

THE UNION NORTH AMERICA REGION IN 2015: BRINGING THE UNION CLOSER TO YOU

FROM EVIDENCE TO PUBLIC HEALTH ACTION

Since our founding as a global scientific organisation in 1920, The Union has drawn from the best evidence and expertise to advance solutions to public health challenges affecting people living in poverty.

KNOW. SHARE. ACT.

KNOW

- The TREAT TB Initiative, funded by USAID and managed by The Union North America, has enrolled 424 patients in Stage I of the STREAM trial, evaluating a 9-month treatment regimen for MDR-TB. STREAM is currently underway in Ethiopia, South Africa, Viet Nam and Mongolia.
- The success of Stage I of STREAM has led the way for Stage 2 preparations, which will test two additional regimens: an all-oral nine-month and a six-month regimen, both testing the new anti-TB medication bedaquiline. The research team is evaluating potential sites and preparing for trial initiation, expected in early 2016.

SHARE

- 21 doctors and nurses from nine Caribbean countries participated in Union-taught *Short intensive clinical TB-HIV co-infection training for Caribbean clinicians* in Santa Lucia in September 2015.
- TREAT TB launched the Spanish version of the Operational Research E-Learning Programme, bringing operational research training to even more health professionals who may not have the time or resources to attend courses on site.
- More than 280 delegates attended the 19th Conference of The Union North America Region in Vancouver, Canada. The conference theme was 'Stronger together: stopping TB from laboratory to clinic'.
- The International Management Development Programme (IMDP), based at The Union North America, held 24 courses and trained over 350 public health professionals working for governments and NGOs of 60 countries in project management, leadership, strategic planning, budgeting, supply-chain management, human resource development and mass media and communications.
- The Union launched the Childhood TB Learning Portal, designed to offer a variety of resources aimed at supporting countries' efforts to address the 10-step plan outlined in *The Roadmap for Childhood TB*.

ACT

- The Union North America expanded its reach with the addition of a new Division of Maternal and Child Health which will address key health issues affecting women and children.
- José Luis Castro, Executive Director of The Union and President & CEO of The Union North America, was named Chair of the Non-Communicable Disease Alliance (NCDA) during an event in New York.



The International Management Development Programme (IMDP) provides training to healthcare professionals during a course on project management.

Marcus Rose

UNION NORTH AMERICA TO BE PARTNER IN TWO NEW BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES INITIATIVES

UNA has been named one of eight partners in the Bloomberg Initiative for Global Road Safety, which will work at both the national level to strengthen road safety legislation and at the city level to implement proven road safety interventions. Road traffic crashes are a leading cause of death and injury worldwide, and the problem is particularly acute in low-income countries. UNA will serve as principal liaison with the Mayor's office/central city authority in coordinating the initiative in 10 large cities worldwide and will also provide technical assistance around mass media and other communications strategies, as well as road safety data monitoring to participating cities.

UNA was also named partner of the Bloomberg Data for Health Initiative, which will enable 20 low- and middle-income countries to improve data collection and use on public health issues. Approximately 35 million deaths go unrecorded each year and millions more lack a documented cause. This gap in data creates serious problems when analysing and addressing public health needs. Furthermore, governments often face difficulties in translating even available data into strategic actions. UNA will help governments enhance their civil registration and vital statistics systems and increase their capacity to use data for policymaking.



Activities as of 31 December 2014,
membership as of 30 September 2015