



4<sup>th</sup> CENTRAL ASIAN FORUM OF PARTNERS OPERATING IN HIV-INFECTION  
EPIDEMIC COUNTERACTION

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**Problems & Perspectives of Coordination on Responses  
to HIV-Infection Epidemic at the National Level**

**Kyrgyzstan Experience**

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## What is Forum for us?

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- Opportunity to speak of the non-governmental sector successes and problems related to the program-based measures implementation.
- To be well informed of overall innovative preventive interventions in HIV/AIDS, other sexually and injection transmitted infections.
- Opportunity to directly participate in determining and forming perspective interventions, approaches related to prevention programs effectiveness improvement.

## Problems and perspectives of coordination on responses to HIV-infection epidemic at the national level

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- In Kyrgyzstan there are 120 AIDS Service NGOs, 6 Associations of AIDS Service NGOs.
- NGOs are active in all levels of HIV/AIDS prevention, they participate in implementation of drug demand reduction and harm reduction programs.



# Cooperation and interaction with the Government

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- The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic demonstrates adherence to prevention of HIV/AIDS, drug addiction and other social diseases;
- Harm reduction programs and strategy have been recognized;
- Activities to involve NGOs into development of HIV/AIDS and drug use related programs and new laws are conducted. Assistance is provided for the non-governmental organizations to develop their capacity.

# Key Partners of NGOs

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- The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, CMCC.
- Drug Control Agency under the KR Government.
- The Ministry of Health KR, the Ministry of Education KR, the Ministry of Internal Affairs KR, the Ministry of Justice KR, GUIN, the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection KR.
- Republican, Oblast and City AIDS Prevention Centers.
- Republican and Oblast Narcology Centers, Dermatovenerologic Services.
- Local Self-Government bodies.

# Cooperation with international organizations and donors

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- With support of the international organizations (the Global Fund, USAID, CAAP, UN agencies, UNAIDS, UNODC, WHO, DFID/CARHAP, OSI/Soros-Kyrgyzstan Foundation, PSI, AFEW etc), assistance is provided for building and strengthening of financial, professional and technical capacity of all participants involved into HIV/AIDS counteraction programs.
- The international sector programs cover both, high risk groups and healthy youth, their parents and general public.



International organizations and donors provide assistance in:

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- ❑ Realizing legislative expertise and improving legislative base.
- ❑ Developing strategic and program documents;
- ❑ Increasing technical capacity of all parts of human resources participating in decision-making on the key priority problems related to HIV/AIDS prevention;
- ❑ Improving and developing drug demand reduction and harm reduction programs;
- ❑ Providing legal and social support for vulnerable groups.

## Examples of NGOs successful cooperation with the governmental structures and international organizations

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- Project of Consortium of the governmental institutions, NGOs, private structures on HIV/AIDS prevention among IDU that was realized by “Socium” Public Association in 2007-2008 via support of the GFATM grant;
- Projects focused on quality improvement of the conducted prevention programs: harm reduction standards, new quality tools, harm reduction guidelines for MIA Academy, instruction for the law-enforcing agencies etc have been developed (MOH, MOJ, CARHAP, UNODC, CAPACITY, AFEW, Soros-Foundation, NGOs);
- Friendly pharmaceutical service (partnership of AFEW, PSI, private drug-stores, NGOs);
- “Alternative and Assistance” Project with CAAP support and partnership with the governmental, non-governmental organizations and PLWH initiative groups;

## Examples of NGOs successful cooperation with the governmental structures and international organizations

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- Social Support Programs in the penitentiary system, performers – the Ministry of Justice KR/penitentiary system, “Harm Reduction Network” Association of drug users community (with support of AFEW, BOMCA/CADAP, DFID/CARHAP);
- Rehabilitation Programs and social institutions for IDU prisoners: “Atlantis” (the Ministry of Justice/penitentiary system, Harm Reduction Association with support of OSI/Soros-Foundation-Kyrgyzstan, DFID/CARHAP, BOMCA etc);
- Working group on IDU has been functioning since 2008 – MOH KR, RNC, AIDS RA, AFEW, BOMCA/CADAP, UNDP, UNODC, Soros-Foundation-Kyrgyzstan, CARHAP, MOJ KR/penitentiary system, NGOs, initiative groups of drug users community.

# Examples of successful cooperation among NGOs

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- Strengthening of partnership (Harm Reduction Association, “Partnership Network” Association, “PLWH Unity” Association, an NGOs operating on harm reduction;
- Activation of re-referral system;
- Technical assistance or additional resources in the gratuitous and mutually beneficial terms;
- Mentorship.



## **Problems concerning relationships with governmental institutions**

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- ❑ Lack or insufficient financing by the Government;
- ❑ Non-perfection of effective governmental organizations and NGOs activities coordination mechanisms;
- ❑ Insufficient involvement of the civil society, particularly, community representatives into development of important political documents;
- ❑ Absence of adequate support of institutional and organizational development, NGO activity, technical assistance coordination mechanisms;



# Problems concerning relationships with donors

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## Absence of:

- ❑ Effective coordination mechanisms of donor organizations and NGOs activities;.
- ❑ Technical assistance provision mechanisms;
- ❑ Independent structures to control over expenditure of financial investments and program activity performance;
- ❑ Strategic donors (currently only GFATM);
- ❑ HIV/AIDS prevention programs dependence on donors priorities;

# Problems within non-governmental sector

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- ❑ Poor organizational and institutional development, especially within KR oblasts and rayons;
- ❑ Non-sustainability of most programs implemented by NGOs;
- ❑ Deficit of specialists on drug addiction, HIV/AIDS, harm reduction programs prevention and contacting the youth;
- ❑ Absence of the coordinated position on ensuring representation of interests of governmental organizations, vulnerable groups and HIV-positive people in Coordination Committees;
- ❑ Weak experience and participation of NGOs in development of PLWH prevention, treatment, care and support programs.



# Problems concerning operation with vulnerable groups

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- Limited range and quality of services for vulnerable groups;
- Vulnerable groups limited access to social support services, prevention, treatment, care and rehabilitation services;
- High level of stigmatization of HIV-infected individuals and vulnerable communities due to insufficient information support;
- Problems in relationships with law-enforcing agencies due to the legislation imperfection, discriminatory and penal nature of the law-enforcement practices to vulnerable groups.



## **Problems concerning operation with vulnerable groups**

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- ❑ Overdosage prevention;
- ❑ Prevention of associated diseases;
- ❑ Adherence to ARV therapy;
- ❑ Free treatment of drug dependence (detox-therapy and programs on IDU adaptation, outpatient rehabilitation and reintegration to society);

# Focus priorities

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- ❑ Group with specific needs;
- ❑ Motivation formation programs and safe behavior skills strengthening;
- ❑ Programs on vulnerable groups social adaptation, outpatient rehabilitation and reintegration to society;
- ❑ Self-help groups;
- ❑ Friendly specialists;
- ❑ Operation among IDU families;
- ❑ Work with local self-government bodies/religious confessions;
- ❑ Mobile consultants;
- ❑ Development of law clinics network;

# Ways of problem solution

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## **Development and implementation of:**

- ❑ Legislative, normative and legal documents for guaranteed ensuring of sustainable activities of NGOs and harm reduction programs;
- ❑ Coordination mechanisms on contacts and effective interaction with donor organizations, governmental structures, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders;
- ❑ Unified standards on prevention, treatment and care programs;
- ❑ Unified programs monitoring and evaluation system.

# Ways of problem solution

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## **Adequate financing of:**

- Program activities taking into account the needs of the target groups;
- NGOs institutional and organizational development programs;
- Ensuring of range of quality services for vulnerable groups;
- Technical assistance (human resources training, information exchange, study-tours and other forms);
- Support and development of the community affected by HIV/AIDS epidemic and other vulnerable groups;
- Use and implementation of flexible approaches in relation to changing of key directions of grants and operative decision-making in accordance to the changing situation;

# Ways of problem solution

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- Support of financing of NGOs associations with the governmental, private and initiative groups (Umbrella NGOs);
- Development and strengthening of NGOs networks and associations (national and regional);
- Assistance and support of programs on vulnerable groups social and psychological support, rehabilitation and re-socialization (programs on social and labor adaptation of the drug dependent individuals, houses in half-way, social hostels, social and psychological assistance centers, social incubators, shelters and others).



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Thank you for your attention!