



East Europe and Central Asia Union of PLWH

Report 2007-2010

EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

SITUATION IN THE REGION

Despite the fact that the spread of HIV/AIDS epidemic in the world is slowed down, in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) a sharp rise in new cases of HIV infection has been observed.

Over the past ten years the number of adults and children living with HIV in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) increased almost threefold, reaching 1.4 million. Compared with 2001 the number of AIDS-related deaths had increased by four times.

Approximately 90% of all new HIV cases in the region are in Russia and Ukraine. The highest HIV prevalence rate among adults in Europe and Central Asia is marked in Ukraine (1,1%), and in five countries of the region - Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan - the rate of HIV infection in the past ten years has increased by more than 25%.

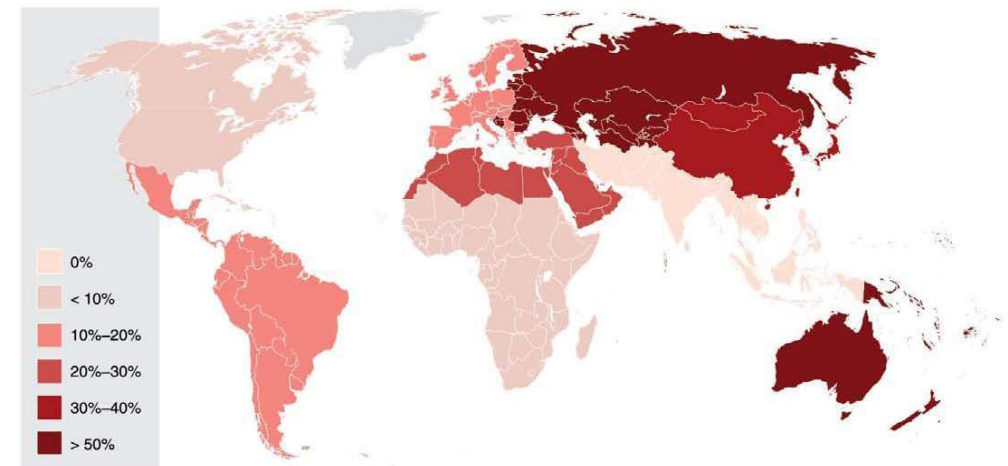
1 400 000 people living with HIV

More than 500 people get infected with HIV every day

60% of people living with HIV die from Tuberculosis

90% of people living with HIV are threatened with death from Hepatitis C

Worldwide rate of HIV epidemic progression ²



¹ UNAIDS Global AIDS Epidemic Report, 2010, http://www.unaids.org/globalreport/Global_report_ru.htm

² Source: 2008 Report on the Global AIDS epidemic, UNAIDS

OUR ASPIRATION IS WHO WE ARE

Despite the political recognition of the principle of greater involvement of people living with HIV (GIPA Principle) in the fight against global AIDS pandemic, until now, all the involvement of people living with HIV (PLWH) is often symbolic in nature and is usually limited to the implementation of projects rather than policy-making and programs development.

By 2005, HIV/AIDS epidemic in Eastern Europe and Central Asia has reached such proportions that almost every country had a movement founded by HIV-positive people. In all countries, measures were taken to improve the quality of life for people living with HIV, but most of them were isolated from the regional and international initiatives. Natural was the need to create a strong regional association of people living with HIV, which can effectively participate in the development of policies and procedures, where human rights are the basis for overcoming the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the EECA region.

In June 2005 the first meeting of representatives of PLWH of Ukraine, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Moldova took place in Kyiv. The initiative to establish a regional union was supported by the Secretariat of UNAIDS and All-Ukrainian Charitable Organization "All-Ukrainian Network of PLWH", on the basis of which a regional union of PLWH started its work. In 2007, the international charitable organization "East Europe and Central Asia Union of PLWH" (ECUO) was registered, joining representatives of 14 countries, that showed the relevance and timeliness of this initiative!

"East European and Central Asian Union of PLWH is an inspiring example of how to unite and mobilize people living with HIV as the driving force of social transformation."

From the speech of Michel SIDIBÉ, Executive director of UNAIDS, Opening ceremony of the Eastern Europe and Central Asia AIDS Conference – 2009

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE WORK FOR

We, the Union of organizations of people living with HIV/AIDS, are an inspiring¹ and developing resource in the promotion of communities of people living with HIV, as leaders, equal and professional partners² responsible for overcoming the HIV/AIDS epidemic in EECA.

We are the regional "network of networks", which brings together PLWH community from the EECA countries to enhance its impact on access to treatment, care and support through strengthening of our capacity and advocacy activities at national, regional and international level.

¹ For us to inspire means to stimulate action, maintain faith even when nothing is going right; to stand by and be happy for each others success!

² We are ready to be partners with all stakeholders making their input to the overcoming of HIV/AIDS epidemic in our countries: governments, international organizations, civil society.

"Establishment of the East Europe and Central Asia Union of People Living with HIV was happening before my eyes during 2005-2007, so I can confidently underline its great importance to bring together all those affected by HIV/AIDS. The organization has given hope and opportunity to continue to live, to fight for their rights, support each other on a huge, single epidemic area of the former Soviet Union. The event with participation of ECUO held during the Vienna International AIDS Conference in the summer of 2010, "We are dying less, but we are dying faster" became world famous: this call to cooperation and compassion sounded touching and painful for all participants of the conference. ECUO experience showed what can be achieved by combining the efforts and opportunities. Future belongs to such organizations, good luck to you!

Director of the Ukrainian AIDS Center in 1992-2009, Professor, Honoured Scientist of Ukraine Alla SHCHERBINSKAYA

"In 2005 ECUO became a kind of parent organization, "a beacon in the darkness" for people living with HIV in Tajikistan, an organization that has helped expand the boundaries of understanding of the HIV/AIDS situation in our region and raise awareness and knowledge by sharing experiences with other countries. ECUO helped unite people living with HIV in our country that now do not hesitate to express their opinions and fight for their rights. In the future we see ECUO as one of the most powerful and blossoming organizations that helps, supports and defends the rights of people living with HIV not only in EECA, but also far beyond its borders. "

Public organization "Guli Surkh", Tajikistan

We

- Being directly affected by HIV and personally interested in overcoming this epidemic, actively and honestly cooperate with the government, international organizations and civil society, talking about the existing obstacles, propose solutions, and are willing to participate in their implementation, by applying our knowledge and experience.
- Promote the best practices and initiatives, implement international declarations and actively participate in shaping policies¹ that benefit the interests of PLWH.
- Establish links and promote cooperation between communities² and organizations of PLWH, as well as with other civil society structures.
- Strengthen the capacity of PLWH communities by providing technical, financial and political support.
- Develop leadership in combating HIV/AIDS epidemic, both within the PLWH community and outside.

"First and foremost, we see ECUO as a tool for the effective advocacy to protect the rights of patients in our region and hope that the Union will expand and strengthen its position on the ability to influence decision-making process".

All-Russian public organization "Union of People Living with HIV"

OUR FINAL GOAL:

Through effective partnership and active advocacy efforts the influence of the PLWH community to improve access to timely, comprehensive, high-quality treatment, care and support services for adults and children living with HIV in the countries of EECA is increased.

WHAT WE STRIVE FOR

In the EECA region, the rights of HIV positive adults and children are often abused: we are still denied medical services at specialized facilities, access to ARV treatment for many of us is still limited; our children may not always be free to go to kindergartens and schools. We, the community of people living with HIV, can influence the situation, drawing attention of political leaders and the international community to the complexity of overcoming the HIV epidemic in our countries and offering solutions.

We strive to participate in all decision-making processes that affect our lives. It is important for us to continue strengthening the institutional capacity of national networks and PLWH organizations to have our suggestions taken into account at all, even the highest political levels.

We can play an important role in policy changes, acting at the regional and international levels. To do this, ECUO will develop advocacy campaign in support of national efforts to better inform political leaders about the pressing issues.

We will promote dialogue between government, civil society and other important stakeholders in the field of HIV/AIDS through increased representation in the various national, regional and international structures.

OUR STRATEGIC TASK:

By 2015 national PLWH organizations will be implementing advocacy programs for access to comprehensive and high-quality treatment, care and support for adults and children living with HIV in the EECA countries.

¹ Policy is used here as a decisionmaking principle, which guides actions in the direction, necessary to achieve the result – overcoming HIV/AIDS epidemic.

² Communities are initiative PLWH groups and activists, who want to create and develop national unions of people, living with HIV



YANA'S SCHOOL DAY

More than anything I like to draw, go online and sometimes read. I have many good friends. Three years ago I learned that I had HIV. Mother told me that she wanted to talk to me. She told me that a virus lives in my blood. First I was very upset and almost started crying. But then my mother said that there are special pills and if I take them properly they will help me to live a long life. If I hadn't had HIV I wouldn't take pills, I wouldn't be given injections and wouldn't have my blood checked every month. I often think about the virus that I have but don't worry too much.

I will tell you about my school day.

The day starts early, I wake up at 7 (mom is usually still asleep). I go wash myself and do it quickly and then get ready for school. That's when my mom gets up and makes breakfast – porridge. I don't really like it (the porridge) but mother cooks well. I must eat because after breakfast I take vitamins – my therapy.

About 8 I leave for school, I mean I have to leave at 8. Often I leave a little later, then I have to run to school... Lessons start at 8-30. Sometimes I have to come a little early... especially when the first lesson is a bit difficult... and homework is not quite finished...

At school apart from lessons I also chat with friends. And have lunch – not too tasty...

About 2 the lessons finish. On the way home I chat with my friend, it takes an hour



At home, by the telly, I do my homework. Not longer than two hours. At 5 I go out to play!

We play with friends in the yard till the evening, we like to play "beetle" and "tra-ta-ta" – it's cool, I like it.

Sometimes instead I go to the group of other HIV-positive kids. I feel comfortable around them, I can talk about my HIV status, they understand me. It's important for me that I'm not alone. It's interesting with them; we talk about our dreams and who we want to be. My biggest dream is to have HIV vaccine found, I also want to win 5 million dollars, I want to drive a Jeep and buy a house in London. I want to study at Harvard University.

Then I go home, about 7. We have dinner. I like to eat by the telly. At 8 I take my vitamins again.

Then I just watch TV. I have my own now and it's very beautiful (my mother presented me a plasma for my birthday, now I have my own TV in my room!!!! Cool!!!). At 9 I go to bed. Well, at 10... and sometimes with TV turned on. But next morning I wake up at 7 (mom is usually still asleep)...



WHAT WE ACHIEVED

In 2008 - 2009 ECUO worked within three main areas:

1. Strengthening leadership and capacity building of ECUO and PLWH communities to confront HIV/AIDS epidemic in EECA

Since the beginning of its activity ECUO has been an inspiring resource for PLWH communities in the EECA countries. Since that time National Networks of PLWH were established and have been successfully working and becoming stronger in eight countries of the Union while in 2007 there were only four national networks of PLWH. The activities aimed at establishment of the national networks in Azerbaijan, Tajikistan and Armenia are underway (only in 2009 there were 8 initiative groups established in these countries).



During this period more than 500 members of ECUO gained knowledge in trainings on advocacy, gender, strategic planning, coverage of HIV/AIDS in the media, the development of services for HIV-positive people.



Considerable attention was paid to the professional development of leaders of the PLWH community, in particular, to improvement of the knowledge and skills in organizational financial management. With the support of Oxfam Novib (SAN!) in 2009-2010, 25 representatives of member-organizations of the Union have studied at the long-term course at the Kiev-Mohyla Business School, including monthly on-line exams and getting certificates. Also, 23 representatives of ECUO were trained at the training "NGO-Director's Guide to Finance", which was undertaken by an international auditing firm Fabel, Werner & Schnittke, followed by an examination and an appropriate certificate.

In addition, 28 representatives of the Union have been trained in partner organizations in other countries and learned about existing projects in care and support for people living with HIV, the involvement of PLWH in decision-making process, as well as the creation of national networks of PLWH. Based on the experience gained the brochure "Best practices of the organizations of PLWH of the EECA countries" which describes the 11 unique best practices of organizations and communities of people living with HIV in our region was published. Information is disseminated to all stakeholders and is represented on our site:

http://www.ecuo.org/library/ecuo_publications/news:KIC



Given the rapid growth and new opportunities that opened to ECUO, in December 2009 the first strategic session of ECUO was held. Members of the Union identified a common vision and strategic objectives of ECUO, revised and improved the organizational structure of the management, and also structured the needs of members of the Union defining the scope of ECUO activities to respond to these needs.

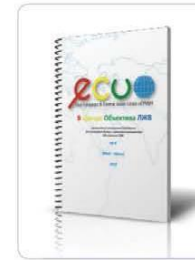
"For us ECUO is both the initiator and the support of many of our initiatives. The Union for us is a resource for teaching and learning, but also provides an opportunity to meet with key HIV activists in the region and get to know them better. We hope that the Union will remain as active and influential in the future."

Society "AGIHAS",
Latvia

2. Increasing access of PLWH to strategic information for effective advocacy of access to treatment, care and support

A unique communication system of ECUO was created with the support from Oxfam Novib:

In 14 countries of the Union the work of Focal Points (FP) has been established, the representatives of communities of people living with HIV, who are responsible for collecting, analyzing and sharing information internally, between members of the Union and the Secretariat. In all countries the FP, together with members of the general assembly of ECUO and community of the country, elaborated and approved work plans aimed at the development of PLWH organizations and strengthening community capacity of the country, as well as the development and strengthening of national networks of PLWH in countries of the Union.



Based on the monthly updates of information from the FPs the Information Newsletter "In the Focus - PLWH" is published; it collects the most interesting and important news in the field of HIV/AIDS in ECUO countries. Newsletter is distributed via e-mail newsletter and is also available on the website of the Union: http://www.ecuo.org/library/ecuo_publications/news:digest.

In addition, through our communication we support each other, stimulate action, helping to believe even when it seems that everything is hopeless, share experiences and enjoy each other's achievements!

Since 2007 a Web site of the Union www.ecuo.org, successfully operates; it is a reliable informational resource for more than 4000 visitors per month. It represents a unique database of epidemiological and statistical data on HIV/AIDS from 14 countries of the Union, news of the Member States of the Union, information on conferences and news on HIV/AIDS.



In 2007-2009 ECUO with partners (EATG, EHRN, ITPC-ru, the All-Russian Union of PLWH) conducted a research on "Access to antiretroviral therapy in 7 countries of the CIS." This is the first attempt of civil society in the region to gather data and assess the impact of existing systems for planning, funding and procurement of drugs for HIV treatment on access to ARV treatment in 7 countries in the EECA region. Final results of the research can be found on our website: <http://www.ecuo.org/library/publication/news:TM>

"ECUO is an inspiring resource for our organization, thanks to which we are proud of the victories of PLWH organizations in the region of EECA and perceive them as our own. The Union allows organizations from 14 countries to exchange information on HIV/AIDS, as well as to share its unique successful experience in overcoming the epidemic. ECUO is an international organization that represents the interests of HIV-positive community of EECA region".
NGO «Real World, Real People»,
Armenia



3. Ensuring meaningful involvement of PLWH community representatives in the planning, implementation and evaluation of programs to combat HIV/AIDS epidemic at national, regional and international levels.

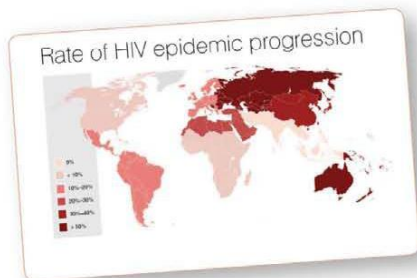


• *ECUO has been recognized as influential and credible regional advocacy organization over its active years of work. ECUO and ECUO member-states are invited to participate in all the key forums of regional and international levels, which creates a solid base for advocacy campaigns to protect the rights of PLWH:*

As a result of successful participation in conferences in Moscow (EECAAC 2009) and Mexico City (AIDS 2008), ECUO was selected as a regional partner of the 18th International AIDS Conference in Vienna in 2010 (AIDS 2010), and we were responsible for official outreach of the conference in EECA. We created the conditions for effective involvement of civil society in preparation for and participation in AIDS 2010, established links with international and national media. The representative of ECUO was a member of the Conference Coordination Committee of the AIDS 2010 Conference.

Thanks to the regional campaign "EECA PLWH: We are dying less, but we are dying faster", held by ECUO in cooperation with ITPC-ru in the frames of AIDS 2010, supported by Oxfam Novib, the message of EECA PLWH was heard. Michel Sidibe, Executive Director of UNAIDS, said at a news conference that the fight against the epidemic in EECA will be a priority for him, and acknowledged that the region was paid insufficient attention: "... in 2009 Eastern Europe and Central Asia have become the only region where there is no reduction in the rate of HIV and prevalence of HIV/AIDS is increasing...".

<http://ecuo.org/conference/conference:AIDS2010>



"ECUO approached us in one of the hottest periods ... To say that we had a lot of work wouldn't say anything, and everything had to be done yesterday... "But they do a lot with nothing, when there are only obstacles," - we thought, "and if we do not help, then most likely they couldn't go anywhere else and hence may remain unheard in this conference, and for many many people the chance to lead a normal life will be lost". And so we worked on it at night and at dinner, we did the work for each other, but as a result we are proud of what we have done and are very happy it has benefited others. And we have a deep respect for all enthusiasts from ECUO who not only did not throw up their hands, having this terrible diagnosis themselves, but also find the strength to help others."

Anna SHEVCHENKO
Director of Business Development and Strategic Planning
SAATCHI & SAATCHI

On joint regional campaign of EECA PLWH: "We are dying less, but we are dying faster" at AIDS 2010:

"The region has been much more visible than at the previous international conferences, has attracted attention, and in many activities had been the master of the situation. I liked that there were many people from EECA, the region was united, all were together. I think we managed to convey our messages. All speeches of the activists from EECA carried in themselves the same message, the unity and cohesion were felt."

Anastasia SOLOVIEVA,
ITPC-ru

• *ECUO with partners actively participates in development of international initiatives and creates conditions for their implementation at national level:*

ECUO with partners ITPC and EHRN participated actively in the development of a community systems strengthening framework (CSS), which became part of the Guidelines for the preparation of funding applications – Round 10 of the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GF). As a result of our participation, the CSS framework document accounts for regional specific of EECA, including the needs of organizations of people living with HIV and vulnerable groups in our countries.



ECUO with EHRN and CSAT, supported by GTZ held a working meeting "Community Systems Strengthening: What does it mean for us?" for 27 representatives of organizations of people living with HIV, drug users and harm reduction from 9 countries of EECA, in which the CSS framework was presented and action plans for component of the CSS were developed for each country. Follow-up technical support in the adaptation of the CSS component, and its inclusion in the country application, provided by ECUO to participants of the meeting further promoted the initiative. As a result, the Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCM) in 9 countries included the CSS component in applications for Round 10 of the GF.



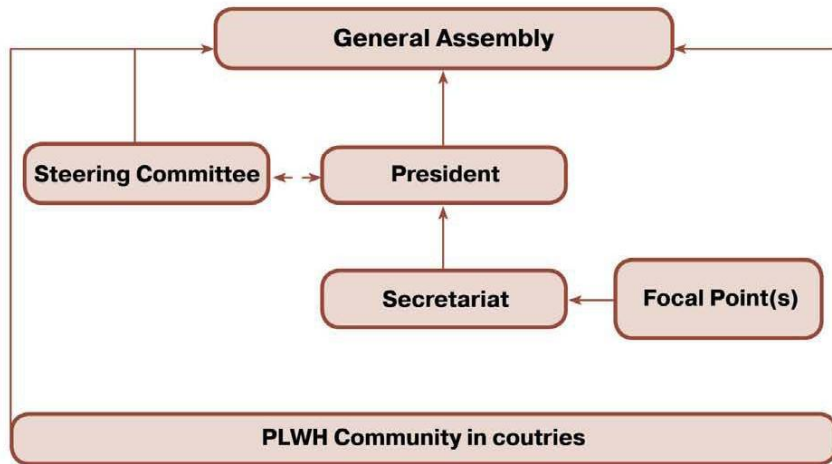
"Without a doubt, the involvement of PLWH at all levels is very important, both with the focus on treatment and on prevention, therefore ECUO for us is an important partner for whose support we can always count on. The Union has the support in countries throughout the region, their voices are heard, both at regional and international levels. ECUO is open to new initiatives and implements them with inspiration".

Shona SHONNING,
Program Director of the Eurasian Harm Reduction Network

• *To date, in all member of ECUO representatives of PLWH are included in the key committees (councils, forums, working groups and committees on HIV/AIDS) and are actively involved in combating the epidemic at national level.*

HOW WE WORK

We owe our achievements also to the structure of ECUO management, which gives the opportunity to engage all members of the community from each country to the activities of the Union.



ECUO organizational structure of the management

1. LEGISLATIVE BODY

ECUO General Assembly (GA) – the highest legislative body of the Union. GA determines the strategy of the Union and makes strategic decisions. GA includes one representative from each ECUO member-state delegated by the community of his/her country.

2. SUPERVISORY BODY

Steering Committee (SC) – oversees the work of the President and the Secretariat for implementation of the overall strategy of the Union, approved by the GA. SC assesses the work of the President and the Secretariat presenting the results to the GA. Membership of the SC is updated once every half a year and is accountable to the GA.

3. EXECUTIVE BODIES

President – responsible for overall management of the implementation of the Union's strategy, approved by the GA. The President makes decisions within the approved strategy, according to the goals and objectives of ECUO. The President is accountable to the GA and the SC.

Secretariat – under the strict supervision of the President ensures the implementation of decisions of the GA. The Secretariat is accountable to the President. The Secretariat is located in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Focal Points (FP) – appointed by the members of the ECUO GA in each ECUO member-state, in coordination with the Secretariat. FPs are responsible for collecting, structuring and distribution of strategic information on HIV/AIDS and provides liaison between the community of his/her country, the ECUO member-states and the Secretariat. FPs are accountable to the GA member of his/her country and the Secretariat.

OUR SPECIALS

We also have initiatives in our work areas, which constitute our common creative drive and it's something we are proud of.

Award of appreciation "Thank you!"



In 2008, at a meeting of ECUO members, the idea of a new event – the annual award of recognition, "Thank you" was born. In 2008 and 2009, an award of recognition "Thank you" was received by 38 activists, doctors and politicians for their help, support and participation in improving the quality of life for PLWH in the EECA countries.

The project "Positive Art"



In the spring of 2009 ECUO with WAC thanks to support of AIDS Fonds conducted a regional campaign to reduce stigma and discrimination towards people living with HIV in 14 countries. More than 1 million people have learned about issues related to stigma and discrimination against PLWH in EECA through a joint appeal by HIV+ people and celebrities from 6 countries. Joint musical album "Positive Art" recorded by HIV-positive people and well-known performers is another opportunity for HIV-positive people to say, cry and even sing about what we love, feel and experience, as all people who live in this world.

The social video "Love and understanding"



In the frames of the regional campaign to reduce stigma and discrimination towards PLWH the first professional social video of ECUO was created. Guests from different countries (from Estonia to Uzbekistan), of different ages (from 5 and up to 50), but with one common goal – to make a contribution to building a tolerant attitude towards HIV-positive people came to the capital of Ukraine. Filming at Kiev Dovzhenko movie studios took long, but such interesting 16 hours! The performers of the "Positive Art" project and volunteers participated in the video.

http://ecuo.org/living_with_hiv/PositiveArt/news:2009-05-07

Children are the happiness and joy, sincerity and understanding, the most important and valuable thing we have in our lives. Each child, as any human in the world, has his successes and his difficulties, his ups and downs. Most of these are "childish", easy to solve difficulties that often cause grown ups smile. And at the same time, more than 10 000 children in EECA are faced with very adult question – life with HIV. It's very difficult for them to find answers to the questions: why do I take pills every day, why I often go to the doctor, and I do injections, why I can not tell anyone about the tablets I take.... Then, when children learn about their HIV-positive status, there are other questions: shall I have children and how long shall I live, what shall I say to my friends?



In 2010 thanks to support of UNICEF, ECUO organized the first regional meeting of activists, parents and guardians of HIV-positive children from 9 countries of the region. Many parents for the first time talked openly about the difficulties they faced. Together, we sought answers to existing questions, shared experience, supported each other, empathized.... We discussed the problems and their solutions. As a result of this meeting a regional group of parents, activists who are ready to defend the rights and represent the interests of HIV-positive children was formed.



Children

Our

For us, it is important that our children feel safe, regardless of their HIV status. That is why, in the ECUO strategic plan children and adolescents have a separate place and special privileges.



Most parents of HIV-positive children do not know how to answer these questions, what to do best and where to go in this situation. In our countries there are support programs for families affected by the epidemic, but not enough and usually they are limited to the development of adherence to ART. And programs for HIV-positive adolescents who need a different approach and peer-to-peer support do not exist at all.



WHO HELPS US

In many respects we own our success to continued support and faith in us to many organizations and individuals. We don't want to call them our colleagues or partners... they are our friends.



Our friend and partner proved by time. Due to sustainable core-funding of UNAIDS, the ECUO Secretariat works as a professional team and managed to attract funding for implementation of strategic goals and objectives of the Union, three times larger than the contribution of UNAIDS.



Our reliable partner, who as early as 2007 believed in a young organization of ECUO. Today, thanks to the support of Oxfam Novib, we have an established system of communication, and in each country of ECUO a Focal Point works.

Oxfam Novib also supports many of our initiatives: the experience exchange study tours (Oxfam Novib, KIC), a long-term education at the Kyiv-Mohyla Business School and in the international audit firm (Oxfam Novib, SAN!); and our regional PLWH campaign at AIDS 2010 became a reality with the support of Oxfam Novib.



AIDS 2010 Secretariat not only offered us to be a regional partner of AIDS 2010, but also to be responsible for the official outreach of the conference in EECA countries. This was a very interesting and new experience which helped to make the 2010 International AIDS Conference unique for participants from our countries.



Jointly with WAC and thanks to support from AIDS Fonds an amazingly creative regional campaign was conducted. Within its frames we were forming tolerant attitude towards PLWH as well as found many talents in our ranks.



Supported us in establishment of the first and unique regional group of parents and guardians of HIV-positive children from EECA. This initiative turned out to be very timely. And after establishing the priority activities, parents are actively working, chatting, mailing within children@ecuo.org mailing list, which is both support and inspiration for parents.



Supported training for work with media and study of the successful experience of the All-Ukrainian Network of PLWH. Practical skills developed during the meeting, supplemented by theoretical information have their results. We are much more confident and professional when dealing with the media, this was particularly noticeable at AIDS 2010, where our guys were giving interviews several times a day.



Our new partner, cooperation with whom was the impetus for entering the next level of ECUO. Strategic Session of ECUO, held in June 2010, has allowed us to peek into the future and plan it strategically.



Our long-term partners and friends, without whom many of the initiatives would have remained only ideas and plans – ITPC-ru, EHRN, EATG.



Together, we have implemented:

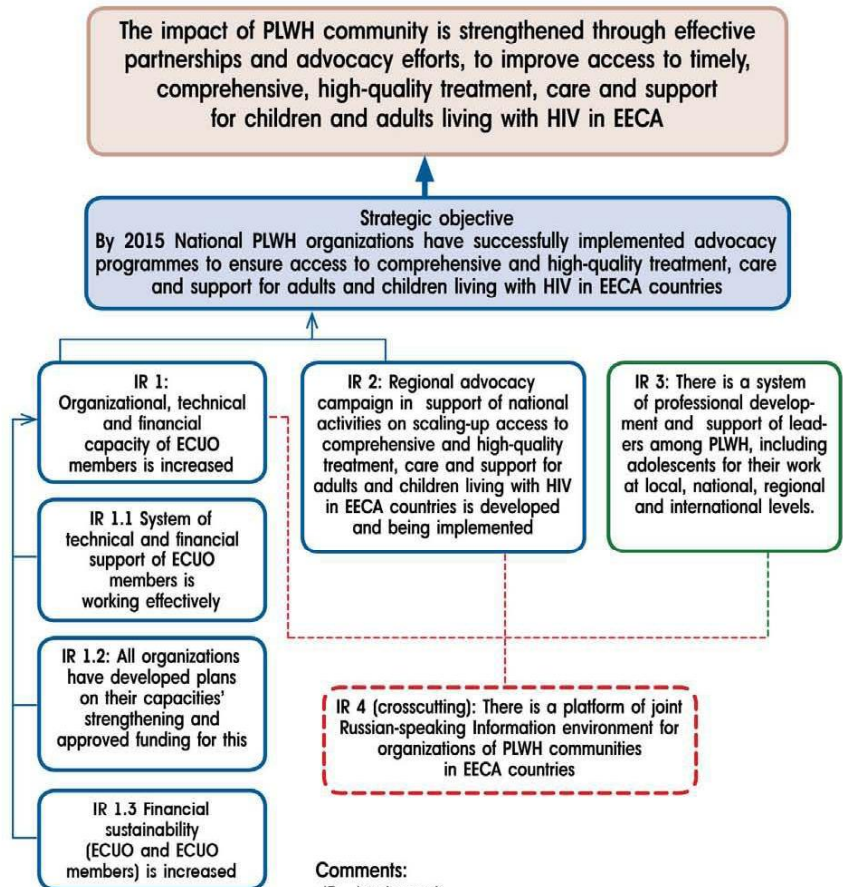


1. The initiative "Access to antiretroviral therapy in 7 CIS countries" (with ITPC-ru, EHRN and EATG)
2. "Community System Strengthening" – a component of the Round 10 GF application (along with EHRN and CSAT)
3. Regional campaign at AIDS 2010: "EECA PLWH: We are dying less, but we are dying faster..." (together with ITPC-ru)

Using this opportunity we would like to thank again all those who believe in us and support our ideas and initiatives! Without you ECUO would not be what we are today!

OUR PLANS

ECUO strategic planning helped to shape a clear vision of our work over the next 10 years, to define a common goal that is shared and supported by all members of the Union. The stated strategic goal now helps focus our efforts on advocating for access to comprehensive and high-quality treatment, care and support for adults and children living with HIV in EECA. Interim results — our tool for achieving strategic objective, and through it — our goal!



Comments:

- IR – interim result.
- Blue rectangles – demonstrate strategic priorities.
- Green rectangle – demonstrates an interim result that is important for achieving the final goal but it doesn't have any direct contribution (is not a priority) to achieving the strategic objective.
- Red rectangle (dotted line) – demonstrates a crosscutting interim result that contributes to achieving all interim results.

ECUO MEMBERS

ECUO is a Union of organizations of people living with HIV/AIDS from 14 countries of the EECA region. We are all very different, each organization has its own history and its own unique experience. Some organizations include just several people, while others – several hundreds, but the work activity itself of each organization makes us a strong regional Union that works to improve PLWH life quality in our countries.



Armenia
Real World, Real People

Contacts:
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Website: <http://realwrp.net>
E-mail: info@realwrp.net
Head of organization: Hovhannes Madoyan
Member of the General Assembly of ECUO: Eleena Azaryan
ECUO Focal Point: Kristine Movsisyan

Number of members of the organization – 35
(16 men and 19 women)
Number of clients – 200
(85 men, 104 women, 11 children)



Belarus
Belarusian PLWH Community

Contacts:
Phone.: +375 17 266 02 30, 266 88 80
Website: <http://hiv.by>
E-mail: info@hiv.by
Chair of Union: Vyacheslav Samarina
Member of the General Assembly of ECUO: Yevgeniy Spevak
ECUO Focal Point: Lena Grigorieva

Number of members of the organization – 346
(190 men and 156 women)
Number of clients – 3000
(1500 men, 1200 women, 300 children)



Azerbaijan
Public Organization Against AIDS

Contacts:
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E-mail: aidsngo@mail.ru
Head of organization: Nofal Sharifov
Member of the General Assembly of ECUO: Nofal Sharifov
ECUO Focal Point: Ehtiram Pashayev

Number of members of the organization – 199
(150 men and 49 women)
Number of clients – 180
(142 men, 34 women, 4 children)



Kazakhstan
Kazakhstan Union of PLWH

Contacts: Almaty, Auezova Str., 145B, office 303
Phone: +78 727 3291474
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E-mail: kazsouz@mail.ru
President: Nurali Amanzholov
Member of the General Assembly of ECUO: Zoya Ruzhnikova
ECUO Focal Point: Lyudmila Amanzholova

Number of members of the organization – 150
(42 men and 108 women)
Number of clients – 2138
(1248 men, 679 women, 211 children)





Kyrgyzstan
Terra Sana

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Chair: Lilia Maltseva
Member of the General Assembly of ECUO:
Lilia Maltseva
ECUO Focal Point: Yeugenia Kalinichenko

Number of members of the organization – 5
(2 men and 3 women)
Number of clients – 211
(101 men, 90 women, 20 children)



Latvia
AGIHAS (PLWHA Support Group)

Contacts:
Phone: +371 2630 2471, + 371 2916 3913
Website: <http://www.ltn.lv/~agihass/>,
<http://apvienibahiv.lv/>
E-mail: agihass@latnet.lv; agihass@apollo.lv
Chair: Ivars Kokars
Member of the General Assembly of ECUO:
Sandris Klavins
ECUO Focal Point: Ivars Kokars

Number of members of the organization – 27
(23 men and 4 women)
Number of clients – 250 (175 men, 75 women)



Moldova
League of people living with HIV
from Republic of Moldova

Contacts:
Phone: +373 22 548838;
Fax: +373 22 92 99 07
Website: www.aidsmd.narod.ro
E-mail: plwma_md@yahoo.com
Chair: Igor Kilchevskiy
Member of the General Assembly of ECUO:
Igor Kilchevskiy
ECUO Focal Point: Lyudmila Untura
Number of members of the organization – 47
(22 men and 25 women)
Number of clients – 2093
(664 men, 821 women, 608 children)



Mongolia
Positive life

Contacts:
Phone/fax: +976 99 69 49 46;
Website: n/a
E-mail: pugee74@yahoo.com, purevjav@poz.mn
Chair: Purevjav Tserendendev
Member of the General Assembly of ECUO:
Purevjav Tserendendev
ECUO Focal Point: Purevjav Tserendendev

Number of members of the organization – 22



Poland
Polish National Network of PLWHA
"SIEC PLUS"

Contacts:
Phone: +48 22 854 03 12
Fax: + 48 22 854 03 10
Website: n/a
E-mail: netplus@netplus.org.pl
Chair: Wojciech Tomczynski
Member of the General Assembly of ECUO:
Wojciech Tomczynski
ECUO Focal Point: Wojciech Tomczynski

Number of members of the organization – 272
(189 men and 83 women)
Number of clients – 1159
(783 men, 371 women, 5 children)



Russia
All-Russian Network of People Living
with HIV

Contacts:
Phone: +7 (495)775-46-56
Fax: +7 (495)775-46-56
Website: <http://hivrus.ru/>
e-mail: e_d@hivrus.ru
Chair: Vladimir Mayanovskiy
Member of the General Assembly of ECUO:
Vladimir Mayanovskiy
ECUO Focal Point: Yelena Tokaryuk

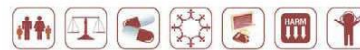
Number of members of the organization – 638
(253 men and 385 women)
Number of clients – 10768
(6116 men, 4652 women)



Tajikistan
Guli Surkh

Contacts:
Phone/fax: +99 237 221 48 52
Website: n/a
E-mail: aidstj@mail.ru
Chair: Sevara Kamilova
Member of the General Assembly of ECUO:
Sevara Kamilova
ECUO Focal Point: Djonona Mansurova

Number of members of the organization – 31
(7 men and 24 women)
Number of clients – 770
(400 men, 300 women, 70 children)



Uzbekistan
Initiative group of PLWH and
their relatives of Fergana region
"Hayot" (Life+)
NGO "Association of PLWH and
relatives" is preparing for registration.

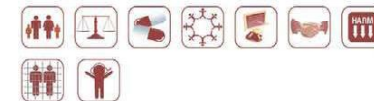
Contacts:
Uzbekistan, Fergana region, Fergana, Yoshlar Str., 14
Phone: +99 837 323 501 25
Website: n/a
E-mail: anya_teryoshkina@mail.ru
Chair of Initiative Group: Anna Tereshkina
Member of the General Assembly of ECUO:
Anna Tereshkina
ECUO Focal Point: Kamila Fatykhova



Ukraine
All Ukrainian Network of PLWH

Contacts:
Phone: +38 044 467-75-67, +38 044 467-75-69, +38
044 467-75-84
Fax: +38 044 467-75-66
Website: www.network.org.ua
E-mail: office@network.org.ua
Chair of Coordination Council: Vladimir Zhovtyak
ECUO President: Vladimir Zhovtyak
ECUO Focal Point: Ivan Ilyin

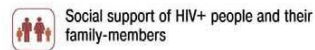
Number of members of the organization – 498
(211 men and 287 women)
Number of clients – 37952
(17562 men, 15624 women, 4766 children)



Estonia
Estonian Network PLWH

Contacts:
Phone: +372 565 06 316
Website: www.ehpv.ee
E-mail: ehpv@ehpv.ee
Head of organization: Igor Sobolev
Member of the General Assembly of ECUO:
Igor Sobolev
ECUO Focal Point: Latsin Alijev

Number of members of the organization – 84
(47 men and 37 women)
Number of clients – 2503
(1330 men, 1160 women, 13 children)



Social support of HIV+ people and their family-members



Legal advice



Forming of adherence to ARV-treatment



Establishment and development of PLWH initiative groups



Conducting of educational events for NGOs and PLWH



Reduction of stigma and discrimination towards PLWH and community representatives, most vulnerable to HIV



Advocacy



Work in prisons



Harm reduction



Help to migrants



Work with children and adolescents affected by HIV

ECUO Secretariat

Contacts:
Phone: +380444677565
Fax: +380444677593
Website: www.ecuo.org
E-mail: secretariat@ecuo.org



Every person in the ranks of ECUO is an extraordinary character and has unique story. Thanks to these stories, life and professional experience our organization is unique. We can endlessly talk about our colleagues and friends, about their successes and achievements. Many are familiar with Pulod as a head of Public Organization "SPIN Plus", which in 2010 won the Red Ribbon Award in the category "Support of programs for the prevention, treatment and care of HIV for drug users". We would like to offer to spend one day with Pulod and get to know him as our inspirational resource from Tajikistan!



something that has to be done... I love to drive aimlessly around the city, looking at my city and people; I love when I can do what I want... I love to make jokes and good mood. That's how I live!

Thank you!

As always, after talking to Pulod I keep smiling to everyone around ... The phenomenon of Pulod is in the energy, which is immediately transformed into a smile on companion's face. An amazing person with a great sense of humor :-)

Proud of, appreciate and love!

This interview was conducted by the ECUO Secretariat team

describing to you is my usual day. With the business trips every day is totally different, different from the previous one and does not look like the following.

And how do you spend evenings?

After work, on the way home, I stop by the store for provisions. I call my wife, ask what needs to be bought. Separately, I call my son – his request is simple: a toy egg with a toy inside – note this is not Kinder Surprise chocolate but a different variety of toys. It is important to accurately understand the difference to clearly fulfill the son's order. *(And again, without a hint of humor. I smile throughout the conversation. It's impossible to stay different around Pulod).*

After shopping I come home. And then... she crawls out... my six-month daughter. At this moment my world stands still... The most magical moments of my day is this time spent with my family. I talk to my daughter (in a very special way, in her language) she crawls around me and on me, we play together. I spend time with my son, he is really remarkable. I love these evenings.

I almost forgot, of course, there is that very moment that you were so worried about: I finally have dinner! Although, it's more like supper. In general, at this time food is on schedule. Then I can check e-mail once again and go to sleep.

What else do you love? How do you spend your free time?

I love to swim! But, as you saw, we have nowhere to swim! *(Recently we held a meeting in Dushanbe, so we can certify – there is no place to swim!)*

I also love to read – it's better with books here than with water *(again very seriously, this is not a joke)*. Of the last books read – "The Diary of a Magus" by Paulo Coelho (still in the process).

And I also love doing what I love doing, and not



One day from Pulod's life (Tajikistan)

My work day usually starts very early, I wake up at six or six-thirty. To get the charge of positive energy for the whole day I start my morning with some exercises and then make myself ... no, not coffee or tea... cocoa. *(Pulod says that with very serious face, no trace of humor or irony. I can't keep from smiling :-))*

Not to take my therapy on an empty stomach I take a spoon of honey. If I don't have anything urgent in the morning I enjoy making a breakfast for my children.

We know that you had a daughter born last year and have a son. Will you tell us about them?

My children is a different story, I indeed have two: a boy and a girl. My son is 5, and is a real man! In the morning, if time permits, at breakfast, we chat with him – the usual man talk: about life, plans for the day ...well, yes, sometimes about women *(again without a hint of humor)*.

My daughter is not even a year old yet so we don't have serious conversations with her, just spend time together. And when this happens, the world ceases to exist for me. *(I look at Pulod and see how his face changes and it becomes lighter around).* After completing all the household chores, I'm going to work.

I know that you work in several places: in the office, drop-in center. How do you find time for everything?

Every morning the first thing I do is going to the drop-in center, to find out if everything is fine there, what the guys need to do the work, what kind of help they need from me. In the drop-in center I try to spend as much time as possible. This is a very important part of my job. Sometimes I consult clients, sometimes just talk to guys.

After this I'm going to the office, check e-mail, write messages, prepare reports ... I do not like this part of the work, but, unfortunately, I can not avoid it... That's how I usually spend the rest of the day.

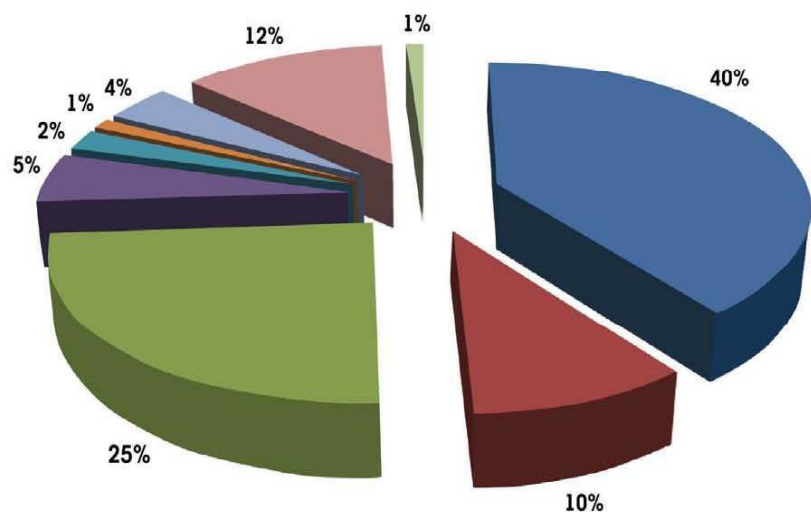
So you don't get to have lunch? I mean, you haven't had breakfast yet...

As a rule, I don't get lunch... I can't really have one during the day, just forget about it, solving everyday issues.

Yes, regular meals happen only during business trips. Speaking of trips, I think you have a lot of that in your life.

Yes, recently I get to travel a lot. Strictly speaking, therefore, it is difficult to say that the day I'm

Organizations that financed ECUO work during the period of October 1, 2007 till June 30, 2010.



- Oxfam Novib (including KIC)
- Oxfam Novib, SANI
- UNAIDS
- AIDS Fonds
- UNICEF

- EJAF
- CSAT+GTZ
- AIDS 2010 Secretariat
- IRF

Statement of financial position

exchange rate as of 30.06.2008 r. 762,7805 UAH = 100,00 EUR

exchange rate as of 30.06.2009 r. 1075,5671 UAH = 100,00 EUR

	as of June 30, 2008		as of June 30, 2009	
	in thousand UAH	in thousand EUR	in thousand UAH	in thousand EUR
ASSETS				
Current assets				
Cash assets in local currency	123.4	16.2	100.6	9.3
Cash assets in foreign currency	692.6	90.8	1117.2	103.9
Accounts receivable	9.8	1.3	45.0	4.2
Inventory balance	1.0	0.1	37.1	3.4
Total current assets	826.8	108.4	1299.9	120.8
Intangible assets				
Fixed assets, net	31.3	4.1	37.6	3.5
Intangible assets, net	11.8	1.5	150.2	14.0
Total fixed assets	43.1	5.6	187.8	17.5
TOTAL ASSETS	869.9	114.0	1487.7	138.3
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities				
Other payables and accrued liabilities	-	-	6.9	0.6
Total current liabilities	-	-	6.9	0.6
Deferrals: target funds	816.0	107.0	1217.8	113.2
Accrued expenses	53.9	7.0	263.0	24.5
TOTAL LIABILITIES	869.9	114.0	1487.7	138.3

Statement of financial position

exchange rate as of 30.06.2009 r. 1075,5671 UAH = 100,00 EUR

exchange rate as of 30.06.2010 r. 964.4959 UAH=100,00 EUR

	as of June 30, 2009		as of June 30, 2010	
	in thousand UAH	in thousand EUR	in thousand UAH	in thousand EUR
ASSETS				
Current assets				
Cash assets in local currency	100.6	9.3	391.5	40.6
Cash assets in foreign currency	1117.2	103.9	1290.0	133.7
Accounts receivable	45.0	4.2	154.6	16.0
Inventory balance	37.1	3.4	23.2	2.4
Other accounts receivable (national taxes)	-	-	29.1	3.0
Total current assets	1299.9	120.8	1888.4	195.7
Intangible assets				
Fixed assets, net	37.6	3.5	47.3	4.9
Intangible assets, net	150.2	14.0	112.1	11.6
Total fixed assets	187.8	17.5	159.4	16.5
TOTAL ASSETS	1487.7	138.3	2047.8	212.2
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities				
Other payables and accrued liabilities	6.9	0.6	-	-
Total current liabilities	6.9	0.6	-	-
Deferrals: target funds	1217.8	113.2	1681.6	174.3
Accrued expenses	263.0	24.5	366.2	37.9
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1487.7	138.3	2047.8	212.2

AUDIT RESULTS

Audit of the organization covers the period of October 2008 – September 2009 (the reporting period of the project implemented with the support of Oxfam Novib in the frames of which the audit was conducted). The results of the audit of the next reporting period will be available in the end of 2010 and will be provided in the next ECUO annual report.



ГЛАВБУХ АУДИТОРСКА ФІРМА

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Partner of RSM International

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Office 8, 18-b Krasnotkatskaya Str, 02094, Kiev, Ukraine
e-mail: glavbuh@i.kiev.ua
www.glavbuh-audit.com
Phone/Fax: +38 (044) 451-44-91
+38 (044) 558-74-66
+38 (044) 296-12-22

December, 17, 2009 outgoing no.69 Kiev

**The auditors' report to members of International Charitable Organization
"East Europe and Central Asia Union of People Living with HIV"**

We performed the audit check of International Charitable Organization "East Europe and Central Asia Union of People Living with HIV" (hereinafter - "Organization") balance, correspondent reports of financial results and cash flows for the period: from October 01, 2008 till September 30, 2009. We also provide the description of account policy essential aspects and comments.

We performed audit according to the International Audit Standards. According to the Standards, we need to plan and perform audit in a manner to get sure enough that financial accounting doesn't include considerable mistakes.

Audit consists in random check of documents confirming amounts of the accounting operations and their reflection in financial reporting. Audit includes estimation of accounting principles used, considerable observations made by management as well as general form of rendering financial reporting.

Management of Organization is responsible for the Organization financial activity. Our responsibility is to represent conclusions on financial reporting based on the audit performed. We consider our audit to be complete enough to have our conclusion based on it.

To our opinion, Organization financial reporting encloses information about Organization financial conditions as per September 30, 2009, and its activity results together with year cash flows for the period from October 01, 2008 till September 30, 2009 that ended by this date according to the International Accounting Standards.

V.G.Nosov
Director



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Ліцензія ЛК АПУ 2266
від 13 березня 2000 року
Свідоцтво АПУ №2266

ACRONYMS

AIDS – acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
ART – antiretroviral therapy
ARV treatment – antiretroviral treatment
CA – Central Asia
CAR – Central Asia Republics
CSAT – Civil Society Action Team
CSS – Community System Strengthening
EATG – European AIDS Treatment Group
ECUO – East Europe and Central Asia Union of people living with HIV
EE – Eastern Europe
EECA – Eastern Europe and Central Asia
EECAAC – East Europe and Central Asia AIDS Conference
EHRN – Eurasian Harm Reduction Network
EJAF – the Elton John AIDS Foundation
FP – Focal point
GIPPA – Greater Involvement and Participation of people living with HIV/AIDS
GF – Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
GTZ – German Society for Technical Cooperation
HIV – human immunodeficiency virus
IAS – International AIDS Society
ICO – International charitable organization
ITPC – International Treatment Preparedness Coalition
ITPC-ru – International Treatment Preparedness Coalition in Eastern Europe and Central Asia
NGO – non-governmental organization
PLWH/PLHIV – people living with HIV
SAN! – Stop AIDS Now!
UNAIDS – the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNICEF – the United Nations Children's Fund
WAC – World AIDS Campaign

This report was prepared with the support of Oxfam Novib, SAN!
Circulation: 1000 copies
Not for sale



Community of people living with HIV is a catalyst of necessary changes to the system of public health