

# Results of drugs use in CAR related harm reduction programs training needs assessment

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## Central Asian Harm Reduction Training & Information Center (CAHRTIC)

- Non-commercial organization focused on strengthening of the interested governmental, non-governmental, international organizations and individuals capacity and cooperation in harm reduction via providing training and information support for four Central Asian countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan

# CAHRTIC Founders

- Association of organizations operating in HIV/AIDS, drug use in KZ (Kazakhstan)
- “Partnership Network” HR Association (Kyrgyzstan)
- Republican Narcology Center (Kyrgyzstan)

- “Adilet” Law Clinic (Kyrgyzstan)
- Eurasian Harm Reduction Network (Lithuania)
- TJ Harm Reduction Association (Tajikistan)
- “Intilish” Information and Training Center (Uzbekistan)

- ◆ **Date CAHRTIC established:** October, 2008
- ◆ **Program activity started:** May, 2009
- ◆ **Technical support by:** Central Asian AIDS Control Project (CAAP) funded by the World Bank and the UK Department for International Development (DFID)

# HR programs training needs assessment in CAR

**Researchers and authors of the report:** Shona Shonning and Raminta Shtuikite, Eurasian Harm Reduction Network (EHRN)

**Research dates:** July – October, 2009

**Territory:** Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan

**Support:** Central Asian AIDS Control Project (CAAP)

# Aims and objectives

1

Identification of needs in harm reduction programs capacity strengthening;

2

Evaluation of the existing opportunities to satisfy identified needs;

3

Development of recommendations for Central Asian Harm Reduction Training and Information Center;

## Methodology

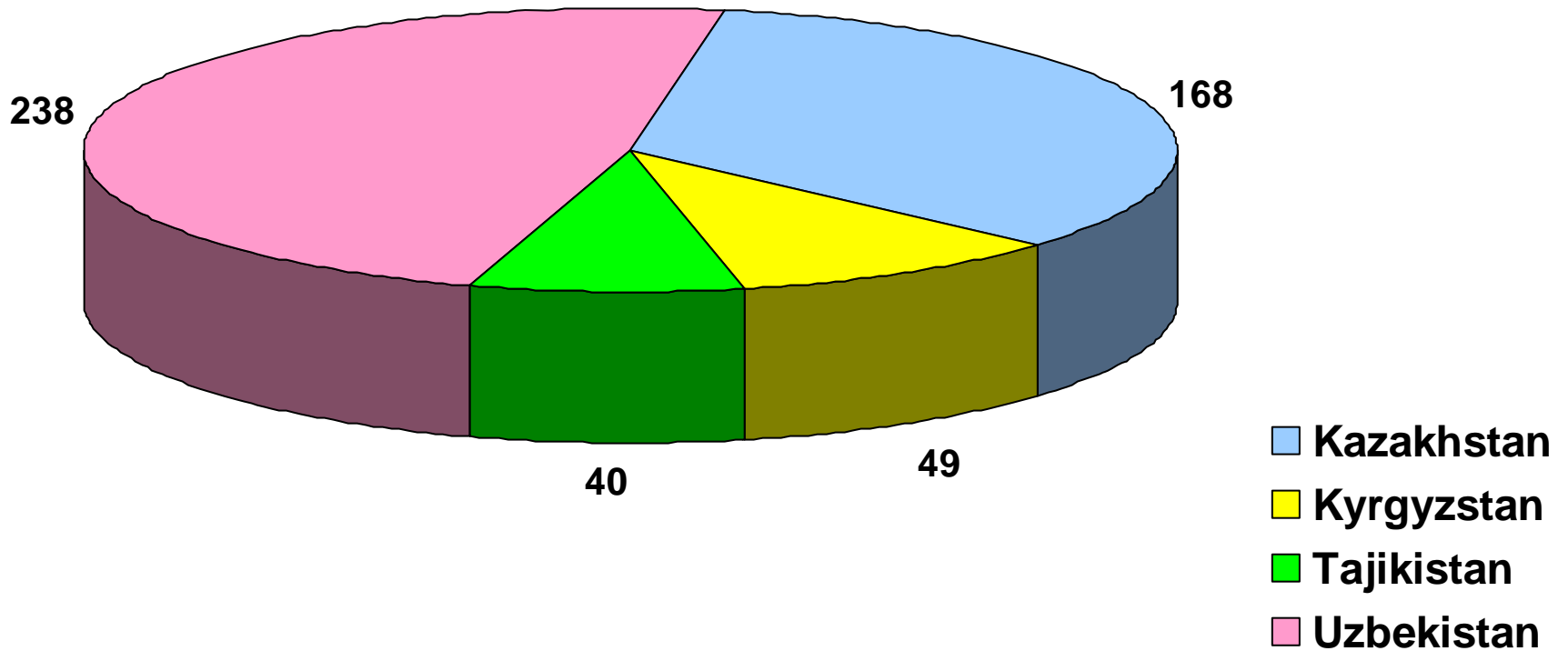
- Semi-structured interview;
- Overview of the training tools, training reports and trainers database;

## Ways of interviewing

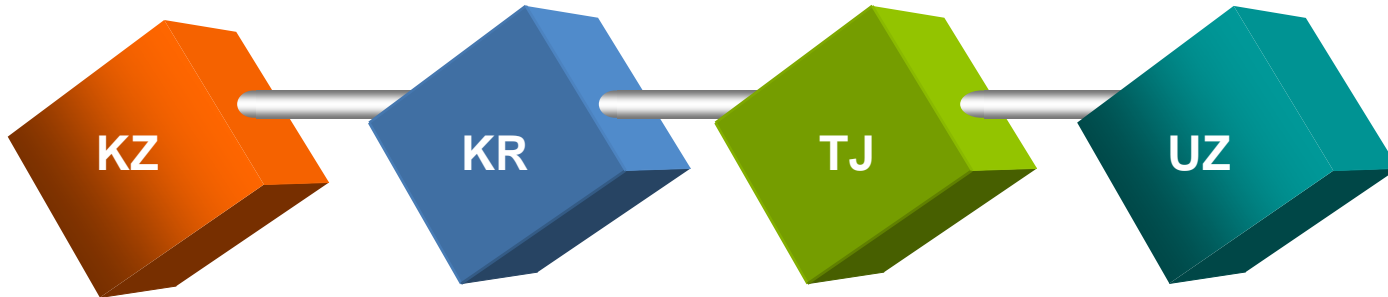
- Face-to-face interview;
- Telephone and electronic communication;

**Number of respondents - 47**

# Number of “low-threshold” programs



# Methadone Substitute Therapy



- since 2008
- Methadone
- 2 programs

- since 2002
- Methadone
- 17 units

Planned to  
open the  
pilot project  
in 2010

- 2005-2009
- Buprenorphi  
ne,  
Methadone

# HR Programs coverage in CAR

- MST: low level (0.05 – 3.5%);
- “Low-threshold” Programs: medium level (20-60%);
- Prevention of overdose: low coverage level/pilot programs;
- Treatment of Hepatitis C: low coverage level/pilot programs;

# HR Programs Financing

1. International donor organizations (80%)

2. National budget

- Salary of some outreach workers (Almaty, KZ)
- Trust Units (UZ)

# HR Programs Expansion Plans

KZ

- MST expansion from 2 to 7 pilot sites covering up to 700 patients;
- Formation of 23 mobile teams in 2010;

KR

- MST expansion from 17 to 55 units covering up to 5000 clients;

## Cont.

TJ

- MST implementation starting from 2010;
- Introduction of “low-threshold” services in narcologic institutions;

UZ

- Realization of needles exchange programs via trust units;
- Involvement of epidemiologists and family physicians to HR programs activities;

## Results

- ➔ Limited number of the developed topical modules on harm reduction;
- ➔ Absence/lack of training tools in the national languages;
- ➔ Absence of national trainings conducted in the other languages except Russian;

## Cont.

- ➔ Absence of national trainings accreditation and national trainers certification;
- ➔ Insufficient number of qualified technical and clinical consultants;
- ➔ Some specialists (physicians, social workers) are not skilled to use Internet;

## Cont.

- ➔ Absence/limited number of materials on drug dependence treatment;
- ➔ Absence of documented evidence-based materials related to harm reduction programs effectiveness in CAR;
- ➔ Absence of consolidated database of trainers and consultants;

# Recommended activity directions for CAHRTIC



Tools and methodological support to trainings and technical assistance;



Training of trainers and technical consultants;



Support of trainings and technical assistance to managers and staff of harm reduction services;

**Cont.**

Trainings for managers and staff of neighboring services (police etc);

Information support;

Support of the political dialogue on harm reduction;

## Contact information

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Thank you for your attention!