

## «HIV React Project»

### PROGRAM REPORT

Organization	AFEW-Tajikistan		Country	Tajikistan
Reporting period	October- December, 2014			
Reporter	Name	Zulfiya Gulyamova		
	E-mail:	<a href="mailto:Zulfia_gulyamova@afew.tj">Zulfia_gulyamova@afew.tj</a>		
	Tel.:	(+992) 2 21 82 28		

### Highlighted Accomplishments

<b>1.</b>	<b>Reduced HIV transmission in former prisoners</b>	
	<i>1-b. The Project strategy is approved on the national level</i> On August 11, 2014 the Project strategy was developed and approved at the national level jointly by Ministry of Justice/Penitentiary System and AFEW-Tajikistan. The project was strategized jointly to approve project activities (to conduct trainings and mini-sessions with prisoners, medical and non-medical personnel, NGO staff, HIV/AIDS care specialists, narcologists, Skin disease dispensary specialists etc.) as well as to create access to the Penitentiary System in the targeted areas.	1
<b>2.</b>	<b>Reduced risky behavior practiced by former prisoners</b>	
	<i>2-a. % of transitional prisoners reporting use of safe sex practices</i> В связи с тем, что большинство клиентов программы СТАРТ Плюс освободились по амнистии в ноябре 2014 года и с ними только начали вести программу социального сопровождения, данные по этому отделу отчета будут представлены в последующих отчетах.	n/a
	<i>2-b. % of transitional prisoners reporting use of safe drug use practices</i>	n/a
<b>3.</b>	<b>Strengthened prison-based HIV prevention, treatment, and care services for PWID, PLWH</b>	
	<i>3-a. % of transitional prisoners reporting that prison-based HIV services had improved due to HIV REACT activities in the facility</i>	n/a
<b>4.</b>	<b>Improved knowledge, attitude, and behavior of prison staff, general prisoners and transitional prisoners toward HIV and PLWH</b>	
	<i>4-a. % of prison staff of HIV services passing the post-training exam</i> 1. В период с 18 ноября по 26 ноября была проведена серия информационных сессий «Профилактика ВИЧ и услуги программы СТАРТ Плюс для заключенных в переходном периоде» запланированных в деятельности проекта для 60 немедицинских работников исправительных учреждений ГУИУН МЮ РТ.	120
	2. 09-10 декабря проектом был организован и проведен 2х-дневный национальный тренинг «СТАРТ ПЛЮС: социальное сопровождение осужденных в переходном периоде» для медицинских и не медицинских работников исправительных учреждений и работников НПО оказывающих услуги осужденным и освобожденным.	24

3. 16-17 декабря был организован и проведен		
<b>4-b. # of prisoners trained in HIV and HR</b> 40 prisoners in transitional period received trainings on "HIV Prevention" and START Plus program services in colonies 3/6 and 3/8.		40
4-c % of transitional prisoners who are able to correctly identify HIV transmission routes and deny major myths about HIV transmission		n/a
<b>5. High-quality transitional services established for PLWH and PWID</b>		
5-a. % of transitional prisoners reporting satisfaction with the services provided by the project at prison facility		n/a
5-b. # of transitional prisoners reached by transitional client management services		n/a
5-c. # of transitional prisoners referred and tested for TB in the last 12 months		n/a
5-d. % of transitional prisoners referred and tested for HIV in the last 12 months		n/a
5-e. # of transitional prisoners who received psycho-social counseling		n/a
<b>6. Evidence-based and Human Rights-based HIV prevention, treatment and care services provided outside of prison facilities to transitional prisoners</b>		
6-a. # trainings and mini-sessions conducted for providers of HIV services to transitional prisoners		n/a
6-b. # of specialists trained in evidence-based and Human Rights-based service provision		n/a
<b>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</b>		
7-a. % of recommendations made by the HIV REACT-established (Technical Working Group) TWG that have been successfully implemented		n/a

**Activities Description (please insert additional lines if needed)**

No	Name	Date	Place	Outputs / Outcomes
1.	Preparatory activities.	June-August, 2014	Khatlon region	In aims to provide own direct services to prisoners and post-release prisoners AFEW-Tajikistan registered its Representative office in Khatlon region. All needed organizational and program documentation has been introduced. Administrative and program staff was recruited and equipped by needed rules and regulations. Establishment of Representative office make possible to begin provision of project services to prisoners in two colonies placed in Khatlon region.
		August 11, 2014	Dushanbe	The Head of Penitentiary System of the Ministry of Justice of Tajikistan approved Joint Plan of implementation of HIV React Project activities for period June 11, 2014-June 10, 2016. Approval of joint activities ensures political support to Project and CSOs access to prisons in pilot sites.

		August-September, 2014	Norak and Yovon	AFEW Khatlon Representative office coordinated project work plans with administration of pilot colonies 3/6 in Yovon and 3/8 in Norak. Implementation plans assisting on timely implementation of prisons based HIV education in pilot colonies of Khatlon region and starting provision of transitional client management services for pre-release prisoners
		August 20 – September 22, 2014	Khatlon region	The set of Memorandums of Understanding between AFEW Khatlon Representative office and 22 services providers including prisons administrations, health and social services providers, Khatlon regional police department, Drug Control Agency Division in Khatlon region and local NGOs working with prisoners and other key populations in Khatlon regions have been signed. This step is a part of Project strategy on establishment of Regional Network of Partner services providers working with prisoners and post-release inmates including PLHIV and PWIDs.
2.	Conduct 1 pre-project needs assessment.	August – September, 2014	Dushanbe RT	Assessment tools and protocol approved by Ethic Committee of the Ministry of Health RT and Administration of Penitentiary System of the Ministry of Justice RT. Thanks to this step, needs assessment has been conducted in time and its results will be accepted by key stakeholders represented by Ministry of Health and Penitentiary System of Tajikistan. .
September 23-October 02, 2014		Dushanbe, Qurhooteppa, Norak, Yovon and Khudjand	56 prisons workers, penal and civil health specialists and NGOs staff participated in pre-project needs assessment. Needs assessment will assist to learn situation and make needed corrections in training topics and content of IEC materials most demanded by local specialists working on HIV prevention among prisoners.	
October 08, 2014		Dushanbe RT	Assessment data base information has been passed to AFEW-Kazakhstan. Results of needs assessment in Tajikistan will be submitted to general assessment report of the HIV React Project.	
3.	Delivering START Plus services for beneficiaries	June 25-August 30, 2014	Qurhooteppa	Establishment, equipping and launching of representational office in Khatlon region to provide direct services to the targeted population.
		September 24, 2014	Yovon	20 prisoners reached by 1 mini-training on HIV prevention.
		September 24,	Norak	20 female prisoners reached by 1 mini-

		2014		training on HIV prevention.
		September 20, 2014	Yovon	Initiated the process of direct work with pre-release prisoners.
		September 24, 2014	Norak	Initiated the process of direct work with pre-release prisoners.
4.	Conduct 4 half-day meetings of Country Penal TWG of 20 stakeholders.	September 19, 2014	Dushanbe	Project Inception: Project objectives, strategies, country work plan and expected results have been presented and discussed with 34 representatives from 25 GOs, IOs and local NGOs working with prisoners.

#### **Activities description:**

The Project strategy was developed and approved at the national level jointly by Ministry of Justice/Penitentiary System and AFEW-Tajikistan. The project was strategized jointly to approve project activities (to conduct trainings and mini-sessions with prisoners, medical and non-medical personnel, NGO staff, HIV/AIDS care specialists, Narcologists, Skin disease dispensary specialists etc.) as well as to create access to the Penitentiary System in the targeted areas.

Secondly, In order to avoid duplications of project activities, AFEW-Tajikistan conducted sessions jointly with UNDP, UNODC, UNAIDs, DVV International and Caritas Luxemburg. During the session a matrix of interventions was developed where each activities was highlighted in order to properly coordinate and do not duplicate activities related to the services provided by these INGOs in the prison setting and post detention period. In the session it was also decided to replace training on 'HIV testing and counseling, Anti-retroviral therapy (ART), drug treatment, rehabilitation and Methadone Assisted Therapy (MAT)' that was planned initially. Since this training is already planned to be carried out by UNDP and instead a 'Training for Trainers on Organizing mini-trainings on HIV prevention among prisoners' for prison medical and non-medical personnel' will be carried out in the framework of AFEW-Tajikistan.

On September 19, 2014, the meeting of TWG on Health Promotion in Penal System took place in Dushanbe. The meeting was devoted to the inception of "HIV-REACT Project". The TWG members were informed about the activities and expected outcomes of the project.

In order to identify available resources, existing gaps within service providers for HIV prevention and treatment a Baseline Needs Assessment was undertaken by AFEW-Tajikistan. The assessment also covered the areas of infection control, drugs treatment, post-release services. This assessment will assist the project team to revise its training topics and content of Information, Education and Communications materials to better and effectively reach the targeted populations. The assessment covered 57 respondents and was carried out in Dushanbe, Khujand, Qurhoonteppa, Norak, Yavan among medical and non-medical personnel working in the penitentiary system. The assessment was carried out in the colonies No. 3/1, 3/3, 3/4, 3/5, 3/6, 3/8. In additions, it included personnel from the HIV/AIDS centers, narcological service, Skin and Venerological Disease Dispensary and TB services.

The AFEW-Tajikistan has been working in Tajikistan in the areas of HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment for a number of years. Initially, it provided services to the risk group through sub-recipients, however, this year it has established representative office in Khatlon oblast and will directly work with targeted population in the region.

On September 24, 2014, the project initiated its activity with delivering the first two mini-sessions on HIV prevention in colonies 3/6 in Yavan and 3/8 in Norak. These sessions were carried out in two prisons for 40 prisoners that are going through transitional period (from 30 days to 3 months period to the date of release). During the sessions the Social mobilisers started with presenting the activity of "HIV REACT project" and START PLUS service, which covers providing comprehensive package that

includes medical, social and legal support service. This program starts two months before clients are released and continues with clients for four months in the community after they are released from the correctional facility. It includes six sessions, session one provides information on HIV and TB, session two helps to solve transitional period problems – housing, employment, health, session three and four is focusing on after release and on continuity of HIV and/or TB services for prisoners.

Prior to carrying out the two mini-sessions, the Social workers and specialist from HIV/AIDS Center carried out baseline test among the participants. Following the mini sessions, similar test was carried out to assess how knowledge of participants has improved. The result indicated that initially only 48% out of the 40 participants identified correct routes of HIV transmission and prevention. The post-test showed that knowledge has improved and 94% were able to identify correct route of HIV transmission.

All above-mentioned activities are the initial stages of the project and will continue in the next quarters to indicate overall results of the project.

<b>START plus implementation</b>	
<b>Mini-trainings in prisons</b>	
Achievements	
<b>40 Prisoner reached with HIV program interventions:</b>	
<i>On September 24, 2014, two mini-sessions on HIV prevention one in colony 3/6 in Yavan and other one in 3/8 in Norak conducted by social workers of AFEW-Tajikistan and specialist of HIV center of Khatlon region. These sessions were carried out among 40 prisoners, the duration of each session was 60 minutes. Sessions consisted from presentation of HIV ways of transmission and services of START Plus program.</i>	
<i>The pre-test carried out by social workers indicated that 48% of the participants were informed of ways of HIV transmission, however, posttest indicated improvement in knowledge, whereas, 94% of participants were able to identify ways of HIV transmission and prevention. The specialist of HIV center provided information on HIV ways of HIV transmission.</i>	
<b># of Prisoners reached with HIV transitional client management:</b>	
<i>The project just started working on prison-based HIV prevention, treatment, and care services for PWID, PLWH and initiation of the process of services delivering for prisoners in transitional period. Therefore, it is too early to report on this indicator. Что было?</i>	
Problems	Solutions
<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<b>Transitional case management</b>	
Achievements	
<i>n/a</i>	
<i>Since September, 20, 2014 the process of direct work with pre-release prisoners are initiated. Active phase of provision of transitional client management services to pre and post release prisoners and implementing program activities among prisoners will be started from October 01, 2014.</i>	
Problems	Solutions
<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>

#### **Analytical Part**

Before	Project intervention	After

<p><i>Option 1: Impact on access of information on prevention and treatment of HIV among prisoners.</i></p>	<p><i>Two mini-trainings on HIV prevention among 40 prisoners including 20 female in Norak colony.</i></p>	<p>The level of mini-training participants awareness about ways of HIV transmitting and HIV prevention are increased from 48% to 94%</p>
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**Conclusions:**

*The project just started working on prison-based HIV prevention, treatment, and care services for PWID, PLWH and is in the process of delivering services to improve prison based HIV prevention. Therefore, it is too early to report on the above-motined indicators. However, the dialogue and discussion have been taken place and it has facilitated project to start successfully.*

**Other Problems & Solutions during the reporting period:**

The Project started recently, so far no issues have been identified that can create hinder to the project.

**Attachment:**

1. Photos φωτο
2. Success stories.