300	6	2 319
No of contacts lost to follow up	Below 5	1	0	0	1
	Above 5	2	0	0	2
No of contacts screened	Below 5	1	0	0	1
	Above 5	13	2 300	6	2 319
No of contacts presumptive	Below 5	0	0	0	0
	Above 5	02	13	1	16
No of contacts presumptive positive	Below 5	0	0	0	0
	Above 5	1	3	0	4
No of contacts started on treatment	Below 5	0	0	0	0
	Above 5	1	3	0	4
No of contacts started on IPT	Below 5	1	0	0	1
	Above 5	0	0	0	0

Harmony Gold had a total 92 identified index for 2016. They have the biggest number of contacts traced in West Rand. They also have a low lost to follow up rate. Their contact tracing from the labour sending is also positive. 4 adults have been initiated on treatment and 1 child placed on IPT through this initiative.

3.4. Gold Fields Contact Tracing Stats for 2016



GOLD FIELDS					
Data Element	Age	Number of employees in the Community	Workplace	Labour Sending	Total
No of contacts identified	Below 5	0	3	0	3
	Above 5	0	48	2	50
No of contacts traced	Below 5	0	3	0	3
	Above 5	0	48	2	50
No of contacts screened	Below 5	0	3	0	3
	Above 5	0	48	2	50
No of contacts presumptive	Below 5	0	1	0	1
	Above 5	0	0	0	0
No of contacts presumptive positive	Below 5	0	1	0	1
	Above 5	0	0	0	0
No of contacts started on treatment	Below 5	0	1	0	1
	Above 5	0	0	0	0
No of contacts started on IPT	Below 5	0	0	0	0
	Above 5	0	0	0	0

Gold Fields had a total of 36 index cases for 2016. They have no contacts traced in the work place. Zero lost to follow up rate, 1 child was placed on treatment or IPT as per report. It looks like they either started contact tracing very late in the year or they seem to face a serious challenge in implementing the project. They have also started labour sending contact tracing.

3.5. CONSOLIDATED WEST RAND CONTACT TRACING STATS

Below are the consolidated statistics of all the reporting mining houses in West Rand for 2016. It is however very difficult to make a graphical interpretation of the below stats. Total number of index cases identified for the year was 448.

DATA ELEMENTS	Age	Community	Workplace	Labour sending	Total
No of contacts identified	Below 5	13	3	0	16
	Above 5	156	3271	44	3471
No of contacts traced	Below 5	13	13	6	22
	Above 5	128	3202	38	3368
No of lost to follow up	Below 5	2	0	0	2
	Above 5	21	0	0	21
No of contacts screened	Below 5	13	3	6	22
	Above 5	128	3202	38	3368
No of contacts with Symptoms	Below 5	0	1	0	0
	Above 5	3	101	3	107
No of contacts tested positive	Below 5	0	1	0	0
	Above 5	1	16	2	20
No of contacts initiated of Treatment	Below 5	0	1	0	0
	Above 5	1	16	2	20
No of contacts on IPT	Below 5	2	1	0	1
	Above 5	0	0	0	1

4. CONTACT TRACING INPUT BY THE AURUM INSTITUTE

Aurum reported on tracing activities done from January to March 2017. They have managed to identify 8 index cases and those index cases had 149 contacts, all of those contacts have been traced and 140 of them were TB presumptive and only 1 was confirmed to be TB positive. Aurum acknowledges that implementation of the contact tracing initiative is still slow on their side because a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between Department of Health and Aurum is still pending. This MOU which would include formal or official collaborations with the mines is very crucial before they can fully implement contact tracing. Aurum is planning to catchup with program implementation from April.

5. CONCLUSION

A considerable amount of effort has been put into implementing the Masoyise iTB project activities by different mining companies. Depending on drive and capacity, all the companies have reached some level of achievements with noted challenges. It looks as if Masoyise could be given more resources in terms of dedicated individuals and companies in collaboration with other stakeholders it could deliver on its primary aim which is to have a meaningful impact on the TB challenge in the country, by reducing the high incidence rates in TB infections and deaths.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Department of Health is the custodian of care of general public health of South Africans and therefore should be engaged highly on Masoyise iTB initiative since the collaboration was not very functional during this pilot.
- Provision of better education to mine members should be prioritized because that may encourage the identified index cases to disclose to families and thereby decreasing number of lost to follow up. This is because a very high number of people could not be traced because of avoiding health workers, either they were fearing stigma or not understanding the importance of contact tracing or positive gains it might have to them as individuals.
- Aurum is currently considering increasing working hours e.g. work from 10 am to 6pm to solve the issue of people not reached during the day due to work commitments. Also considering working one Saturday a month because other people are only available during weekends. This is primarily aimed at decreasing number of lost to follow up to almost zero.
- Fast tracking the signing of MOU between Department of Health and Aurum is highly recommended because Aurum is working in West Rand and Bojanala where Masoyise iTB contact tracing pilot is spreading to as from April 2017.