



EURASIAN HARM REDUCTION ASSOCIATION

**ANNUAL REPORT
2019**

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Acronyms

AFEW	AIDS Foundation East-West
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AWID	Association for Women's Rights in Development
BiH	Bosnia and Herzegovina
BtG	Bridging the Gaps
CHALN	Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CCM	Country Coordinating Mechanism
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEECA	Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia
CESCR	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CRG	Community, Rights and Gender
CSF	Civil Society Forum
CND	United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
ECOM	Eurasian Coalition on Health, Rights, Gender and Sexual Diversity
EECA	Eastern Europe and Central Asia
EHRA	Eurasian Harm Reduction Association
ENPUD	Eurasian Network of People Who Use Drugs
EPLN	European Prison Litigation Network
ERC	Eurasian Regional Consortium
GA	General Assembly
GBP	Pounds Sterling (Great Britain)
GF	Global Fund Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
INPUD	International Network of People who Use Drugs
IRB	Institutional Review Board
ISP	Inadequately Served Population
LEA	Legal Environment Assessment
LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MSM	Men who have Sex with Men
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NPS	New Psychoactive Substances
OAT	Opioid Agonist Therapy
OSF	Open Society Foundations

OST	Opioid Substitution Therapy
PE	Peer Educator
PWUD	People Who Use Drugs
RCF	Robert Carr Fund for civil society networks (RCF)
SC	Steering Committee
SOS	Sustainability of Services
TA	Technical Assistance
TB	Tuberculosis
TG	Transgender
TSM	Technical Support Mechanism
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund, formerly the United Nations Fund for Population Activities
USD	United States Dollars

Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

2019 was the final year of the Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (hereinafter EHRA) [Strategic Framework 2018-2019](#). We have successfully implemented the Strategic Framework and achieved tangible results to serve basis for further advocacy.

➤ We have strengthened

- ✓ democracy and transparency in [governance](#);
- ✓ organizational and [programmatic](#) capacity;
- ✓ financial sustainability.

287 [members of EHRA](#) are actively involved in organizational decision making and governance due to the EHRA credibility as demonstrated through transparent management and proven results. In 2019 the new EHRA strategy for 2020-2024 has been developed by the [EHRA Steering Committee](#) with involvement of EHRA members and partners.



➤ We have gathered credible evidence for strong national advocacy on:

- ✓ [sustainability of opioid agonist therapy](#) in the context of donor transition;
- ✓ [client satisfaction with opioid agonist therapy services](#);
- ✓ new psychoactive substances use in [Belarus](#) and [Moldova](#);
- ✓ [sustainability Bridge Funding: Case Study from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia](#);
- ✓ human rights violations against people who use drugs documented by EHRA in [Estonia](#), [Kazakhstan](#), [Kyrgyzstan](#), [Moldova](#) and [Russia](#);
- ✓ [criminalization of drug use](#) and possession costs for society;
- ✓ innovations such as [drug checking](#), [drug consumption rooms](#), harm reduction at music festivals, [involvement of peer consultants](#).

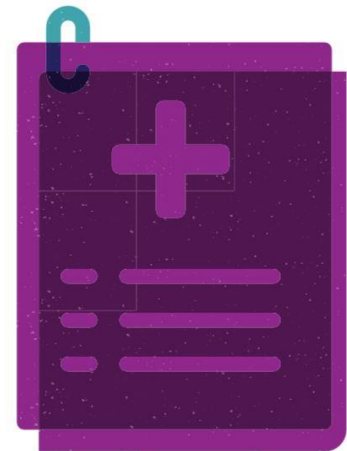
➤ We have developed tools and guidelines to support leadership and expertise of civil society in:

- ✓ [budget advocacy](#);
- ✓ [community-led monitoring / assessment](#);
- ✓ [alternative financing and models of sustainable development](#) for non-profit organisations;
- ✓ [transition from the Global Fund support to national funding](#) of HIV and TB programs: role, opportunities and priorities for the civil society;
- ✓ [effective work of civil society constituency in CCM](#);
- ✓ [the Civil Society and Eastern Europe and Central Asia Delegations to the Board of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#);
- ✓ [HIV and TB related technical support in EECA region 2019](#).

➤ We have contributed to capacity development of national and local community of people who use drugs and civil society leaders including EHRA members. Since 2017 we've continuously supported organizations and community-led initiative groups through a unique system of [small grants](#), accompanied by daily mentoring, mutual training and

best practices exchange, advocacy support from the regional level, establishing working relationships with international partners and decision-makers in CEECA countries. Only in 2019, 25 community-led and civil society organizations from 16 countries of CEECA have received such support.

- **We have strengthened the strategic partnerships with broader civil society movements in CEECA.** EHRA has established strong cooperation with IDPC, HRI within [the International Harm Reduction Consortium](#). EHRA is leading the [Eurasian Regional Consortium](#), cooperating with EWNA and ECOM. In 2019, we began to build new partnerships and look for new advocacy allies. Our participation in the 13th annual conference of the International Society for Research in Drug Policy and the Lisbon Addiction Conference gave us the opportunity to build cooperation with [researchers](#). Cooperation with broader human rights movement in the region has started in the area of [protection rights](#) and freedoms of people who use drugs, specifically in issues of personal safety of activists and protecting right to health and [right to information](#). [Feminist movements](#) have become our **new allies** in the fight for a humane drug policy.
- **We have continued support to regional campaigns and government advocacy** in 2019 to ensure human rights protection and sustainability of harm reduction services:
 - ✓ harm reduction programs without decrease of national funding in Czech Republic were supported by more than 100 organizations of the region;
 - ✓ harm reduction programs started to be funded from national resources in Bulgaria, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova and Ukraine;
 - ✓ [advocacy actions](#) to sustain harm reduction services in the South East European countries of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria and Romania;
 - ✓ shadow reports to the [65th session of CESCR](#) on the violation of the rights of women who use drugs in Estonia, and on access to OST for people who use drugs in Kazakhstan; report to the [74th session of CEDAW](#) on discrimination and violence among women who use drugs, women living with HIV, sex workers and women in prison in Kazakhstan described human rights violations cases, discriminating barriers and requested the information on state measures to protect people who use drugs from discrimination and ill-treatment, as well as on access to life-saving medicines and services.
 - ✓ EHRA's continued coordination of [#ChaseTheVirusNotPeople](#) ECECA community campaign to reduce stigma and discrimination in cooperation with 7 other regional community networks and numerous national NGOs and activists. [Zero Discrimination Day initiative](#), [national campaigns in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Russia](#), other regional networks' initiatives within the campaign have forced national stakeholders and UN agencies to prioritize the elimination of stigma, discrimination and criminalization of key affected populations as key barriers to effective HIV response in the region.



Anna Dovbakh

Executive Director, EHRA

Activities in 2019

EHRA's activities in 2019 were driven by its [Strategic Framework 2018-2019](#) (see figure 1) which gives emphasis to key areas of advocacy work: sustainability of quality harm reduction services and transition from international support to domestic funding; drug policy and protection of human rights of people who use drugs; and capacity building and mobilisation of the community of people who use drugs in the CEECA region.

EHRA strategic framework 2018-2019

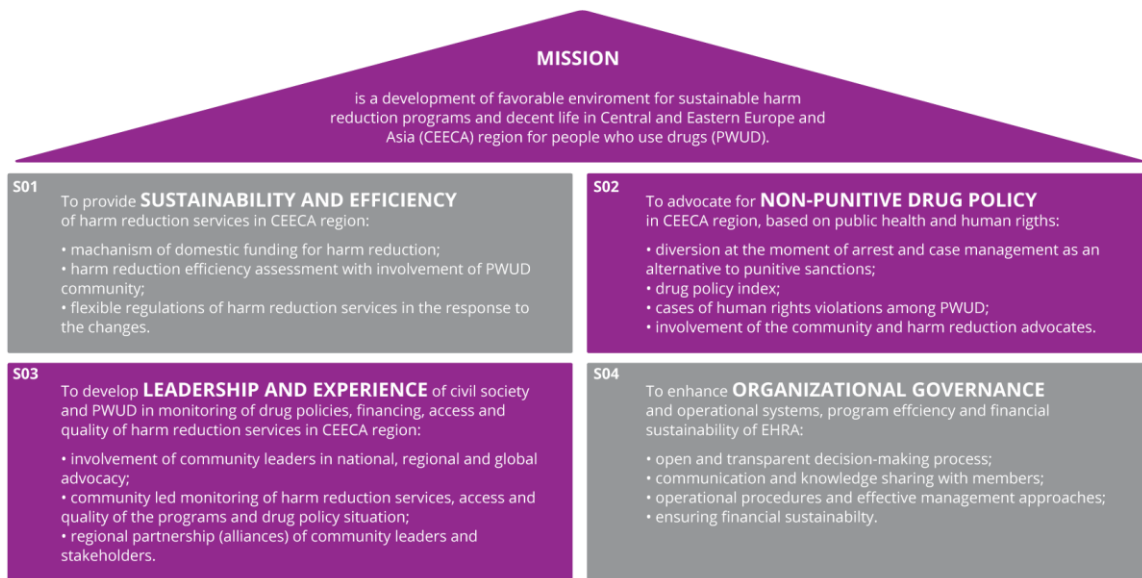


Figure 1. EHRA strategic framework 2018-2019

List of projects implemented in 2019

The following provides summary information of the projects carried out in 2019. Sections on each project contain general information: project title, name of donors, project duration, overall budget allocated for the whole project period, a list of target countries and the delivery status of each project. Key results achieved in 2019 are shown along with a brief summary of progress. More detailed information on project outcomes and achievements completed in 2019 is available on [the EHRA website](#).

1. Joint advocacy for access, sustainability, and quality of harm reduction services and for protection of human rights for people who use drugs in region of Eastern Europe and Central Asia

**Donor: Open Society
Foundations (OSF)**



**Duration: Dec. 2017 – Apr.
2020**

Budget: USD738,328

Project Status: In progress

**Target Countries: Central and Eastern Europe and Central
Asia**



Aim / Objectives:

- ✓ Streamline governance and membership structure of EHR to ensure organisational sustainability, effective decision-making system and joint advocacy efforts;
- ✓ Ensure sustainability and quality of harm reduction services in the CEECA region;
- ✓ Increase regional cooperation targeted at the promotion of non-punitive and human rights-based drug policies;
- ✓ Strengthen regional and national-level advocacy for the sustainable funding of quality, evidence-based and good practice models of harm reduction and HIV-related programmes for PWUD and other key populations by increasing leadership of civil society and people who use drugs (PWUD) community groups.

Brief summary of progress:

- 13 ongoing regional projects that cover programme and financial needs of the organisation in 2019.
- By December 2019, EHR membership increased to 267 organisational and individual members.
- 1 online [General Meeting](#) and 2 Steering Committee meetings ([Vilnius](#) & [Tbilisi](#)).
- Online assessment of the EHR Strategic Framework 2018-2019.
- The EHR Strategy for 2020-2024 has been developed.
- Exclusive content, such as a regular quarterly digest, [blogs](#), interviews, methodology publications, research reports, and shadow reports developed and shared through the EHR website and social networks.
- 4 "all in office" coordination meetings for Secretariat staff.
- Training sessions for Secretariat staff on [storytelling](#), planning, monitoring, evaluation, advocacy, and research.
- 16 new project proposals have been developed, 4 of them were successful, 5 are awaiting a decision.
- Representation: core group at the [EU Civil Society Forum \(CSF\) on HIV, TB, Hepatitis](#); [European Harm Reduction Network Correlation Network meeting](#); [joint session with Lithuanian and Estonian governments and civil society from Norway at the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs \(CND\)](#) very successfully organised.
- [Advocacy campaign on sustainable funding in Romania, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Albania to the GF Board](#) saw 42 CSOs participate from all around the region.
- An algorithm of case documentation and reporting was developed and used several times during 2019.

2. Regional Civil Society and Community Support, Communication and Coordination Platform in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Donor: The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GF)



Project Status: In progress

Target Countries and territories: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Kosovo.

Duration: Dec. 2017 – Sep. 2020

Budget: USD450,000



Aim / Objectives:

- ✓ The meaningful engagement of civil society and community groups through regular bi-directional communication and provision of accurate and accessible information to enhance the knowledge and participation of these actors in Global Fund related processes.
- ✓ Improve the overall impact of GF programmes and interventions, and disease responses more globally, through strengthened engagement of civil society and communities affected by HIV and tuberculosis.
- ✓ Expand access to technical assistance for civil society and community groups through greater coordination with the CRG Strategic Initiative short-term TA component, as well as key national, regional and global TA partners.
- ✓ Support strategic civil society and community capacity

Brief summary of progress:

- 52 publications in English and Russian posted on the Platform's [website](#).
- 266 posts/tweets made on social networks ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#)) on behalf of the Platform.
- 64 thematic e-mails sent through different listservs with a target audience of about 2,500 people altogether.
- 3 webinars conducted \ co-organised with a total audience of 61 participants from 9 EECA countries.
- 1 online session on the GF CRG TA Programme conducted with a total of 12 participants.
- 1 [national workshop on sustainability and transition](#) issues conducted in Albania with 20 participants.
- 1 [Info Note](#) with an overview of the availability of the HIV \ TB-related technical support available for civil society in the EECA region under development (ENG and RUS).
- 1 [case study](#) was developed, capturing the challenges of the Global Fund transition in Albania.
- 1 [regional event](#) on GF CRG TA issues conducted in Moldova with 23 participants.
- 3 coordination calls organised of the regional community networks and other key EECA partners.

development initiatives through fostering spaces for engagement and collective participation in key decision-making processes, in particular as they relate to community, rights and gender.

- 3 new requests for TA within the GF CRG TA Programme were submitted from the region with support of the Platform (1 approved (Kazakhstan), 2 rejected (Georgia, Tajikistan)). The development of 4 more requests was initiated (from Albania, Russia and Georgia).

3. Thinking outside the box: overcoming challenges in community advocacy for sustainable and high-quality HIV services.

Donor: Robert Carr Fund for civil society networks



Duration: Jan 2019 – Dec. 2021

Budget: USD1,760,000 including USD1,005,378 EHRA budget

Project Status: In progress

Target Countries and territories: Eastern Europe and Central Asia



Aim / Objectives:

- ✓ The scope of work and activities are designed to maximise capacity of consortium member organisations and their impact of advocacy to improve the funding environment for sufficient allocation of resources for HIV programmes in countries of the EECA. This will be achieved through developing opportunities to learn with the creation and facilitation of regional mechanisms which can act in a coordinated manner to address issues that are common across countries.
- ✓ Learning cycles of the project are composed in five interlinked thematic areas that are prioritised for building capacity of community-led networks to

Brief summary of progress:

- Conducted 1 face-to-face ERC consortium [coordination meeting](#) and 2 representatives of the consortium participated in the RCF annual collective [reflection meeting](#) to strategise for collaboration and to reflect on the progress.
- Conducted regional training on [community-led monitoring of quality of services](#) for activists representing different vulnerable communities (PWUD, women affected by HIV, LGBT, TG, sex workers).
- 6 sub-grants awarded to organisations for community-led monitoring of service quality and satisfaction.
- Developed a [methodology for community-led monitoring of client satisfaction with OST programmes](#); piloted, published.
- In December, EHRA provided 2 [scholarships](#) to organisations from Moldova to learn from expert organisations from Serbia and Poland on how to conduct crowdfunding

maximise their contribution to increased and sustainable financing of the HIV response at national levels:

- ✓ Organisational Sustainability.
- ✓ Building broader coalitions for budget advocacy.
- ✓ Community-led monitoring of the quality of services.
- ✓ Community-led advocacy for comprehensive quality standards for HIV services based on national needs and international recommendations.
- ✓ Budget monitoring and accountability.

campaigns, sell expert services and receive a percentage of tax deductions.

- Developed a collection of case studies on "[Alternative Financing: Models of sustainable development for non-profit organisations](#)".
- 2 national consultants provided mentorship for ISP leaders from emerging organisations to better understand national tendering processes, development of required procedures and systems within NGOs to be eligible for receiving domestic funding for organisations in Russia and BiH.
- Development started of EHRA's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework for its organisational Strategy 2020-2024.
- Organisations of communities in 4 countries supported in conducting national campaigns in [Armenia](#), [Azerbaijan](#), [Kazakhstan](#) and [Russia](#) aimed at addressing stigma, discrimination and criminalisation of key populations and provided with technical support to national campaign organisers in instruments and mechanisms for campaign advocacy and promotion.

4. We Will Not End AIDS Without Harm Reduction

Donor: Robert Carr Fund for civil society networks



Duration: Jan 2019 – Dec. 2021

Budget: USD406,191 (EHRA)

Project Status: In progress

Target Countries and territories: Eastern Europe and Central Asia



Aim / Objectives:

- ✓ A global initiative to reframe the messaging, "storytelling", and communications around harm reduction and drug policies;
- ✓ Coordinated advocacy around key UN structures such as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND);
- ✓ Coordinated advocacy and information sharing at key HIV-related fora and conferences;
- ✓ The global Support Don't Punish campaign, enabling local partners and ISP groups to promote harm reduction and policy reforms;
- ✓ Cross-consortium communications and network capacity building;
- ✓ Each partner will also deliver their own high-impact HIV work, including research, resource development, CSO and ISP capacity building, and budget advocacy.

Brief summary of progress:

- Participation in the partner kick-off and capacity building meeting held in London, UK;
- Participation in [CND and Ministerial Segment](#) in March 2019 in Vienna, Austria, and in presenting regional challenges and best practices in two special sessions, one of which was co-organised by EHRA;
- Participation at the [HR19 conference in Porto](#), Portugal, including organisation of 10 sessions that focused on the CEECA regional problems and delivered the regional campaign "Chase the virus, not people!";
- EHRA sub-grants to ISP partners across the region on behalf of ENPUD (8 applications approved from which 6 were successfully delivered);
- EHRA sub-grants for local community / ISP organisations to support national advocacy activities to address human rights violations and the need for drug policy reform (5 applicants received small grants: Russia, Lithuania, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Bulgaria);
- M&E and technical support visits by EHRA to member CBOs in Bulgaria and Ukraine;
- Study tour to Germany for ENPUD activists to learn from national drug user networks and about national drug policy reforms;
- Regional experts meeting on "[Harm Reduction 2.0](#)" held in Vilnius, Lithuania, in November 2019. As a follow-up, videos

- and information materials have started to be prepared for the EHRA website;
- EHRA developed “Criminalisation Costs pocket guide”, which will be published at the beginning of 2020.

5. Support to Coordination of the Campaign, “Chase the Virus, not People!”

Donor: AFEW International



Duration: Apr. 2019 - Nov. 2020

Budget: EUR15,000

Project Status: In progress

Target Countries and territories: Eastern Europe and Central Asia



Aim / Objectives:

- ✓ The project aims to support management of the campaign to ensure the engagement of all regional networks – organisers of the campaign – into the decision making on strategic planning of the campaign and further development;
- ✓ Support to the campaign website and campaign pages on social media;
- ✓ Mentorship of national teams developing campaigns at country level, and regional community teams developing specific community campaigns at the EECA level.

Brief summary of progress:

- the project supported the campaign [website](#) with 1,711 visitors;
- number of campaign supporters grew to 102 organisations from across the EECA;
- campaign conducted online and offline through mobilisation action on “[Zero Discrimination Day](#)” with 3,309 contacts and 47 posts on social media. Within the Zero Discrimination Day action, the contest on best video and photo of activists and community representatives from across EECA was conducted with 5 winners identified and awarded with campaign promotional materials;
- the campaign has around 1,000 followers on its pages on social networks: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#);
- The EHRA campaign coordinator participated as a trainer in the training for MSM and trans* people from Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and North Macedonia, organised by ECOM, on the adaptation of the campaign to the community needs of MSM and trans* people and to the national context of each country.

6. Women Using Drugs in the EECA Region (AWID 2018)

Donor: The Association for
Women's Rights in Development
(AWID)



Duration: Jul. 2018 – Feb. 2019

Budget: USD4,320

Project Status: Completed

Target Countries and territories: Estonia, Kazakhstan,
Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Russia, Ukraine



Aim / Objectives:

- ✓ Coordination with project participants of a research project on the impact of the criminalisation of drugs on women using drugs in the EECA.
- ✓ Support for a webinar on feminism for women working on drug policy in the EECA.
- ✓ Coordination of project communications and general administrative support.

Brief summary of progress:

- Together with 40 women from the Eurasian region, discussed drug policy, intersectional feminism, harm reduction and human rights;
- Took part in drafting of [the Barcelona Declaration](#) which states that the war on drugs is war against women who use drugs;
- Conducted 4 interviews - testimonies with open faces about the problems of women who use drugs in the EECA;
- Coordination of a [campaign during November 25 - December 16](#) to ensure that women's voices are heard.

7. Support to the Legal Environment Assessment in Armenia on HIV and TB in 2019

**Donor: The Global Fund to Fight AIDS,
Tuberculosis and Malaria (GF)**



Duration: Jul. 2019 – May 2020

Budget: USD48,649

Project Status: In progress

Target Countries and territories: Armenia



Aim / Objectives:

The Armenia Legal Environment Assessment (LEA) on HIV and Tuberculosis has to review laws, regulations and policies, law enforcement, legal empowerment and access to justice in the context of health, to identify the nature and extent of stigma, discrimination, gender inequality, gender – based violence and other human rights – related barriers to services experienced by people living with HIV and/or affected with TB.

The findings and recommendations from the LEA will serve as the basis for the formulation and advancement of key policy changes to affect and accelerate access to health services at a crucial time as the country is preparing to take over the response to these epidemics with decreasing donor funding.

Brief summary of progress:

- LEA consultants developed the inception report that was translated into English;
- Communications were conducted to discuss the inception report with a UNDP international consultant, LEA Team and the Global Fund;
- The LEA Team conducted a meeting with the CRG Working Group under the CCM to agree on additional chapters on tuberculosis to be added to the inception report;
- The LEA Team has started to make adjustments to the inception report and in enlarging the TB section.

8. Peer2Peer: Reinforcing Peer Involvement in Outreach Work

Donor: European Commission



Duration: Mar. 2019 – Oct. 2020

Budget: EUR43,378

Project Status: In progress

Target Countries and territories: Portugal, Greece, Poland, Lithuania, Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Hungary



Aim / Objectives:

- ✓ To mitigate gaps in scientific literature regarding formal and informal cooperation between key actors in outreach interventions addressing people who use psychoactive substances;
- ✓ To validate the effectiveness of cooperative practices in outreach work through case studies at a local level;
- ✓ To advocate for the upscaling of evidence-based cooperative practices in outreach interventions, especially the integration of peer educators (PE). The active participation of different key actors will promote the upscaling of European heritage and the advocacy function of CSOs;
- ✓ To develop dissemination strategies targeting a large audience, maximising the project impact by raising the general public's awareness of the need to develop more effective approaches to support people who use psychoactive substances.

Brief summary of progress:

- Partners [kick-off meeting in Porto](#) to discuss overall project activities and the research component of the project;
- Needs assessment focus group was conducted in Lithuania (8 participants) with the main stakeholders ;
- Prepared content analysis based on the needs assessment focus group;
- Lithuania National Report was prepared based on analysis of national legal acts;
- Mid-term partners meeting was held in [Amsterdam](#) to discuss results of the research and continuation of the project;
- Study visit to [Antwerp](#) (Belgium) was organised to learn from partner best practices (C-buddy project, night-shelters, housing projects);
- Developed National Advocacy Strategy for Lithuania as the basis for the pilot intervention.

9. Sustainability of services for key populations in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region (SOS project)

Donor: The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GF)



Received from 100% Life network

Duration: Jan. 2019 – Dec. 2021

Budget: USD209,456

Project Status: In progress

Target Countries and territories: Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, North Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan



Aim / Objectives:

- ✓ Development of an online methodology for monitoring and analysis of the implementation of transition plans, conducting regular monitoring and analysis of implementation of the transition plans in those project countries where transition plans are being developed.
- ✓ Collection and analysis of data on human rights violations and the quality of services for drug users, the development of a system of follow-up reaction, including the submission of cases to international human rights instruments.
- ✓ Conduct a seminar for activists and professionals from Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania and Serbia to collect data on human rights violations and reaction mechanisms.

Brief summary of progress:

- In September 2019, EHRA submitted [the Complaint to the Office of Inspector General of the Global Fund in accordance with the Global Fund Human Rights Complaints Procedure](#) in a response to the inadequate, threatening and discriminatory actions of the Republican Scientific and Practical Center of Medical Technologies, Informatization, Management and Economics of Public Health (Belarus) towards Ms. Parfenyuk.
- Russia: legal analysis of 27 interviews reflecting cases on human rights violations among women who use drugs in Saint Petersburg.
- Moldova: collected data on human rights violations among people who use drugs and developed an analysis to support advocacy for development and coming into power of law amendments decriminalising possession of drugs for personal use and changing of dosage and introduction of alternatives to coercive sanctions.
- Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, Belarus: conducted interviews on human rights violations and access and quality of OST services; collected official statistics and information related to fines for possession of drugs.
- [Representing reports](#) with community leaders in CEDAW and the UN Committee on Civil and Political Rights.

10. Evaluation of Sustainable OST Transition in Eastern European Countries

**Donor: UNAIDS Technical Support
Mechanism (TSM)**



Project Status: In progress

Target Countries and territories: Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Tajikistan, Ukraine

Duration: Nov. 2019 - Apr. 2020

Budget: USD40,365



Aim / Objectives:

- ✓ Provide TA to CSOs and CBOs in transitioning countries to assess the impact of the GF transition-related processes taking place in countries on the quality and other aspects of sustainability of OST services which intend to conduct monitoring of implementation of transition plans;
- ✓ Collect cases of human rights violations in selected EECA countries, submit reports to the UN treaty bodies, and conduct activities aimed at raising the capacity building of communities, NGOs and human rights activists in addressing human rights violations in EECA countries.

Brief summary of progress:

- In 2019, EHRA received technical support to activities complimentary to the EECA multi-country project, "Sustainability of services for key populations in Eastern Europe and Central Asia", implemented by the Alliance for Public Health and financed by the Global Fund, where EHRA is contracted as a sub-sub recipient by the sub-recipient All-Ukrainian network of people living with HIV/AIDS ('100% Life').
- Within the UNAIDS Technical Support Mechanism (TSM) grant in 2019, EHRA hired an international human rights expert to assist EHRA with submissions to UN treaty bodies and to prepare and conduct regional training on documenting human rights violations for South East European countries in early 2020.

11. New Psychoactive Substance Use in Moldova and Belarus

**Donor: Global Challenges
Research Fund**



Duration: Mar. 2019 – Jun. 2019

Budget: GBP14,595

Project Status: Completed

**Target Countries and territories: Belarus and
Moldova**



Aim / Objectives:

To generate a more accurate picture of the use of new psychoactive substances (NPS) in Belarus and Moldova which will then be used to inform both policy advocacy by domestic civil society organisations as well as to contribute to the international peer reviewed literature on NPS use.

Brief summary of progress:

- [2 national reports](#) on the use of NPS in Belarus and Moldova were prepared and published.
- A [seminar](#) was held at Swansea University, Wales, under the auspices of the Centre on Criminal Justice and Criminology on the project and its findings.
- Results of the research were presented in the [Lisbon Addictions 2019 conference](#).
- Based on the results and methodology of the project, an application was prepared on NPS use in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia and Georgia and funding was secured.

12. United Nations Population Fund Grant

**Donor: United Nations Population
Fund Grant**



Project Status: Completed

**Target Countries and territories: Central and Eastern
Europe and Central Asia**

Duration: Jan. 2019 – Mar. 2019

Budget: EUR13,870



Aim / Objectives:

- ✓ Assessment of models and approaches used in OST in the process of its transitioning to domestic funding by (1) developing and promoting an OST-specific version of the Transition Readiness Assessment Tool; and, (2) developing tools to conduct regular monitoring of access and quality of HIV services.
- ✓ Capacity building of EHRA to better advocate for human rights violations among women using drugs and OST programmes in the EECA.
- ✓ Support of EHRA governance and sustainability systems through working meetings to finalise current fundraising approaches and to prepare for the organisational strategic planning process for 2019.

Brief summary of progress:

- A draft guide was developed for assessing the sustainability of Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) in the context of donor transition and approach and the sustainability of the programmatic aspects of OST services in EECA countries transitioning from Global Fund support to national funding.
- A team of sociologists, in close collaboration with EHRA staff, developed the protocol and informed consent forms and conducted 9 semi-structured interviews with OST clients and 1 with a service provider; they prepared a data collection tool in consultation with community and harm reduction experts and received IRB approval in Ukraine.
- In February 2019, during the 65th session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) in Geneva, Switzerland, EHRA, in partnership with the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network (CALN), joined by community representatives from Estonia presented [the statements on the enjoyment of rights among women who use drugs in Estonia](#) and addressed the questions of the Committee.
- A set of documents have been developed, including an EHRA fundraising plan for 2019-2020 and tools for the EHRA Strategic Framework evaluation and plan as part of the EHRA strategic planning process in 2019.

EHRA as a Fiscal Agent for regional community-led networks

EHRA acknowledges the principle of greater involvement of key communities, including people who use drugs, in policy and advocacy work as well as in programmes and services that affect their lives at all levels. EHRA encourages the development of emerging regional community-led networks as they play a crucial role in advocacy for better policies and practices in healthcare and in protecting the human rights of key communities. Among other types of support, EHRA acts as a Fiscal Agent for regional community-led networks, thereby backing up their financial and administrative management.

In 2019, EHRA was a Fiscal Agent of the Eurasian Network of People Who Use Drugs (ENPUD). The main principles and aims of the mutual work are defined in a Memorandum of Cooperation signed between EHRA and ENPUD. A more detailed description of ENPUD's project performance is available at <http://enpud.net/>.



Prison Health and Rights Consortium

Donor: Robert Carr Fund for civil society networks / European Prison Litigation Network (EPLN)

Budget: USD291,338 (ENPUD)

Project duration: Jan. 2019 – Dec. 2021

Project Status: In progress

INPUD-ENPUD-Bridging the Gaps (BtG) 2019

Donor: INPUD

Budget: EUR16,500

Project duration: 28 May -31 Jan. 2020

Project Status: Completed

INPUD-ENPUD-GF

Donor: The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GF) / INPUD Budget: USD45,700

Project duration: Jul. 2018 – Apr. 2020

Project Status: In progress

Networks of People who use Drugs are Fundamental to the HIV response: Nothing about us without us, Consortium of Networks of People who use Drugs

Donor: Robert Carr Fund for civil society networks / INPUD

Budget: USD85,960 (2019 budget)

Project duration: Jan. 2019 – Dec. 2021

Project Status: In progress

RSPA “Your Chance” (Belarus): To identify and influence the readiness of the OST programme to recruit people with combined dependence

Donor: AFEW International

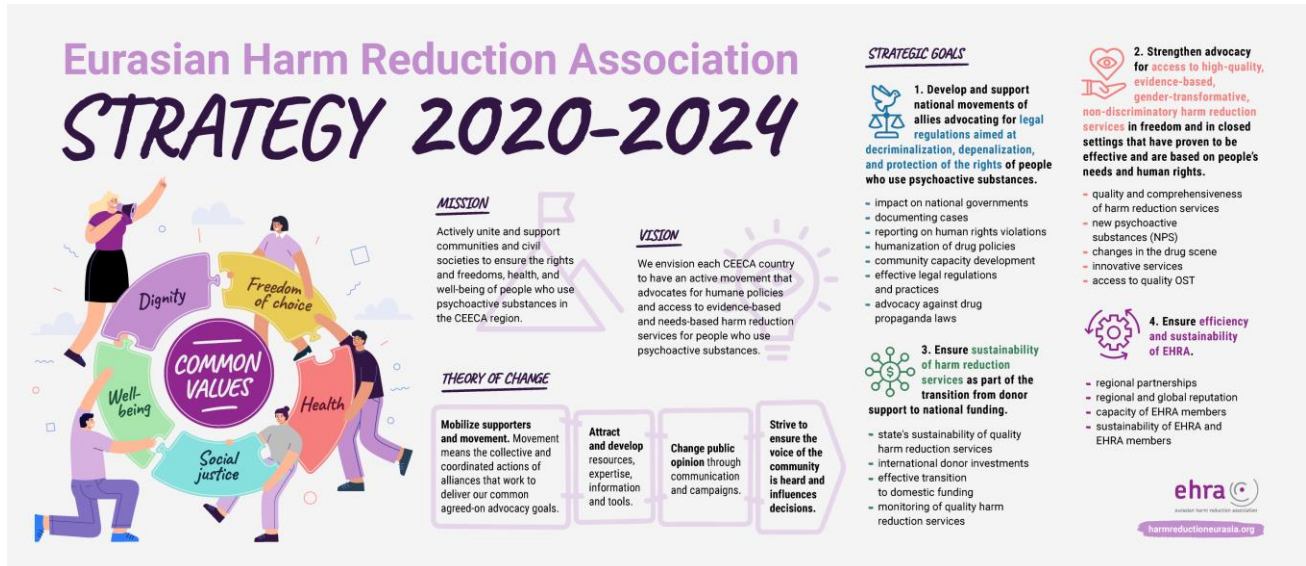
Budget: USD4,997 (2019 budget)

Project duration: May 2019 – Aug. 2019

Project Status: Completed

EHRA's Programmatic Plans 2020

2020 will be the first year for the implementation of the recently developed organisational Strategy, 2020-2024, with an upgraded and ambitious mission and reshaped goals and objectives.



EHRA's MISSION: to actively unite and support communities and civil society to ensure the rights and freedoms, health and well-being of people who use psychoactive substances in the CEECA region.

Strategic Goal 1. Develop and support national movements of allies advocating for **legal regulations aiming at decriminalisation, depenalisation and the protection of the rights** of people who use psychoactive substances.

Planned activities for 2020:

- ✓ Regional workshop for 25 community activists and experts from South-Eastern Europe (Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro) on collecting data on human rights violations and implementation of response mechanisms.
- ✓ Implementation of the *Learning Cycle* on State budget monitoring and accountability. The *Cycle* includes a regional expert meeting; a regional workshop for 15 civil society and community representatives; awarding of 6 small grants, followed by the provision of expert technical assistance and mentorship.
- ✓ Delivery of the advocacy campaign, "Chase the virus, not people", at national level by providing 4 small grants to CSOs and CBOs in EEECA countries.
- ✓ To develop and promote innovative approaches and methods on drug education among youth workers, peer educators, outreach workers and harm reduction specialists who directly work with youth who are potentially, or who are already, using drugs.

Strategic Goal 2. Strengthen advocacy for **access to high-quality, evidence-based, gender-transformative, non-discriminatory harm reduction services** in free and closed settings that have proved to be effective and based on people's needs and human rights.

Planned activities for 2020:

- Submission of 2 cases to international human rights treaty bodies of human rights violations faced by people who use drugs in Ukraine and Belarus.
- Active participation in the development of European and national advocacy strategies to strengthen outreach work in harm reduction.
- Proven research methodology will be used to generate a more accurate picture of the use of new psychoactive substances (NPS), harm reduction and law enforcement responses to the emerging NPS in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia and Serbia.
- Data collection and analysis of human rights violations and quality of services for drug users in EECA countries; development of a follow-up system, including submission of cases to international human rights protection mechanisms.

Strategic Goal 3. Ensure **sustainability of harm reduction services** as part of the transition from donor support to national funding.

Planned activities for 2020:

- ✓ Provision of technical assistance to civil society and community organisations in monitoring of implementation of transition plans to assess the impact of transition on national funding and the quality of Opioid Agonist Treatment in EECA countries.
- ✓ Development of methodology for online monitoring and analysing of transition plan implementation; conduct regular monitoring and analysis of implementation of transition plans in countries where transition plans are being developed.
- ✓ Continuation of hosting of the Regional Civil Society and Community Support, Communication and Coordination Platform in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Strategic Goal 4. Ensure **efficiency and sustainability of EHRA.**

- Regular Steering Committee (SC) meetings and annual General Assembly (GA).
- Active fundraising to ensure financial and programmatic sustainability.
- Regional workshop on CSO and CBO organisational sustainability and practice of alternative funding with a focus on EHRA members.
- Maintain strong alliances with regional key community networks, human rights and feminist associations.
- Increase expert capacity of EHRA staff and members by providing educational events and sharing information via EHRA communication channels.

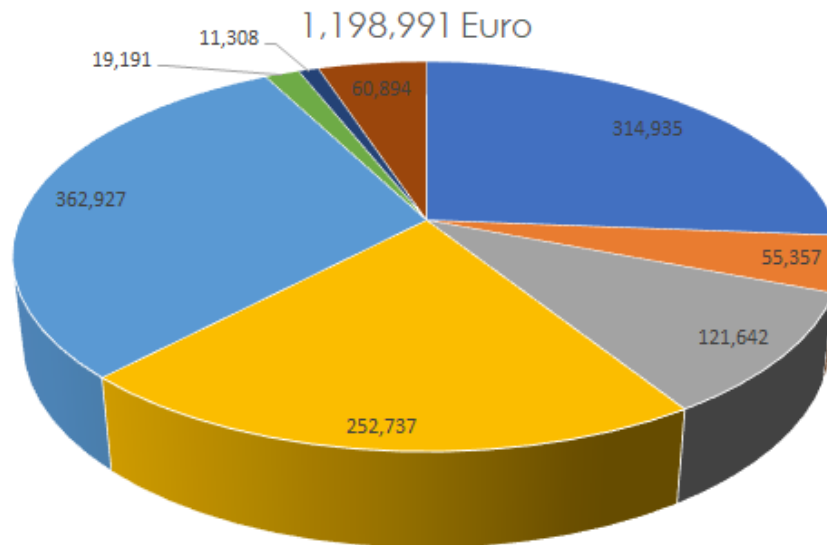
Organisational risks and their management

In the process of developing the new strategy, 2020-2024, EHRA identified risks that may potentially occur in the implementation of the Strategy. EHRA considers risk management comprehensively, covering all aspects that may affect achievement of EHRA's strategic objectives. These aspects include potential risks in governance/decision making; finances/resources; operational planning and programme implementation; the environmental and political situation in countries of the CEECA; and risks related to EHRA members and beneficiaries. EHRA manages risks by anticipating them, preventing them from happening and minimising their effect, if they occur. Risks only with high likelihood or impact are included in the table below. All identified potential risks and their management are being recorded in a risk register and are being regularly revised.

RISK	ORGANIZATIONAL RESPONSE
GOVERNANCE	
Lack of participation and disengagement of Steering Committee (SC) members resulting in poor and imbalanced strategic decisions. <i>Likelihood: low Impact: high</i>	To keep the SC focused on, and informed about, EHRA activities; conduct regular online meetings and teleconferences; review SC regulations/policy with clear roles and responsibilities, as needed.
Members block decisions resulting in the inability to conduct operations. <i>Likelihood: medium Impact: high</i>	Revision of membership policy.
FINANCIAL / OPERATIONAL	
Lack of resources for EHRA activities. <i>Likelihood: medium Impact: high</i>	Intensive fundraising; informing donors about developments in the harm reduction field; undertake efficient financial management; work without an office; work without sub-granting.
Dependency on one-two donors or projects. <i>Likelihood: high Impact: high</i>	Broaden the donor portfolio; financial planning and forecasting; fundraising strategy with "new" donors from human rights, public health and broader areas.
Poor project management causes postponement in the delivery of project activities/outputs, resulting in poor project performance. <i>Likelihood: high Impact: high</i>	Strengthen supervision and project performance monitoring; analyse challenges in management and conduct training-based lessons learned.
ENVIRONMENTAL / POLITICAL	
Changes in government policies in CEECA countries have a negative impact. <i>Likelihood: medium Impact: high</i>	Identify and maintain key relationships with governments and donors; safeguarding the operations and information sharing through regional mechanisms to mitigate effect of repressive policy; monitor proposed legal and regulatory changes.
Due to the political status in countries, EHRA cannot disburse money to countries. <i>Likelihood: medium Impact: high</i>	Introduce mutual support between EHRA members from different countries or financial agents to support activities in countries "closed" for support.
MEMBERSHIP / BENEFICIARIES	
A significant drop in the number of organisations/activists working in drug policy at the national level caused by repression. <i>Likelihood: medium Impact: high</i>	Technical assistance aimed at the financial and operational sustainability of those organisations.
Closedown of harm reduction programmes in CEECA countries. <i>Likelihood: medium Impact: high</i>	Initiate advocacy from regional networks for bridge funding; attract the attention of donors to the problem; document cases and consequences of funding withdrawal; resource mobilisation; encourage alternative funding of services.

Our Finances

EHRA's general and administrative costs, 2019 (EURO)	1,198,991	%
Contractual funding transferred to project partners and sub-grants	314,935	26%
Costs of organizing seminars, conferences	55,357	5%
Travel costs	121,642	10%
Costs of consultants and translators	252,737	21%
Salaries and related costs	362,927	30%
Office rent, economic, utility costs	19,191	2%
Communication, postage, internet connection costs	11,308	1%
Other costs	60,894	5%



- Contractual funding has been transferred to project partners and sub-grants
- Costs of organizing seminars, conferences
- Travel costs
- Costs of consultants and translators
- Salaries and related costs
- Office rent, economic, utility costs
- Communication, postage, internet connection costs
- Other costs