



«HIV React Project»

PROGRAM REPORT

Organization	AFEW-Tajikistan	Country	Tajikistan
Reporting period	April– June, 2015		
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Highlighted Accomplishments

#	Objective and Indicator	Plan	Q1 Jun- Aug, 2014	Q2 Sep- Dec,20 14	Q3 Jan- Mar,2015	Q4 Apr- Jun,2 015	Fact (cumulati ve) Jun,2014- June,2015
1.	Reduced HIV transmission in former prisoners						
	<i>1-b. The Project strategy is approved on the national level</i>	1	1	-	-	-	1(100%)
2.	Reduced risky behavior practiced by former prisoners						

2-a. % of transitional prisoners reporting use of safe sex practices		-	-	-	7 ¹ (100%)	-	7 (100%)
2-b. % of transitional prisoners reporting use of safe drug use practices		-	-	-	3 (f) (42%)	-	3 (f) or 42%
3.	Strengthened prison-based HIV prevention, treatment, and care services for PWID, PLWH						
3-a. % of transitional prisoners reporting that prison-based HIV services had improved due to HIV REACT activities in the facility		>75%	-	-	7 ² (100%)	-	7 (100%)
4.	Improved knowledge, attitude, and behavior of prison staff, general prisoners and transitional prisoners toward HIV and PLWH						
4-a. % of prison staff of HIV services passing the post-training exam		120		120	-	-	120 (100%)
4-b. # of prisoners trained in HIV and HR		820	40 20m/20f	160 80m/80f	80 40m/40f	180 80m/100f	460(56%) 220m/240f
4-c % of transitional prisoners who are able to correctly identify HIV transmission routes and deny major myths about HIV transmission		>75%	-	78,1%- 4 people	100%-7 ³ people	-	11(91,6%)
5.	High-quality transitional services established for PLWH and PWID						
5-a. % of transitional prisoners reporting satisfaction with the services provided by the project at prison facility		>76%	-	-	57% ⁴ (4 of 7 people)	-	4 (57%)
5-b. # of transitional prisoners reached by transitional client management services		20	-	5 1m/4f	7 (5f/2m)	-	12(60%) 3m/9f

¹ Results of post-evaluation testing of “use of safe sex practices”

² Results of evaluation of prison-based HIV services in the facility

³ Results of post-evaluation testing on “The ways of HIV transmission”

⁴ Results of evaluation on “Case management service provision”

5-c. # of transitional prisoners referred and tested for TB in the last 12 months		15	-	2	7	-	9 (60%)
5-d. % of transitional prisoners referred and tested for HIV in the last 12 months		75%	-	41,6% (5 people)	58,4% (7 of 12 people)	-	100 % (12 of 12 people)
5-e. # of transitional prisoners who received psycho-social counseling		20	-	5	7	-	12 (100%)
6.	Evidence-based and Human Rights-based HIV prevention, treatment and care services provided outside of prison facilities to transitional prisoners						
6-a. # trainings and mini-sessions conducted for providers of HIV services to transitional prisoners		12	-	8	4	1	13 (108%)
6-b. # of specialists trained in evidence-based and Human Rights-based service provision		200	-	166	40	10	216 (108%)
7.	Strengthen evidence-based advocacy, policies, and strategic planning related to country ownership and expansion of HIV programs in prisons and coordination between narcology and AIDS centers						
7-a. % of recommendations made by the HIV REACT-established (Technical Working Group) TWG that have been successfully implemented		>70%		100% (2 of 2)	-	100% (5 of 5 decisions)	100% (7 of 7 decisions made)

Activities Description

№	Name	Date	Place	Outputs / Outcomes	Project Plan	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Fact (cumulative)
1.	1200, 2200 Conduct three-day field	April 21-28, 2015	Qurghontep pa, Norak,	recommendation received,	3 visits	-	1 visit	-	1 visit	2 visits

	monitoring visits to project sites.		Yovon and Khudjand	implementation of recommendation is going on						
2.	3100 Delivering START Plus services for beneficiaries (Mini-trainings)	April-June, 2015	Yovon Norak	180 prisoners received new knowledge on HIV prevention attending 9 mini-trainings in the prisons	820	40 (20 m/20 f)	160 (80 m/80)	80(40 m/40 f)	180(80 m/100 f)	460 (220m/240 f) or 56%
3.	3100 Delivering START Plus services for beneficiaries (Client management)	April-June, 2015	Yovon Norak	0 clients in START Plus Program. 0 prisoners were released from pilot colonies.	20	-	5	7	-	12 or 60%
4.	4700 Conduct national seminar-training for narcologists	June 16 –July 17, 2015	Dushanbe	10 narcologists attend in follow-up schooling course “HIV and opportunistic infections”	20				10	50%
5.	5100 Promote Project local, national and international levels	April-June, 2015	Dushanbe	A set of project’s promo and visibility materials (bags and diaries with project attributes) were produced and	60 items	-	-	100%	100%	100 %

				disseminated						
6.	5200 Promote Project local, national and international levels	April -June, 2015	Dushanbe	540 sets project visibility materials: folders, T- shirts, caps) with project logos were published and disseminated	540 copies	-	-	-	100%	100%
7.	6300 Guidelines for specialists working with prisoners	April -June, 2015	Dushanbe	Working version of Guideline is passed to professional edition. Edited version of Guideline will be passed for consideration with Penitentiary System and review of <i>AFEW</i> - Kazakhstan.	1	-	-	-	1	1

Activities description:

Delivering START Plus services for beneficiaries (Mini-trainings)

- 9 HIV prevention mini trainings among 180 prisoners in colony 3/6 in Yovon and female colony 3/8 in Norak were conducted by the Branch of AFEW-Tajikistan in cooperation with Regional AIDS Center of Khatlon region.
- 31 participants including 7 female prisoners applied for post-training consultations of AIDS center specialist and received HIV testing. 3 detected HIV positive cases were among those prisoner who were registered in civil AIDS Center before their detention.
- Starting from April, 2015, AFEW-Tajikistan Representative Office in Khatlon region began to enter the information on mini-trainings and client management into MIS.
- During visits to colonies six HIV positive prisoners were tested for CD4 by AIDS center specialist. The result of CD4 test of 1 prisoner was low and this person was sent to the central hospital of Penal system.

At the end of report period, 100% or 128 prisoners of colony 3/6 in Yovon covered by project mini-trainings. 60% or 100 from 166 female prisoners in colony 3/8 in Norak were reached by project mini-trainings.

Outcomes:

- HIV/AIDS/STIs and drug-related harm has been reduced
- Improved access to counseling and information, education, and communication activities for prison inmates and prison staff.
- Behavior of the inmates regarding the risk of infections has been changed and improved
- Reduced the risk of transmission of blood-borne infections, including AIDS through shaving and tattoo equipment largely shared among inmates.
- Stigmatization and discrimination of HIV/AIDS positive inmates have been reduced

Delivering START Plus services for beneficiaries (Client management)

- 0 START Plus client was registered in report period. By official data of prisons administrations 0 prisoners will release from two pilot colonies until July 31, 2015 (Official letters №5/22- 312 from May 22, 2015 colony 3/6 Yovon and Letter №2/1-5 from May 04, 2015 from colony 3/8 Norak)

- 4 female clients of START Plus who were involved in Program and reported in Quarter 3 of the Project are successfully accomplished the program in Quarter 4.

Outcomes:

- Redeem prisoners oriented and informed about life out of prisons
- Redeem prisoners knew their status
- Redeem prisoners received benefits through education, medical, legal and social support

Develop 2 IEC materials for pre and post release prisoners.

All participants of HIV prevention mini-trainings are provided by three types of IEC developed and printed within HIV React Project.

The electronic version of IEC materials are also available on AFEW website <http://afew.tj/ru/broshyury> :

- Brochure “TB prevention” http://www.afew.tj/sites/default/files/afew_library/peshgirii-bemorii-sil-tabobatnigokhubin-va-dastgiri.pdf
- Brochure “STI’s” http://afew.tj/sites/default/files/afew_library/ippp_russ.yaz.pdf
- Brochure “HIV” http://afew.tj/sites/default/files/afew_library/vich-infektsiya_russ.yaz.pdf

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Outcomes:

- Wider number of prisoners informed and aware about HIV, STIs and TB prevention methods and ways
- Significant changes in knowledge, attitude and behavior of prisoners

Develop 1 system of exchanging information (web platform and team of experts).

71 answers to 84 questions of site visitors including questions related to HIV and OST provided by Information Points of NGOs “Vita” and “Hayoti nav”. Answers to the unanswered queries will be provided by experts next month through AFEW-Tajikistan web platform www.afew.tj.

Frequently asked questions (FAQs) in webplatform are following:

- The prevention methods of HIV.
- The symptoms of HIV/AIDS.
- HIV and co-infections.
- MAT and drugs treatment

Conduct three-day field monitoring visits to project sites.

- On April 20, 2015, USAID HIV React Project Specialist Mrs. Dilorom Kosimova visited two colonies in Yovon and Norak to familiarize with technology of organization and facilitation of HIV prevention mini-trainings among prisoners within HIV React Project.
- Joint monitoring visit to the project sites was conducted between April 22-23 and April 28, 2015. The monitoring team representing AFEW Tajikistan, specialists of Republican AIDS Center and Medical Department of Penitentiary System visited the colonies in Yovon and Norak, the branch of AFEW-Tajikistan h in Qurghoonteppa city, NGO “Vita” in Dushanbe and NGO “Hayoti nav” in Khudjand. After monitoring the invited specialists provided needful professional consultations to prisons medical staff, NGOs social workers to ensure the project progress. Monitoring report with essential recommendations which were coordinated with Director of Republican AIDS Center and the Deputy of Head of Penitentiary System submitted to AFEW-Tajikistan and its partners. The findings and report on execution of recommendations will be presented and discussed during next Penal TWG meeting.
- The monitoring of activities of Informational points based on NGOs “Vita” (Dushanbe) and “Hayoti nav” (Khudjand) has been conducted by representatives of AFEW-Tajikistan and Republican AIDS Center on April 14 and 23,2015

Conduct national seminar-training for narcologists

The course for 10 narcologists was started on 16th of June. The duration of course is 156 hours which is one month. At course launch, AFEW-Tajikistan introduced participants with the aims and objectives of HIV React Project, the aims and objectives of course, teaching staff and requirements related with participation of courses. Also, AFEW-Tajikistan provides per diems including accommodation for two narcologists from other regions of Tajikistan, developed timesheet of course participants and monitor the process of their education.

Moreover, AFEW-Tajikistan continues the consultations with Penitentiary System of Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Tajikistan on organization of three-months course “Basis of medical treatment of drug abuses, Opioid Substitution Therapy and social rehabilitation of drug depend people” for 10 prisons medical workers and social workers of NGOs. Upon receiving final list of participants AFEW-Tajikistan will sign another agreement with Tajik State Medical Post Diploma Institute. The courses for 10 prison based medical staff are postponed to October 2015.

Outcomes:

- Narcologists are able to use the knowledge gained at the thematic cycle "HIV infection and opportunistic infections" in professional communication with health professionals for prevention of HIV and co-infections
- Theoretical knowledge and practical skills of doctors to provide specialized medical care for HIV and HIV - associated diseases have been improved
- PUDs living with HIV directed to narcological centers received professional and qualitative care and treatment

- Narcologists can identify syndromes HIV infected IDUs, can interpret the results of clinical and laboratory findings of patients with HIV infection, can formulate a diagnosis and can promote HIV prevention work among IDUs /PUDs

All planned project promo materials are produced and published. The distribution plan was developed and promo materials are distributed according approved plan.

The list of promo materials:

№	Visibility products	Number of products	Remark
1.	T-shirt	540	Ready
2.	Caps	540	Ready
3.	Bags	60	Ready
4.	Diary	60	Ready
5.	Shirtfront	60	Ready
6.	Notebook	540	Ready
7.	Folder	540	Ready

Guidelines for specialists working with prisoners

AFEW-Tajikistan continues development of adopted version of “Guideline on organization of START Plus-transitional client management services in the Republic of Tajikistan” for specialists working with prisoners and ex-prisoners. Working version of Guideline is passed to professional edition. Edited version of Guideline will be passed for consideration with Penitentiary System and review of *AFEW*-Kazakhstan.

START plus implementation
Mini-trainings in prisons
Achievements

The main achievement this reporting period is contribution to improvement of the level of awareness of prisoners about ways of HIV transmission and HIV prevention by provided prison based HIV education . Post trainings evaluations shown increasing the percentage of correct answers among prisoners participated in mini-trainings. The average percent of correct answers among 180 prisoners is about 90,5%. Information below provides analyses of the results of pre and post level of knowledge evaluation with numbers of prisoners who are able correctly identify HIV transmission routes and deny major myths about HIV transmission:

Date	Number of participants in colony 3/6	The average pre training evaluation in colony 3/6	The average post training evaluation in colony 3/6
08.04.15	20 prisoners	43,7%,	87,4%.
20.04.15	20 prisoners		
03.06.15	20 prisoners		
16.06.15	20 prisoners		
Date	Number of participants in colony 3/8	The average pre training evaluation in female colony 3/8	The average post training evaluation in female colony 3/8
09.04.15	20 prisoners	61,2%,	93, 6%.
20.04.15	20 prisoners		
03.06.15	20 prisoners		
16.06.15	20 prisoners		
30.06.15	20 prisoners		
Problems		Solutions	
<p><i>The number of targeted prisoners covered by HIV education and testing is 820 people in the first year of project realization. During four quarters of project implementation AFEW Tajikistan covered only 460 prisoners which is 56 %. The reason of low coverage is the small number of prisoners in prisons due to official</i></p>		<p><i>1. In one TWG meetings the participants discussed the level of knowledge and the level of residual knowledge and the ability to apply this knowledge in practice of prisoners. Participants suggested organization of testing of the level of residual knowledge among those who has already participated in mini-trainings and according to the results of testing to conduct refreshing mini-trainings for those whose residual knowledge level is under 75%.</i></p>	

<p><i>national Amnesty for prisoners of RT in November 2014. The number of prisoners in colony 3/6 is 128 people and all of them are already covered by trainings. Therefore on 30th on June the mini-training is conducted only in female colony 3/8 in Norak.</i></p>	<p>2. <i>During joint monitoring visit to prisons with the representatives of Republican AIDS Center and medical department of Penal System the prisoners emphasized that one mini-training for 30-40 minutes is not enough to understand all about HIV/AIDS. Prisoners have many queries remain without answer and wish to have additional trainings to understand the topic. This was also the recommendation made by the representative of Republican AIDS Center</i></p> <p>3. <i>If AFEW Tajikistan will start to organize the additional trainings for prisoners then firstly it ensures the high level of residual knowledge and the ability to apply this knowledge in practice by prisoners and secondly it allows increasing the number of provided trainings and coverage of prisoners.</i></p> <p>Taking into consideration all above mentioned proposals AFEW-Tajikistan decided to organize testing of the level of residual knowledge among those who has already participated in mini-trainings and according to the results of testing to conduct refreshing mini-trainings for those whose residual knowledge level is under 75%.</p>
Transitional case management	
Achievements	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All START Plus clients of quarter 3 are successful accomplished the program and there is 0 client in the quarter 4 (April-June 2015) <p>By official data of prisons administrations 0 prisoners will release from two pilot colonies until July 31, 2015 (Official letters №5/22- 312 from May 22, 2015 colony 3/6 Yovon and Letter №2/1-5 from May 04, 2015 from colony 3/8 Norak)</p>	
Problems	Solutions
<p><i>During the fourth quarter AFEW Tajikistan did not have START Plus client due to the absence of redeem prisoners in the colonies of 3/6 in Yovon and 3/8 in Norak. The official letters are attached to the report.</i></p>	<p><i>To provide client management services to those ex-prisoners directly applied for psychosocial, economic and social support</i></p> <p>Since there are no clients in the program AFEW-Tajikistan decided to include all ex-prisoners into START Plus program. There were some cases when ex-prisoners released from prisons more than 3-6 months raised an interest to the program and wanted to be START Plus clients.</p>

	Now AFEW-Tajikistan will give a chance to this kind of ex-prisoners and include them into the program.
<i>Delay in funding. By the date of report (July 15, 2015) AFEW-Tajikistan did not receive money for June, 2015 though all financial reports are provided in time. This situation may affect on timely fulfillment of Project work plan</i>	<i>To AFEW Kazakhstan to find a way to negotiate with project donor for timely allocation of funds</i>

Analytical Part

Before	Project intervention	After
<i>The vulnerable and affected groups of population did not have free access to information and could not ask anonymous questions and receive professional answers to their questions.</i>	<i>The Informational Points were set up in the sites of project implementation</i>	<i>The set up Information Points in the project sites (based in PO “Vita” and PO “Hayoti nav”) allowed clients of project to ask questions to coordinators and web platform experts and get prompt responses. The clients have not to pay for getting consultation, they can ask questions anonymously and get professional answers from webplatform experts and specialists.</i>
<i>HIV positive and/or TB released prisoners had to pay for medical services due to the lack of knowledge on their rights and benefits based on legal laws and legislations</i>	<i>The degree 600 issued in 2014 by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan was introduced to IP coordinators and allocated (uploaded) into ATEW Tajikistan website - http://www.afew.tj/sites/default/files/zakon/vazorati_tandurustiy_600.pdf</i>	<i>The degree 600 issued in 2014 by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan gives information on free and paid medical services for the citizens of the Republic of Tajikistan. The medical facilities and medical service providers usually charge everyone who wants to get necessary consultations and services. According to the Degree 600 TB patients receiving DOTs, PLWH and unemployed are in the list of people who exempt from charges for diagnostic and treatment. The IP coordinators and social workers inform and introduced released prisoners with the document of Degree 600 and help them to get free consultations, diagnostic and treatment.</i>

Conclusions:

- The mutual coordination contributes to establishing cooperation between the penitentiary system, AIDS and Narcological Centers
The coordination between civil AIDS and Narcological centers and penitentiary system has been improved. Results of project monitoring visits showed the performance of TWG recommendations. Detected HIV and/or TB patients are timely registering in appropriate centers.

- The project introduces institutional approaches in training of local personnel and the provision of practical assistance to prison based health care workers

By using institutional approaches *AFEW* Tajikistan effectively spending USAID funds for developing the capacity of specialists. Instead of short term seminar for narcologists, *AFEW*-Tajikistan is concluded agreement with Tajik Medical Postgraduate Institute to organize one-month course for 10 narcologists. Narcologists who successfully accomplish the course will be provided by official diplomas that help them to apply for increasing the professional category and salary.

Other Problems & Solutions during the reporting period:

- **The turnover of prison medical workers.** There is not a doctor in female colony 3/8 in Norak. The medical services in Norak colony is provided by the nurse. – The specialists from civil AIDS and TB centers participated in monitoring visits and provided necessary consultations to the medical personnel of the colonies. *AFEW* – Tajikistan assisting to penitentiary system and civilian health services to introduce the mechanism of interaction on provision HIV focused services to prisoners living with HIV and co-infections.
- **IP on the base of prison 3/6 in Yovon** – The Information Point opened in January 2015 is not functioning at the moment. Due to prison regulations the prisoners are not allowed to use Internet. It was decided to set up the IP in the administrative part of colony. But this still did not work as the IP coordinator cannot enter to the premises as the prison administration locks the door of the premises. The solution could be to continue negotiation with prison administration on effectiveness of IP for prisoners. *AFEW*-Tajikistan will continue explanation of the aims and objectives of the work of IP, its procedures of collection of prisoners' questions and importance of IPs services on health promotion in prisons settings for secure and reduce the harm for prisoners' health.

Attachment:

1. Photos of Monitoring visits
2. Photos of day to day work with clients
3. Photos of course for narcologists
4. Statement from prisons on redeem prisoners
5. Success stories