Update on HIV in Prisons and other Closed Settings

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Current situation in prisons

- **Increasing** prison population
- **10.35 million** prisoners worldwide (on any given day)
- **144 in every 100,000** are imprisoned
- A majority of prisons are **overcrowded**

Source: International Centre for Prison Studies

- **>100%**: 115 countries
- **>200%**: 22 countries
- **>300%**: 4 countries
Prisons = High infection risks

- Over-representation of key populations
- All modes of transmission
- Poor prison conditions
- Poor prison management
- Low access to services
- Isolation from public health system
- Stigma, neglect, denial & violence
Global and regional burden of HIV among prisoners

Source: Global burden of HIV, viral hepatitis, and tuberculosis in prisoners and detainees – the Lancet - July 2016
Women and HIV in prisons

- **700,000** women & girls
- Female population has increased by 50% in prisons since 2000
- Women have a **higher HIV prevalence** than men in prisons
Countries with at least one needle-syringe programme site in prisons


- Yes
- No
- Unknown or unavailable data

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Opioid substitution therapy in prisons

Source: Global state of harm reduction 2016. London: Harm Reduction International
Barriers to healthcare services in prisons

Lack of:

- **Integration** of prison healthcare into public health systems
- **Coordination** between health services and the criminal justice system - interrupted services
- **Policy** guidelines
- **Resources**

Who is responsible for healthcare in prisons?

**UNODC**
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
Global commitments on HIV in Prisons

- Sustainable Development Goals
- Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS
- UNAIDS 2016 – 2021 Strategy on the Fast-Track to end AIDS
Global commitments on HIV in Prisons

UNGASS on Drugs
Outcome Document 2016

UN Crime Commission resolution:
Ensuring access to measures for PMTCT of HIV in prisons

ON THE FAST-TRACK TO
AN AIDS FREE GENERATION
The relationship between the physician or other health-care professionals and the prisoners shall be governed by the same ethical and professional standards as those applicable to patients in the community.
Technical guidance and tools
Technical guidance and tools
Joint Programme support to countries

Policies and strategies

- **Legal and policy environment** - Sub-Saharan Africa (UNDP 2016-2017)
- First Correctional Services **health policy & strategic plan** - Namibia (UNODC 2015)
- **National strategic framework** - Afghanistan (UNODC 2016)
- **Strategy, action plan, SoP** - Ukraine (UNODC 2016)
- **SoP** for prison healthcare services - Myanmar (UNODC, WHO, UNAIDS 2016 - 2017)
- **Prison reform** in line with Nelson Mandela Rules - Zambia (UNDP, UNODC 2017)
Strategic Information

• Prevalence and factors of **TB transmission** in prisons - Zimbabwe (UNODC 2016)

• **Alternatives to incarceration** for people who use drugs in 7 countries – (UNODC 2016)

• **HIV and other health services** in prisons - Moldova (UNODC 2016)
Access to HIV services

- **Operationalisation** of health strategies - 10 Sub-Saharan African countries (UNODC 2017)
- **HIV testing and counselling** centres - Egypt (UNODC 2017)
- **Model health clinics** - Zambia & Tanzania (UNODC 2015 & 2016)
- **Opioid substitution therapy** – Kenya & Viet Nam (UNODC 2016 - 2017)

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Capacity building

- **CSOs** on comprehensive HIV services including harm reduction in prisons - Moldova (UNODC 2015-2016)
- **Senior prison managers and medical doctors** - the Gulf sub-region & Middle Eastern countries (ICRC & UNODC 2016-2017)
- **Senior managers and policymakers** from Afghanistan & 6 neighbouring countries (UNODC 2016)
- **Prison staff** – Ukraine, Viet Nam & 4 Sub Saharan countries (UNODC 2015-2017)
Women in prisons

- Capacity of prison healthcare providers on **PMTCT** - Nepal & Pakistan (UNODC 2017)
- Capacity of prison staff to address specific **health needs** of women - 7 countries (UNODC 2017)
- HIV service provision for **women who use drugs** in female prisons – Pakistan (UNODC 2017)
The way forward

✓ Improve **strategic information** to inform policies & strategies
✓ Put in place supportive **laws, policies and practices**
✓ Consider and use **alternatives to incarceration** for key populations and petty, non-violent offenses
✓ Develop and implement **prison reform initiatives**
✓ Invest in and scale up **comprehensive HIV services**
✓ Establish effective linkages to ensure **continuity of care**
✓ Enhance **coordination** between health and criminal justice sectors, and with communities, CSOs and other relevant partners
UNAIDS PCB Field Visit to Mastapha Prison in Swaziland (Nov 2017)
Thank You!

@UNODC_HIV