



**“New Challenges and Approaches
in the Response to the HIV epidemic
among MSM and Trans People
in Eastern Europe and Central Asia”**

**The Second Regional Consultation
on HIV among MSM and Trans People
in Eastern Europe and Central Asia**



Eurasian Coalition
on Male Health

Глобальный фонд



Welcome to the Second Regional Consultation on HIV among MSM and Trans People in Eastern Europe and Central Asia!

We are glad to see many engaged people gathered today to jointly try to determine ways for strengthening the regional response to the growing HIV epidemic.

Eight years ago, representatives of communities, health professionals, non-governmental organizations, government agencies, and international organizations met in Kyiv, Ukraine, for the First Regional Consultation. As result of the Consultation, recommendations were developed covering a wide range of issues related to the HIV response: strategic information, planning and implementation of HIV prevention and treatment programs, human rights protection, funding. The recommendations, addressed to civil society, governments, multilateral and bilateral agencies and donors, were expected to show priorities for overcoming the nascent HIV epidemic among MSM people in the region in the following years.

However, since the first Consultation, the situation has not changed for the better. In most countries of the region, HIV infection among MSM has already reached the level of a concentrated epidemic exceeding the 5% prevalence mark. There is still no reliable information about the situation with HIV epidemic among the trans people. Regrettably, we have to state that the current level of the response to the HIV epidemic among MSM and trans people is not sufficient to achieve the 90-90-90 goals.

This Consultation is aimed at analyzing main current challenges, as well as understanding the most effective approaches and, ultimately, strengthening the regional response to the HIV epidemic among MSM and trans people.

Accordingly, the first day of the Consultation is devoted to the analysis of difficulties and challenges, and the second day - to the identification of effective approaches in overcoming the epidemic. In each session, considerable time is allocated for discussions.

We hope that this will allow us not only to share experience, but also to strategize together about the next steps. We expect - and are confident - that all participants will actively participate in the discussions and not only raise questions, but also give concrete recommendations.

The proposals put forward during the presentations and discussions will form the basis of the final Resolution of the Consultation and will determine the direction of our common work in the coming years.

*Members of Organizing Committee of the Second Regional Consultation
Secretariat of Eurasian Coalition on Male Health*



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Organizing Committee of the Regional Consultation

1. **Vitaly Djuma**, Executive Director, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM);
2. **Sergii Dvoriak**, Regional Advisor, International AIDS Society (IAS);
3. **Oleg Eryomin**, Chair of Steering Committee, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM), Belarus;
4. **Michel Kazatchkine**, Special Advisor to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) for Eastern Europe and Central Asia;
5. **Rosemary Kumwenda**, Regional Team Leader, Regional HIV, Health and Development Programme, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);
6. **Ihor Kuzin**, Deputy General Director, State Institution "Public Health Centre of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine";
7. **John Macauley**, Regional Programme Specialist, Regional HIV, Health and Development Programme, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);
8. **Antons Mozalevskis**, Medical Officer, World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for Europe;
9. **Ed Ngoksin**, Technical Advisor, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;
10. **Daniyar Orsekov**, Executive Director, Public Association "Kyrgyz Indigo", Kyrgyzstan;
11. **Victoria Primak**, Coordinator on community mobilization and strengthening, Transcoalition in post-Soviet space, Kazakhstan;
12. **Naira Sargsyan**, Regional Advisor, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) RST EECA;
13. **Giorgi Tabagari**, Project Manager, NGO "Equality Movement", Georgia;
14. **Tatiana Vinichenko**, Senior Fund Portfolio Manager, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;
15. **Natalia Zakareishvili**, Program analyst/HIV, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Georgia.



Background

The HIV epidemic continues to grow rapidly in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA). MSM and transgender (trans) people are one of the key populations in EECA. The HIV prevalence among MSM has reached the level of a concentrated epidemic in most countries of the region with highest figures reported from Ukraine (16% in Kyiv), Russia (22.8% in St. Petersburg), Georgia (25% in Tbilisi). In Kazakhstan, HIV detection rate among MSM increased by 5.5 times between 2009 and 2016.

A number of countries in the region enforce laws and policies that limit the rights of LGBT people and reduce access to HIV services for MSM and trans people. The existing regional HIV response is insufficient to achieve the 90-90-90 goal. Funding of HIV programs targeting MSM and trans people is decreasing as international donors leave the region.

The EECA region must bolster the knowledge base and build capacity for HIV interventions, develop a common regional information space, develop effective tools for cooperation and coordination in the response to the HIV epidemic among MSM and trans people.

Currently such actions are mostly occasional and limited to side events at regional and international conferences. The first and only Regional Consultation on HIV among MSM was held in 2010.

In response to this situation, the Eurasian Coalition on Male Health is initiating the second Regional Consultation on HIV among MSM and Trans People.



The overall aim

Strengthen the regional response to the HIV epidemic among MSM and trans people in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.



Objectives

- Review the progress in implementation of the recommendations of the 1st Regional Consultation in 2010;
- Present the results of recent research and use them to develop recommendations for improving the quality of strategic information on the HIV epidemic among MSM and trans people in EECA;
- Present the best regional practices and innovations in the response to HIV epidemic among MSM and trans people in EECA;
- Discuss the issues of funding and sustainability of HIV programs in the region;
- Present the regional advocacy strategy for the response to HIV epidemic among MSM and trans people in EECA and develop recommendations for its implementation at the national and regional levels.



Key topics

- Access to high-quality HIV services for MSM and trans people;
- Impact of the legal environment on the HIV epidemic among MSM;
- Innovative approaches in the HIV response among MSM and trans people;
- Community participation in decision making and its impact on HIV epidemic;
- Sustainability and funding of HIV services;
- Trans people and HIV epidemic in the region.

Organizers

The organizer of the Second Regional Consultation is the Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM), with support from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, International AIDS Society (IAS), Robert Carr civil society Networks Fund (RCNF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) EECA Regional Office, Regional Civil Society and Community Support, Communication and Coordination Platform-EECA, NGO "Equality Movement" (Georgia).

Financial Support

- Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM);
- The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM);
- Regional Civil Society and Community Support, Communication and Coordination Platform;
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) EECA Regional Office;
- Robert Carr civil society Networks Fund (RCNF);
- Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (EHRA).

Organizing Committee

The Organizing Committee includes representatives of LGBT community organizations, HIV experts, governmental structures, UN agencies, and ECOM.

The Organizing Committee guided ECOM in preparation of the Regional Consultation by providing advice on the content and planned outcomes of the Consultation. The Organizing Committee will approve and issue the Resolution of the Consultation.

Participants

About 100 participants are expected to take part in the Consultation representing LGBT community-based and non-governmental organizations, as well as governmental agencies, international and bilateral organizations and UN agencies.

Final documents

The final Resolution of Consultation will summarize the recommendations on strengthening the response to the HIV epidemic among MSM and trans people in EECA region, based on suggestions made in speakers' presentations and participants' discussions. The Resolution will be approved by the Organizing Committee and made public within three months after the Consultation.

A Report on the Regional Consultation will also be prepared by ECOM and the Organizing Committee of the Consultation.

Day 1

May 31, Thursday

Topic of the day:

Challenges. The Dynamic of the Situation in the Region.

Time	Event
8:30 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 9:45	Opening session - Welcome remarks
9:45 - 11:15	Plenary session 1 - Key trends in HIV epidemic among MSM and trans people and in response to it
11:15 - 11:45	Coffee break
11:45 - 13:30	Plenary session 2 - Community role in the response to HIV epidemic
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch
14:30 - 16:00	Parallel sessions: 1 - Innovative approaches to overcoming the HIV epidemic: PrEP 2 - Advocating for MSM access to services and overcoming legal barriers 3 - Trans people and HIV
16:00 - 16:30	Coffee break
16:30 - 18:00	Parallel sessions: 4 - WORKSHOP: Discussion of a Joint Engagement Strategy 5 - Innovative approaches of community involvement into service delivery 6 - Life Quality of LGBT
18:30 - 19:30	Dinner
19:30 - 20:45	Film projection "Listen to Me: Untold Stories Beyond Hatred "

Day 2

June 1, Friday

**Topic of the day:
Opportunities. Responses and Recommendations.**

Time	Event
9:00 – 11:00	Plenary session 3 - Governments in response to HIV epidemic among MSM and trans people
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 13:00	Parallel sessions: 7 - Standardization of sexual health services for MSM and trans people 8 - Human rights in the HIV response 9 - Community mobilization and cooperation
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Parallel sessions: 10 - Sustainability and funding of services 11 - Diversity of LGBT community issues 12 - Workshop: Technical assistance opportunities for civil society through the Global Fund program "Communities, Rights and Gender"
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee break
16:30 – 18:00	Plenary session 4 - Working together towards sustainable future
18:30 – 19:30	Dinner

Day 1

Topic of the day: Challenges. The Dynamic of the Situation in the Region.

8:30 - 9:00

Registration

9:00 - 9:45

Opening Session

Welcome remarks

- **Zaza Bokhua**, Deputy Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
- **Michel Kazatchkine**, Special Advisor to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) for Eastern Europe and Central Asia
- **Giorgi Tabagari**, Project Manager, NGO "Equality Movement", Georgia
- **Igor Medvid**, Coordinator, HPLGBT, Ukraine
- **Vitaly Djuma**, Executive Director, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM)

9:45 - 11:15

Plenary Session 1

Key trends in HIV epidemic among MSM and trans people and in response to it

The session is aimed at reviewing main trends in the development of the HIV epidemic among MSM and trans people in EECA, giving a general picture of the response to it, and pointing out main challenges that specialists and community representatives face. The session will also allow to look at the progress in implementation of the recommendations of the 1st Regional Consultation of 2010.

Chair: Michel Kazatchkine, Special Advisor to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) for Eastern Europe and Central Asia

- *How the community can use Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in achieving their own goals, and progress in implementation of the recommendations of the 1st Regional Consultation of 2010* - **Rosemary Kumwenda**, Regional Team Leader, Regional HIV, Health and Development Programme, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- *WHO recommendations on prevention and treatment of HIV among MSM and trans people* - **Antons Mozalevskis**, Medical Officer, World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for Europe.
- *The Global Fund support to prevention and treatment of HIV among MSM in EECA region* - **Ed Ngoksin**, Technical Advisor on Community Responses and Key Populations, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

- *Overview of the regional situation: MSM and HIV, gaps in addressing recommendations* - **Vitaly Djuma**, Executive Director, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM).

Questions and answers. Discussion

11:15 – 11:45 **Coffee break**

11:45 - 13:30

Plenary
Session 2

Community role in the HIV response

In order to overcome multiple barriers to social well-being, particularly in the area of HIV prevention and treatment, MSM and trans people should meaningfully participate in the development and management of programs. The session will present the results of the relevant assessments, as well as the experience in direct participation of MSM and trans people in decision-making at national level.

Chair: Maksym Kasianczuk, Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM)

- *Historical view of society's attitude to MSM in the post-Soviet space* - **Alexander Kondakov**, Research Fellow, Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA.
- *Presentation of the results of a study on MSM and trans people participation in national decision-making processes* - **Maksym Kasianchuk**, Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator, ECOM.
- *The cascade of HIV services for MSM and the Funding Gaps Assessment results – data collection by community and its use to advocate for access to services* - **Gennady Roshchupkin**, Community Health Systems Coordinator, ECOM.
- *An experience of community participation in the Country Coordination Mechanism (CCM)* - **Daniyar Orsekov**, Executive Director, Public Association "Kyrgyz Indigo", Kyrgyzstan.
- *Announcement of the Regional Joint Engagement Strategy* - **Paata Sabelashvili**, Advocacy Coordinator, ECOM.

Questions and answers. Discussion

13:30 – 14:30 **Lunch**

During lunchtime the participants of the Regional Consultation can also get tested for HIV in the mobile ambulance, which is located in the yard of the Marriott Courtyard Hotel.

14:30 - 16:00

Parallel
Session

Parallel session 1

Innovative approaches to overcoming the HIV epidemic: PrEP

Innovations are expected to make the investments into the HIV response more effective. Pre-exposure prophylaxis is one of the most recognized innovative methods of HIV prevention which already has been introduced in several countries of CEECA region. The session will provide participants with information on the experience of PrEP projects in Western and Eastern Europe, and facilitate discussion on the improvement of the community leadership in making PrEP available for all MSM and trans people in need.

Chair: Gennady Roshchupkin, Community Health Systems Coordinator, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM)

- PrEP in Europe: current state and way forward – **Gus Cairns**, Co-ordinator, PrEP in Europe, UK
- Georgia experience of PrEP introduction – **Irma Khonelidze**, Deputy Director, National Center for Disease Control and Public Health (NCDC), Georgia
- Ukraine experience of PrEP program development – **Andrii Chernyshev**, Head of Advocacy & External Communication Department, PO "ALLIANCE.GLOBAL", Ukraine; **Dzmitry Filippau**, Head, menZDRAV Foundation, Ukraine
- ECOM's technical assistance in promotion of PrEP programs in EECA – **Gennady Roshchupkin**, Community Health Systems Coordinator, ECOM.

14:30 - 16:00

Parallel
Session

Parallel session 2

Advocating for MSM access to services and overcoming legal barriers

The right to quality healthcare is often infringed within the gay men, other MSM and trans community due to homophobia, transphobia, and overall societal and/or governmental denial of LGBT community people. The workshop will define the common trends in legislative experience depicting legal barriers for gay men, other MSM and trans people in EECA in accessing HIV-related services and suggest the common practices to overcome them.

Chair: Yuri Yoursky, Human Rights and Legal Issues Officer, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM)

- Overview of the regional legal environment assessment – **Yuri Yoursky**, Human Rights and Legal Issues Officer, ECOM

- Stigma as a barrier to obtaining quality VCT services: monitoring outcomes from the Zaporizhzhia Region of Ukraine - **Rostyslav Milevskiy**, Director, Gender Z, Ukraine

- Integration of LGBT activism and HIV movement – **Zoya Matisova**, Chairwoman of the Board, Russian Coalition of HIV Service Organizations and LGBT Communities, Russia

- Increasing community visibility on a political agenda – **Nino Bolkvadze**, Legal Specialist, NGO “Equality Movement”, Georgia

14:30 - 16:00

Parallel Sessions

Parallel session 3

Trans people and HIV

In EECA, trans people remain one of the most stigmatized groups and, therefore, require special attention with regard to their rights to health and other rights. At this session, status of trans people, issues they face, and approaches to improving access to sexual health services for trans people will be discussed.

Chair: Maria Sundin, Member of Steering Committee, MSMGF, Sweden

- Actual approaches to HIV and sexual health among trans people - **Maria Sundin**, Member of Steering Committee, MSMGF, Sweden

- Situation within trans people in Ukraine – **Igor Medvid**, Coordinator, HPLGBT, Ukraine

- Expansion of the rights and opportunities of trans people in Central Asia: a brief overview of the legal and socio-cultural situation - **Victoriya Primak**, Coordinator on community mobilization and strengthening, Transcoalition in post-Soviet space, Kazakhstan; **Daniyar Orsekov**, Executive Director, Public Association “Kyrgyz Indigo”, Kyrgyzstan

- Multidisciplinary approach in working with trans people – **Larisa Danilova**, Head of the Department of Endocrinology, Belarusian Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education, Belarus

16:00 – 16:30

Coffee break

16:30 - 18:00

Parallel Sessions

Parallel session 4

WORKSHOP: Discussion of a Joint Engagement Strategy

Regional Platform for Policy Reform (RPPR) on HIV among gay and other men who have sex with men (MSM) and trans people in CEECA is a new multi-stakeholder dialogue structure initiated by ECOM.

The session participants will discuss a draft of the Joint Engagement Strategy developed by RPPR, that will aim at creating a joint vision between various players in EECA on needs, gaps, opportunities and priorities for realization of the right to health and other rights of MSM and trans people.

Chair: Raminta Stuikyte, Consultant, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM), Lithuania

16:30 - 18:00

Parallel
Session

Parallel session 5

Innovative approaches of community involvement into service delivery

Considering the new challenges and the continued growth of HIV epidemic, the LGBT community faces the challenge of developing innovative approaches to interventions for HIV prevention. The session will tell about new approaches to testing and working through the Internet.

Chair: Evgeny Pisemskiy, Chair, NGO "Phoenix PLUS", Russia

- WHO recommendations for community based testing - **Antons Mozalevskis**, Medical Officer, World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for Europe

- Internet outreach and national campaign "Get Test" in 20 regions of Ukraine - **Andrew Radetskyi**, Project Coordinator of National informative campaign "Get Test", PO "ALLIANCE.GLOBAL", Ukraine

- Experience of self-testing in Russia - **Evgeny Pisemskiy**, Chair, NGO "Phoenix PLUS", Russia

- Community based testing in Armenia - **Artyom Movsesyan**, Project Coordinator, Humanitarian NGO "New Generation", Armenia

- Features of the Life4me+ application for HIV-positive LGBT people - **Narek Karamian**, SMM-manager, Life4me+, Russia

16:30 - 18:00

Parallel
Sessions

Parallel session 6

Quality of Life of LGBT

The session will present some of the approaches aimed at improving the quality of life of LGBT community people: working with internal homophobia, involving parents of LGBT community people, as well as addressing specific needs of both younger and older generations.

Chair: Sviatoslav Sheremet, Acting President, Gay Forum of Ukraine

– Internalized homophobia: presentation of study results - **Oleksii Shestakovskiy**, Consultant, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM), Ukraine

– Engagement of parents in LGBT movement – **Vera Khaliuoka**, LGBT Parents Self-Support Group, Belarus

– Young LGBT and health – **Dmytro Kalinin**, PR-Manager, Gender Z, Ukraine

– Work with third age MSM, Moldova experience – **Alexei Marcicov**, Information Policies Consultant, Information Center “GENDERDOC-M”, Moldova

18:30 – 19:30

Dinner

19:30 - 20:45

Film
projection

Film screening

“Listen to Me: Untold Stories Beyond Hatred”

“Listen to me” is a documentary about LGBT community in Armenia.

In 2012, after the explosion of the DIY Pub and the attacks on the Diversity Parade, discussions about the LGBT community has seen an increased momentum and is continuing doing so to this date. The critical and aggressive allegations directed towards the LGBT community “puddled” the individuality of the LGBT members, hindering the possibility of getting to know who these people really are, who are considered the enemy and towards whom so much extreme hatred is shown.

In the film “Listen to me” 10 representatives of the LGBT community agreed to come out of the closet and talk about their experiences in front of the camera.

By telling about their childhood, their existence, their self-recognition, their relationships with their families and by making their voices heard, they are cleaning the bad name Society has smeared on the characters of the LGBT community.

The film was produced by Public Information and Need of Knowledge NGO “Pink Armenia” with the support of US Embassy in Armenia.



Listen to Me

*untold stories
beyond hatred*

დაუბრუნებელი

*უწყალოდ ვაძიებ უწყალოდ რაიფონის მფლობელს
აქტიურად რაიფონის მფლობელს*

**May 31, 2018
Tbilisi, Georgia**

19:30 - 20:45



Film screening "Listen to Me: Untold Stories Beyond Hatred"

Day 2

Topic of the day: **Opportunities. Responses and Recommendations.**

9:00 - 11:00

Plenary
session 3

Governments in response to HIV epidemic among MSM and trans people

Representatives of government agencies from different countries of the EECA region will talk about the governmental sector's role and experience in setting up and implementing national HIV programs and services tailored to the needs of MSM and trans people.

Welcome speech - Amiran Gamkrelidze, Director General,
National Center for Disease Control and Public Health (NCDC), Georgia

Chair: Naira Sargsyan, Regional Advisor, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) RST EECA

- **Macedonia:** Funding services for MSM through social contracting mechanism – **Milena Stevanovic**, National HIV Coordinator; Medical Director, University Clinic for Infectious Diseases and Febrile Conditions, Skopje, Macedonia
- **Kazakhstan:** Reaching MSM through outreach workers employed by local AIDS Centers – **Irina Petrenko**, Deputy General Director, Republican AIDS Centre on prevention and fight with AIDS of the Ministry of Health, Kazakhstan
- **Kyrgyzstan:** The role of the partnership between community representatives and health professionals in development of quality services – **Ulan Kadyrbekov**, Director, Republican Centre "AIDS" under the Ministry of Health of Kyrgyzstan
- **Ukraine:** Experience of introducing national program through governmental structures – **Ihor Kuzin**, Deputy General Director, State Institution "Public Health Centre of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine"

Questions and answers. Discussion

18:30 – 19:30

Coffee break

11:30 - 13:00

Parallel
sessions

Parallel session 7

Standardization of sexual health services for MSM and trans people

Standardization plays a significant role in any work on quality, sustainability or coverage of services. The existence of evidence-based standards of

services makes advocacy for services accessibility more effective. During the session, participants will learn about existing international recommendations on the comprehensive packages and quality of services for MSM and trans people and discuss the development of national standards.

Chair: Kirill Sabir, Head, "FtM-Phoenix" Group, Russia

- MSMIT presentation - **Gennady Roshchupkin**, Community Health Systems Coordinator, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM); **Natalia Zakareishvili**, Program analyst/HIV, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Georgia

- TRANSIT presentation - **Kirill Sabir**, Head, "FtM-Phoenix" Group, Russia

- National standards of services for MSM - **Daniyar Orsekov**, Executive Director, Public Association "Kyrgyz Indigo", Kyrgyzstan; **Adilet Alimkulov**, Head of Advocacy & Partnership Department, Public Association "Kyrgyz Indigo", Kyrgyzstan

- Elaboration of standards of services by involving community - **Nino Tsereteli**, Executive Director, Center for Information and Counseling on Reproductive Health – Tanadgoma, Georgia

11:30 - 13:00

Parallel
sessions

Parallel session 8

Human rights in the HIV response

Ongoing human rights violations' documenting by ECOM partner organizations concludes that the right to health of gay men, other MSM and trans people is widely violated by public health institutions. The session will examine recommendations for decision-makers and for public organizations to improve the situation with access to right to health for gay men, other MSM and trans people.

Chair: Yuri Yoursky, Human Rights and Legal Issues Officer, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM)

- Presentation of study results on violation of human rights of MSM and trans people and presentation of legal protection tools - **Yuri Yoursky**, Human Rights and Legal Issues Officer, ECOM

- Building a monitoring network by volunteers – **Adilet Alimkulov** Head of Advocacy & Partnership Department, Public Association "Kyrgyz Indigo", Kyrgyzstan

- Experience of human rights protection by community - **Volodymyr Kosenko**, Director, Human Rights Bureau "We'Re!", Ukraine

- Efficient partnership as a key instrument for human rights promotion – **Galina Krot**, Legal Consultant, Republican Youth Public Association “Vstrecha”, Belarus

11:30 - 13:00

Parallel
sessions

Parallel session 9

Community mobilization and cooperation

The session will discuss the importance of mobilization, community cooperation and cross-sectoral collaboration in the HIV response at the regional and local levels. The available examples will show the effectiveness of such cooperation.

Chair: Oleg Eryomin, Chair of Steering Committee, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM), Belarus

- Community mobilization in the region - **Ganna Dovbakh**, Executive Director, Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (EHRA)

- Community mobilization: Ukraine experience - **Andrii Chernyshev**, Head of Advocacy & External Communication Department, PO “ALLIANCE.GLOBAL”, Ukraine

- Community mobilization: Moldova experience - **Veaceslav Mulear**, “LGBT Health” Program Coordinator, Information Center “GENDERDOC-M”, Moldova

- ECUO activities in advocating for PLWH interests - **Andy Agafonov**, Coordinator of Programmes, East Europe & Central Asia Union of People Living with HIV (ECUO PLWHIV)

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch

During lunchtime the participants of the Regional Consultation can also get tested for HIV in the mobile ambulance, which is located in the yard of the Marriott Courtyard Hotel.

14:00 - 16:00

Parallel
sessions

Parallel session 10

Sustainability and funding of services

Sustainable financing of services is among the main factors determining efficiency of the HIV response for MSM, trans people and other key populations. Due to the transition from the Global Fund to “self-reliance” inherent to a number of countries in ECA region, the role of governments in provision of HIV-services remains critical for the region. This session is going to cover the role of governments in provision of HIV-services, their

cooperation with the key populations, and other questions in regard to funding.

Chair: Ganna Dovbakh, Executive Director, Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (EHRA)

- Sustainability of services in the transition period, regional experience -

Ganna Dovbakh, Executive Director, EHRA

- Partnership of state and community in development of services - **David Kakhaberi**, Project Manager, NGO "Equality Movement", Georgia

- Role of the government in assuring sustainability of services – **Ulan Kadyrbekov**, Director, Republican Centre "AIDS" under the Ministry of Health of Kyrgyzstan

- Improvement sustainability of services for MSM by involving city authorities: Cities project - **Erika Tšerkašina**, Program Officer, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM); **Roman Dudnik**, Executive Director, Public Foundation "AFEW Kazakhstan"; **Vladyslav Ostreiko**, Independent LGBT Activist, Ukraine; **Lina Vrabii**, Project Coordinator, Association "Youth for the Right to Live", Moldova

14:00 - 16:00

Parallel
sessions

Parallel session 11

Diversity of LGBT community issues

LGBT community is diverse, so are the problems it is facing. The session will examine issues of intersectionality with people who use drugs, practice chemsex, involved in sex work, and LGBT migrants in the EECA region.

Chair: Paata Sabelashvili, Advocacy Coordinator, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM)

- Results of a study on Chemsex in Ukraine - **Andrei Chernyshev**, Head of Advocacy & External Communication Department, PO "ALLIANCE.GLOBAL", Ukraine

- Migration of MSM and trans people – **Evgenii Sorokoumov**, Deputy Director General, SSIPH Charity Foundation, LaSky Project, Russia

- Sex work and MSM – **Gligor Chanov**, Advocacy Program Assistant, STAR-STAR, Macedonia

- Sex work and trans people - **Igor Medvid**, Coordinator, HPLGBT, Ukraine

14:00 - 16:00

Parallel
sessions

Parallel session 12

Workshop: Technical assistance opportunities for civil society through the Global Fund program “Communities, Rights and Gender”

During the workshop the participants will be able to learn more about the Global Fund's Communities, Rights and Gender (CRG) Technical Assistance Program and the opportunities it provides to ensure the meaningful involvement of civil society and community representatives into the Global Fund related processes at national level.

Chair: Ivan Varentsov, Advisor, Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (EHRA)

16:00 – 16:30

Coffee break

16:30 - 18:00

Plenary
Session 4

Working together towards sustainable future

The panel session will give a collaborative look at the key highlights and lessons of the Consultation, and outline follow-up actions.

The presentation of a Joint Engagement Strategy and Action Plan (JESAP) will show a joint multistakeholders' vision on opportunities and priorities to counteract the HIV epidemic among gay men, other MSM and trans people in EECA.

The panelists will be then asked to share their thoughts on the presented JESAP as well as give feedback on some key learnings from the Consultation discussions that can be translated into meaningful actions.

Chair: Vitaly Djuma, Executive Director, Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM)

Presentation: Regional Joint Engagement Strategy and Action Plan (JESAP) - **Naira Sargsyan**, Regional Advisor, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) RST EECA

Panelists:

- **Akaki Zoidze**, Chairman of Health Care and Social Issues Committee, Parliament of Georgia
- **Ian McFarlane**, Deputy Regional Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Eastern Europe and Central Asia
- **Irina Petrenko**, Deputy General Director, Republican AIDS Centre on prevention and fight with AIDS of the Ministry of Health, Kazakhstan
- **Evgeny Pisemskiy**, Chair, NGO “Phoenix PLUS”, Russia

18:30 – 19:30

Dinner

Name	Surname	Organization	Country	e-mail
Sabit	Abdraimov	Center for prevention and fight with AIDS, Astana	Kazakhstan	
Andy	Agafonov	East Europe & Central Asia Union of People Living with HIV (ECUO PLWHIV)	Ukraine	agafonov@ecuo.org
Latsin	Alijev	NGO Estonian Network PLWHIV (EHPV)	Estonia	latsin.alijev@ehpv.ee
Adilet	Alimkulov	Public Association "Kyrgyz Indigo"	Kyrgyzstan	adiletalimkulov7@gmail.com
Vladimir	Averin	The "SIBALT", Health and Social Protection Center, NGO	Russia	averin@sibalt.org
Elkhan	Baghirov	Gender & Development	Azerbaijan	gender.and.development.az@gmail.com
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Hotel of the Regional Consultation Marriott Courtyard Tbilisi, 4, Freedom Square

The Regional Consultation is conducted on May 31 – June 1, 2018. Registration is open for the participants on May 31 from 8:30 to 9:00.

Sessions of the Consultation start at 9:00 and finish at 18:00 on both days.

On May 31, the film "Listen to Me" is projected at the venue of the Consultation from 19:30 till 20:45.

Participants of the Consultation are provided with two coffee breaks, lunches and dinners at the venue of the event on both days of the Consultation.

At the registration desk, you are provided with the registration badge. We are kindly asking you always to have it on during the sessions and not to forget it in the hotel of your accommodation. Registration badge is needed for access to session halls and catering areas of the event for security purposes.

If you need translation (into English or Russian), you need to get headphones in the registration area. Headphones are issued strictly under the record of the participant's personal data (from the badge) with signature. In case of loss of headphones, participant will have to pay a fine.

Travel documents can be signed and stamped by ECOM staff. Please pass your travel document to ECOM staff at the registration desk on May 31. Stamped and signed travel documents will be available in the registration area **on June 1 before the event**.

During lunchtime the participants of the Regional Consultation can also get tested for HIV in the mobile ambulance, which is located in the yard of the Marriott Courtyard Hotel.



Hotel of participants accommodation **Holiday Inn Tbilisi, 1, 26 May Square**

Breakfast is included in accommodation. Lunches and dinners are served in the hotel of accommodation for Consultation participants, accommodated in Holiday Inn, on June 2 in case they depart in the afternoon or evening.

Transportation to the Consultation venue

Transfers are organized for Consultation participants, accommodated in Holiday Inn Tbilisi, to the venue of the event and back.

ATTENTION! Bus boarding lasts for 5 minutes, if you are not able to catch the event bus or don't want to use its services, you will have to get to the event or back to the hotel of your accommodation by yourself by regular city public transportation (buses 42, 14, 87) or taxi. Taxi can be booked at the hotel registration desk. For taxi booking you can also use taxify and Yandex.taxi mobile applications.

Transportation schedule:

May 31

Holiday Inn - Marriott Courtyard - 8:00

Marriott Courtyard – Holiday Inn – 19:30 (after dinner)

Marriott Courtyard – Holiday Inn – 20:45 (after film projection)

June 1

Holiday Inn-Marriott Courtyard - 8:20

Marriott Courtyard – Holiday Inn – 19:30

Transfer to Tbilisi airport

Schedule of airport transfers will be available at the registration desk in the mornings of May 31 and June 1 before the event and at the registration desk of Holiday Inn Tbilisi.

Internet

Participants of the event are provided with free Wi-Fi in both venues - of the event and accommodation.

Smoking

Smoking on the territory of hotels, as well as in other public places, is prohibited. Smoking is possible only in the street or outdoor terraces of bars and restaurants. Thank you for understanding!

Currency

All payments in Georgia are made in Georgian currency – Lari (GEL).

1 Lari – 100 tetri.

The current exchange rates:

1,00 GBP = 3,31 GEL

1,00 EUR = 2,91 GEL

1,00 USD = 2,44 GEL

1,00 CHF = 2,44 GEL

100 RUB = 3,94 GEL

The exchange rate can be checked at: <http://fx-rate.net/GEL/>

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Emergency services

(ambulance, fire brigade and police)

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/ Notes

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