



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



DRUGS, PRISONS AND HIV RUSSIAN FEDERATION

TDGLOU34 Establishing a regional epidemiological surveillance system for monitoring of extent, patterns and trends in drug abuse and HIV infection

Donor: Finland, European Commission, Sweden

Total budget: 1,146,500

Timeframe: May 2006 - May 2010

TDRUSJ12 Support to HIV/AIDS and Drug Use Prevention Programs in Russia

Donor: USA/PEPFAR, Sweden

Total budget: US \$ 2,200,000

Timeframe: May, 2006 - March, 2011

TDRUSJ17 Scaling-up and increasing access to HIV prevention and care services among injecting drug users and in the Russian Federation

Donor: Netherlands

Total budget: 17,765,600

Timeframe: November, 2006- December, 2010

Sites

UNODC projects in the Russian Federation are supporting activities in Leningrad, Moscow, Voronezh, Orenburg, Chelyabinsk, Irkutsk, Saratov, Astrakhan, Chita, Belgorod, Smolensk, Yaroslavl, Novgorod, Archangelsk, Kaliningrad, Murmansk, Pskov, Vologda oblasts, Republic of Tatarstan, Perm kray and Republic of Karelia. The projects are supporting local organizations to improve HIV prevention services for IDUs and in prisons in St. Petersburg, Voronezh, Orenburg, Podolsk, Chelyabinsk, Zlatoust, Magnitogorsk, Kazan, Naberezhniye Chelny, Perm, Irkutsk, Bratsk, Angarsk and Irkutsk.

Comprehensive package of services

- Medico-social support programmes for IDUs (MSP IDUS)
- Pre- and post-release medico-social support programmes for prisoners (MSPris)
- Low threshold programmes for IDUs , including distribution of clean needles and syringes (LTC)
- *Drug Referral Schemes* (DRS)
- HIV prevention and care programmes in prisons (HIVPris)
- Comprehensive services to street sex workers who inject drugs (SW)
- "Patient schools" for HIV-positive injecting drug users



Nurse performing HIV testing and counseling in mobile outreach programme for IDUs in Bratsk

Background

Over the past 10 years the Russian Federation has experienced one of the most rapidly growing HIV and AIDS epidemics in the World, largely fuelled by injecting drug use. On 31 December 2009, almost 529 thousand HIV cases were registered in the country. More than 60% of registered HIV cases are due to injecting drug use. In some regions of the country the HIV prevalence among street injecting drug users is as high as 60%. Prisons still remain a significant reservoir for HIV infection, since they host as much as 10% of all registered HIV-positive persons at any given period of time.

Main areas of cooperation

1. Advocate for effective implementation strategies to address HIV and AIDS among injecting drug users and in prisons
2. Support HIV and AIDS prevention and care services for injecting drug users and in prisons
3. Increase competencies of staff working on HIV and drug issues and service delivery to IDUs and in prisons
4. Increase competencies of staff and health and drug monitoring systems to gather comprehensive information on the HIV epidemic due to drugs

Services provided (number of clients) 2007-2009					
DRS	MSPIDUs	PSPris	LTC	HIVPris	SW
1,714	1,733	5,857	226	8,437	1,759

Partnerships

Ministry of Health and Social Development, Russian National Scientific Centre on Addiction, Federal Agency of Health Care and Social Development, Rosstat, Federal Drug Control Service, Federal Penitentiary Service, Ministry of Interior, NGO *AIDS Foundation East West*, *Russian Health Care Foundation*, Regional Public Organization *Community of People Living with HIV*, local administrations and implementing partner in regions.