

## Results4TB partner meeting in Georgia

Ibukun Abejirinde writes about the meeting she attended with Prof Bruno Marchal.

07-12-18



Dit is de omschrijving

**The Results Based Financing for Tuberculosis (Results4TB) project is a collaboration between academic partners and policy makers to improve adherence to tuberculosis treatment regime and its outcomes via a provider incentive payment scheme. From the 19 until 23 November, Bruno and I attended a one-week long partners meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia.**

Since joining the project through my position at ITM, this was my first official meeting with other members of the research consortium (Curatio International Foundation, Queen Margaret University and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine).

It turned out to be quite a productive week. For starters, the discussions gave me a clearer sense of the various moving parts of the project, the roles played by each actor and the influence of changes in the political landscape of Georgia on the planned intervention. Although initially planned as an incentives-only scheme, the outcome of participatory workshops conducted with various stakeholders last year, led to policy reformulation and inclusion of other intervention components such as training and redefinition of providers' roles in the care cascade.

The Curatio team shared updates on the three month pre-trial period (concluding in December 2018), and as a group we reviewed the intervention timeline and the data collection tools. The trial is scheduled to commence in February 2019, and we at ITM are responsible for the realist evaluation component, and steering the trial design in a theory-informed manner that incorporates other arms of the project (cost-effectiveness study and impact evaluation).

Thanks to a full schedule, dark clouds and rain, we spent more time indoors than out. However, we managed to squeeze in a road trip to a city called Lanchkhuti, where we visited one of the pre-test facilities, returning to Tbilisi the next day after a night in Batumi and a morning of more meetings.

Being in Georgia was a first for me, but it reminded me very much of my time in Ukraine and my fading knowledge of Russian language came in handy a couple of times!