SCIENCE, COMMUNITY AND THE SUSTAINABILITY OF THE HIV RESPONSE IN EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

IAS 2019 POST-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

Kazakhstan, 19-20 November 2019
Integration of services for clients with TB / HIV in Alliance projects

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Ukraine, Alliance for Public Health
About the ALLIANCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

The International Charitable Foundation “Alliance for Public Health” (hereinafter the “Alliance”) is a leading non-governmental professional organization which makes a significant impact on the epidemics of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, viral hepatitis, and other serious diseases in Ukraine in collaboration with key state partners and civil society organizations through providing financial and technical support to relevant programs.

Our Mission

Is to support community action against HIV/AIDS, to reduce the spread of HIV and related epidemics through disseminating effective services and approaches, strengthening health care systems and social services, and building the capacity of vulnerable communities.

Our Vision

Is of a world in which people do not die of AIDS, and where communities have brought HIV/AIDS under control.

The ALLIANCE’S Strategic Objectives For 2013–2020

1. Innovations
   To develop and roll out effective models of responding to the epidemic of HIV and associated diseases in Ukraine and worldwide.

2. Service Accessibility
   To ensure universal access to comprehensive evidence-based services in response to the epidemic of HIV and co-epidemics for vulnerable populations in Ukraine.

3. Policies
   To make an impact on healthcare policies in order to ensure sustainable access to the services, reduce stigma, and protect the rights of people who are vulnerable to HIV.

4. Communities
   To build capacity and mobilize key communities to ensure their active engagement and meaningful involvement in the response to the epidemic.

5. Technical Assistance
   To introduce an effective system of technical support delivery for the development of effective technical approaches in responding to the epidemic of HIV and related epidemics all over the world.
PROGRAM

ACCELERATING UKRAINE’S PROGRESS TOWARDS REDUCING TB AND HIV BURDENS THROUGH ENSURING UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO TIMELY AND HIGH-QUALITY TB DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT, SCALING UP EVIDENCE-BASED HIV PREVENTION, DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT, AND BUILDING UP RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS FOR HEALTH.

DONOR:
The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD:
2018–2020

BUDGET:
$35,817,918

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- To scale up and ensure equitable access to high-quality TB and HIV prevention, treatment, care and support with a focus on key populations most affected by the HIV and TB epidemics.
- To strengthen the health systems towards sustainable and integrated solutions for key populations most affected by the HIV and TB epidemics.
- To strengthen community systems that enable needs-based, cost-effective and integrated interventions for key populations mostly affected by the HIV and TB epidemics.
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018:

HIV Prevention – Global Fund Project

Persons Reached by Prevention Services

- PWID: 204,291
- SW: 39,832
- MSM: 45,278
- TG: 1,049
- Others: 4,885

Prevention Supplies Distributed

- Condoms: 10.88 mln.
- Syringes and Needles: 20 mln.

HIV Testing

Total Members of Most-At-Risk Populations Reached by Assisted Testing Using Rapid Tests: 245,069

Those Who Tested HIV-Positive: 6,900

Information Materials

- Brochures: 374,900
- Periodicals: 213,000

Prevention Activities In The ATO-Affected Areas

Persons Reached By Prevention Services: 16,042

Training Activities For National Police Personnel

- 66 Trainings
- 1,942 National Police Personnel Trained

33 Mobile Clinics Across 24 Regions In Ukraine

Those Reached With The Minimum Package Of Services:

- 32,619 PWID (16% of all those covered)
- 14,024 SW (35% of all those covered)
- 2,244 MSM (5% of all those covered)
PROJECT

INNOVATIVE COLLABORATION BETWEEN CIVIL SOCIETY AND THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM TO EFFECTIVELY IDENTIFY AND TREAT HIV IN UKRAINE AS PART OF THE HEALTHLINK PROJECT TO ACCELERATE UKRAINE'S EFFORTS TO END HIV IN UKRAINE.

DONOR:
The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through co 100 percent life

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD:
2017–2022

BUDGET:
UAH 38,511,856.76 (grant amount for one project year, i.e., January 2, 2018 –September 30, 2018)

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE:
Dnipropetrovsk, Kirovohrad, Zaporizhia, Donetsk, Odesa, Chernihiv, Poltava, Cherkasy, Kherson, Mykolaiv, Kyiv oblasts, and the city of Kyiv.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

- Providing HIV counseling and testing as well as support for HIV-positive patients through 131 healthcare facilities of various specializations.

- 14 special trainings focusing on the use of rapid tests, reduction of stigma and discrimination for 303 healthcare workers.
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

- New Persons Tested: 24,550
- Persons Who Tested Positive Linked To Care For Monitoring And Follow-Up: 679
- Positive Test Results: 973
- Persons Initiating ART Within One Year: 486

- A supervision system and 12 teams of regional supervisors from among physicians and psychologists prepared to support the professional development of medical and social workers. 42 introductory supervisory meetings held, 12 of which hosted by NGOs, and 30 by healthcare facilities.
- At the request of and in collaboration with the Public Health Center, a draft MOH Order prepared ("Regarding the List of Key and Priority HIV-Vulnerable Groups and the Criteria For Inclusion In These Groups").

INNOVATIONS
Implemented As Part Of The HEALTHLINK Project:

- Medical Event Recording module as part of e-Health software products. The module includes patient electronic medical records.
- Purchase of 10 condom/HIV-test vending machines for community centers and nightclubs for MSM, women’s consultation clinics, as well as obstetrics and gynecology departments for free HIV oral tests and condoms.
- The rating system for healthcare facilities and doctors developed using the Check & Rate mobile app. In 12 regions, teams of community reporters set up. In 2018, 39 healthcare centers evaluated and rated.
**Viral Hepatitis**

**Project**

Scaling up accessible and effective HCV treatment through community-based treatment models for most vulnerable populations in the resource-constrained Ukraine.

**Donor:** Various Donors  
**Implementation Period:** April 2015 – September 2018  
**Budget:** $860,428.78

**Project Goals:** To ensure access to effective HCV treatment for key populations and design innovative community-based service delivery models, including medical and social support, with treatment regimens based on direct-acting antivirals.

**Key Achievements in 2018**

- Conducted: 1,907 treatment courses based on hepatitis C virus (HCV) direct-acting antivirals administered to representatives of key groups
- Provided treatment for: 50 patients in correctional institutions accessed treatment
- 205 patients received free direct antivirals (no support provided)
DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
ASSESSMENT OF SIMPLIFIED ANTIVIRAL TREATMENT STRATEGY FOR HEPATITIS C IN UKRAINE

DONOR:
EQUIP Consortium supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), PEPFAR

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD:
September 2017 – April 2019

BUDGET:
$420,788

PROJECT GOALS:
Facilitate access to HCV treatment for key populations, enhance ART adherence among co-infected HIV/HCV patients.

HIV testing and ART initiation are an integral part of the treatment and care model.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTERS:
Within the framework of the project, the Alliance is responsible for the organization of testing, laboratory diagnostics, HCV treatment, and social support for 434 patients through the clinic of the L.V. Gromashevsky Institute of Epidemiology and Infectious Diseases of the National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine.

Another 434 project patients received services for the treatment of viral hepatitis C and social support at Kyiv City Clinical Hospital No. 5 (KMKL # 5). The All-Ukrainian Network of PLWH is the designated coordinator for liaising with this healthcare institution under this project.

98.6% ADHERENCE TO TREATMENT
99.5% TREATMENT EFFICACY
OPPIOID SUBSTITUTION THERAPY

THE OST PROGRAM IN UKRAINE IS THE LARGEST PROGRAM OF ITS KIND AMONG EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

In October 2017, the process of transition from donor to government funding for OST medications was initiated. As of December 31, 2018, 79% of all patients were accessing government-funded OST.

COMPONENT GOALS:
Providing PWID with better access to OST and organizing medical, psychological and social support (MPSS) for OST patients through case management and integrated services (diagnostics and treatment for HIV, TB, viral hepatits, etc.), improving retention and facilitating re-socialization for OST patients.

PARTNER:
Public Health Center of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine.

BREAKDOWN BY FUNDING SOURCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government Fund</td>
<td>8,997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Budget</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GF</td>
<td>905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funded By Patient</td>
<td>816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEPFAR</td>
<td>484</td>
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</table>

Ukraine 11,385 patients

BREAKDOWN BY DRUG

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Methadone (Tablets)</td>
<td>10,107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buprenorphine</td>
<td>1,092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methadone (Liquid)</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2018 – Expansion of OST delivery models to include self-medication practices

Ost drug dispensing sites at Healthcare Facilities: 3,686
Home Care: 528
Dispensing by Prescription: 878

Key achievements in 2018:

- Increase in patients picking up OST drugs for self-medication, compared to the previous year: 8.6%
- Increase in patients on ART (due to case management practices): 7.4%
- Retention in the MPSS program during 6 months since initiation of treatment (compared to 71.9% of the clients who did not access the services): 92.82%
TUBERCULOSIS

PROGRAM

ACCELERATING UKRAINE’S PROGRESS TOWARDS REDUCING THE BURDEN OF TB AND HIV THROUGH UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO TIMELY AND QUALITY TB TESTING AND TREATMENT, SCALING UP EVIDENCE-BASED HIV PREVENTION, DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT, AND BUILDING UP RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS FOR HEALTH

DONOR:
The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD:
2018–2020

PROGRAM FOCUS AREAS:

FOCUS AREA BUDGET:
UAH 1,144,598

IMPROVING THE DETECTION OF TUBERCULOSIS AMONG IDU, SW, MSM, TG WHO HAVE LOW MOTIVATION TO UNDERGO TESTING ON THEIR OWN INITIATIVE

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

8,437 HIV-POSITIVE CLIENTS SCREENED
536 TB CASES DETECTED

78% accessed diagnostic services at healthcare facilities
93% initiated treatment
PROGRAM FOCUS AREAS:

**FOCUS AREA BUDGET:**
UAH 1,861,635

**SUPPORT COMMUNITIES TO ACTIVELY IDENTIFY TB CASES BY INCREASING ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES AMONG HOMELESS PEOPLE AND EX-PRISONERS**

**KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018**

- **9,531** clients reached by questionnaire-based screening services
- **3,519** HIV-positive clients screened
- **174** TB cases identified
- 97% accessed diagnostic services at healthcare facilities
- 89% initiated treatment

PROGRAM FOCUS AREAS:

**FOCUS AREA BUDGET:**
UAH 1,067,799

**ENSURE ACTIVE DETECTION OF TB CASES BY INCREASING ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES AMONG ROMANI POPULATION THROUGH ROMA INTERMEDIARIES**

**KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018**

- **4,420** clients reached by questionnaire-based screening services
- **1,939** HIV-positive clients screened
- **92** TB cases identified
- 100% accessed diagnostic services at healthcare facilities
- 100% initiated treatment
PROGRAM FOCUS AREAS:

SUPPORT COMMUNITIES TO ACTIVELY IDENTIFY TB CASES BY INCREASING ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES AMONG INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

FOCUS AREA BUDGET:
UAH 3,274,402.5

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

52,641 clients reached by questionnaire-based screening services
848 HIV-positive clients screened
8 TB cases identified
32% initiated treatment
87%

PROGRAM FOCUS AREAS:

PROVIDE MEDICAL AND SOCIAL SUPPORT FOR TB/MDR-TB PATIENTS. ENHANCE PATIENT ADHERENCE TO TB TREATMENT

FOCUS AREA BUDGET:
UAH 26,592,241 (to provide support for patients with drug-susceptible TB)
UAH 31,679,235 (to provide support for patients with drug-resistant TB)

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

3,930 patients with drug-susceptible TB, 102.7%
2,314 patients with drug-resistant TB, 94.2%
Project patients with drug-susceptible TB successfully treated (2017 cohort), 90.9%
Project patients with drug-resistant TB successfully treated (2016 Cohorts 2 and 3), 88.7%

OVER THE COURSE OF THE PROJECT IN ALL REGIONS, CLIENT RECRUITMENT FOR MEDICAL AND SOCIAL SUPPORT WAS BASED ON ASSESSMENT OF PATIENT NEEDS, RISK FACTORS FOR TREATMENT TERMINATION, NO REFUSALS TO ENROLL PATIENTS INTO THE PROJECT FOR SUPPORT REPORTED.
PILOT PROJECT

OPTIMIZED TB CASE FINDING AMONG HIGH-RISK GROUPS AND MEDICAL-SOCIAL SUPPORT FOR CONTACTS

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: July – December 2018

BUDGET: UAH 3,328,640

PROJECT GOAL:
Improving TB detection among people who have contact with TB patients from vulnerable populations.

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE:
Dnipropetrovsk, Zakarpattia, Odesa, Rivne, Kharkiv oblasts

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

7-8 CONTACTS ENROLLED

209 CASES
- MDR-TB
- TB
- MTB (+)
- MTB (-)

1,577 CONTACTS
- Radiological examination 100%
- Sputum smear microscopy 26.4%
- Molecular genetic analysis of sputum 9.6%

3.3% DIAGNOSED WITH TB
33 per 1,000 contacts
(Ukraine – 8.6 per 1,000, 2017)

TB PATIENTS 52 IDENTIFIED
- Contact with:
  - MDR-TB
  - TB
  - MTB (+)
  - MTB (-)
TB CASES IDENTIFIED AMONG CONTACTS TESTED

Those not belonging to any most-at-risk populations 36%
PWID 34%
Ex-prisoners 4%
Homeless 20%
IDP 2%
SW 2%
Roma 2%

PROJECT
PARLIAMENTARY PLATFORM TO FIGHT TUBERCULOSIS

As the coordinating center for the civil society organizations of Ukraine on collaborating with the international movement of inter factional deputies (MPs), the Global TB Caucus, the Alliance provides technical support for the inter factional parliamentary group The Parliamentary Platform To Fight Tuberculosis.

- Includes 47 Ukrainian MPs.
- Two national roundtables held in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.
- A high-profile awareness-raising and advocacy campaign to honor World TB Day organized, followed by providing feature lighting effects for the Parliament building to bring the TB issue to national focus.
- The April report on drug-resistant TB in Europe presented at the PACE by Serhii Kiral, Head of the Inter factional Group Parliamentary Platform To Fight Tuberculosis, in response to which the relevant resolution of the Parliamentary Assembly was approved.

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