

**CELEBRATING
25 YEARS OF
APH IN EECA**



**Alliance
for Public Health**

Alliance for Public Health (APH) is celebrating its 25 years on December 1st. To mark this milestone, we are sharing 12 most significant achievements of our work in EECA during these years. These achievements are done in incredible partnership and trust at the regional and national levels, technical excellence and persistence. We praise our colleagues in EECA for the great developments we were able to do together!

1. INTRODUCED PREP IN 3 COUNTRIES FOR FIRST TIME, SUCCESSFULLY ADVOCATED FOR LA-PREP AND LOW-THRESHOLD MODELS CLIENTS

In 2021–2024, **North Macedonia (214 clients)**, **Bosnia and Herzegovina (69 clients)** and **Montenegro (65 clients)** successfully piloted PrEP service among MSM with APH support, purchasing PrEP drugs **10 times cheaper** than commercial ART prices through SoS 2.0 and WHO-supported partners. In **Ukraine**, SoS 2.0 advocacy enabled the launch of **CAB LA PrEP for 200 MSM in Kyiv and Lviv** with PHC MoH and APH, supported by an awareness campaign. In **Kazakhstan**, iSoS project initiated a new model improving **PrEP access for migrants (57 clients)**, ensuring confidential NGO-based testing, pharmacy vouchers, and data integration into the national system.



2. DIGITALISED HIV RESPONSE IN EECA ENSURING BETTER DATA FOR PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

DHIS2 based National HIV prevention, care and support system was developed and launched in **Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan** nationwide, in 2025 a pilot had also started in **Georgia** on the basis of GHRN. It allows for collection (offline and online, including on mobile devices), storage, analysis and presentation of all relevant service delivery data throughout the country. So far over 60 thousand clients and 380 thousand events have been registered across the three countries.

Two regional cross-country solutions - **Regional HIV Data Dashboard** and **ART Reference Prices Portal** - had been developed. The Dashboard currently includes prevention and treatment, human rights violations, social contracting and transition data on Moldova and Ukraine, whereas the Prices portal - on Moldova, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan for 2021 (2022) - 2024.



3. BROUGHT VIRTUAL SOCIAL WORKER TO EECA HIV RESPONSE

<https://twiin.aph.org.ua>

AI based Digital Assistant TWIIN was developed and launched in Ukraine in 2024, offering accurate up-to-date information on all topics relevant to HIV and related to key populations health, rights, gender, drug use and more. It had attracted **over 10 thousand users**.



#SOS-project



#iSoS EMPOWERING & INNOVATIONS





4. REDUCED ART PRICES TO SAVE COSTS AND ENABLE SCALED PROGRAMMING

In EECA countries (Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan) **total savings on procurement of ARVs** during 2019-2021 as result of effective advocacy actions, negotiations with pharma, manufacturers and generics were exceeding **15 mln USD**. Average cost of treatment of one patient in the region decreased from 264 USD in 2018 to 190 USD in 2021.

5. CATALYZED HIV RESPONSES IN 34 CITIES IN EECA

Starting 2017, with APH support 34 municipalities joined Fast Track Cities family by signing Paris Declaration in 13 countries from EECA and SEE regions, namely: Odesa, Dnipro and Kryviy Rih (Ukraine), Almaty (Kazakhstan), Tbilisi (Georgia), Chisinau and Balti (Moldova), Osh (Kyrgyz Republic), Svetlogorsk (Belarus), Podgorica, Bar and Bijelo-Polje (Montenegro), Skopje (North Macedonia), Sarajevo, Mostar and Bijelina (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Sombor, Kragujevac, Zvezdara, Subotica, Novi Sad, Sabac, Stari Grad, Zajecar, Novi Pazar and Nis (Serbia), Tashkent and Samarkand (Uzbekistan), Kulyab and Khorog (Tajikistan), Kolonja, Durres, Pogradec and Shkoder (Albania). The cities developed and implemented municipal HIV programs aiming at 95-95-95. \$6.7 M were allocated from local budgets for HIV programs within FTC.



6. BROUGHT DRUG POLICY ADVOCACY TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL

The EECA Drug Policy Commission, supported by Alliance for Public Health, has carried out several high-level political country visits, resulting in the abolition of compulsory treatment and transformation of drug registration system into dynamic monitoring in Kyrgyzstan, stabilization of opioid substitution therapy (OST) in Kazakhstan, and development of new drug strategies in Ukraine and Moldova. The Commission enhances the region's visibility on international platforms, such as annual sessions of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs, through organization of the side events, behind-the-scenes advocacy, and preparation of key policy papers, including the Guiding principles towards effective and humane drug policies in Eastern and Central Europe and Central Asia and What is Harm Reduction? A Position Paper by the Eastern and Central European and Central Asian Commission on Drug Policy.



7. RECORDED AND RESPONDED TO HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS OF KEY POPULATIONS

The monitoring and response mechanism [REAct](#) for addressing barriers to health services caused by human rights violations, discrimination, and stigma has been successfully implemented in 14 countries across Eastern Europe, the Balkans, the South Caucasus, and Central Asia. Since its introduction in the region in 2019, over 30 thousand cases have been documented, with a cumulative total of 55% addressed. This secure mechanism has become the region's most comprehensive source of data to support effective, evidence-based advocacy. It also enables real-time tracking of trends and challenges, allowing for timely program adjustments and responsive advocacy interventions.





8. SUPPORTED THE VOICES OF REGIONAL KEY POPULATIONS NETWORKS

Starting from 2017, APH has been supporting regional networks of key populations as substantial players of HIV advocacy, response and mobilisation. Over the course of these years, ENPUD, EHRA, ECOM, EWNA, EKPC, REG, SEE RCN have been continuously supported to take advocacy action and be a strong voice of their communities in the region.

9. MODEL TO MAKE HEPATITIS C TREATMENT A REALITY FOR PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS

APH contributed to Introduction of a simplified Hepatitis C testing and treatment algorithm for people who use drugs. The program is reaching PWID in community settings and prisoners in Kyrgyzstan and will treat some 1000 persons - becoming the EECA model for PWID interventions on hepatitis C.



10. COVID-19 MITIGATED

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the SoS project ensured the continuity of services for key populations in the EECA countries. In 2021–2022, **over 200 thousand rapid SARS-CoV-2 tests** were procured for **10 countries**. To minimize contact, contactless solutions were implemented: **13 vending machines** for distributing COVID-19 and HIV prevention supplies were installed in Moldova and Montenegro and a telemedicine mHealth platform for online consultations was supported in BiH. **Crisis services** were established for women using drugs and experiencing violence and **flexible shelters** for LGBTQ+ people in **9 countries**. APH supported combined test deliveries, digital solutions, low-threshold services, and protective mechanisms for key populations, adapting HIV prevention to the pandemic.

11. BUDGET ADVOCACY SUPPORTED TRANSITION TO NATIONAL FUNDING

APH used a number of tools, including costing interventions, developing standards and regulations, developing legislation, advocating for inclusion into national budgets, working with insurance schemes, facilitating OPTIMA results implementation to enable focused funding allocation to HIV programs. During 2022-2024, **more than 9 mln USD** have been allocated for HIV programs through social contracting mechanisms.



12. MADE HIV PREVENTION AND TREATMENT FLOW ACROSS THE BORDERS EVEN IN CONFLICTS

APH established HelpNOW Hub - online navigation and telemedicine by doctors for Ukrainians PLHIV and KP fleeing the war in Ukraine. Over 50 thousand cases have been connected and supported in 50 countries of the world. APH supported establishment and functioning of remote registration of PLHIV, ART prescription and delivery for migrants in EECA. This service is officially available for migrants from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.



Find out more about the current activities of the iSoS Regional Partnership – isos.aph.org.ua



Alliance for Public Health expresses admiration and appreciation of the incredible work of all our partners, all implementing partners, community and civil society networks, NGO staff and social workers, doctors and nurses! You are amazing!

All the great things we have achieved, we have achieved together! We also appreciate governmental institutions, UN agencies and other international organizations.

We express sincere gratitude for critical support from our donors, your funding is critical for sustaining HIV and TB response in Eastern Europe and Central Asia! BIG THANKS to The Global Fund, UNITAID, Aidsfonds, Frontline AIDS, EATG, Robert Carr Fund.

