The WHO South-East Asia Region (SEAR) with nearly one fourth of the world population accounts for 38% morbidity and 39% mortality of the global burden of tuberculosis, with an estimated 4.5 million prevalent and 3.4 million incident cases and 440 000 deaths in 2013 (Figures 1a and 1b). Five of the 11 Member countries in the Region are among the 22 high-burden countries, with India alone accounting for 23% of the world’s incident cases and 21% of world deaths for TB. Among all new TB cases detected in 2013 in the Region, most cases occurred among young adults, particularly in the most productive age group of 25–34 years; males are more affected with a male-to-female ratio of 1:5.

Figure 1a: Estimated incidence of all forms of TB, classified by WHO Region, 2013

Estimated global TB incidence = 9 000 000 (8 600 000 – 9 400 000) cases (all forms of TB)