

# Barents HIV/AIDS Programme

Programme activities

13.11.2008

## Activities in 2008

- 2 SC meetings (Oslo and Syktyvkar)
- 1 round table (public health training)
- Monitoring of the Programme
- Study tour to Oslo in March (before SC)
- Study tour to Helsinki in Oct 7-10
- 19 projects ongoing, 3 proposals, 8 completed

# Ongoing Finnish-Russian projects

1. “Controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS in the Barents and Northern Dimension Partnership Programme Regions, Phase II” (2008-2010) Coordination of the Barents HIV/AIDS Programme and support to EG on HIV/AIDS for the ND partnership. Coordination: STAKES, Finland (Outi Karvonen), Murmansk Regional Health Committee (Arkadi Rubin). Approximate budget - 600 000 EUR (3 years).
2. “Further Development of Low Threshold Services in Murmansk and Kantalahti”. (2008-2010) Pilot project of the above mentioned programme. Coordination: STAKES (O. Karvonen) and Murmansk Regional AIDS Centre (Fedor Bailuk). Approximate budget 300 000 EUR (3 years).

## Ongoing Finnish-Russian projects 2

3. "Prevention of HIV infection in the Republic of Karelia in 2007–2009". Coordination: STAKES (Marja Tuomi) and Republican AIDS Centre (Dr. Nesteruk). Approximate budget 300 000 EURO (3 years).
4. ("Psychological and social support to HIV infected women in Leningrad Oblast 2007–2009". Coordination: STAKES (Minna Sinkkonen) and Leningrad Regional AIDS Centre (Igor Ulyukin). Approximate budget 300 000 EURO (3 years).

## Ongoing Finnish-Russian projects 3

5. Strengthening of inter-sectoral action to fight drug abuse and drug related harm in Murmansk Region 2008 – 2009.  
Coordination: STAKES, Finland (Sirje Vaittinen), Murmansk Regional Anti-drug commission (V. Kostrov). Approximate budget 178 000 EUR. *Financed from the NDPHS project pipeline.*

## Ongoing Norwegian-Russian projects

1. “Territory of Life. Mobile unit work for prevention of HIV in Murmansk Region” Coordination: Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Murmansk Regional AIDS Centre. Approximate budget – 270 000 NOK.
2. “Cross action between STI Clinic in Archangelsk and Olafia Clinic in Oslo”. Coordination: the Olafia Clinic, Norway (Una Due Tonnessen). Approximate budget: 279 000 NOK.

## Ongoing Norwegian-Russian projects 2

3. “Only for you”, the ConTact Bus- Murmansk Region. Coordination: Norway and Murmansk Regional AIDS Centre. Approximate Budget 34 700 USD
4. Youth education Program - HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse - Murmansk region" Coordination: Norway. Approximate budget - NOK 549 779
5. “The Clinton HIV/AIDS initiative and Russia. Exchange of Russian and Norwegian clinicians". Coordination: Directorate for Health, Norway (Janicke Fischer). Approximate budget - NOK 460 000

## Ongoing Norwegian-Russian projects 3

6. Education program for pedagogical personnel and health specialists in the field of healthy lifestyles and prevention of HIV/AIDS and drug addiction. Coordination: Norwegian Church Aid. Approximate budget 257 000 NOK.
7. Youth peer education in Murmansk related to HIV, STI and communication skills. Coordination: Pertinax Group, Norway. Approximate budget 207 000 NOK.
8. “Love your neighbour”, Archangelsk Region. Coordination: Norwegian Church Aid and NGO Rassvet. Approximate budget 330 000? NOK.



## Ongoing Norwegian-Russian projects 4

9. Assistance in development of palliative aid in Archangelsk Region. Coordination: Norwegian Church Aid and NGO Rassvet. Approximate budget 214 000 NOK. Financier: Norway.
10. "Vera". Development of international network of interaction between organisations dealing with women and adolescents, involved in commercial sex business and trafficking victims. Coordination: Stellit, Russia. Approximate budget 549 000 NOK.
11. "HIV: to be aware means to live" . Coordination: Norwegian Church Aid and NGO Rassvet. Approximate budget 250 000 NOK.

## Ongoing Norwegian-Russian projects 5

12. Youth peer education in Archangelsk related to HIV, STI and communication skills. Budget 207 000 NOK.
13. Research project "Governance of HIV/AIDS prevention in North-West Russia". Coordination: Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research. Financier: Norway; Additional component of the project is financed by Finland
14. Educational project "New view". Coordination: Norwegian Sami Mission and "New Beginning", Murmansk Region. Grant NOK 250 000 in 2008

# Ongoing Swedish-Russian projects

“HIV/STI and Drug preventive efforts in Murmansk, Archangelsk and Karelia”.  
Coordination: Sweden - Noaks Ark Barents.  
Approximate budget – SEK 980 000

# Projects under consideration

- “Prevention of HIV infection among young people through advocacy, support, development of policies and actions in Murmansk region”. Coordination: Norway. Project proposal. – *no grant in 2008*
- Enhancing HIV/AIDS reporting in the Republic of Karelia through training of media professionals. Applied from Finland (*delayed*)

## Projects under consideration 2

- TB/HIV collaboration in Murmansk. Project proposal by FILHA. Applied from Finland

COMPLETED PROJECTS - 8

# General impressions of the monitoring expert

- ❑ AIDS Centres are strong, professional, motivated with enthusiasm and creativity
- ❑ Improving collaboration with other authorities
- ❑ The work gets support from higher levels
- ❑ Aiming at closer collaboration with NGOs
- ❑ Effective Programme management

# Role of the Programme

- ❑ Programme strategy and structure has been used as a helpful tool in different ways in most ACs
- ❑ Source and potential for new ways of thinking
- ❑ Creates desire for deepening and widening international collaboration

# Impressions by objectives

- ❑ Technical capacity has improved
- ❑ The need to increase prevention was expressed by all
- ❑ The use and accessibility of ARV has improved
- ❑ Human Rights are improving
- ❑ Coordination between authorities has improved – still space for further amendments



# Essential findings

- ❑ Views on sustainability are good – basic institutional framework, funding, human resources and technical equipment are in place
- ❑ Technical capacity in project planning and management needs to be strengthened

## Essential findings (2)

- ❑ Efforts to get the HIV and AIDS epidemic and related infectious diseases and social problems fully under control continuously need much urgent attention and resources
- ❑ Strengthening exchange of experiences through international and domestic collaboration is necessary
- ❑ Barents HIV AIDS Programme has potential for a continuous source for new innovative approaches

# Recommendations from monitoring of the Programme

Based on information shared by all regions

1. Main focus on prevention
2. Clear need for capacity building in programme planning and management
3. Develop peer groups in psychological issues, in stigma and general attitudes

## Recommendations (2)

4. More exchange of experiences between foreign and Russian experts from neighbouring areas (study visits, round table discussions, seminars, joint publications etc.)
5. Study visits for GPs and GP Teams to get ideas about comprehensive approaches in arranging services

## Recommendations (3)

6. Active identification of other foreign organisations and projects working in the same field and their inclusion under the Barents umbrella
7. Identification of relevant local NGOs and ADCs to join forces for developing closer contacts with penitentiary system

## Recommendations (4)

8. Collect the stories of the development of AIDS Centres and their activities as best practices with creation of guidelines and disseminate them to other regions
9. Closer cooperation with TB activities is necessary

## Recommendations (5)

10. Support local AIDS Centres in developing studies for continuous monitoring of the actual HIV-AIDS-TB-IDU situation
11. Identify volunteers to visit e.g. schools and other relevant institutions to provide education and information about HIV and related issues

## Recommendations (6)

12. Organise regular informal management meetings with the Programme Coordinator and Local Directors of the Programme activities and/or AIDS Centres for practical planning and implementation matters



## Next steps

- How to implement recommendations of the Monitoring?
- Evaluation of Norwegian projects in Archangelsk
- Participation in the Health of Indigenous People seminar in Canada, Nov 20-21
- HIV seminar for primary health care personnel in Murmansk in December
- Seminar in Narva, Dec 8-9 (prelim. info)