



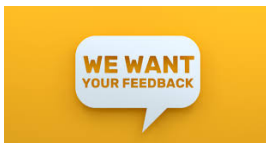
Regional Platform EECA

Newsletter #3, April 2024

Updates

Survey: Global Fund-specific learning needs of HIV and TB communities, key and vulnerable populations, and civil society partners in the EECA region

The [EECA Platform for Communication and Coordination](#) (from 2024, also called EECA Learning Hub) supports the engagement of HIV and TB communities, key population groups, and civil society groups in the Global Fund-supported programs and related processes.



We ask for your support to understand what **your Global Fund-related learning needs are and how the EECA Regional Platform can support peer learning, exchange** of knowledge, **technical guidance and good practices** based on your needs.

The survey is for you if:

- your organization is involved in the development, implementation or monitoring of the Global Fund-supported grants or
- you are representing your communities and civil society in CCM.

You can fill in [English](#) or in [Russian](#). It will take around 20-25 minutes of your time.

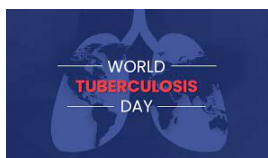
Please fill in the survey by April 05, 2024!

ENGLISH

RUSSIAN

Results of this survey will help the EECA Regional Platform to better plan its activities in the 2024-2026 cycle.

March 24 - World Tuberculosis Day



Although tuberculosis can be prevented and successfully treated, it still is the world's deadliest infectious disease. **March 24 marked the World Tuberculosis Day** and we would like to share with you a few related messages that rippled across the region.

The article by Peter Sands, Executive Director of the Global Fund "TB: No Longer The Forgotten Pandemic?" notes that *"with advancements in TB prevention, diagnosis and treatment tools, with significant reductions in the prices of some key interventions, and with the confidence brought on by strong results, comes real hope of possibility and progress"*.

The Global Fund webpage tells a story of Mira Alimbaeva, drug-resistant TB survivor from Kyrgyzstan, who now advocates against stigma and discrimination affecting people with TB.

Alliance for Public Health issued a report 2024 World TB Day in War-Torn Ukraine: a Story of Resilience. Since the beginning of the war the number of missed TB cases grew up. According to WHO nearly every 2nd TB case is missed in Ukraine. Alliance for Public Health focuses its efforts on innovative case finding at the most at-risk groups, providing medical and psychosocial support for both TB and MDR-TB patients, addressing humanitarian and other health needs, strengthening community response and improving standards and policies.

Funding Opportunities

Funding Opportunity for Local Advocacy Initiatives: Improving Access to Comprehensive, People-Centered Harm Reduction Services for People Who Use Drugs



The call for proposals is a collaborative effort within the [Boost Project](#) by the [Correlation-European Harm Reduction Network \(C-EHRN\)](#), the [Eurasian Harm Reduction Association \(EHRA\)](#), the [Drug Policy Network South East Europe \(DPNSEE\)](#), and the [European Network of People Who Use Drugs \(EuroNPUD\)](#).

Objective Support local advocacy efforts to enhance harm reduction service access.

Funding €3,000 for organizing advocacy activities.

Support Ongoing mentorship and advocacy training participation.

Advocacy priorities

1. Increase political will and financial sustainability for community-based harm reduction.
2. Promote community-driven harm reduction tailored to diverse needs.
3. Access to specific health services including disease prevention and management.
4. Universal access to comprehensive health and social care.

Deadline for applications: April 5, 2024. Interested organizations must submit the application in English through the [online form](#).

Eligibility: Community-based and civil society organizations from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Kosovo*, Greece, Croatia, Slovenia, Romania, Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine.

For more information and to submit your proposal, please visit the [BOOST Project website](#). Should you have any questions, feel free to reach out to igor@harmreductioneurasia.org.

[Apply Now](#)

Global Fund Related News

Tracker: Global Fund's Community Engagement Technical Assistance for EECA Region



Technical assistance being available within the Global Fund's [Community Engagement Technical Assistance \(TA\) Program](#) as a part of its [Community Engagement Strategic Initiative](#) (CE SI) aims to strengthen the engagement of civil society and communities most affected by the three diseases in Global Fund and related processes.

In the first quarter of 2024 the following requests for TA available within this Program were submitted from EECA and approved for implementation:

- TOC – Association for Sustainable Communities Development, Serbia: To strengthen community engagement in GC7 HIV funding request development.
- UNDP, Turkmenistan: To assess gender barriers for TB services in Turkmenistan and provide recommendations for improving gender equality in TB response.

E-Mail for submission of short-term technical assistance requests

ceta@theglobalfund.org

Application form can be requested at

eecaplatform@harmreductioneurasia.org

Before submitting the TA request it needs to be reviewed by the [EECA Regional Platform](#).

Global Fund's Community Engagement Strategic Initiative Team - Who Is Who?



The [Global Fund's](#) Community Engagement Strategic Initiative (CE SI) is aimed on strengthening the leadership and engagement of communities most affected by HIV, TB and malaria in Global Fund and related national processes, throughout the grant life cycle, to improve the impact of Global Fund investments.

3 components of the CE SI:

1. Short-term, peer-to-peer technical assistance
2. Long-term capacity strengthening to networks of key vulnerable populations
3. Regional learning hubs

Starting from 2024 the composition of the Global Fund's Community Engagement Strategic Initiative team has changed. Some people changed their roles and also a number of new people joined the team. We would like to introduce to you the renewed CE SI Team:

Annabelle Metzner, *Technical Advisor on Community Engagement*, Focal point for CE SI & for short-term technical assistance in Francophone Africa and MENA.

Hayley Bates, *Coordination Officer for CE SI and HR SI*, Focal point for Malaria network & for technical assistance providers and general questions about CE SI technical assistance.

Niluka Perera, *Senior Program Officer for Community Engagement*, CE SI, Focal point for Learning Hubs & short-term technical assistance in Asia Pacific and EECA.

Olive Mumba, *Advisor on COVID-19 Community Engagement*, Focal point for TB networks.

Pedro Trinidad Garcia, *Technical Advisor on Community Engagement, CE SI*, Focal point for HIV networks & for short-term technical assistance in Anglophone Africa and LAC.

News from Partners

Training: Managing the Healthcare System Using and International Business Continuity Approach in the Republic of Armenia

The main objective of the [training](#) in March was to initiate structured continuity planning in health and social services in Armenia. The training also highlighted supporting objectives, including explaining the principles of business continuity management, identifying key technical and programmatic risks, and developing solutions for critical processes and services. Special attention was paid to the experience and innovations applied during the war in Ukraine.

Nongovernmental organizations in Armenia, given the war in Nagorno-Karabakh, which among other things has forced 120,000 people from the region to relocate to other regions of Armenia, understand and plan modified interventions as well as seek new sources of funding to implement cutting-edge activism to ensure sustainability of services for key communities during emergencies.

The logo for SOS_PROJECT 2.0, featuring a blue hashtag symbol followed by the text "SOS_PROJECT 2.0" in white and blue.

The event was organized by Social Equation Hub (SEH), Global Fund, WHO with the support of 100% LIFE, Alliance for Public Health within the framework of the [project](#) "Sustainability of Services among Key Populations in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA)" funded by the Global Fund. Representatives of the Global Fund hosted the event, it was also attended by representatives of UNAIDS and World Health Organization.



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