



«HIV React Project»

PROGRAM REPORT

Organization	AFEW-Tajikistan	Country	Tajikistan
Reporting period	January– March, 2015		
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Highlighted Accomplishments

#	Objective and Indicator	Plan	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Fact (cumulative)
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						
	<i>2-a. % of transitional prisoners reporting use of safe sex practices</i>	-	-	-	75%		
	<i>2-b. % of transitional prisoners reporting use of safe drug use practices</i>	-	-	-	7 people –		7 or100%

					100%		
3.	Strengthened prison-based HIV prevention, treatment, and care services for PWID, PLWH						
	<i>3-a. % of transitional prisoners reporting that prison-based HIV services had improved due to HIV REACT activities in the facility</i>	>75%	-	-	7 (100%)		7 (100%)
4.	Improved knowledge, attitude, and behavior of prison staff, general prisoners and transitional prisoners toward HIV and PLWH						
	<i>4-a. % of prison staff of HIV services passing the post-training exam</i>	120		120	-		120(100%)
	<i>4-b. # of prisoners trained in HIV and HR</i>	820	40 20m/20f	160 80m/80f	80 40m/40f		280 (34%) 140m/140f
	<i>4-c % of transitional prisoners who are able to correctly identify HIV transmission routes and deny major myths about HIV transmission</i>	>75%	-	78,1%	7 - 100%		7 (100%)
5.	High-quality transitional services established for PLWH and PWID						
	<i>5-a. % of transitional prisoners reporting satisfaction with the services provided by the project at prison facility</i>	>76%	-	-	4 out of 7 57%		4 (57%)
	<i>5-b. # of transitional prisoners reached by transitional client management services</i>	20	-	5 1m/4f	7 (5f/2m)		12(60%) 3m/9f
	<i>5-c. # of transitional prisoners referred and tested for TB in the last 12 months</i>	15	-	2	7		9 (60%)
	<i>5-d. % of transitional prisoners referred and tested for HIV in the last 12 months</i>	75%	-	5	7		60 %
	<i>5-e. # of transitional prisoners who received psycho-social counseling</i>	20	-	5	7		12 (60%)
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	2		10 (83%)
6-b. # of specialists trained in evidence-based and Human Rights-based service provision		200	-	166	40		206 (103%)
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%		2	-		100%

Activities Description (please insert additional lines if needed)

Nº	Name	Date	Place	Outputs / Outcomes	Project Plan	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Fact (cumulative)
1.	1200, 2200 Conduct three-day field monitoring visits to project sites.	February, 2015	Qurghontepa	Program staff of AFEW-Tajikistan Representative office in Khatlon region were provided by needed consultations	3 visits	-	1 visit	-		1 visit
2.	3100 Delivering START Plus services for beneficiaries (Mini-trainings)	25.02.2015 11.03.2015 12.03.2015	Yavan Norak	80 prisoners received new knowledge on HIV prevention attending 4	820	40 (20 m/20 f)	160 (80 m/80)	80(40 m/40 f)		280 (140m/140 f) or 34%

				mini-trainings in the prisons						
3.	3100 Delivering START Plus services for beneficiaries (Client management)	January- March 2015	Yavan Norak	12 clients are continuing receiving of START Plus services	20	-	5	7		12 or 60%
4.	4100 The Strategy Approval Workshops/ Technical Working Groups on health promotion in Penal System (TWG)	February, 2015	Dushanbe	Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting was conducted on February 18, 2015. 22 participants have participated in the meeting.	4	1	-	1		2 or 50%

5.	4300 Conduct two-day national ToT "Mini-trainings on prevention of social significant diseases" for 20 prison medical staff and NGO.	March 30-31, 2015	Dushanbe	21 medical staff representatives from penitentiary system, drug treatment center, AIDS center and public organizations gained new knowledge on Opioid replacement therapy	40		22 (4f/18m)	21 (8f/13m)	43(12f/31m) or 100%
6.	4500 Support to NGOs to conduct half-day meetings of Partner Referrals Network of 30 stakeholders.	February 18 and 25, 2015	Qurgantube, Khudjand	The meeting of project stakeholders was held in Qurgantube (27 participants) and Khudjand. (30 participants)				2 meetings	2 meetings
7.	4600 Advocacy trainings for the law enforcement officers, NGOs and health and social service providers	12-13 February 2015 19-20 February 2015 26-27 February 2015	Dushanbe, Qurgantube, Khudjand	Three trainings on «Networking and Rules of Law» for law enforcement officers conducted in Dushanbe (24	60	-	-	66 (19f/47m) people	66 (19f/47m) – 110%

				participants), Qurgantube (22 participants) and Khudjand (20 participants)						
8.	5100 Promote Project local, national and international levels	February 2015	Dushanbe	A set of bags and diaries with project attributes were produced	60 items	-	-	60 items		100 %
9.	5200 Promote Project local, national and international levels	March, 2015	Dushanbe	290 pieces of folders and 540 notebooks with project logos were published	540 copies	-	-	-		-
10.	6200 Develop 2 IEC materials for pre and post release prisoners.	January – March 2015	Yavan (3/6), Norak (3/8 female colony)	IEC materials were distributed among prisoners	4120	-	4500	-		4500 or 114%
11.	6100 Develop 1 system of exchanging information (web platform and team of experts).	January – March, 2015	Dushanbe (NGO “Vita”), Yavan (colony 3/6) and Khudjand (NGO “Hayoti nav”)	Three Informational Points were equipped by sets of equipment and furniture.	3	-	3	-		3 or 100%

12.	6300 Guidelines for specialists working with prisoners	January – March, 2015	Dushanbe, Khudjand, Qurghontep pa	<i>AFEW</i> - Tajikistan started development of Guideline for specialists working with prisoners and ex-prisoners. Material is based on START Plus Program approach.	180 copies	-	-	-	-
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Activities description:

Delivering START Plus services for beneficiaries (Mini-trainings)

In the third quarter of the project (January-March 2015) *AFEW* Representative Office in Khatlon region conducted 4 mini-trainings among 80 prisoners including 40 female prisoners. Mini-trainings on HIV prevention were conducted among prisoners in colony 3/6 in Yavan and in female colony 3/8 in Norak.

Delivering START Plus services for beneficiaries (Client management)

- 7 new clients (released prisoners) were introduced and included into START Plus program. All 7 clients are from prison 3/8 (women).
- 4 prisoners (2 women) were tested for HIV – no new cases have been identified
- 5 START Plus clients (recently released prisoners) were tested for HIV - no new cases have been identified
- 5 START Plus clients (recently released prisoners) received motivation packages
- 1 client received legal assistance - getting national passport
- 1 client left the START Plus program due to moving to another city

Develop 2 IEC materials for pre and post release prisoners.

Electronic version of IEC materials is 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

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

The www.afew.tj informational medical web platform continuing providing its services to local health care specialists and NGO staff. 251 answers on 395 received questions were provided through web Platform during January – March 2015. The difference between received and answers are occurred because of:

- **The number of frequently asked questions** - There is no need to answer several times to the same questions, the experts just direct asking person to the reference with answer. From May 1st 2015 AFEW-Tajikistan to recruit second expert on HIV/AIDs blog for its webplatform to provide more answers.

People send their questions to <http://afew.tj/ru/add-questions>. The first page starts with filling the name and e-mails address of person who sends the question. The experience shows that people prefer to ask anonymous questions and hide their names.

Frequently asked questions (FAQs):

- What is CD4?
- ARV therapy, what is it, how to use it, who prescripts the therapy?
- What is enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, ELISA?
- What is western blot?
- The treatment of HIV.
- The legal righthst of PLWHIV. Where to apply for treatment, leaving to another country, etc.
- Laws and regulations on HIV.

The IPs based on “Vita” and “Hayoti Nav” started their activities in January 2015. Three Information Points of NGOs and colony 3/6 in Yavan actively work with clients and provide participants with qualified responses. 144 answers to questions of newly established IP’s visitors were provided by focal points and through web platform - www.afew.tj

Conduct 4 half-day meetings of Country Penal TWG of 20 stakeholders.

On February 18, 2015 the TWG meeting on Health Promotion in Penal System was conducted by participation of 22 representatives of Penitentiary System of RT, AIDS and narcology services, international agencies and local civil society organizations working with prisoners. During the meeting participants discussed the following issues:

- Problems and gaps in the implementation of health programs in Penitentiary System of Tajikistan
- Joint activities of Penitentiary System and AFEW-Tajikistan within USAID funded projects

As the result of the meeting the working group made the following decisions:

1. The National Centre of Population Protection from tuberculosis under the MoH of the RT, the representation of Caritas Luxemburg in Tajikistan, UNDP TB Control Project of Tajikistan, Country Offices of KNCV, Project HOPE, USAID TB control program in Tajikistan have to submit the suggestions in addressing the following issues up to March 31 of the current year:
 - 1.1. Preparation and training of medical personnel of Penal System of MoJ of RT for providing treatment, care and support for PLWHIV, TB patients and drug addicted prisoners;
 - 1.2. Attracting and motivating civil service specialists of AIDS, TB and narcological centers and sexual and reproductive health centers to provide appropriate services to detainees in prisons;
 - 1.3. Measures for early diagnosis of TB among detainees held in detention facility of Penal System;
2. Interested partners, starting from March 01, 2015 to coordinate the organization of coordination meetings, workshops and round tables on health and prevention of socially significant diseases in the institutions of penal system with the Secretariat of the Working Group (dilshod_pulatov@afew.tj);
3. The organizations involved in the implementation of targeted programs for the prevention and treatment of TB among prisoners have to strengthen measures to control the outcome of TB treatment among those released from prisons. The medical department of MoJ has to report on progress of this point in the next meeting of the TWG of penal system;
4. NGO "AIDS Foundation East-West - Tajikistan" in conducting training activities on HIV and TB among inmates and penal system has to coordinate the plans with the penal system of Ministry of Justice. Information on the implementation of joint plans will be presented at the next meeting of the TWG Penal System
5. Caritas Luxemburg, after matching the joint annual plan of activities with the penal system of RT, has to coordinate the issues relating to the selection of participants in the educational activities for the prevention of TB among inmates and penal system, with the administration of prisons. The results should be reported at the next meeting of TWG Penal System.
6. The next meeting of the TWG Penal System will be held in July of current year

5 out of 6 abovementioned decisions are implemented and the results of implementation will be reported in next TWG Penal System meeting:

- **Decision 1** – The abovementioned institutions and agencies provided the Penal System of RT with their annual plans and started to coordinate their activities with Penal System of RT.
- Trainings for medical staff of prisons have been started, the education materials are provided for prisoners and medical staff by different INGOs

- The representatives of AIDS, TB and narcological centers and sexual and reproductive health centers are taking part in the activities (training, seminars, round tables and etc.) organized by agencies working with targeted groups
- *AFEW*- Tajikistan took part in the joint UASID activity in World TB Day along with other international agencies and organized TB testing in prisons. As a result of this activity 225 prisoners were tested for TB, 6 new cases are detected.
- **Decision 2** – Agencies working with LWHIV, TB, RS, MSM started the coordination of their activities with Penal system and secretariat of TWG. For example the abovementioned activity regarding World TB Day was primary discussed and implemented with agreement of penal system and INGOs.
- **Decision 3** – the cooperation between prisons and TB and AIDS centers was strengthened, released prisoners from targeted prisons are registered in time. However the work on this direction still needs to be taking under the control and parts have to make corporation stronger to ensure the better results.
- **Decision 4** – *AFEW* – Tajikistan signed the joint coordination activity plans with Penal System of Ministry of Justice of the Republic Tajikistan, therefor all activities of agency are implementing according to the signed document appropriately.
- **Decision 5** - Caritas Luxemburg has presented the annual plans to Penal System however the agency informs that as per recommendation of external consultant of Caritas Luxemburg the agency has to change all annual activity plans due to their new strategy. In present the joint annual plan of activities are discussed and agreed with the penal system of RT.

It is important to emphasize that all decisions and their implementations are long-term and will be carried out throughout the project

Conduct two-day national "Drug treatment, MAT and social rehabilitation" training for 20 prison medical staff.

On 30-31 of March "Drug treatment, MAT and social rehabilitation" training was conducted in Dushanbe for 21 medical representatives from prisons, drug treatment center, AIDS center and public organizations. Training was organized in Dushanbe. Pre and post questionnaires were filled in by 18 participates. The results of knowledge before training were 37, 8% which were increased to 63, 9% after training.

Training was facilitated by narcologists.

Region	# of participants passed evaluation	Pre session evaluation (average percentage)	Post session evaluation (average percentage)
Dushanbe	18	37.8	63.9

It should be noted that the training was well-timed and it is important event for medical staff of prisons. The opioid replacement therapy is one of the most important components of a harm reduction strategy. The main aim and objective of ORT in Tajikistan is to decrease the spread of HIV, viral hepatitis and TB among IDUs. ORT was launched in Tajikistan in 2010 and now there are about 500 people taking this therapy.

ORT has to be launched in prisons in future and there is one pilot prison where ORT has to be started among prisoners in Vahdat district. Therefore it is important to teach prison based medical staff about the ORT.

The outcome of the training will be:

- To improve the knowledge of service providers for prisoners in drug treatment.
- Improving the service provided in prisons for IDUs and drug addicted people in prisons.

The training participants should know:

- The importance of an integrated bio-psycho-social approach to addiction treatment
- The ORT normalization psychosocial status of dependent, as well as in the prevention of transmission of infections

Support to NGOs to conduct half-day meetings of Partner Referrals Network of 30 stakeholders.

Two Networking meetings of partner service provider’s organizations working on health promotion and HIV prevention among prisoners have been conducted by *AFEW*-Tajikistan in partnership with its Representative Office in Khatlon Office in Qurgantube and NGO “Hayoti nav” in Khudjand.

Two networking meetings were conducted with participation of 27 stakeholders and service providers in Khatlon region and 30 service providers in Sughd region. Meetings were organized on February 17, 2015 in Qurgantube and on February 25, 2015 in Khudjand.

Conduct two-day "Networking and Rules of Law" training for law enforcement officers, NGOs and service providers.

Three two-days trainings on "Networking and Rules of Law" for 63 law enforcement officers NGOs and service providers have been conducted on:

- On February 12-13, 2015 in Dushanbe (24 participants)
- On February 19-20, 2015 in Qurhgonteppa (22 participants)
- On February 26-27, 2015 in Dushanbe (20 participants)

Trainings facilitated by specialists of regional AIDS Centers and Medical department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs RT

The results of pre and post training evaluation demonstrated increasing the level of knowledge’s among training participants. Table below shows the results of pre and post training evaluation:

Region	# of participants passed evaluation	Pre session evaluation (average percentage)	Post session evaluation (average percentage)
Dushanbe	20	81.8	91.8

Qurghonteppa	18	78.3	94.4
Khudjand	20	86.8	97.3

Conduct three-day field monitoring visits to project sites.

Due to planned activities in the targeted prisons partners were overload and monitoring site visits postponed to April 2015.

Promote Project local, national and international levels

№	Visibility products	Number of products	Remark
1.	T-shirt	540	T-shirts have been purchased, the project logos have to be printed on them
2.	Caps	540	Caps have been purchased, the project logos have to be printed on them
3.	Bags	60	The bags are purchased and logos are printed
4.	Diary	60	Diaries have been purchased, the project logos have to be printed on them
5.	Shirtfront	60	Not purchased yet
6.	Notebook	540	120 notebooks were published
7.	Folder	290	Ready

Guidelines for specialists working with prisoners

AFEW-Tajikistan started development of Guideline for specialists working with prisoners and ex-prisoners. Material is based on START Plus Program approach. *AFEW*-Tajikistan together with NGOs aimed to adopt this guideline under the target group of HIV-React project. The document was several times discussed on different levels of the project:

- Project realized staff
- NGOs and social workers
- AIDs and TB centers (this is the stage where the guideline is now)

After getting all recommendation and changes into the document, the guideline will be send to *AFEW*-Kazakhstan to approval.

START plus implementation

Mini-trainings in prisons

Achievements

During report period the main achievement of prisons based HIV education is contribution on improving the level of awareness of prisoners about ways of HIV transmission and HIV prevention. Post trainings exams shown increasing the percentage of correct answers among prisoners participated in mini-trainings. The average percent of correct answers among 80 prisoners is about 95,5%. Below information provides analyses of results of pre and post training evaluation of knowledge's with numbers of prisoners who are able to correctly identify HIV transmission routes and deny major myths about HIV transmission:

Date	Number of participants in colony 3/6	Number of participants in colony 3/8	Pre training evaluation in female colony 3/8	Post training evaluation in female colony 3/8	Pre training evaluation in male colony 3/6	Post training evaluation in male colony 3/6
25.02.2015.	20 prisoners	20 prisoners	74%	95%	33%	92%
11.03.2015.	20 prisoners				35%	97%
12.03.2015.		20 prisoners	65%	98%		

Problems

Solutions

n/a

n/a

Transitional case management

Achievements

At present, *AFEW* Representative Office in Khatlon region is continuing provision of START Plus services to 12 clients, 5 clients are female ex-prisoners.

- 75% of transitional prisoners reporting use of safe sex practices
- 100% of transitional prisoners reporting use of safe drug use practices – the interview were provided with 7 transitional prisoners. 3 of them are injected drug users and 1 prisoner receives opioid replacement therapy – methadone

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of transitional prisoners reporting that prison-based HIV services had improved due to HIV REACT activities in the facility. • 80 of prisoners trained in HIV and HR (40 m/40f) • 60% from 7 of transitional prisoners who are able to correctly identify HIV transmission routes and deny major myths about HIV transmission • 4 out of 7 of transitional prisoners reporting satisfaction with the services provided by the project at prison facility which is 57% • 7 of transitional prisoners reached by transitional client management services, 5 clients who entered the program in the second quarter successfully finished the program • 7 of transitional prisoners referred and tested for TB in the last 12 months • 12 of transitional prisoners referred and tested for HIV in the last 12 months which is 91,6% • 12 of transitional prisoners who received psycho-social counseling • 2 trainings and mini-sessions conducted for providers of HIV services to transitional prisoners • 40 of specialists trained in evidence-based and Human Rights-based service provision • 83 % of recommendations made by the HIV REACT-established (Technical Working Group) TWG that have been successfully implemented in this quarter 	
Problems	Solutions
<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>

Analytical Part

Before	Project intervention	After
<i>Low level of education improving indicated in pre and post evaluations</i>	<i>Organization of educational activities for prisoners, prison based medical and nonmedical staff</i>	During reporting period the number of prisoners covered by educational activities decreased (due to amnesty happened in November 2014) however the analysis of pre and post evaluations indicates the increase of level of knowledge from 75% to 95%. This also applies for quality of education and improving the knowledge level among prison based medical and nonmedical staff
<i>Lack of access to information and low level of information awareness about HIV among prisoners</i>	<i>Mini-trainings on HIV prevention among prisoners</i>	The level of prisoners awareness about ways of HIV transmitting and HIV prevention are increased to 95,5% correct answers after trainings (an average figure for 4 mini-trainings). Beside of HIV information prisoners provided with information on Hepatitis, STIs and TB and received the distribution of IECs which ensure improvement of access to health and educational information.

<i>Needs to improve coordination between penal and civil health sectors and NGOs</i>	<i>Networking and coordination meetings of partner services providers</i>	In reporting period two networking and coordination meetings (one in Qurghantube and one in Khudjand) with participation of more than 30 partner service providers were conducted. Partners inform each other on achieved results and share their mutual plans and activities within the project aims and objectives.
<i>Low level of education and limited access to improve and upgrade the knowledge of prison based medical workers</i>	<i>Education of prison based medical workers</i>	<i>AFEW</i> organized trainings for prison based medical workers on various medical topics such as “Treatment of drug users in prisons”; “Opioid replacement therapy” which improves their knowledge and ensure the better quality services to prisoners.
<i>Limited access to improve awareness and knowledge of non-medical staff of penal system</i>	<i>Education activities for non-medical staff of penal system</i>	Beside medical topics <i>AFEW</i> aims to provide training for improving the level of awareness on law, advocacy, policies, tolerance and etc. As example "Networking and Rules of Law" training was conducted for law enforcement officers, NGOs and service providers in Dushanbe, Qurghantube and Khudjand.
<i>Needs to improve the quality of START Plus transitional client management services to pre and post release prisoners</i>	<i>Delivering transitional client management services to pre and post release prisoners</i>	The level of success cases among pre and post release prisoners increased due to qualitative delivery of START Plus transitional client management services. The number of prisoners who want to be a part of START Plus program increased from 5 to 12 people.

Conclusions:

Improving cooperation between penal and civil health sectors and NGOs

HIV React Project contributed on enhancing cooperation between Penitentiary System, civil AIDS Centers and local and international NGOs. During the last TWG meeting project stakeholders were introduced with joint plans of activities of Penitentiary System and AFEW Tajikistan. This effort was done to avoid the duplication of activities and cooperation between all project partners.

Improving the level of education between prisoners and START Plus clients

As mentioned before the level of education between prisoners and START Plus program clients increased. This achievement was gained through high quality of educational materials and modules, experienced trainers and distribution of IEC materials.

Improvement of Web platform and IP services

AFEW supported Informational Points actively started their functioning in the report period. The number of received and answered questions mentioned above shows that such IPs is indeed necessary and people use these services. Questions can be sent by anonymous senders which provides the confidentiality of person and this ensures the increase number of applicants and their interest to such services.

Information Points of NGOs “Vita” and “Hayoti nav” and colony 3/6 in Yavan actively work with clients and provide participants with qualified responses. 144 answers to received questions of newly established IP’s visitors were provided by focal points and through the web platform www.afew.tj

Other Problems & Solutions during the reporting period:

n/a

Attachment:

1. Photos of Country Penal TWG meeting
2. Photos of networking meetings of partner service providers
3. Photos of "Networking and Rules of Law" training
4. Photos of two-day national "Drug treatment, MAT and social rehabilitation" training
5. Electronic versions of project IEC materials