

## *Lessons learnt*

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**2008-2015** – MDR-TB prevention and control in Georgia

and

**2009- 2017** - Combat against spread of HIV/AIDS and level of stigmatization through prevention activities among youth and harm reduction activities among target injecting drug users



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## **2009 - 2017 - Combat against spread of HIV/AIDS and level of stigmatization through prevention activities among youth and harm reduction activities among target injecting drug users**

**Main Goal:** Reduce spread of HIV/AIDS and level of stigma/discrimination attached to HIV/AIDS and drug addiction.

**Objective 1:** Improve health and psychological status of the target 100 people who inject drugs (PWID) and 100 co-dependent persons by implementing outreach field activities, providing psychological support, referring/accompany them to relevant medical institutions and conducting advocacy/communication/social mobilization activities.

### **Objective 2:**

Prevent HIV/AIDS transmission and stigma/discrimination attached to HIV/AIDS and drug addiction through implementing informational-educational activities among youth and target IDUs.

**In 13-year period the GRCS project** team decreased vulnerability to HIV/AIDS and improve health/social/psychological status of more than **1500 PWID** and their family members and **30,000 youngsters**.



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## **2009 - 2017 - Combat against spread of HIV/AIDS and level of stigmatization through prevention activities among youth and harm reduction activities among target injecting drug users**

### **In 2018-2019**

- We continued conducting HIV preventing, educating, harm reduction, psychological support and advocacy activities.
- We conduct regular psychological consultations to 32 PWID and their family members/close people.
- We maintain communication with our regular 77 client-PHWD and helped them to be benefited by medical and harm reduction services available in partner organisations.
- We provide psychological support to beneficiaries of our partner community based organisations.
- We conduct awareness raising sessions for more than 3,000 students/youngsters.

## 2008- 2015 – MDR-TB prevention and control in Georgia

**Main Goal:** Reduce the burden of tuberculosis in Georgia by strengthening national TB response and reducing number of TB cases and stigma/discrimination at community, facility and national levels.

### **Main objectives of the GRCS in fighting against MDR-TB were**

- 1) Strengthening of the key population to involve them in TB – control and Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilisation (ACSM) activities.
- 2) Empowerment of communities/civil society organisations and establishment of a Patients' Union/ TB Georgian Coalition.
- 3) Strengthening treatment adherence of the target MDR-TB patients to support the Georgian National TB Control Program (NTP) in performing its objectives.
- 4) Raising TB early detection and reduce stigma and discrimination attached to TB by educating communities on TB.

**In 8-year period the GRCS project** team and improve health/social/psychological status of more than **500 people with DR-TB** and their family members and decreased vulnerability to TB of more than **24,000 people**.

## Findings / Lessons learnt

- Strongly individual approach
- Educating and engaging of the former or current beneficiaries in the project activities helps
  - To reduce pre-diagnostic loss
  - To improve treatment outcomes
  - To break social isolation
  - To better advocate and to be involved in HIV/TB control
  - To better prevent
  - To improve psychological status
  - To strengthen beneficiaries to manage their and their peers health and social status
- Raising awareness of the communities supports to increasing of TB early detection and to reducing stigma/discrimination.



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Thank you for your  
attention!  
Questions?

