



## Regional Platform EECA

*Newsletter #6, July 2024*

## Updates

### Support the Communique “Secure the Future: Civil Society and Human Rights Imperative for Public Health and HIV Response in CEECA”

The screenshot shows the top portion of a webpage. At the top left is a circular logo with the text 'RISE &amp; DECRIMINALIZE' around a central figure. To its right are the words '\*\*\*SHRINKING SPACE\*\*\*', 'ABOUT US', 'NEWS', and 'РУССКИЙ'. Below this is the main title: 'Secure the Future: Civil Society and Human Rights Imperative for Public Health and HIV Response in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia'. Underneath the title is a subtitle: 'A Communique Initiated by the "Rise &amp; Decriminalize" Movement of Community-led Networks in CEECA:'. Below the subtitle are five logos: ehra (European Human Rights Education Association), a logo with three stylized figures, SWAN (Swan Network for Women's and Gender Equality), ENPUD (European Network of People's Unions and Democracy), and ECOM (European Commission for Democracy and Human Rights). At the bottom of the screenshot is a green bar with the text: 'JOIN THE INITIATIVE &amp; SUPPORT THE COMMUNIQUE! On behalf of a person or the organization'.

Over the last years an increasing number of governments in Central Eastern Europe & Central Asia (CEECA) are adopting new laws and practices that constrain civic space (restricting rights and liberties of civil society), thereby exerting additional pressures and burden on already criminalized populations (LGBTQI+, people living with HIV, people who use drugs, sex workers). Russia’s war against Ukraine has intensified the negative human rights trends of previous years, leading to increased insecurity.

**There is an urgent need for action to safeguard civic spaces.**

In the light of this situation the [Rise & Decriminalize](#) Movement uniting five community-led networks – [ECOM](#), [EHRA](#), [ENPUD](#), [EWNA](#), [SWAN](#) – has initiated a [Communique “Secure the Future: Civil Society and Human Rights Imperative for Public Health and HIV Response in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia”](#).



The **Rise & Decriminalize** Movement **calls for a wide support for the Communique**, so it can serve as a strong voice in advocating among international community, development agencies, donor governments and private donors to address the shrinking space for the communities and civil societies.

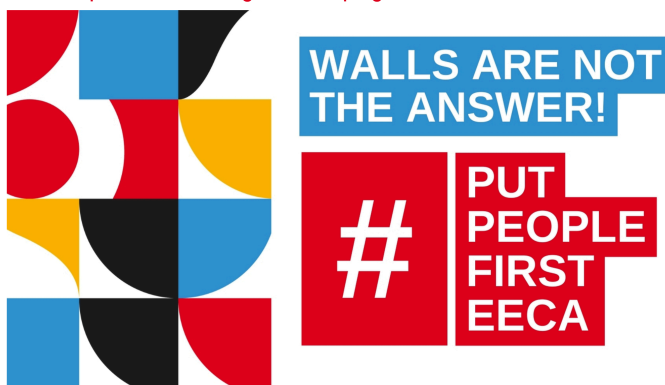
Please **support the Communique and invite your colleagues to do so! Would be grateful for wide share of the call for support!**

Support Now!

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## Campaign in the EECA region: "Walls are not the answer! #PutPeopleFirstEECA"

[#PutPeopleFirstEECA: Regional Campaign Launched](#)



Regional [campaign](#) "Walls are not the answer! #PutPeopleFirstEECA" in the EECA region, ahead of the [25th International AIDS Conference](#) (AIDS 2024) in Munich this July, has been launched.

The campaign **aims** to amplify the voices of the Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) region and give communities, activists, public and international organizations, and human rights defenders working to end the AIDS epidemic a platform to speak out about what hinders the region from stopping the epidemic and why it is important to put people first.

[#PutPeopleFirstEECA - Teaser video](#)

What needs to be done to stop the spread of the infection? How can governments be convinced to fully fund prevention and support programs? And why should people be put first in the fight against HIV? These questions will be discussed at the AIDS 2024 International Conference, where the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region will be one of the priority topics. The information campaign is part of the [#PutPeopleFirst](#) initiative launched by the organizers of the [25th International AIDS Conference](#).

If you want to **join**, record your short **video** message **answering the question "Why should people be put first in the fight against the HIV epidemic?"** and **post it on social media** with the hashtag: **#PutPeopleFirstEECA** and **#PutPeopleFirst**. Your opinion could lead the way!

[The news on the Launch of the campaign and the video teaser.](#)

The **#PutPeopleFirstEECA** campaign is **coordinated by** the **VirusOFF media platform and the Alliance for Public Health**, with the support of UNAIDS EECA. The campaign and activities are carried out with the participation of regional networks and organizations: ECOM, ITPC EECA, EHRA, Teenergizer, EWNA, ENPUD, REG, EKPC, AFEW, HAC, 100% Life, Alliance Consultancy, Life 4me+, Eurasian Movement for the Rights to Health in Prisons, and others.

**Follow** the pages of the [VirusOFF](#) media platform and its partners on social media to not miss updates within the campaign and the launch of the special EECA page for AIDS 2024.

Learn more about Eastern Europe and Central Asia at AIDS 2024 by visiting [aids2024.virusoff.info](https://aids2024.virusoff.info), a special web page dedicated to EECA and AIDS 2024 on the online regional platform Virus OFF.

**Social Media campaign videos will be published through:**

[Instagram - Virus off](#)

[Facebook - Virus Off](#)

[X Social Network - UNAIDS EECA](#)

[Linkedin - Alliance for Public Health](#)

## Funding Opportunities

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### The Dalan Fund: Call for Applications Coming Soon

[The Dalan Fund](#) will soon be opening a call for applications for the pilot resource distribution cycle. The **application period - from 8th July till 8th August 2024**.



During this inaugural cycle, the **Fund aims to fund registered organizations and unregistered collectives:**

- Led by Women, trans, intersex, and gender non-conforming people;
- Based in Central and Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Central and North Asia (CEECCNA) regions, or diasporic and migrant organizing from CEECCNA;
- Working on crisis prevention, preparedness, response, and/or recovery in their communities;
- Working at the intersection of multiple issues and communities (see Dalan Fund's web page for your reference)
- Those committed to social, gender, economic, and environmental justice, human rights, freedom, and dignity for all.

Follow the Dalan Fund social media for more details and updates, and sign up for Dalan Fund's newsletter via <https://dalan.fund/contact-us>.

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### Kazakhstan USAID-Almaty: Call for Proposals on Ensuring Accessibility to Quality HIV Services in Kazakhstan

## VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY

72011524RFA00008

Ensuring Accessibility to Quality HIV Services in Kazakhstan (SAPA)

Agency for International Development

Kazakhstan USAID-Almaty

The **United States Agency for International Development (USAID)** is seeking applications for a fixed amount award cooperative agreement from qualified entities to implement the Ensuring Accessibility to Quality HIV Services (SAPA) in Kazakhstan. Eligibility for this award is restricted to qualified local organizations.

More information is available [here](#).

**Application deadline: 15 July 2024.**

## Vacancies & Tenders

### Two Requests for Proposals from the Global Fund



Two Requests for Proposals have recently been published by the [Global Fund's Evaluation and Learning Office](#):

- **Evaluation of Community Engagement in the Global Fund Grant Cycle** - closing date is [2 August 2024 5:00 PM \(CEST\)](#).
- **Evaluation of Community Responses and Systems Strengthening** - closing date is [8 August 2024 5:00 PM \(CEST\)](#).

All **RFP documents** are available [here](#).

## Global Fund Related News

### Gender Equality Fund Announces Funding Partners

The **Gender Equality Fund** established in 2023 by the [Global Fund](#) in partnership with **GSK** and **ViiV Healthcare** in June 2024 has [announced](#) its inaugural set of funding partners, spanning organizations, networks and consortia working in seven countries (Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Mozambique, Nigeria, Uganda and Zambia). The partners will be awarded up to a total of US\$7.5 million in grants over the next three years to help accelerate progress towards gender equality through community engagement and empowerment.

More information about the Gender Equality Fund can be found at the [Global Fund's website](#).

Comment from **Ganna Dovbakh**, [EHRA](#) Executive Director, member of the Steering Group the [Women4GlobalFund](#) (W4GF):



*“In the CEECA region in wartime, a time of rising patriarchy, when anti-gender opposition becoming stronger and states lack policies and services protecting women from gender-based violence, we desperately need programs to ensure gender equality to ending AIDS, and tuberculosis and ensuring universal health coverage. Now in seven countries of Africa, the Gender Equality Fund brought additional resources to support the rights and leadership of women and girls through community-level activities to change behavior, perceptions, attitudes, and practices around gender-based violence. I sincerely hope that this is just the beginning, and in the future the Global Fund in cooperation with its partners will expand the Gender Equality Fund to other countries of the world which are also in need of such support, including those in EECA.”*

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## Call for Applications: Join the Global Fund Youth Council



### **Terms of Reference – Global Fund Youth Council: Call for Applicants**

The [Global Fund Youth Council](#) serves as an advisory body to the Executive Director and the Global Fund Secretariat on matters pertaining to young people affected by the three diseases. Comprising 12 members, the council provides insights and relays critical issues and contextual nuances from across countries eligible to receive Global Fund allocations. It works to ensure that the Global Fund is informed by the unique needs and perspectives of young people, to maximize the impact of Global Fund investments to fight HIV, TB and malaria.

#### **Who Should Apply?**

We welcome applicants who:

- Were born in 1998 or later.
- Are engaged with youth organizations, networks or groups in HIV, TB or malaria responses, or other related areas such as gender equality, human rights, sexual and reproductive health, or universal health coverage.
- Are living with, affected by or vulnerable to HIV, TB and malaria, including individuals from key and vulnerable populations.
- Can commit at least 2 hours per week to Youth Council activities.
- Can communicate effectively in English.
- Have internet access.

#### **How to Apply**

To express your interest, please send an email to [jonathan.williams-ordonez@theglobalfund.org](mailto:jonathan.williams-ordonez@theglobalfund.org).

***In your email, include:***

- Your CV (please include your year of birth)
- A one-page motivation letter OR a two-minute video answering these questions: Why are you interested in being part of the Youth Council? How would your experience contribute to the Youth Council, especially in relation to HIV, TB, malaria, or broader health issues?
- A recommendation letter from the authorized person of your organization, network, group or an affiliated partner organization

**The deadline to apply is midnight CEST, 31 July 2024.**

More information in English is available [here](#).

**Apply Now!**

## **Global Fund Policies & Documents**

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### **Operational Update on Latest Resources from the Global Fund**



In June the [Global Fund](#) issued the new edition of **Operational Update**. It contains the following resources for its in-country partners:

- **For PRs:** new guidelines and information session. Guidelines on sub-recipient and supplier integrity due diligence
- **For CCMs:** new briefing note on protection from sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment.
- Oxygen: new **Project BOXER technical documents**.
- **New web page on community health workers**.
- Latest edition of the **TB Quarterly Update**.

[More information is available in English.](#)

**Find Out More!**

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**Community Engagement Strategic Initiative:  
Update June 2024**

## Community Engagement Strategic Initiative

Update

June 2024



The objective of the [community engagement strategic initiative](#) (CE SI) is to strengthen the engagement and leadership of communities most affected by HIV, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria in Global Fund and related national processes.

The [document](#) provides updates on the following topics:

- What's New for the Community Engagement Strategic Initiative in Grant Cycle 7.
- Looking Back – Major Achievements of the Community Engagement Strategic Initiative in Grant Cycle 6.

[Read More!](#)



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