



## Call for Proposals

### Youth Champions for HIV prevention among key populations in Eastern Europe

*What innovative approaches effectively address HIV prevention needs of young key populations and need to be scaled up?*

#### Background information

In Eastern Europe and Central Asia the HIV epidemic continues to rise predominantly among key populations (men who have sex with men, sex workers, transgender people and people who inject drugs) and their sexual partners.<sup>1</sup> In 2015, people who inject drugs accounted for more than half of new HIV infections in the region.<sup>2</sup> Low coverage of harm reduction and other HIV prevention programmes combined with high rates of stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV and key populations further increase the disease burden on these groups. The challenges of young people within this group remain large – especially around primary HIV prevention. Young key populations are often the most stigmatized and disadvantaged in accessing comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and HIV services. Despite these structural challenges, there are promising practices and innovative approaches that lead to improved access and uptake of HIV prevention, testing, and outreach services for young key populations.

#### Call details

To develop a nuanced understanding of current primary prevention practices and models that effectively address the HIV prevention needs of young men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, transgender people and sex workers, the **IAS invites civil society organizations and HIV prevention service providers to nominate a young key population representative from within their organization to propose an advocacy project** on practices that address the prevention needs of young key populations.

Proposals need to include a concept note describing the project within the defined thematic area and list details of activities, budget, timelines and deliverables.

The objective of these advocacy projects is to:

1. Shine an advocacy spotlight on innovative and effective HIV prevention approaches for young key populations
2. Strengthen the capacity of young key populations in the field of primary HIV prevention.

#### Funding information

IAS' *Nobody Left Behind* initiative will support three seed grants of USD 10,000 each for a period of 12 months (July 2017 - July 2018).

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<sup>1</sup> UNAIDS Gap Report 2016

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

Grant administration will be delegated to the host organization with which the Youth Champion is affiliated. The host organization will be responsible for monitoring and reporting progress on the advocacy grant. This funding will be inclusive of all the proposed advocacy activities and any contribution to the honorarium or salary paid to the Youth Champion.

### **Eligibility criteria**

- Organizations must be based in Ukraine, Belarus, Georgia, or Serbia.
- Youth Champion needs to provide documentation proving that he/she is affiliated with the host organization for no less than 6 months prior to the start of the grant period.
- Youth Champion needs to be between 18 and 26 years of age during the grant period.
- Youth Champion needs to agree to be featured in IAS digital media.
- Youth Champion needs to be able to communicate in English.

### **Proposal Submission details**

Proposals should include:

1. A maximum 2-page concept note (excluding the budget) in detailing the activities, budget, timelines and deliverables that the funding would support.
2. From the applicant:
  - A maximum two-page curriculum vitae including educational background, volunteer or work experience as well as involvement with the host organization.
  - A 500-word response to the statement: "Why I want to be a Youth Champion for HIV prevention among key populations".
3. From the host agency:
  - A letter of support for the applicant outlining how the organization would support the engagement of the applicant
  - A one-page summary of how the agency is working with key populations and/or supporting local networks of key populations.
  - A maximum two-page overview from the proposed host agency outlining the organization's areas of work and how the proposed key populations Youth Champions for HIV Prevention project fits into their current advocacy strategy.

Proposals must be written in English or Russian language and received via e-mail by close of business on Monday, 26 June 2017.

Proposals and any questions should be emailed to **YouthVoices@iasociety.org**.