

**EG on Prison Health  
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| <b>Reference</b>        | PH 3/7/3/   |
| <b>Title</b>            | <b>Ongoing and Future Projects in Penal Institutions of Lithuania</b> |
| <b>Submitted by</b>     |   |
| <b>Summary / Note</b>   | -   |
| <b>Requested action</b> | For information   |

## ONGOING AND FUTURE PROJECTS IN PENAL INSTITUTIONS OF LITHUANIA

| No. | TITLE  | DESCRIPTION AND SIGNIFICANCE   | SOURCES OF FINANCING   | DURATION   |
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| 1.  | <b>The Need to Improve the Epidemiological Situation in the Correction House for Prisoners with TB</b> | <p>Renovation and refurbishment of a building within the prison territory for inmates with TB to facilitate the inmates and improve TB epidemiological situation of a prison system. Better facilities were also provided for isolation of inmates with infectious TB, with a special emphasis laid on MDR-TB.</p> <p>From the Project funds a local sector was established inside the institution for persons with active TB to ensure the block of infection.</p>  | <p>The Project was partially financed by Norway. Most funds were allocated from the budget of the institution.</p>                       | 2004 -2005 |
| 2.  | <b>Possibilities of HIV Prevention in a Remand Prison (Lithuania)</b>                                  | <p>Siauliai Remand Prison is located in the North West of Lithuania. Arrested and untried men and women from Central and Western Lithuania are kept there. Convicted persons` heath is checked at admission. The inmates are tested for HIV on the voluntary basis. If we want to reduce the spread of HIV among the inmates we have to consolidate preventive activities which require substantial financing. The aim of this Project is to prevent the spread of HIV in the prisons of Lithuania, to provide enough condoms and disinfection agents; to continue voluntary HIV testing; to improve and adapt staff teaching and qualification programmes on prevention; to educate inmates about the ways of safe behavior, to inform them about the high risk of HIV transfer in prison; to ensure that information provided reaches all the inmates (radio-lecturing, leaflets, educational groups, etc.); to ensure the working conditions with minimum</p> | <p>The Project was partially financed by Norway. Siauliai Remand Prison implemented the Project using the funds from its own budget.</p> | 2004 -2005 |

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|    |  | <p>risk of infection for the staff working with HIV, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and TB infected inmates.</p> <p>From the Project funds the radio for broadcasting the educational programs was installed, leaflets were published. Due to the regime requirements detainees cannot be taught in groups so the educational programs should be kept on broadcasting. Funds are needed for lecturers.</p>   |   |   |
| 3. | <p><b>Commencement of Project Cooperation on Tuberculosis between Lithuanian National Tuberculosis Programme (NTP) and Norwegian Association of Heart and Lung Patients (LHL Norway)</b></p> | <p>There has been a dramatic increase of mortality, drug resistance and multi-drug resistance incidents in the Baltic States since its restoration of its independence in 1990. The Nordic Federation of Heart and Lung Handicapped (NHL) established by and for TB patients was concerned about this issue. Thus NHL has felt a special obligation to engage actively in the fight against TB in the Baltic States.</p> <p>This Project aims to strengthen TB health authorities and staff by external technical support, local training. It is expected to lead to decreased in default rate in TB treatment.</p> <p>The Project is essential to penal institutions: education of patients is expected to raise their consciousness and motivation for anti TB treatment outside (currently there are appr. 25% of released persons who have not finished anti TB treatment in penal institutions and failed to do it outside. This leads to increase in drug resistance). It is of great importance to follow up with patient education in groups, educate patients to share their experience. Different educational material is indispensable.</p> | <p>The Government of Norway, LHL Norway</p> | <p>Initiated in 2003 and currently in progress.</p> |

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| 4. | <p><b>Scaling up Treatment and Care for HIV/AIDS and TB and Accelerating Prevention within the Health System in the Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania)</b></p> | <p>The goal is to reduce HIV and TB transmission, vulnerability from and impact of HIV/AIDS and TB in the three Baltic States. This Project will strengthen the capacity of the Baltic countries to incorporate the control of HIV/AIDS and TB into their national health policy and planning, as well as the development of their health systems. This will require multi-sectoral advocacy to ensure a commitment to address these issues that translates into actual sustained financial priorities. At the same time, additional funding will have to be built into the system in away that is coherent with or better contributes to improving its strategic capacity to improve equity and deliver cost-effective care.</p> <p>The products or outputs of the Project are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. enhanced political and financial commitment for HIV/AIDS and Tb prevention, treatment and care;</li> <li>2. improved country coordinating mechanisms with all partners;</li> <li>3. sub-regional policies and clinical protocol for TB/HIV formulated;</li> <li>4. progress of HIV/AIDS and TB programmes collaboration monitored;</li> <li>5. implications of HIV/AIDS and TB control incorporated into national health financing (e. g. benefit package calculation, provider payment methods) and service delivery (e. g. primary care) systems.</li> </ol> <p>After the legal base of monitoring HIV infected inmates among TB infected ones and vice versa – of TB infected inmates among HIV infected ones is</p> | <p>WHO<br/>(funds allocated by France)</p> | <p>2005-2007</p> |
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|    |  | established subsidiary funds shall be necessary for implementation of contingent actions.  |   |           |
| 5. | <b>HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care among Injecting Drug Users and in Prison Settings in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania</b> | <p>The epidemics in all three countries are concentrated among high-risk populations of injecting drug users and in prisons. There is an urgent need to prevent escalation into other settings and populations.</p> <p>The overarching goal of the project is to establish a favourable environment in all project countries to better implement HIV/AIDS prevention and care activities among injecting drug users and in prisons through addressing normative policy, capacity building and programmatic aspects of national HIV/AIDS prevention activities.</p> <p>This project addresses the policy makers in order to increase the government's commitment for the implementation of the HIV/AIDS prevention and care programmes among injecting drug users and in prisons. It also aims at strengthening the governmental and civil society organizations in delivering high quality services to high risk populations. The implementation strategy involves the development of a sustainable and ongoing enabling political environment, increasing capacity to provide quality interventions, and the introduction of comprehensive interventions targeted to injecting drug users and prisoners. The elements of the strategy comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involvement of all governmental and non-governmental stakeholders in project design, implementation and monitoring;</li> <li>• Completion of comprehensive baseline measurements and needs assessments across all</li> </ul> | UNODC<br>(funds allocated by the Netherlands) | 2006-2010 |

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|  |  | <p>framework elements;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviews of the legislative, administrative and operational environments, followed by normative advocacy and assistance in redrafting;</li> <li>• A study tour by policy makers, service providers to countries which provide comprehensive HIV prevention and care services for injecting drug users and in prisons;</li> <li>• Development and introduction of relevant tools, training curricula, accreditation and quality control protocols;</li> <li>• The establishment of a regional capacity-building centre and information network;</li> <li>• The establishment of a critical mass of trained and accredited service providers;</li> <li>• Introduction of comprehensive interventions for injecting drug users and in prisons;</li> <li>• Independent mid-term and end of project evaluations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Expected Outcome:</b> HIV/AIDS epidemics among injecting drug users and in prison settings in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania halted and reversed.</p> |  |  |
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