

The Stop TB network on the Web, December 2002.

Actors mentioning the DOTS-Plus treatment program for multiple drug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) are highlighted in **green**.

Method: Google search results for "MDR-TB" "DOTS-Plus" and "MDR-TB" "DOTS+" (on 28 November 2002) have identified which actors in the network reference the DOTS-Plus treatment program.

**Map context:**  
The Public Health Program of the Open Society Institute began its work in MDR-TB in 1997 by giving a \$12M grant to the Public Health Research Institute (PHRI) for TB and MDR-TB control in Russia, with a special focus on prisons. In 2001, Partners in Health (PIH) took over administration of this grant, but were involved at the earliest stages in an advisory capacity. The Gates Foundation and Merlin, a UK charity, are now co-funders of this project.

On October 28, 1998, George Soros, Dr. Gro Brundland (Director-General of the World Health Organization), and Jim Wolfensohn (President of the World Bank) met with Hillary Clinton to discuss possible new programs such as the WHO initiative, STOP TB, dedicated to fighting the TB epidemic and preventing the emergence of drug-resistant strains. At the meeting, Soros called for concerted donor action to control the MDR-TB epidemic in Russia, especially among the prison population, and supported WHO's treatment plans, DOTS and DOTS-plus, designed to decrease the burden of disease.

Soros then commissioned Paul Farmer and Jim Kim of PIH/Harvard University Medical School to write a report entitled, The Global Impact of Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (<http://www.soros.org/tb/index.html>), which outlined the increasing global threat of MDR-TB. In 2000, Soros commissioned STOP TB and PIH to develop a business plan that would plot out the investment needed from donors and governments to control the global TB epidemic over the course of five years. The result was the Global Plan to Stop TB (<http://www.stoptb.org/GPSTB/default.asp>), a collaborative effort of over 150 organizations. At the Stop TB Partners Forum in Washington, DC, in October 2001 (<http://www.stoptb.org/Forum/default.asp>), Soros endorsed the Global Plan along with the World Bank, WHO, and representatives of the 22 countries with the highest burden of TB. In October 2002, Soros targeted key leaders in Washington, DC, sending each a copy of the Plan with his endorsement, and urging them to step up their commitment to global TB control by increasing financial contributions.

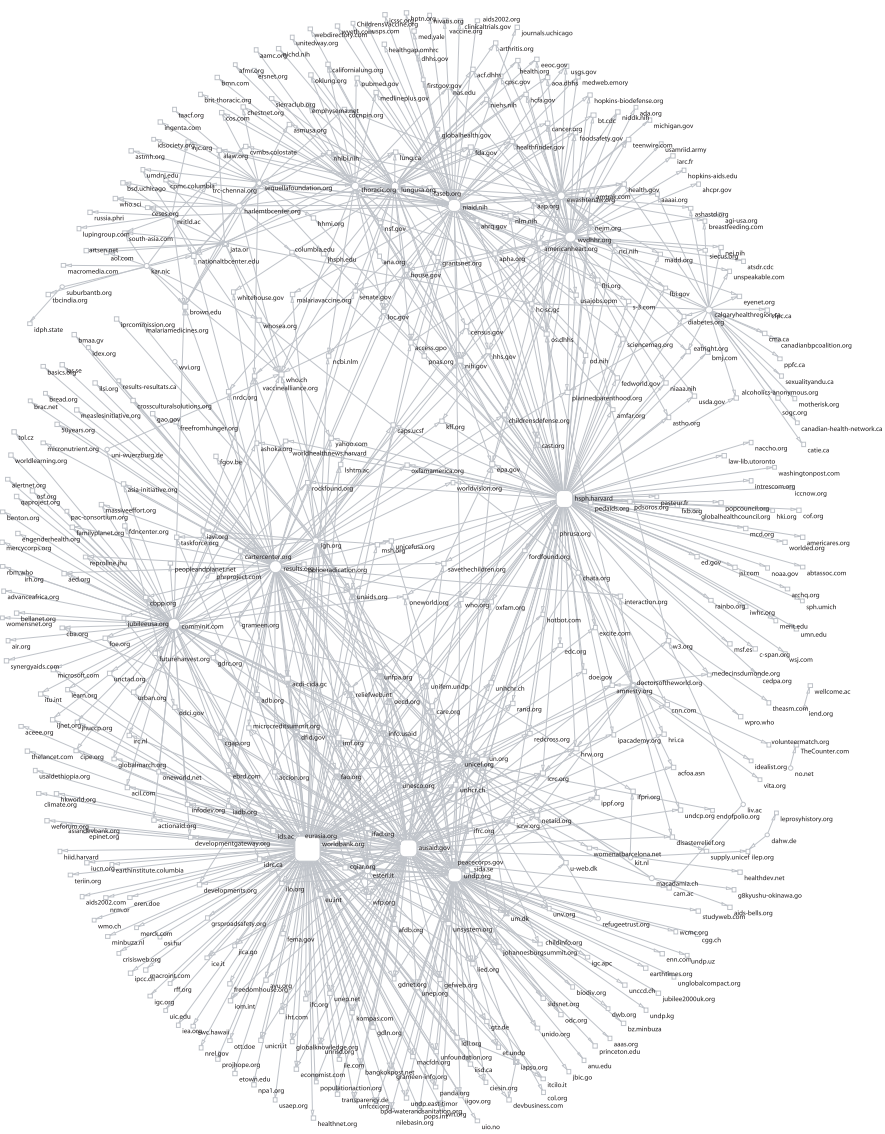
- Persephone Harrington, Public Health Programs, Open Society Institute, October 2002



The DOTS-Plus actors in the Stop TB network on the Web, December 2002.

From the entire Stop TB network, the map shows only those actors referencing the DOTS-Plus treatment program.

Method: Remove all other nodes from the Stop TB network on the web, 2002, except for those referencing "DOTS-Plus."



The Stop TB network on the Web, December 2002, without the DOTS-Plus actors.

The map shows all the organizations in the Stop TB network on the Web which have yet to reference the DOTS-Plus treatment program.

Method: Remove all nodes from Stop TB Network on the Web, 2002, that reference "DOTS-Plus."

## Tuberculosis: The extended 'Stop TB' network on the web

Showing the relative recognition of the DOTS-Plus treatment program for multiple drug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) across the network.

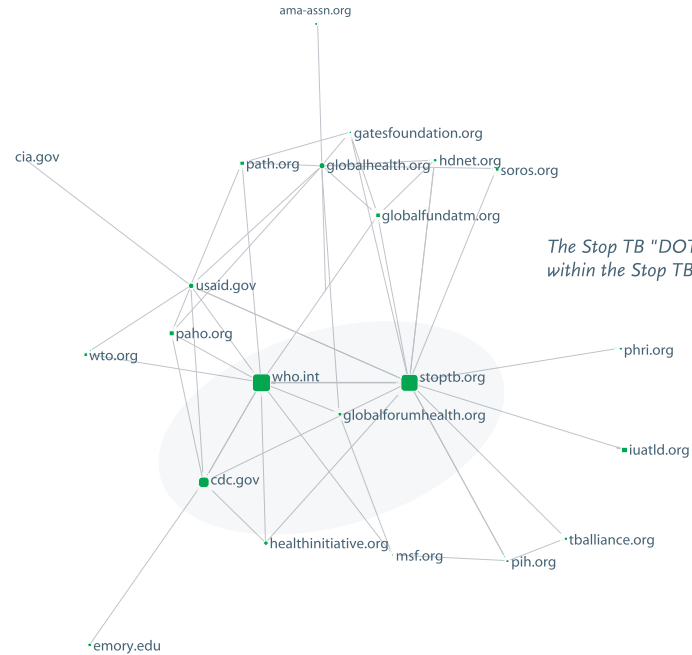
In 2001 Partners in Health (PIH), an NGO associated with Harvard University, joined the efforts of the OSI-funded Public Health Research Institute by collaborating on a new initiative to provide treatment for MDR-TB (DOTS-Plus).

- OSI Public Health Programs Website, 2002



### Main finding: A network without press dependencies?

The Soros initiative may have received a great amount of press attention, but the broader Stop TB network has yet to recognize the treatment. In such cases, press attention may be said to mask the resonance of the message across the network.



The Stop TB "DOTS-Plus" network on the Web, 2002, showing only those organizations within the Stop TB network that reference the "DOTS-Plus" treatment program.

The Public Health Programs and the Information Program, OSI, together with govcom.org.

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Data gathered by the Issue Crawler, the network location software by govcom.org. Cluster maps by ReseauLu, the analytical visualisation software by Aguidel.com. **Design** by Anderemedia.nl.

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