



## Reduction of social consequences of an HIV spread in Estonia and Leningradskaya oblast of Russia

### Helping to live

**Priority 3** Promotion from people to people cooperation

**Measure 3.2** Cooperation in sphere of culture, sport, education, social and health



## Short summary of the project

**B**order territories of Estonia (Ust'-Narva district) and Russia (Leningradskaya oblast) demonstrate the highest in Europe rate of HIV prevalence. The number of HIV+ is growing. **P**eople living with HIV/AIDS (PLWA) have serious social and psychological problems that have an impact on major social and economic problems of the territory and an impact on labor productivity through longer sick leaves caused by HIV and related diseases. **P**eople, who are already infected, have limited access to local support in Leningradskaya oblast and North-East Estonia.

**T**he project provides HIV-related long-term socio-medical assistance and support, development and introduction of joint measures for reduction of negative impact of HIV on the society as regions are characterized by a high level of stigma demonstrated by social workers toward PLWA.

**B**etter socialization of HIV+ population will be organized.

**T**erritories are close to each other and there are some similarities in HIV epidemic spread. That is why the level of awareness with problems attributed to HIV spread and life with HIV will be raised.

## Overall objective

**D**evelopment of socio-psychological support system for PLWA in border territories of Estonia and Leningradskaya oblast. To contribute toward reduction of social and economic consequences of HIV/AIDS.

## Specific objective

- ✚ To work out model of social support to PLWA in particular municipal territories with the use of border partners' experience;
- ✚ To strengthen the potential of municipal social support and healthcare authorities in social services to PLWA;
- ✚ To enhance involvement of municipal authorities into the work on reduction of social and economic consequences of HIV;
- ✚ To strengthen potential of partners.

## Beneficiary

**Social Support and Public Health Foundation «POSITIVE WAVE»** (Saint-Petersburg, Russia)

## Partners

**ESPO Society** (North-East Estonia)

**LIGO NGO Association of Women Against HIV/AIDS** (North-East Estonia)





## Expected results

- ✦ **Achievements** of partners about the project activities and results presented **to over 100,000 people** via the website, media and other sources;
- ✦ **Methodical digest** published in 200 copies and electronic version of the digest on CDs, the **manual** downloaded by over 4,000 specialists and printed version of the Manual distributed to over 100 institutions and organizations;
- ✦ 5,000 copies of **booklets** distributed and over 15 **video clips** and **articles** released by media. Relations with media are strengthened;
- ✦ **The level of awareness** with life with HIV raised;
- ✦ **Channels for experience exchange** with neighbor countries are established;
- ✦ Creation of a **model of social services to PLWA** on both territories (2 Centers established). Specialists trained to work with PLWA. Social workers received sources of continuously updated information (7 informational newsletters);
- ✦ **Better socialization** of HIV+ people, resolution of a particular life situations (500 clients received psychological counselling; over 50 clients managed to find a job after being trained on job hunting skills; over 500 clients resolved their social problems (found accommodation opportunities, managed to receive allowance they are entitled to, managed to set a child into educational institution, etc); over 150 clients resolved their legal problems;
- ✦ About 100 representatives of the Russian and Estonian municipal and regional authorities will receive **information on measures for reduction of HIV**-related negative impact on the society and promote their level of awareness with problems attributed to HIV spread. Round tables attended by representatives of over 150 organizations and agencies. Stages of the social support programme development will be drafted.

## Final beneficiaries

- ✦ **PLWA** of Leningrad oblast and Estonia. The total HIV+ population of the territories is 25,000 people (over 17 500 in Leningradskaya oblast, 7 353 - Estonia)
- ✦ Most socially vulnerable females with children (from 0 to 3)
- ✦ **Social workers** of municipal institutions. Each of 25 territories of Leningradskaya oblast and Estonia has a social support department
- ✦ **General public**

## Duration

**24** months

## Budget

Total budget: **364 943,48** EUR

Programme co-financing: 275 810,58 EUR (75,58 %)

Project co-financing: 89 132,90 EUR (24, 42%)

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