



## Accelerating progress to end TB



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**Presenter**  
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### Advancing TB care through evidence-based community-led monitoring: Ritshidze model

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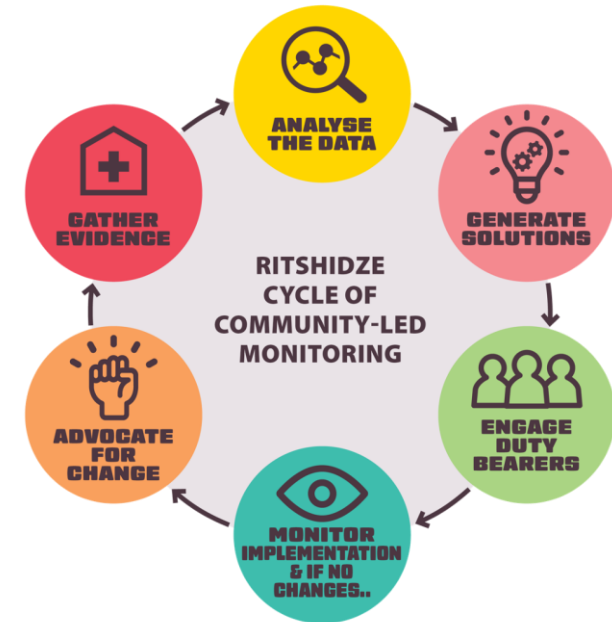
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## Background

- ❖ In the pursuit of accelerating progress to end TB, Ritshidze emerges as a pioneering initiative focused on harnessing evidence-based community-led monitoring to improve TB prevention and treatment strategies.
- ❖ Ritshidze, meaning "Saving our Lives" in Tshivenda, seeks to bridge this gap by empowering individuals living with HIV to actively monitor TB services.
- ❖ This comprehensive approach aims to identify challenges, generate evidence-based solutions, and ensure their implementation, fostering an environment of continuous improvement.



## Methodology

- ❖ Ritshidze employs a systematic methodology involving the collection of both qualitative and quantitative data in PEPFAR-supported clinics and in the community on a quarterly basis.
- ❖ Standardized monitoring tools guide the collection process, addressing critical aspects of TB service delivery.
- ❖ The methodology encompasses questions tailored to unveil challenges experienced by healthcare users and the underlying causes.
- ❖ For example, questions delve into waiting times, staffing adequacy, clinic conditions, patient safety, and access to medicines, among others.
- ❖ The tools offer a holistic view of the TB care landscape, enabling a nuanced analysis for informed decision-making.

### Observation Survey

The observation survey assesses the functionality of the clinic based on number of people waiting, size, space, condition & cleanliness, & whether required procedures & information is visibly on display.

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### Patient Survey (Long)

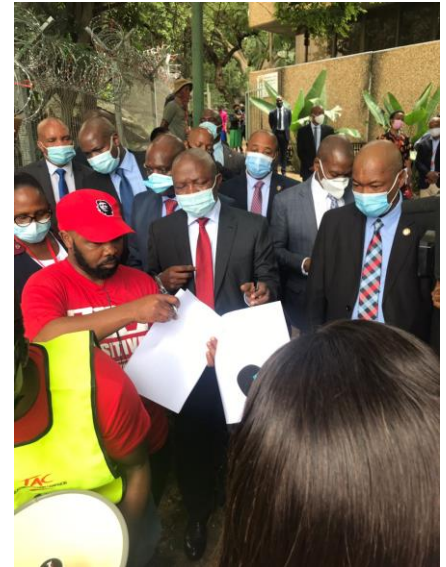
The patient survey assesses waiting times, staffing, staff attitudes, stockouts, TB infection control. For PLHIV we assess ARV refill length, service quality, privacy & confidentiality, & viral load understanding.

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## Results

- ❖ Preliminary findings from Ritshidze's community-led monitoring approach showcase a wealth of insights into the challenges faced by healthcare users in TB service delivery.
- ❖ From lengthy waiting times and staff shortages to facility conditions and access to medicines, the results shed light on critical areas for improvement.
- ❖ Quantitative data complement qualitative narratives, providing a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted challenges within PEPFAR-supported clinics and the broader community.
- ❖ In real time, the dashboard takes the data uploaded by Ritshidze monitors and presents it using graphs and tables.
- ❖ The data dashboard is a public resource to be used not only by Ritshidze and the PLHIV Sector, as well as by duty bearers from National, Provincial and District health departments and PEPFAR agencies (CDC and USAID).



## Lessons learned

- ❖ Implementation of Ritshidze has yielded invaluable lessons for enhancing TB care.
- ❖ The approach highlights the significance of community engagement, participatory decision-making, and evidence-based advocacy.
- ❖ Lessons learned emphasize the need for tailored interventions addressing specific challenges identified through community-led monitoring, thereby optimizing TB service delivery.
- ❖ Where we don't see improvement after meetings and discussions, we do not simply accept that. This is when we build public campaigns--using media, protest, and strategic activism to win improvements.



## Recommendations

- ❖ Based on our findings, we recommend the widespread adoption of community-led monitoring initiatives in TB care.
- ❖ Policymakers should integrate similar approaches to enhance the accountability mechanisms within public health systems.
- ❖ Ritshidze's evidence-based recommendations guide decision-makers, ensuring cost-effective strategies and interventions across the TB care cascade.
- ❖ The approach aligns with systems strengthening, health promotion, environmental health, and robust monitoring and evaluation, thereby contributing to the overarching goal of accelerating progress to end TB.



# Thank you!!

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