



# The Role of TB Field Promoters in TB Response in 3 Regions of Namibia: Oshana, Oshikoto, & Kavango

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## High Burden of TB with High Lost to Follow Up (LTFU)

In 2007, Namibia had the 5th highest incidence of TB. Oshana, Oshikoto, and Kavango were high burden regions with high case notification rates, low treatment success rates (58%-79%), high mortality (5%-11%), and high rates of lost-to-follow-up (11%-22%). The lack of a community-based approach was identified as a gap by the National TB and Leprosy Program.



## Intervention: Community TB Field Promoters (TBFPs)



99 promoters

61,190 home visits

105,900 education sessions

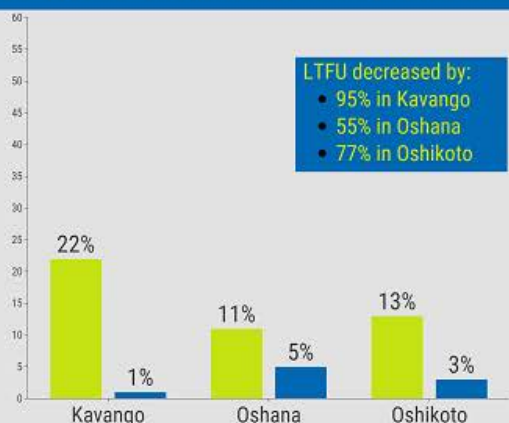


Liaise with clinic staff

### Field Promoter Responsibilities:

- Visit households
- Inform & educate the community
- Symptom screening
- TB contact tracing
- Collect sputum samples
- Refer for diagnosis
- Facilitate treatment

## Results: Dramatic Decrease in LTFU; Improved or Sustained Treatment Success



## Recommendations & Conclusions:

- TBFPs are an important part of the national response to TB control
- TBFP interaction with the community is vital for reducing the TB burden
- Advocacy with local leadership is urgently required to ensure ownership to sustain services
- A specific program evaluation is recommended to ascertain TBFP attribution to the national response