## **CATASTROPHIC COSTS INCURRED BY TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS:** FINDINGS FROM THE UGANDA TB PATIENT COST SURVEY (2018)

#### BACKGROUND

A survey was designed to assess the economic burden (direct and indirect costs) incurred by tuberculosis (TB) patients (and their households) and to identify cost drivers in order to guide policies on cost mitigation and delivery model improvements in Uganda.





**44** DRUG RESISTANT (DR TB) PATIENTS

#### **KEY FINDINGS**

#### 1 Households facing catastrophic costs

53% of TB affected households experience catastrophic costs. (above 20% of their annual household income).



2 The biggest cost drivers as TB patients seek care



Pre diagnosis Medical and travel costs for both DR TB and drug susceptible (DSTB)



diagnosis Food, travel and nutritional supplements for both DR and DSTB

Post

**Highest** expenditure is non-medical costs

### **Impoverishment**

**52%** of Ugandan TB patients already impoverished before TB

A further **13%** were impoverished due to TB

# Impoverishment headcount due to TB care ■ Already impoverished before TB ■ Additional due to Direct TB costs ■ Additional due to Indirect TB costs UNBS Poverty headcount 2013 (Comparison) 51.8 9.9 2.6 Sample Poverty headcount 2016

#### 4 Dissaving mechanisms (coping strategies) due to TB

**49%** of TB patient households adopted a dissaving mechanism

- TB patients taking up loans 26%
- TB patient households using savings -11%

# TB patient households selling assets - 27%

6 Amount in UGX/USD incurred by a TB patient per TB episode

**1,900,000 UGX (USD 519)** for DS-TB patient

**13,400,000 UGX (USD 3722)** for DRTB patient

## **5** Social consequences

8% Divorced or separated from spouse/partner

40.5% Lost their job

**12%** Had a child who interrupted school

**54%** Experienced social exclusion











