UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Needle and syringe programme in prisons

20 years of evidences, 20 years of advocacy: It's time to scale-up!

English – Русский

In prisons, the prevalence of HIV, HBV, and HCV tends to be much higher than in the community. People who inject drugs are overrepresented, and some do inject in prisons. Still the access to harm reduction in prisons is very limited and far behind the access in the community.

Needle and syringe programme (NSP) is a key element of the HIV responses in over eighty countries, yet HIV response in prisons lags far behind. Twenty years after the first needle and syringe programme was implemented in the prison of Hindelbank (CH), only a hand full of countries extended this service in prison settings.

The evidence of the effectiveness and feasibility is clear and the time to scale up is now!

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Harm Reduction 2013 – Satellite Session

Tuesday, 11 June 2013 – From 17:30 to 19:30
Radisson Blu Lietuva, Delta Sky Room

A session chaired by Rick Lines, Executive Director, Harm Reduction International

- **Needle and Syringe programme in prisons: An introduction** *Dr. Fabienne Hariga, Senior HIV Advisor, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*
- **Isolation from society does not isolate from HIV,** *Ms. Irina Teplinskaya, community relations coordinator of the Andrey Rylkov Foundation for Health and Social Justice.*
- **Drug injection in prisons: how does it work,** *Mr. Ruslan Muntianas, Community representative*
- **Implementing comprehensive package of services for injecting drug users in Moldovan prison system . Needle and Syringe Exchange Program : results and outlook,** *Svetlana Doltu, Head of the Health Division of the Department of Penitentiary Institutions, Ministry of Justice, Republic of Moldova.*
- **What works, for whom, in what circumstances?: Qualitative evaluation of needle exchange programmes in Catalan prisons,** *Dr. Xavier Majó i Roca, Head of the Harm Reduction Section of the Programme on Substance Abuse, Public Health Agency of Catalonia-Government of Catalonia, Spain*