

LIKE THEY DO EVERY DAY. That's nearly two million people every year. And every second, someone new gets infected. In the First World, TB has become something of an unfashionable disease, largely ignored and forgotten. As a result there is not a lot of determination or investment behind finding new ways to tackle it. Indeed, the only tests available to Médecins Sans Frontières workers in the field to diagnose TB were actually developed in 1882. These tests detect the disease in fewer than 50% of people



and are even less effective for children and those with HIV/AIDS. Moreover, the drugs used to treat the disease were developed decades ago, and new strains of TB are emerging which are increasingly resistant to them. The combination of these multi-drug resistant strains and the number of new TB cases due to HIV/AIDS means that the world is sitting on a time bomb. We really do need to take steps right now to defuse it. We need more investment into TB research and development for new diagnostics and medicines. To find out more about the fight against TB or to make a donation visit www.uk.msf.org



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