

Overview of the 2017 projects and advocacy initiatives aimed at ensuring sustainable transition from donor to domestic funding in CEECA



Regional Platform
EECA

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide a brief overview of initiatives and projects advocating for a sustainable transition from donor to domestic funding. It also aims to provide information about ways to receive technical assistance in the CEECA region.

This review is not comprehensive, but it contains some specific information, as well as links to Internet resources that could provide further insight into the initiatives and activities described here. Information is intended for use by community organizations and networks for their purposes. It also aims to help plan advocacy activities.



This document is based on the results of the Session on Transition held within the framework of the Annual Coordination Meeting of the Regional Platform for Support, Coordination and Communication, as well as on information from open Internet sources.

Context

The Global Fund is reducing funding of HIV and TB prevention programs for middle income countries in Central, Eastern Europe and Central Asia (CEECA). In these circumstances, one of the main aims of NGOs and community networks is to **maintain sustainability** of those programs. That means that programs there's need for, must be able to carry on their work without losing in quality and coverage. They should also be based on human rights and have sufficient financial and human resources. **During the transition**, when a country isn't eligible to receive GF funding any more, the programs must switch to domestic funding. The phasing out of the donor funding must be done in stages, be planned and predictable and involve communities affected by HIV and TB as well as NGOs.

Why is it important to get communities affected by HIV/TB and NGOs involved in the transition?

Despite the fact that the Global Fund has developed a [policy in managing the transition of programs](#)¹ in countries that no longer meet the funding criteria, the sustainability of life-saving healthcare services and their availability to key and affected populations in our region is in danger.



Therefore, civil society and community networks should continue to advocate governments, private sector of the economy and other partners that fund the development of procurement mechanisms, service provision standards, monitoring, evaluation and data collection systems.

¹ https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/4221/bm35_04-sustainabilitytransitionandcofinancing_policy_en.pdf

It is important to be involved in all stages of the transition, including assessing readiness to switch from donor to domestic financing as well as development, introduction and implementation of national transition action plans.

What are the key obstacles to significant community participation in the transition?

- Communities affected by HIV and TB are only involved on paper or not at all in dialogues that coordinate preparation and implementation of GF concept notes on the country level.
- In many CEECA countries, the process of mobilizing communities affected by HIV and TB, in particular people who use drugs (PWUD), men who practice sex with men (MSM) and sex workers, are at the level of informal initiative groups and often don't have formal legal status. This presents an obstacle to those groups' participation in inter-states dialogue and, in particular, in the country coordinating mechanism (CCM).
- In some cases, there's no community representatives in CCM, or they are not accountable to anyone, or don't always represent the real needs of the communities.
- Communities don't have sufficient knowledge of country transition processes, lack adequate training and skills to have any impact on the process.

Ways for NGOs and community networks in CEECA to receive technical support in connection with transition from donor to domestic funding.

The Global Fund

To ensure that HIV and TB-affected populations play a significant role in the activities of the GF, a [technical assistance program²](https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/funding-model/technical-cooperation/community-rights-and-gender-technical-assistance-program/) on community, rights and gender equality issues is underway within the framework of the CRG SI (Community, Rights, Gender Special

² <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/funding-model/technical-cooperation/community-rights-and-gender-technical-assistance-program/>

Initiative). Technical assistance is provided to NGOs and communities to ensure their full participation in all stages of the Global Fund processes: country dialogue, development of funding applications, allocation and implementation of grants.

Under the program, technical assistance can be requested in areas such as:

- Situation analysis and planning
- Participation in country dialogue
- Development of programs

Technical assistance is provided by [34](#)³ non-governmental organisations, including networks of the biggest key affected populations, universities and NGOs which were selected at an open tender. You can find the list of the organisations offering technical assistance on the CRG issues [here](#).

Request form and Guidance in English can be found on the Global Fund web page dedicated to the [Community, Rights and Gender Technical Assistance Program](#)⁴.

One of the leading provider of technical assistance (TA) in connection with transition from donor to domestic funding in CEECA is the [Eurasian Harm Reduction Network \(EHRN\)](#). Technical assistance is provided through the Community, Rights and Gender Technical Assistance Program at the Global Fund. The main purpose of TA is to ensure that civil society, including the affected communities, take a significant part in processes related to the transition of HIV and TB programs from Global Fund support to domestic funding. More importantly, TA is aimed at making sure communities are included in discussions on

3

https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/5623/fundingmodel_crgtechnicalassistanceproviders_list_en.pdf

⁴ <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/funding-model/technical-cooperation/community-rights-and-gender-technical-assistance-program/>

preparing transition plans in their respective EECA countries. At the moment, such work is carried out in Bulgaria, Armenia, Georgia, Belarus, Ukraine, Serbia and Montenegro.

Technical Assistance Priority Areas:

- I. Ensuring significant participation of civil society representatives, including the most affected groups, in assessing readiness for transition.
- II. Ensuring significant participation of key and affected groups in drawing up of transition plans.
- III. Ensuring significant participation of key and affected groups in carrying out and monitoring the transition.

The Request form and Guidance in Russian can be found at EHRN website ([follow the link⁵](#))

Useful information: [Transition Readiness Assessment Tool⁶](#)

Contact information: ivan.varentsov@harm-reduction.org

The components and activities aimed at sustainable transition from donor to domestic funding, as well as activities aimed at strengthening the capacity of communities, are also included in regional projects funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and projects supported by the Robert Carr Civil Society Networks Fund.

A list of projects and activities planned by regional community networks and other international organizations, such as **Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM)**, **East Europe and Central Asia Union of PLWH (ECUO)**, **The Sex Workers' Rights Advocacy Network (SWAN)**, **Eurasian Network of People who Use Drugs (ENPUD)**, **Alliance for Public Health**, **TB Europe Coalition (TBEC)** are available in **Annexes 1 and 2**.

⁵ <http://www.harm-reduction.org/qa-transition-related-technical-assistance-opportunities-eeca-region-avilable-within-community>

⁶ <http://www.harm-reduction.org/library/transition-readiness-assessment-tool-trat>

United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

UNDP is actively involved with governments and civil society in the region. It helps create favourable conditions for commissioning of social services; holds consultations on best ways to use intellectual property flexibilities and TRIPS (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) as a public health tool; facilitates more effective and efficient management of national programs, including procurement mechanisms; helps assess the legal and policy environment to identify punitive and discriminatory laws and policies preventing key populations from accessing services; introduces human rights and gender equality into national plans and concept notes.

UNDP plans for 2017

- Further strengthening of ties and cooperation between regional networks, such as the Regional HIV Legal Network, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM), EHRN, The Sex Workers' Rights Advocacy Network (SWAN) and Eurasian Women's AIDS Network (EWNA). Support in introducing events into joint plans, programs and projects.
- Provision of TA on issues of intellectual property (IP) and access to essential medicines, as well as supporting sustainable procurement in the health sector (Belarus and Ukraine).
- Provision of policy and technical assistance to two or three countries in the implementation of the key guidelines outlined in the Report of the High-Level Panel on Access to Medicines and HIV investment reports (Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Ukraine).
- Provision of policy and technical assistance on gender-sensitive, enabling conditions for key populations (Legal Environment Assessment for HIV/TB/Coverage of CSOs - Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Ukraine).
- Adapting the Legal Environment Assessment (LEAs) methods to be used for HIV and TB.
- Supporting countries in developing new applications for funding from the Global Fund in accordance with the windows of Catalytic financing (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Ukraine).

Activities and technical support planned by other UN agencies and technical partners in 2017 and related to sustainable transition from donors to domestic funding or capacity building strengthening of communities can be found in **Annex 2**.



Overview of projects and advocacy initiatives aimed at ensuring sustainable transition from donor to domestic funding in CEECA

Annex 1

Project's Title	Organisations carrying out the Project	Countries of project	Purpose	Main target groups	Overall Budget	Link to sources
«Right to Health»	ECOM	Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Macedonia	Help increase the number of gay, other MSM and trans people who have sustainable access to the continuum of HIV services in EECA.	Gay, MSM, TG in need of HIV services	The Global Fund: 2'998'076 EUR; January 2017 - December 2019	http://ecom.ngo/grantovoe-soglashenie-gf/
«Partnership for equitable access to HIV care continuum in EECA»	ECUO and EHRN	Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Uzbekistan, Estonia	Increase effectiveness, availability, sustainability, and expand HIV services in EECA with a special focus on key affected populations.	PLWH, incl. those affected by TB, PWUD, MSM, SW, gender and age-sensitive	The Global Fund: 4'044'467 EUR; November 2015 — October 2018.	http://ecuo.org/projects/regionalnaya-programma/
Harm Reduction Works - Fund it!	EHRN	Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Moldova, Tajikistan	Strengthen advocacy by civil society, including the community of people who use drugs, to ensure stable strategic investment in harm reduction as a strategy for HIV prevention in EECA countries.	People who use drugs, including people living with HIV	The Global Fund: 4'561'958 EUR; April 2014 - march 2017.	http://harm-reduction.org/ru/projects/regional-program-harm-reduction-works-fund-it
Strengthening advocacy by civil society and PWUD community	EHRN	Eastern Europe and Central Asia, f	Stop the spread of HIV among people who use drugs by a targeted promotion of harm reduction approaches, protection of human rights and development of enabling policies. Project activities: seminars and other community capacity-building activities; allocation of small grants to support local advocacy programs and initiatives; practical guidelines for harm reduction and protection of human rights; support for the development of two regional networks of drug users and an international network of young harm reduction activists.	people who use drugs, including those living with HIV	Robert Carr Fund 1'455'000 \$ for the consortium 2016-2018	http://harm-reduction.org/projects/strengthening-civil-society-advocacy-critical-enablers-hiv-response-people-who-use-drugs

Overview of projects and advocacy initiatives aimed at ensuring sustainable transition from donor to domestic funding in CEECA

TB Regional EECA project (TB REP)	PAS Center, WHO/Europe, Alliance for Public Health, TB Europe Coalition et al.	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan	Reduce the burden of TB incidence and stop the spread of drug-resistant TB in 11 EECA countries by increasing political commitment; translating real-life experiences into improving patient-centered TB treatment models; Introducing good practices in the region and replicating them in a realistic, rational, economical and context-appropriate manner.	people with TB and MDR-TB, and those at risk of contracting TB	The Global Fund: \$6 mln. January 2016 - December 2018.	http://aph.org.ua/en/news/launch-of-the-new-regional-project-tb-rep/
Regional Civil Society and Community Support, Coordination and Communication Platform	Alliance for Public Health, ECUO, EHRN, ECOM, SWAN, ENPUD, TB Europe Coalition	Eastern Europe and Central Asia, including Southeast Europe	Support and enhance the capacities of civil society and the participation of communities at all levels in the processes of the Global Fund, namely in the field of community support, protection of rights and gender equality.	Civil society and communities working in the field of AIDS, TB and malaria in EECA	June 2015 – April 2017 (an extension is expected)	http://eecaplatform.org/o-proekte/
EECA CITIES initiatives	Alliance for Public Health	Bulgaria, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Ukraine The project will be implemented in five cities: Almaty (Kazakhstan), Beltsy (Moldova), Odessa (Ukraine), Sofia (Bulgaria) and Tbilisi (Georgia).	Develop models for a sustainable response to HIV and TB among key populations in the EECA cities that would significantly contribute to achieving the 90-90-90 targets in the fight against TB/HIV among key groups. To achieve this, the following four tasks are envisaged: 1. Develop and introduce a model for key groups to reach the 90-90-90 targets in HIV/TB response in the chosen EECA cities. 2. Form effective partnerships between municipal authorities and NGOs/civil society in the chosen EECA cities. 3. Ensure sustainable allocation of municipal financing for programs aimed at key affected populations in the project's cities. 4. Feedback positive results and promote HIV/TB response measures in the cities of EECA and in the world.	PWID in 5 cities: 105 266	The Global Fund: (In the process of signing)	http://aph.org.ua/en/our-works/eastern-europe-and-central-asia/

Overview of projects and advocacy initiatives aimed at ensuring sustainable transition from donor to domestic funding in CEECA

Money Can Buy Health If You Budget For It — Eurasian Regional Consortium	EHRN, ECUO and ECOM	Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and Estonia	To enable People living with HIV; Men who have sex with men; Transgender people and people who use drugs as well as their allies in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA), to have an impact on mobilization of resources for an effective and sustainable response to HIV.	PLWH, PWID, MSM and teenagers	2016 – 2018, RCNF	http://harm-reduction.org/projects/money-can-buy-health-if-you-budget-it-eurasian-regional-consortium
Strengthening the capacity of EWNA and increasing the participation of women in advocacy in EECA		Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Estonia, Foliage, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan	Strengthen the capacity of EWNA and increase the participation of women in advocacy in EECA.	Women living with HIV, victims of violence, drug users, young girls	International Community of Women Living with HIV (Robert Carr Civil Society Networks Fund): \$57,000 in 2017	http://www.ewna.org/novosti-sejchas
Overcoming gaps in EECA: Women living with HIV at the heart of the Sustainable Development Goals agenda		Moldova	Increase the capacity of women living with HIV for a stronger advocacy at the national and regional levels in relation to the SDGs. Identify opportunities for civil society organizations, especially HIV-positive women, to participate in SDGs localization processes.	Women living with HIV	UNDP (Istanbul) \$5,000 USD, 2 months of 2017	
The Consortium of MSM Networks	Lead: GF on MSM & HIV c/o AIDS Project – Los Angeles (U.S.A), from our region: ECOM,	Eastern Europe and Central Asia	The Consortium of MSM Networks is a global, expanding network of advocates and other experts in health, human rights, research, and policy, working to ensure an effective response to HIV among gay men and other men who have sex with men (MSM).	men who have sex with men (MSM)	grant: \$ 2,625,000; 2016-2019	http://msmgf.org/about-us/partners/msm-regional-network/

Overview of projects and advocacy initiatives aimed at ensuring sustainable transition from donor to domestic funding in CEECA

<p>The Global and Regional Networks of Sex Worker Projects Consortium</p>	<p>Lead: NSWP, (U.K.) partner from CEECA: SWAN, ICRSE</p>	<p>Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia</p>	<p>The Global and Regional Networks of Sex Worker Projects Consortium is a global movement that supports actions and advocacy for human rights of sex workers. Good consultative process in developing the proposal and good involvement and linkage with related and interlinked key populations are reflective of each network's capacity and needs.</p>	<p>focus group: sex workers</p>	<p>grant: \$ 1,665,000 grant period: 2016-2018</p>	<p>http://www.nswp.org/what-we-do/sex-worker-networks-consortium</p>
<p>The People living with HIV Networks Consortium</p>	<p>Lead: Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+) partner from our regions: ECUO</p>	<p>Eastern Europe and Central Asia</p>	<p>The People living with HIV Networks Consortium represents people living with HIV globally. They aim to enhance access to services for PLHIV globally and regionally through interregional communication, skills-sharing, and advocacy coordination.</p>	<p>focus group: people living with HIV</p>	<p>grant: \$ 1,665,000 grant period: 2016-2018</p>	<p>http://www.robertcarrfund.org/grantees/people-living-hiv/people-living-hiv-networks-consortium/</p>
<p>Eastern European Key Population Health Network (EKHN)</p>	<p>Lead: Alliance for Public Health Partners: We for Civil Equality, Gender and Development, BelSet antiAIDS, Center for Information and Counseling on Reproductive Health, The Georgian Harm Reduction Network, Union for HIV prevention and Harm Reduction, ESVERO</p>	<p>Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and Russia</p>	<p>Strengthening strategic guidance and support to national partners to 'know their epidemic and response' in order to effectively meet the needs of WG/TG. Assisting countries to ensure that national HIV and development strategies, operational plans, monitoring and evaluation frameworks and associated budgets address the needs and rights of WG/TG in the context of HIV. Advocacy, capacity strengthening and mobilization of resources to deliver a comprehensive set of measures to address the needs and rights of WG/TG in the context of HIV.</p>	<p>focus group: Transgender People, Women & girls</p>	<p>grant: \$ 525,000 grant period: 2016-2018</p>	<p>http://aph.org.ua/en/our-works/eastern-europe-and-central-asia/eastern-european-regional-platform-for-accelerated-action-for-women-girls-and-transgender-in-hiv-aids-context/</p>

Overview of projects and advocacy initiatives aimed at ensuring sustainable transition from donor to domestic funding in CEECA

Annex 2: Event 2017

Events	Additional information	Leading organisation / involved organisations	Main target groups / countries	When
Supporting countries, firstly CCMs, in introducing the Transition Readiness Assessment Tool, developed by Curatio Intl Foundation; Supporting countries' CCMs in preparation and implementation financial transition plans.		UNAIDS	PLWH and other groups affected by HIV	
Further strengthening of ties and cooperation between regional networks, introducing events into joint plans, programs and projects.	Contact info: john.macauley@undp.org	UNDP	ECOM, EHRN, SWAN, EWNA	
Providing TA on issues of intellectual property and access to essential medicines, as well as supporting sustainable procurement in the health sector.	Contact info: john.macauley@undp.org	UNDP	Belarus, Ukraine	
Providing policy and technical assistance to two or three countries in the implementation of the key guidelines outlined in the Report of the High-Level Panel on access to medicines and HIV investment reports	Contact info: john.macauley@undp.org	UNDP	Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Ukraine	
Provision of policy and technical assistance on gender-sensitive, enabling conditions for key populations (Legal Environment Assessment for HIV/TB).	Contact info: john.macauley@undp.org	UNDP	HIV / TB / civil society / Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Ukraine	
Adapting the Legal Environment Assessment (LEAs) methods to be used for HIV and TB.	Contact info: john.macauley@undp.org	UNDP	Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Ukraine	
Supporting countries in developing new applications for funding from the Global Fund in accordance with the windows of Catalytic financing.	Contact info: john.macauley@undp.org	UNDP	Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Ukraine	

Overview of projects and advocacy initiatives aimed at ensuring sustainable transition from donor to domestic funding in CEECA

Developing a Guidance for the review of the regulatory, political and legal framework in the country in terms of social contracting for NGOs (including practical application)	Contact info: john.macauley@undp.org	UNDP	Civil society	
Promotion of the IDUIT Guidance with an aim of introducing it into country transition plans and regional projects where it could help standardise services for HIV-affected populations.		UNFPA	PWUD, MSM, TG, SW / Georgia, Macedonia, Kyrgyzstan, Armenia, Serbia, Albania	
Development of HIV prevention guidelines for young people from all affected groups.		UNFPA	youth, representatives of all groups affected by HIV	
Technical briefs on TB among key populations, in prisons and among migrants.	Contact info: colleend@stoptb.org	StopTB Partnership	representatives of all groups affected by TB	
Promoting customer-oriented, rights-based approach in programmes for TB treatment and care.	Contact info: colleend@stoptb.org	StopTB Partnership	representatives of all groups affected by TB	
Holding workshops on the legal aspects of TB.	Contact info: colleend@stoptb.org	StopTB Partnership	TB	
Evaluation of the legal environment surrounding TB.	Contact info: colleend@stoptb.org	StopTB Partnership	TB	Q2
Gender assessment tool has been developed in the field of TB/HIV in collaboration with UNAIDS. Available in English, French, Russian and Spanish.	Contact info: colleend@stoptb.org	StopTB Partnership	HIV / TB Ukraine	
A regional action plan has been developed for communities to increase sustainable access to quality and continuity of HIV care for all those in need in CEECA for 2017-2020.		ECUO	Kyrgyzstan, Estonia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Russia	
Community training sessions in budget advocacy; exchange of experience, internships and best practices.		ECUO	Kyrgyzstan, Estonia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Russia, Azerbaijan	
Development of a regional collection of service standardisation practices - to show existing practices as well as risks and potential threats.		ECUO		
Technical assistance to countries on services procurement mechanisms (commissioning of social services).		ECUO	Kyrgyzstan, Estonia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Russia, Azerbaijan	
Monitoring of access to medicines in countries (http://arv.ecuo.org/ - price and quality database).		ECUO		
Work on intellectual property in four countries		ECUO		
Regional meeting on the continuum of services in Estonia, attended by government and community representatives.		ECUO		Q4

Overview of projects and advocacy initiatives aimed at ensuring sustainable transition from donor to domestic funding in CEECA

Translation and promotion, training sessions on the MSM Implementation Toolkit (MSMIT).		ECOM	MSM	
Advocacy for MSM services sustainability – country advocacy projects.		ECOM	MSM, TG Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia	
Small grants for sustainability of services.		ECOM	MSM, TG Russia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Armenia and other countries	
Small grants for advocacy on sustainability of services for MSM and TG.		EKOM	Russia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Armenia and other countries	
With MSMGF support – small grants for the remaining countries.		ECOM	MSM, TG	
Grant competition for consortia.		ECOM / EHRN / ECUO	MSM, PWUD, PLWH	
Work to strengthen the capacity of the sex worker community to carry out advocacy on a national and local levels.		SWAN		
Series of training sessions on promoting the Sex Worker Implementation Tool (SWIT)		SWAN		
Provision of TA to enable significant participation of civil society and HIV-affected groups in discussions and development of domestic funding transition plans in respective CEECA countries.		EHRN	Bulgaria, Armenia, Georgia, Belarus, Ukraine, Serbia, Montenegro	Q1 Q2
A database has been created of experts on transition and sustainability.		EHRN	Civil Society	
Transition Readiness Assessment Tool (TRAT) has been prepared.		EHRN		
As part of the CITIES project - plans to develop a model of financing on a municipal level.		Alliance for Public Health	HIV / TB, all affected groups Tbilisi, Odessa, Sofia, Almaty, Beltsy	
Advocacy aimed at inclusion of customer-oriented approach into systems of providing assistance to TB patients.		TBEC	TB	