EURASIA

Global state of harm reduction 2020

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Key challenges and trends

✓ Criminalization
✓ Decrease in funding
✓ Lack of political support
✓ Pressure on civil society

As a consequence:
✓ Low coverage of harm reduction services and poor quality of programs
✓ Increased use of new psychoactive substances
Overall, there are approximately 3 million people who inject drugs live in the region. 66% of them in Russia, 77% in Russia and Ukraine.
27 of 29 countries in the region, except Turkmenistan and Bulgaria

Barriers:
Difficulty in accessing.
Poor quality of services.
Mismatching customer needs.
Lack of psychosocial support.
26 of 29 countries in the region, except Russia, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan

Barriers:

• Difficulty in accessing.
• No take-home OAT
• Difficult to comply with the program inclusion and exclusion criteria
• Simultaneous use of several substances
• Drug user registry
• Lack of psychosocial support
The main problems in the transition of OAT programs from donor support to domestic financing:

- Availability and coverage of services
- Quality (additional services such as psychosocial support and staff training)
- Financial resources
15 out of 29 countries have a concentrated HIV epidemic

Barriers to accessing HIV treatment

- Criminalization
- Service centralization
- Stigma against people who use drugs
- Drug account

Distribution of new HIV infections by populations (aged 15 - 49 years) in EECA region

- 29% Clients of sex workers and sex partners of other key populations
- 7% Sex workers
- 22% Gay men and other men who have sex with men
- 1% Remaining population

2018:
- 41% People who inject drugs

2019:
- 48% People who inject drugs
n 18 out of 29 countries Hepatitis C spreads more than 50%.

Barriers to access to treatment:
- Low access to diagnosis and treatment
- Low awareness
- The cost of therapy
- Criminalization of people who use drugs
Tuberculosis
Lack of statistics on people who use drugs
Lack of drug treatment in hospitals

COVID-19
Online services
Dispensing of substitution therapy to the hands

For more information on access to naloxone, noticing therapy for stimulant users, harm reduction in prisons, and more, read the Eurasia chapter and thematic sections on tuberculosis, hepatitis and the COVID-19 pandemic.

На русском
In English