

HIV, TB and AI Expert Group Progress report for 2018

Please insert only one policy document or project per the two tables. If necessary multiply the tables.

Policy document/project name: Regular meetings of Expert Group on HIV, TB and AI

1. Summary of activity

NDPHS Strategy 2020 objectives (list the relevant Strategy objectives to which the policy/project contributes)	Objective 1: Reduced impact of HIV, TB and associated infections among key populations at risk, including prisoners, through strengthened prevention and access to treatment
NDPHS Strategy 2020 cross-cutting themes (list the relevant Strategy cross-cutting themes to which the policy/project contributes)	Health equity and social cohesion in all actions Inclusion of people in vulnerable situations in all actions of relevance
Horizontal results (list NDPHS Action Plan horizontal results toward achievement of which the policy/project contributes)	Increased visibility of the NDPHS and of the Expert Group in the Partner Countries
Immediate objectives (list immediate objectives, such as: development and dissemination of policy recommendations, a report, a review, a strategy, a thematic paper, etc.)	Country overviews or presentations prepared by experts of general character or on a special theme. A meeting may decide about actions/assignments to be implemented by EG experts in between meetings, including preparation of special material (articles, briefs, posts, etc.)
Immediate & ultimate beneficiaries (immediate beneficiaries are the	NDPHS CSR members Policy makers from NDHPS area

<i>groups/entities who will be directly positively affected by the action, e.g. policy makers; ultimate beneficiaries are those who will benefit from the action in the long term at the level of the society or sector at large)</i>	
Area covered <i>(list countries/regions/municipalities, etc.)</i>	NDPHS members
Implementing organization <i>(list the NDPHS structures/other organizations, institutions and experts leading the implementation of the activity)</i>	EG on HIV, TB and AI
Essential partners <i>(list organizations, institutions and experts engaged in the activity)</i>	EG experts
Budget <i>(specify the budget of the activity in EUR)</i>	Travel and participation costs by experts and host organization
Financing agency <i>(specify financing agency/agencies and the amount of funding (in EUR) granted by each financing agency)</i>	None

2. Progress in the implementation of activity in 2018

Expected result (as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Target (as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Progress toward target (use the indicator as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Further action required, obstacles, comments	Sustainability and expected long-term impact <i>(Describe: 1) how the results of the NDPHS activity are/will be used and how the follow-up and sustainability of the results will be ensured, and 2) expected impact of the NDPHS activity)</i>
1. Enhanced international and multi-sectoral stakeholder cooperation on HIV, TB and AI-related issues in the Northern Dimension area, with inclusion of NGOs and broader society representatives	2-3 more HIV, TB and AI stakeholder cooperation platforms involving NGOs and representatives of other sectors	The regular meetings of the EG constitutes a well-functioning platform and offers opportunities to raise, discuss and agree on involvement into other relevant platforms	In spring, a joint meeting with the Prison Health EG was organized and demonstrated success. The practice of joint meetings with other EGs should continue.	The activity seems to be sustainable as the EG experts are nominated by respective NDPHS members and have budgets for participation at EG meetings. Meeting reports are prepared and decisions made at meetings are followed up by the EG leadership. Besides, the EG meeting is the key body to agree on EG's yearly plans of actions. The range of such actions may vary from development of policy recommendations to participation at an event to making an article for the NDPHS news bulletin

Policy document/project name: Participation in EU's Joint Action HA-REACT (Joint Action on HIV and Co-infection Prevention and Harm Reduction)

1. Summary of activity

NDPHS Strategy 2020 objectives (list the relevant Strategy objectives to which the policy/project contributes)	Reduced impact of HIV, TB and associated infections among key populations at risk, including prisoners, through strengthened prevention and access to treatment
NDPHS Strategy 2020 cross-cutting themes (list the relevant Strategy cross-cutting themes to which the policy/project contributes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health equity and social cohesion in all actions - Innovative approaches and technologies - Inclusion of people in vulnerable situations in all actions of relevance
Horizontal results (list NDPHS Action Plan horizontal results toward achievement of which the policy/project contributes)	Increased visibility of the NDPHS in the Partner Countries
Immediate objectives (list immediate objectives, such as: development and dissemination of policy recommendations, a report, a review, a strategy, a thematic paper, etc.)	Regular update of EU's Joint Action HA-REACT on developments in EG on HIV, TB and AI and relevant NDPHS news, and vice versa Consideration of HA-REACT's results and activities for possible use by the EG experts
Immediate & ultimate beneficiaries (immediate beneficiaries are the groups/entities who will be directly positively affected by the action, e.g. policy makers; ultimate beneficiaries are those who will benefit from the action in the long term at the level of the society or sector at large)	Immediate: EG experts Ultimate: people living with HIV, TB and AI and populations at risk
Area covered (list countries/regions/municipalities, etc.)	NDPHS Partners
Implementing organization (list the NDPHS structures/other organizations, institutions and experts leading the	Chair and ITA are nominated by Finland. All ND partners nominate their experts to the Expert Group and ensure their work as members of the EG and attendance of events organized or promoted by the EG.

<i>implementation of the activity)</i>	
Essential partners (list organizations, institutions and experts engaged in the activity)	Poland and Latvia hosted the EG meetings in 2018.
Budget (specify the budget of the activity in EUR)	Own resources related to participation at meetings
Financing agency (specify financing agency/agencies and the amount of funding (in EUR) granted by each financing agency)	Travel budget allocated for Chair/nominated representative of EG on HIV, TB and AI

2. Progress in the implementation of activity in 2018

Expected result (as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Target (as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Progress toward target (use the indicator as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Further action required, obstacles, comments	Sustainability and expected long-term impact <i>(Describe: 1) how the results of the NDPHS activity are/will be used and how the follow-up and sustainability of the results will be ensured, and 2) expected impact of the NDPHS activity)</i>
Enhanced international and multi-sectoral stakeholder cooperation on HIV, TB and AI-related issues in the Northern Dimension area, with inclusion of NGOs and broader society representatives.	Enlarging the number of HIV, TB and AI stakeholder cooperation platforms involving NGOs and representatives of other sectors	No. of HIV, TB and AI stakeholder cooperation platforms involving NGOs and representatives of other sectors – EG Chair participated at the meetings of the Advisory Board and the Final Conference of the HA-REACT, and coordinator of HA-REACT attends meetings of the EG	– Linkage with the HA-REACT Project is strong and sustainable – At the moment, the EG has no nominated experts from the WHO or ECDC	Results, achievements and news of the HA-REACT Joint Action are disseminated through the EG network, and vice versa. The place on the advisory board gives a strong voice and resonance to produced advice.

Policy document/project name: Engagement into implementation of the Nordic Council of Ministers' Thematic Programme for Health Promotion and Prevention - Mobilizing Resources for Better Response: Immunodeficiency virus and associated infections (HIV&Co) 2017-2018

1. Summary of activity

NDPHS Strategy 2020 objectives (list the relevant Strategy objectives to which the policy/project contributes)	Reduced impact of HIV, TB and associated infections among key populations at risk, including prisoners, through strengthened prevention and access to treatment
NDPHS Strategy 2020 cross-cutting themes (list the relevant Strategy cross-cutting themes to which the policy/project contributes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Innovative approaches and technologies - Inclusion of people in vulnerable situations in all actions of relevance
Horizontal results (list NDPHS Action Plan horizontal results toward achievement of which the policy/project contributes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthened support and involvement of other stakeholders in the NDPHS-facilitated activities - Increased and strengthened policies to improve health and social wellbeing through regional cooperation
Immediate objectives (list immediate objectives, such as: development and dissemination of policy recommendations, a report, a review, a strategy, a thematic paper, etc.)	Contribution of NDPHS Partners (mainly from Nordic Countries) to the Programme implementation through advice provision and expertise sharing
Immediate & ultimate beneficiaries (immediate beneficiaries are the groups/entities who will be directly positively affected by the action, e.g. policy makers; ultimate beneficiaries are those who will benefit from the action in the long term at the level of the society or sector at large)	NCM Programme's partners and EG expert organisations from Nordic Countries
Area covered (list countries/regions/municipalities, etc.)	Nordic Countries and Northwest Russia
Implementing organization (list the NDPHS structures/other organizations, institutions and experts leading the	THL as the Lead Partner, Swedish Public Health Agency as Nordic Partner

<i>implementation of the activity)</i>	
Essential partners (list organizations, institutions and experts engaged in the activity)	See above (THL Finland and Public Health Agency of Sweden) Pavlov Medical State University, St. Petersburg NW Russian regional health authorities (ministries of health)
Budget (specify the budget of the activity in EUR)	app 800,000 euros
Financing agency (specify financing agency/agencies and the amount of funding (in EUR) granted by each financing agency)	Nordic Council of Ministers

2. Progress in the implementation of activity in 2018

Expected result (as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Target (as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Progress toward target (use the indicator as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Further action required, obstacles, comments	Sustainability and expected long-term impact <i>(Describe: 1) how the results of the NDPHS activity are/will be used and how the follow-up and sustainability of the results will be ensured, and 2) expected impact of the NDPHS activity)</i>
Improved effectiveness of HIV, TB and AI prevention actions in the Northern Dimension area	3-4 prevention actions supported by 2020	No. of national prevention actions supported - THL was responsible for planning the Programme - EG experts from Nordic Countries contributed to the planning process	EG Chair participated at the final conference of the NCM Programme on 3 October in St. Petersburg and delivered a presentation about the NDPHS and EG activity and encouraged further cooperation on communicable disease control in the ND area. In spring 2019, the Nordic Council of Ministers will launch an open call for proposals, which can be used as a financial instrument for smaller projects between organisations in Nordic Countries and NW Russia.	It is assumed that the EG experts and their organisations will tighten cooperation with NW Russia on communicable disease control

Policy document/project name: Seminar “Hepatitis as a Co-Infection for HIV and Tuberculosis”, 3-4 December 2018, St. Petersburg

1. Summary of activity

NDPHS Strategy 2020 objectives (list the relevant Strategy objectives to which the policy/project contributes)	Reduced impact of HIV, TB and associated infections among key populations at risk, including prisoners, through strengthened prevention and access to treatment
NDPHS Strategy 2020 cross-cutting themes (list the relevant Strategy cross-cutting themes to which the policy/project contributes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusion of people in vulnerable situations in all actions of relevance - Innovative approaches and technologies
Horizontal results (list NDPHS Action Plan horizontal results toward achievement of which the policy/project contributes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased and strengthened policies to improve health and social wellbeing through regional cooperation - Increased visibility of the NDPHS in the Partner Countries
Immediate objectives (list immediate objectives, such as: development and dissemination of policy recommendations, a report, a review, a strategy, a thematic paper, etc.)	Sharing information, practices and experiences about hepatitis prevention, diagnostics and treatment in ND area (Nordic, Baltic countries, Germany and NW Russia)
Immediate & ultimate beneficiaries (immediate beneficiaries are the groups/entities who will be directly positively affected by the action, e.g. policy makers; ultimate beneficiaries are those who will benefit from the action in the long term at the level of the society or sector at large)	<p>Immediate: Infectious disease doctors from NW Russia (St. Petersburg, Pskov Region, Kaliningrad Region, Murmansk Region, Republic of Karelia, Republic of Komi, Vologda Region, Novgorod Region, Leningrad Region and Arkhangelsk Region). Experts from Finland, Sweden, Norway, Lithuania, Germany.</p> <p>Ultimate: patients and at-risk population</p>
Area covered (list countries/regions/municipalities, etc.)	Finland, Norway, Sweden, Lithuania, Germany and particularly Russia
Implementing organization (list the NDPHS structures/other organizations, institutions and experts leading the	Consulate of Finland to St. Petersburg

<i>implementation of the activity)</i>	
Essential partners (list organizations, institutions and experts engaged in the activity)	Expert Group on HIV, TB and AI
Budget (specify the budget of the activity in EUR)	about 8,000 euros
Financing agency (specify financing agency/agencies and the amount of funding (in EUR) granted by each financing agency)	Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs

2. Progress in the implementation of activity in 2018

Expected result (as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Target (as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Progress toward target (use the indicator as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Further action required, obstacles, comments	Sustainability and expected long-term impact <i>(Describe: 1) how the results of the NDPHS activity are/will be used and how the follow-up and sustainability of the results will be ensured, and 2) expected impact of the NDPHS activity)</i>
Improved evaluation of interventions, monitoring, data collection and reporting of the situation of HIV, TB and AI among key populations at risk and policy/action response in the Northern Dimension area	At least 2 monitoring and best practice reports produced and disseminated to decision-makers and general public	Updated information about the epidemiological situation and practices in various ND countries and NW Russian regions was collected for further analysis	Hepatitis is often shaded by HIV and TB, though it produces heavy burden on public health and health expenditures. Hep C is frequently diagnosed among IDUs. The discourse of co-morbidity should include hepatitis in addition to HIV and TB.	Presentations with epidemiological profiles and practices prepared by experts from Finland, Sweden, Norway, Lithuania, Germany and Russia and delivered to a big audience of Russian professionals from different regions and uploaded to the net and disseminated further. There are discussions in Russia about integration of HIV and TB services into the infectious disease control service. The cooperation may receive continuation in 2018.

Policy document/project name: Seminar “Epidemiology of socially relevant infections and co-morbidities in the northwest Europe”, 4 June 2018, St. Petersburg

1. Summary of activity

NDPHS Strategy 2020 objectives (list the relevant Strategy objectives to which the policy/project contributes)	Reduced impact of HIV, TB and associated infections among key populations at risk, including prisoners, through strengthened prevention and access to treatment
NDPHS Strategy 2020 cross-cutting themes (list the relevant Strategy cross-cutting themes to which the policy/project contributes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusion of people in vulnerable situations in all actions of relevance - Innovative approaches and technologies
Horizontal results (list NDPHS Action Plan horizontal results toward achievement of which the policy/project contributes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased and strengthened policies to improve health and social wellbeing through regional cooperation - Increased visibility of the NDPHS in the Partner Countries
Immediate objectives (list immediate objectives, such as: development and dissemination of policy recommendations, a report, a review, a strategy, a thematic paper, etc.)	Sharing latest information about HIV situation in Nordic Countries and activity of the NDPHS EG on HIV, TB and AI
Immediate & ultimate beneficiaries (immediate beneficiaries are the groups/entities who will be directly positively affected by the action, e.g. policy makers; ultimate beneficiaries are those who will benefit from the action in the long term at the level of the society or sector at large)	Immediate: Infectious disease doctors and epidemiologists from NW Russia
Area covered (list countries/regions/municipalities, etc.)	HIV situation in Finland, Norway, Sweden is presented
Implementing organization (list the NDPHS structures/other organizations, institutions and experts leading the	Pasteur Institute in St. Petersburg / Northwest Russian AIDS Centre

<i>implementation of the activity)</i>	
Essential partners (<i>list organizations, institutions and experts engaged in the activity</i>)	Expert Group on HIV, TB and AI, particularly from Finland, Sweden and Norway, who provided updates about HIV situation and interventions in their respective countries
Budget (<i>specify the budget of the activity in EUR</i>)	
Financing agency (<i>specify financing agency/agencies and the amount of funding (in EUR) granted by each financing agency</i>)	

2. Progress in the implementation of activity in 2018

Expected result (as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Target (as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Progress toward target (use the indicator as specified in the NDPHS Action Plan)	Further action required, obstacles, comments	Sustainability and expected long-term impact <i>(Describe: 1) how the results of the NDPHS activity are/will be used and how the follow-up and sustainability of the results will be ensured, and 2) expected impact of the NDPHS activity)</i>
Enhanced international and multi-sectoral stakeholder cooperation on HIV, TB and AI-related issues in the Northern Dimension area	Enlarging the number of HIV, TB and AI stakeholder cooperation platforms involving NGOs and representatives of other sectors	Firm bonds are forged with the Pasteur Institute in St. Petersburg, where the Northwest Russian AIDS Centre is stationed.	The EG is regularly invited to conferences and seminars organized by Pasteur Institute in St. Petersburg. The EG is also interested in inviting experts from Pasteur Institute but their attendance is hampered by lack of funds for travels.	It is expected that Pasteur Institute will organize 1-2 events in St. Petersburg in 2019, and the EG will be invited. The conferences provide a good opportunity to share updates and news, and promote visibility of the NDPHS