SW24 Spring 2011: Section Guide 4
Dates: February 29, March 1, 2

Goals for this section:
1) XDR TB Discussion (15 minutes)
2) Country Exercise I – Current Event (10 minutes)
3) Country Exercise I – Gapminder (30 minutes)

1) XDR TB Discussion

Have the students review the following short article on XDR TB from the most recent issue of The Lancet:

Have the students spend 5 minutes laying out the main determinants and interventions for XDR TB using the previously used worksheets. Explain that we are now moving beyond the first two steps of the policy analysis framework (Establishing the context and Laying out the alternatives).

Next, have them discuss the viewpoint they just read. The viewpoint examines one type of interventions (isolating XDR patients), and the benefits and consequences associated with this choice. It should be explained that this discussion will focus on the third and fourth step (Predicting the consequences and Valuing the outcomes). The TFs could break the section into group to have mini-discussions on the question, “How should we deal with...people who are living with failed treatment and who still have the capacity to transmit the disease?”

Possible discussion points:

a) Infection control versus quality of care. How should the state balance the needs of the general population versus provide quality palliative care to those with XDR? Consider that in many of the countries where this is concern resources are limited.

b) Issues of coercion. How would patients be compelled to enter quarantine? [You could mention the instance of the man with TB who flew (http://www.time.com/time/health/article/0,8599,1627159,00.html) as another example of the balance between coercion and public safety]

c) Low income versus middle and higher income. As XDR will pose a health problem in countries with otherwise lower overall TB prevalence, how will the responses to have to differ? [The following article on XDR TB in Russia and the upcoming Olympics could provide good discussion points http://www.scientificamerican.com/podcast/episode.cfm?id=01E663D3-0599-D2AC-E97E77DACE28849E]

2) Country Exercise I – Current Event
Have each sub-group review their current events. They should choose one they think relates to the current health state of their country and explain how it either confirms or refutes the initial setting/content of the country that was presented using the data the previous week.

3) **Country Exercise II – Gapminder/Risk factors & Determinants**

This exercise would require students to bring their laptops to class. Each section team will choose one of the areas we’ve covered. For example:

- VPDs/Immunization
- Child health
- Communicable diseases (Malaria, HIV or TB)

The section will have a predetermined (by the TFs) set of relevant factors to consider (i.e., % paved roads, education levels, nutrition) for one axis already, which will be common for each group. Each group will plot their chosen area against the standard set for all five countries (note: this means each group maps all five countries).

They should use relevant knowledge from previous sections and other info we’ve learned about the countries to come up with ideas for why trends may or may not exist between determinants and diseases. They’ll share their findings with the rest of the class and discuss what trends they observed, and whether these confirm or contradict what the expected.

(NOTE: TFs should familiarize themselves with Gapminder before section in case of questions from students)