

“STRENGTHEN SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT AND SCALE UP PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND CARE TO CONTAIN HIV EPIDEMIC IN THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN”

## PROJECT PROGRESS UPDATE



If your organization is implementing projects under more than one grant please make sure to complete a separate ‘Project Progress Update’ for each signed grant agreement.

### Section A Project Information

**Name of Sub-Recipient:** AIDS Foundation East West – Tajikistan (AFEW)

**Grant agreement number:** 00072826 TAJ-809-G07-H , 9 October 2009 (TFM)

**Programme Period** (from sub-recipient grant agreement): March 01, 2015 – September 30, 2015

**Final Beneficiaries:**

- people living with HIV
- vulnerable women including sex workers

**Target groups:**

- representatives of NGOs working with PLWH, vulnerable women and sex workers;
- police officers working in project regions;
- general population living in project regions.

**Geographic Coverage Areas:**

- Dushanbe;
- Qurgonteppa;
- Kulob;
- Khudjand and Isfara.

**Reporting Period:** March 01 – June 30, 2015

### Section B: Quantitative Data

*Results Analysis Based on Key Indicators from Performance Framework*

Indicator	Reporting Period	Target	Result	% Achievement
20 representatives of NGOs, health service providers will be educated on adherence to ART, care and support	March – June 2015	20	22	110,00%
70 law enforcement officers are trained on stigma and discrimination of PLWH, MARP and vulnerable women	March – June 2015	70	38	54,29%
770 PLWH received at least three types of project services	March – June 2015	770	430	55,84%

720 vulnerable women including sex workers received at least three types of project services	March – June 2015	720	396	55,0%
80% of PLWH passed CD4 and VL, diagnostic and/or treatment for TB and opportunistic infections	March – June 2015	616	336	54,5%
90% of Client Management Program participants (PLWH and vulnerable women) who positively evaluate the quality and access to services	March – June 2015	1341	741	55,26%
60% of vulnerable women passed HIV testing and know their own status during reporting period	March – June 2015	432	228	52,78%
1500 people from general population in project regions informed about HIV and available services for PLWH.	March – June 2015	1500	2965	197,67%

### Section C

#### Results Analysis Based on Key Indicators from Performance Framework

#### Explanation of programmatic performance:

Describe information on indicators and figures given in section B. Explain the planned versus actual results; include reasons for programmatic deviation. Explain the factors affecting these achievements.

#### **Activity 2100. One national 2-days training on adherence to ARV treatment, care and support for staff of NGOs, counselors, outreach workers and other health and psycho-social service providers**

- *The ‘Adherence to ARV treatment, care and support’ training with participation of 22 social/outreach workers and peer consultants from 11 partner organizations was conducted on March 31 - April 1, 2015 in Dushanbe. Educational activity was provided with involvement of Republican AIDS Centre specialist and AFEW trainer. Participants were trained in accordance with purposes and principles of antiretroviral (ARV) therapy to provide qualitative counseling and adherence support for PLWH and contribute on decreasing the rate of ART interrupts. 83,8 % of post training answers among training participants are correct.*

#### **Activity 2200. Workshops on Stigma and discrimination of PLWH, most at risk population (MARP) and vulnerable women for 70 law enforcement officers**

During the report period two Workshops for law enforcement officers were conducted by AFEW-Tajikistan in cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan.

- *The first Workshop for LEO "Stigma and discrimination of people living with HIV and key populations" was conducted on April 22, 2015 by participation of 44 representatives of Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan (22 police officers), Drugs Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, National Centre on Drugs Prevention and Monitoring of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan, UNDP-Tajikistan, USAID TB Control Program, NGOs: "SPIN Plus ", "Guli Surkh ", "Etibor", "Equal Opportunities", "Tajikistan Network of women living with HIV", "Bovary+", "Vita", "Apeiron", "Marvorid", "ROST" and Mass Media "Radio Ozodi", "Informational Agency Khovar", "Informational Agency Tajikistan". The workshop was facilitated by Hagzibekova F., Deputy of Head of the Medical Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan.*  
<http://www.mvd.tj/index.php/tj/asosi/7258-barrasii-mas-ala-oi-shakhsoni-bo-vnmo-zindaqikunanda-va-osebpazir>  
<http://www.afew.tj/ru/chm/news/22-aprelya-2015-goda-v-g-dushanbe-sostoyalas-rabochaya-vstrecha-diskriminaciya-i-stigma>  
<http://www.afew.tj/tq/chm/news/dar-sanai-22-apreli-soli-2015-dar-sh-dushanbe-vohurii-korii-poymolkunii-hukuk-va>
- *The second Workshop for LEO "Stigma and discrimination of people living with HIV and key populations" was conducted on May 22, 2015 in Kulob. 28 representatives of Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan in Kulob region (16 police officers), Department of Health Region, Regional narcological Center, Regional and city AIDS Centers of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan, NGOs "SVON Plus ", "Sudmand ", "Jovidon", "Nakukor" and the branch of AFEW-Tajikistan in Khatlon region took part in event. The workshop was facilitated by Hagzibekova F., Deputy Head of the Medical Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan.*

*During abovementioned workshops the representatives of local NGOs presented and discussed with police officers information about their work on HIV prevention among vulnerable groups and client management of PLWH. Also, the issues of reduction of stigma and discrimination of vulnerable groups of population were discussed during the meetings. Participants of the workshops familiarized with the Instruction of the Ministry of Internal Affairs RT on organization of HIV prevention work and health safety at working place. AFEW-Tajikistan presented its video spot about the human rights of PUDs to participants of the Workshops.*

**Activity 2300. Provide methodological assistance and sub-grants to NGOs working with PLWH and vulnerable women throughout the country (such as cities, oblast centers, other densely-populated areas)**

- *AFEW-Tajikistan transferred sub-sub-grants to five NGOs ("Guli Surkh" and "Tajikistan network of women living with HIV"(Dushanbe), "Orzu Plus" (Qurqhonteppe), "SVON Plus"(Kulob) and "Rohi zindagi" (Khudjand and Isfara)) which have experience of joint work, capacities to provide services for final beneficiaries and interacting with local health and social service providers*

*The results of sub-sub-grantees within Project are following:*

- 1. 430 PLWH were covered by peer counseling, ART adherence support, IEC, condoms and prevention materials.*
- 2. 232 or 53,5% from 430 PLWH reached by Project passed to TB screening. 0 new cases of TB are detected.*
- 3. 336 or 78,14% from 430 PLWH reached by Project passed CD 4 diagnostic. As result 41 PLWH started ARV treatment. 281 PLWH started the ART treatment before the realization of this project. 3 PLWH interrupted ART treatment, 2 of them by the reason of death, 1 because of side effects. The third client received consultation on adherence to ART and the client resumed antiretroviral therapy under medical supervision of AIDS Center.*
- 4. 396 vulnerable women including 276 sex workers covered by comprehensive package of HIV prevention services (HIV and STIs education, HIV counseling and testing, IEC, condoms, and prevention materials).*
- 5. 57,58% or 228 from 396 vulnerable women reached by Project are passed HIV testing. 0 new HIV cases are detected*
- 6. 18 vulnerable women referred to TB counseling and received TB diagnostic. 0 new TB cases are detected.*

**Activity 2400. Awareness raising activities on improving access to services for PLWH through conducting advocacy and awareness raising activities**

- During May 17-23, 2015 “AFEW-Tajikistan” supported initiatives of NGOs “Guly Surkh”, “Tajikistan Network of women living with HIV”, “Orzu plus”, “SVON Plus” and “Rohi zindagi” and the branch of AFEW-Tajikistan in Khatlon region to organize advocacy events devoted to the International AIDS Candlelight Memory Day and to raise awareness of local communities about HIV. In close collaboration with regional AIDS centers the local NGOs carried out awareness-raising campaigns along with dissemination of information materials among population of five cities (Dushanbe, Khujand, Isfara, Kulob, Qurghon-Teppa). During the actions, the mobile units of AIDS center provided pre-test counseling and HIV testing for 93 general populations in Khujand and Qurghon-Teppa. 0 new cases of HIV have been detected.*
- Furthermore, food kits were distributed for 32 poorest families affected by HIV and AIDS.*
- Overall 2965 people participated in the actions devoted to the International AIDS Candlelight Memory Day.*

**Activity 2500. Technical assistance and monitoring site visits to track the quantitative progress of sub-grantees as well as to evaluate the quality of provided services to beneficiaries.**

- Technical assistance and monitoring site visits was conducted during 18-26 of May, 2015. AFEW-Tajikistan provided practical assistance to Project sub-sub-grantees: NGOs ‘Guli surkh’ and ‘Tajikistan Network of women living with HIV’ (Dushanbe), ‘Orzu plus’ (Qurghon-Teppa, Khatlon province), ‘SVON Plus’ (Kulob, Khatlon province) and ‘Rohi zindagi’ (Chkalovsk, Sughd Province). Partners were provided with needful recommendations on organizations’ capacity building, on proper program and financial/administrative management.*



**Please complete Annex ‘A’ for monitoring visits undertaken by the SR (to sub-SRs or service delivery sites) during the reporting period. (If applicable)**

*Please see Annex A*

**Was there a delay or cancellation of planned activities?**

There is no delay on implementation of Project activities.

**Progress and implementation of management actions from previous periods: (Please list all outstanding actions).**

*N/A*

**Describe other success stories not reflected in the quantitative data:**

*The project client Jonibek, 34 years old, (unreal name), a resident of Kulyab, came to NGO "SVON Plus" to familiarize with their services and activities. He was looking for friends who would listen to him, to support and help him in solving his problems, and at the same time he could support the others, the same people as he was. The social worker of NGO told him about GFATM funded Project and the services provided to people living with HIV-infection. Jonibek became the client of the project and daily visited the organization, participated in mini-training, self-help groups, and received information about life with HIV, ART adherence, CD4, hepatitis, tuberculosis. After receiving several consultations of doctors and social workers and determination of the level of CD4 Jonibek decided to start taking ART.*

*Jonibek's life began to change for the better: he received a lot of information about HIV, began to realize that his life and health depend only on himself; he found friends, support and understanding. Currently Jonibek takes ART, he is OST client and he is not alone any more.*

*Within GFATM funded project in Tajikistan, AFEW providing technical assistance to five community based organizations of PLWH to deliver peer-to peer counseling, refer PLWH to needed diagnostic, treatment and social services, initiate timely ARV treatment and improve adherence to ARV among PLWH on ARV.*

**Lessons Learned and proposed changes to the work plan:**

*Taking into account lessons learned, will you be implementing any changes to your work plan for the next reporting period? Please describe the proposed changes and provide reasons for the proposed changes.*

No

**Section D: Capacity Development**

*(actions taken towards eliminating omissions and implementing recommendations that are indicated in SR Management Letter)*

No

## Section E: Inventory and Assets Management /

(the report is submitted on semi-annual and annual basis)

No

## Section F: Authorization

*The undersigned authorized representative acknowledges that all information provided in this report is complete and accurate*

**Signed on behalf of the Sub Recipient** (signature of authorized representative)

**Name:** Ikrom Ibragimov

**Title:** Director RPO "AIDS Foundation East West – Tajikistan" (AFEW)

**Date and Place:** July 15, 2015, Dushanbe

**Organizational Stamp:**



## Annex A

### Monitoring Visits by SR

Date of Visit	Name of Organization or Service Delivery Point	Town/Province	Key Findings	Recommendations
<b>May 18, 2015</b>	NGO "Rohi zindagi"	Khujand	The issues on ART adherence were discussed with 7 clients of the project.	HIV and peer counseling including focus group discussions with PLWH those on ART should more focused on importance of adherence to ART.
<b>May 19, 2015</b>	NGO "Guli Surkh"	Dushanbe	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There is discrepancy in the reports on reaching the project's clients. Each social worker fills his/her log book.</li> <li>2. The project clients face problems of social and legal issues: kicked out of the house, left with the child in the street; husband refused to help, the woman returned to her parents; husband's parents do not want to support the HIV-positive daughter-in-law.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To develop unified project's log-books: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Initial registration of PLWH". Log-book must show results of referral to CD4 diagnostic, TB screening and STIs testing.</li> <li>• "Initial registration of sex workers". Log-book must show referrals to VCT made, number of IEC and prevention materials distributed</li> <li>• "Initial registration of vulnerable women"</li> <li>• To appoint a responsible person to manage project documentation including accurate filling of data into log-books.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. To involve a lawyer to provide legal support to PLWH.</li> </ol>
<b>May 20, 2015</b>	NGO "Tajikistan network women living with HIV"	Dushanbe	A public organization does not have enough experience in organizing social management services and program management.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Project staff has to be familiar with the AFEW-Tajikistan Guidelines "Organization of Client Management of vulnerable groups" and introduce this approach into practices.</li> <li>2. Project staff should use the AFEW-Tajikistan "Guidelines on the organization of mini-trainings for the prevention of socially significant infections" for conducting information sessions</li> </ol>

Date of Visit	Name of Organization or Service Delivery Point	Town/Province	Key Findings	Recommendations
				<p>among final beneficiaries reached by Client Management services</p> <p>3. To consider the possibility of involvement of infectious disease physician and obstetrician-gynecologist to the work of the project.</p>
<b>May 22, 2015</b>	NGO "SVON Plus"	Kulob	There were discrepancies in figures on provided services for diagnosis of HIV and CD4 during verification of data in report and the log-book.	To check and verify all data on the services provided for PLWH and VW according with service plans, the service provided log and with AIDS Center for CD4 diagnosis and HIV testing.
<b>May 26, 2015</b>	NGO "Orzu Plus"	Qurqhontepa	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 32 sex workers did not cover by HIV testing.</li> <li>2. The organization moved to new office.</li> <li>3. There were discrepancies during verification of data in report and registration log-books of clients and provided services.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To meet with the administration of Regional AIDS center to discuss possibilities of organization of VCT among sex workers.</li> <li>2. To set up the cleaning of territory and premises.</li> <li>3. To check and verify all data in program log-books with cards of clients, service plans and vouchers and align everything according request.</li> </ol>