

FOREWORD

The spreading of HIV/AIDS and STIs infections in Moldova during last years has got an epidemic character. As of 01.07.2000 a total cumulative number of 1110 cases of HIV have been officially reported with the Ministry of Health, 27 cases of AIDS and 21 death cases. The Republic of Moldova has the fourth position on prevalence of HIV/AIDS in population, after Russia, Ukraine and Belorussia.

Practically, the epidemiological process is present in all territorial administrative areas. The situational analyses of the epidemics shows a high prevalence of HIV/AIDS among injecting drug users - 84 %. The sexual way of transmission has been registered in 14 % of all cases. The high level of sexual transmission, in particular of syphilis, chlamydia, trichomoniasis and the low level of diagnostics of STIs could condition a high spread level of HIV/AIDS by sexual way of transmission.

The draft project of the National Program on Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS and STIs was developed on the basis of analyses of the existing epidemiological situation, response analysis of the activities implemented under the previous National Program 1995-2000, approved by the Government of Republic of Moldova in 1995, and other activities carried by NGOs and donor organizations. The National Team for Strategic Planning established within the framework of the project supported by the UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS in Moldova with participation of the representatives of the ministries, departments and non-governmental organizations took part in the development of the program. The development and financing of the project, as well as technical advising on the project has been provided by UNAIDS.

The project of the National Program is oriented and focused on improvement of situation, prevention of HIV/AIDS and STI infections among youth, vulnerable groups, first of all among injecting drug users, assuring of blood transfusion safety and others medical (surgical) interventions. Basic determinants, priority strategies included in the National Program are:

1. Development and establishment of national policy in the field of HIV/AIDS and STIs.
2. Prevention of spreading of HIV/AIDS infections among injecting drug users.
3. Prevention of spreading of HIV/AIDS and STIs infections among youth.
4. Assuring the inoffensiveness of blood transfusions, medical services and medical interventions.
5. Prevention of spreading of HIV/AIDS and STIs through sexual way of transmission.
6. Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS and STIs.
7. Provision of medical and psycho-social assistance to people living with HIV/AIDS and to members of their families.
8. Epidemiological surveillance and state monitoring of HIV/AIDS and STIs infections.

The draft project of the National Program was developed as a flexible document, aimed at intersectoral coordination regarding prevention of HIV/AIDS and STI for 2001 - 2005. The program foresees close cooperation among ministries, departments and non governmental organizations, international organizations, as full partners in the implementation of activities. The coordinating role for the Program will be carried out by the Interdepartmental Committee.

The financing of the Program for a 5 years period shall be provided in the amount of 111,707 billion Moldovan lei, including means allocated from the state budget in the sum of 44.465 billion

Moldovan lei (42.39 %) and 67.243 billion Moldovan lei to be received from projects and grants.

**NATIONAL PROGRAM ON PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF HIV/AIDS AND STIs
FOR (STI) IN 2001 – 2005.**

	PRIORITY STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES
1.	Development and establishment of national policy in the field of HIV/AIDS and STIs.	
2.	Prevention of spreading of HIV/AIDS infections among injecting drug users.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Combating illegal trafficking of drugs. 2. Accessibility of the population and in particular of injecting drug users to the information on the impact of drugs and HIV/AIDS infection on health and on prevention measures. 3. Implementing of the programs based on the Harm Reduction strategy among the persons using drugs.
3.	Prevention of spreading of HIV/AIDS and STIs infections among youth.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accessibility to information. 2. Introductions of the training program "Sexuality and HIV/AIDS/STI infections" in schools and universities.
4.	Assuring the inoffensivity of blood transfusions, medical services and medical interventions.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevention of HIV/AIDS infection and other infections, transmitted through blood in medical institutions. 2. Ensuring sterility of medical equipment, toolkits and other consumables used when providing medical services.
5.	Prevention of spreading of HIV/AIDS and STIs through sexual way of transmission.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education, comprehension, formation and introduction of safe sexual behavior. 2. Accessibility to the qualified medical assistance of persons with STIs. 3. Provision of condoms at low prices.
6.	Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS and STIs.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accessibility of women of reproductive age to the information about risks and ways of transmission of HIV/AIDS and STI and to information on family planning. 2. Education, training and formation of concept " Healthy child ". 3. Condoms accessibility for population. 4. Accessibility of the pregnant HIV positive women to specific preventive treatment with aniretrovirals.
7.	Provision of medical and psycho-social assistance to people living with HIV/AIDS and to members of their families.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provision of qualified medical assistance including specific antiretroviral treatment. 2. Social support of the persons infected HIV and patients AIDS and also for members of their families.
8.	Epidemiological surveillance of HIV/AIDS and STIs.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitoring of different groups at high risk of infection at national, territorial and individual level. 2. Establishment of the sentinel surveillance system for the country.

THE PURPOSE AND TASKS OF THE PROGRAM.

REDUCTION OF INTENSITY OF SPREADING OF HIV/AIDS AND STI INFECTIONS AND IMPROVEMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA.

REDUCTION OF CONSEQUENCES OF HIV/AIDS AT THE STATE, SOCIAL AND INDIVIDUAL LEVEL.

INCREASE OF THE ROLE OF STATE IN IMPLEMENTING ACTIVITIES ON PREVENTION, MEDICAL AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE, LEGAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, REHABILITATING AND WIDE PARTICIPATION OF NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN ACTIVITIES.

STRATEGY 1

DEFINITION OF NATIONAL POLICY IN HIV/AIDS AND STIs.

PURPOSE – establishment of HIV/AIDS and STIs as a priority problem for public health at the State level, development of state and political support system, financing of activities of prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs.

HIV/AIDS and STIs represent a real danger for the public health and negatively influence its development. The medical aspects of HIV/AIDS/STI infection represent 10 - 15 % of the total, the complex and operative implementation of activities on prevention depends on the ministries, departments, chiefs of local self-administration, non governmental and international organizations and personal participation. Recognition of priority of the rights of the man, including the rights of sexual minorities and other groups at high risk of infection, improvement of legislation, refusing of repressive factors, that will favor prevention work and improves the situation.

ACTIVITIES

1. Establishment of National Inter-Departmental Committee on prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs with broad participation of relevant NGO and donor organizations. Assuring of intersectoral participation. (The Committee is existing though we have prepared a project to consolidate it, it did not start yet as we are expecting a new Government in place in less than two months. We estimated the cost of the trainings at \$5000 – covered from UNAIDS money). No trainings for the National Inter-Departmental Committee on prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs have ever been organized.
2. Establishment of HIV/AIDS/STIs as priority for the public health with negative impact on the society development. Including of the chapters on HIV/AIDS/STIs and drug misuse into the National Health Policy. (Under development, financed by UNICEF and WHO).
3. Implementation of the Law nr. 1460-XII of 25.05.1993 approved by the Parliament of Republic of Moldova: «On AIDS Prevention»
4. Improvement of the legislation in the field of sex workers, homosexuals, drug users and of other vulnerable groups at high risk of infection. (A project Proposal should be developed. A lawyer (Cornelia Vintilova) from the Human Rights Centre was involved in a 2 week training on legislative issues regarding HIV/AIDS in 1998. No trainings have been organized in the country.)

5. Training of field teams (judets, municipal) on the methodology of development district programmes on prevention. Development of the territorial programs on prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs. (Training completed. Cost - \$30.000, financed by UNAIDS+UNDP).
6. Trainings of members of Interdepartmental Committee and judets (municipal) committees on issues regarding prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs.
7. Provision of priority financing and political support to anti AIDS/STIs activities.
8. Implementation of the National Program on Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS and STIs.
9. More active involvement of all society structures into prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs, including that of relevant NGOs.

STRATEGY 2

PREVENTION OF SPREADING OF HIV/AIDS INFECTION AMONG INJECTING DRUG USERS.

PURPOSE – consolidation of state, community and individual efforts on combating drug use and illicit drugs circulation, ensuring of rhythmic dissemination of information on negative influence of infections on public health. Formation of inoffensive sexual behavior among drug using persons, their sexual partners, with the purpose of prevention of spreading of HIV/AIDS/STIs.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Combat illicit drugs circulation. Implementation of National Program on combating drug using and illicit drugs circulation.
2. Improvement of legislation in the area of storing, preparation, selling and consumption of drugs.
3. Primary prevention of drugs misuse among drug users and regular population. Education and promotion of a healthy lifestyle. Introducing in educational program of schools and universities of the component on prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs.
4. Attracting and rehabilitation of persons at high risk of consumption of psychotropic drugs.
5. Implementation of prevention programs for prevention of HIV/AIDS among drug users and persons predispose to consume it, obtaining their confidence in effectiveness of HIV/AIDS prevention programs.
6. Development of project proposals based on « Harm reduction among drug users» strategy as a complex, inter-sectoral activities which stipulate:
 - 6.1 Rapid behavioural assessments and sentinel surveillance to HIV held among IDUs.
 - 6.2. Information, education and communication activities for IDUS implemented. (IEC)
 - 6.3. Provision of IEC materials, peer education, condoms, bleach, needles and syringes to IDUs.

6.4. Provision of services for early diagnosis and effective treatment of STDs, voluntary HIV counselling and testing, and psychological support to IDUs.

6.5. Provision of substitute prescribing services with the purpose of reducing the spread of HIV infection and that of viral hepatitis.

6.6 Outreach work for IDUs (in streets).

7. Development of the «Charter Youth in XXI century – spiritually healthy and drugs free».

8. Accessibility to treatment, social protection and rehabilitation of drug users based on the substitute prescribing strategy with analogues drugs.

9. Training of specialists, development of thematic materials and education in primary and secondary prevention of drug misuse.

10. Implementation of preventive activities among military troops, police units and in penitentiaries.

STRATEGY 3

PREVENTION OF HIV/AIDS AND STIs INFECTION AMONG YOUTH.

PURPOSE – Ensurance of continuity in educational activities on sexuality, prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs and drug using as an integral part of establishment of healthy lifestyle.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Improvement of educational programs on sexuality, HIV/AIDS/STI and drug usage prevention for schools and universities.
2. Establishment of a priority, free of charge and accessible system for population based on information, sensitization and promotion of a healthy lifestyle aimed at prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIS and drug misuse.
3. Provision of educational institutions with methodological and didactical materials on prevention.
4. Introducing of the training program «Sexuality and HIV/AIDS/STIs and drug misuse prevention in schools and universities.
4. Training and recycling of specialists in education in prevention issues.
5. Development, expanding and implementation of educational programmes for non-organized (out-of-school) youth.
6. Implementation of condom promotion programmes aimed at youth as a remedy of prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs. Making condoms more accessible to youth.

7. Holding of sociological studies on the youth behavior patterns.

STRATEGY 4

ASSURING THE INOFENSIVITY OF BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS, MEDICAL SERVICES AND MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS.

4.1 PURPOSE – prevention of transmission of HIV/AIDS and other STIs through blood in the process of providing medical assistance and of blood transfusion and blood components.

1. Improvement of the selection system for blood donors with purpose of excluding persons from vulnerable groups.
2. Implementation of state system for blood collection, stoking and laboratory control for antibodies to HIV 1, HIV 2 viruses, every 3rd and 6th month after donation for excluding the risk of transmitting of infection through blood transfusion.
3. Re-examining of indications for blood transfusion and blood products, implementation of blood transfusion and administration of blood products only after HIV and other blood transmitted infections control. Prioritization of transfusion of blood substitutes and establishment of a bank of blood.
4. Implementation of activities focused on health of women of reproductive age (prevention of anemias, infections) which will reduce the number of blood transfusions.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Development of a National Program on Blood Transfusion, conception of good conditions for blood collecting and formation of permanent stocks of blood and blood born products in blood transfusion centers, tested in conformity with WHO guidelines.
2. Elaboration and implementing of a National Standard for blood transfusion.
3. Preparing and instructing medical specialists in the field of applicative blood transfusion.
4. Promotion of blood donation as a human principle.
5. Improvement of the system of selection of donors of blood, biological liquids, organs, tissues, with the purpose to exclude donors from groups at high risk of infection.
6. Insure HIV testing blood laboratories with necessary performance equipment, including checking of the viral load (PCR), necessary diagnostic kits which will reduce to minimum infection of recipients.
7. Organization and completion in Soroca, Tighina, Ungheni and Taraclia district diagnostic laboratories for AIDS and other blood transmitting infections.
8. Provision of sanitary institutions with necessary blood substitutes.

4.2 PURPOSE – Prevention of HIV/AIDS in sanitary institutions, beauty saloons, barber's saloons.

1. Enforcement of technical support and accreditation of state and private sanitary institutions in accordance with the existing regulations.
2. Insurance of sterility and anti-epidemic conditions when providing surgical and medical assistance.
3. Re-evaluation of sterility standards for equipment and medical kits.
4. Priority in financing of medical institutions and provision of equipment, medical kits, disinfectants and detergents.
5. Implementation and permanent monitoring over the usage of sterility equipment and evaluation of equipment and medical kits sterility, post-guaranty technical service.
6. Establishment of conditions for utilization of biological materials and instrumentary kits.
7. Ensuring the medical staff with individual protection means and provision of safe working conditions. Automation of technological processes with increased infection risk. In-filed training of the medical staff when employed and periodical trainings on safer environment.
8. Re-examining of educational, training and recycling programs of the medical Universities and Colleges on the subject of HIV/AIDS/STIs infections.
9. Recycling training of the medium level medical staff of the compartment on «Etiology, epidemiology, pathogeneses, clinics, diagnostic and prevention of HIV/AIDS infection».
10. Inventory and provision of license to beauty saloons, barbers saloons, manicure and pedicure saloons. Checking of the lists of the services provided and of measures to reduce spread of HIV/AIDS and other diseases.

STRATEGY 5

PREVENTION OF SPREADING OF HIV/AIDS AND STIS THROUGH SEXUAL WAY OF TRANSMISSION.

PURPOSE – Establishment of a sexual educational system and reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS and STI in groups at high risk.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Mandatory introduction in school and university educational programs of the subject on «Sexuality and prevention of HIV/AIDS and STI including drug misuse». Development of programs and educational materials on the issue.

2. Training of specialists from ministers, departments, chiefs of local administration on aspects of public education, in particularly aimed at youth, and prevention of HIV/AIDS/STI and drug misuse.
3. Implementation of the National Educational Program for public health and promotion of a healthy lifestyle. Accessibility of the public to information regarding the present situation on HIV/AIDS and STI and prevention activities.
4. Public information on STIs, education and promotion of safer sex, involvement in prevention activities of non governmental organization, communities and mass-media.
5. Organization and implementing of mass activities (shows, concerts, theater presentations, round tables etc.) and especially of activities dedicated to World AIDS Day.
6. Preparing of thematically symbolized current consummation goods (bags, shirts, badges etc.).
7. Public accessibility to the dermatovenerological assistance and its integration with services of primary medical assistance with purpose of better diagnostic, treatment and prevention of sexually transmitted infections.
8. Insuring effective diagnostic and free treatment to STI-patients from vulnerable groups.
9. Education and training, in prevention of HIV/AIDS and STI, of persons with risky behavior (women in sex business, homosexuals, migrants etc.), establishment of informational groups from their environment to be involved in the prevention work.
10. Development and promotion of condom use in prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs and unwanted pregnancy. Condoms accessibility for population.
11. Establishment of an adequate system for condom distribution at accessible price.
12. Implementation of preventive activities among military troops, police troops and in penitentiaries.
13. Assuring of anonymous diagnosis and treatment for the vulnerable groups (MSM, FSW etc).
14. Holding of sociological studies on behavior patterns of vulnerable groups at high risk of infection.

STRATEGY 6

PREVENTION OF SPREADING OF HIV/AIDS AND STIs FROM MOTHER-TO CHILD (PERINATAL) MTCT.

PURPOSE - prevention of vertical transmission of HIV from positive mothers to newborn and children.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Development of national principles on prevention of MTCT.
2. Instructing of men and women of fertile age in problems of family planning, condom usage and prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs.
3. Accessibility of women of reproductive age to specialized consultations, anonymous and confidential testing to hiv/STIs.
4. Working with HIV positive women and their partners on family planning and on risk of giving birth to HIV positive children.
5. Condoms accessibility for to families with HIV positive status.
6. Accessibility of HIV positive newborn and mothers to specific antiretroviral treatment.
7. Training of specialists on the issues of «HIV Infection and pregnancy. Training on HIV and pregnancy for obstetricians and family doctors.

STRATEGY 7

PROVISION OF MEDICAL AND PSYCHO-SOCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS AND TO MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES.

PURPOSES 7.1 – Assure the accessibility of medical assistance to PLHA oriented towards maintaining the health status and prolongation of life expectancy.

PURPOSE 7.2 – Assuring psycho-social support of PLHA and their families through accessibility to social services. Protection of human rights of PLHA.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Realization of PLHA patients rights through accessibility to social services and medical assistance, protection of other rights stipulated by legislation.
2. Organization of a hospital section for PLHA patients and assuring hospitalization, clinic investigations and of a specific treatment with antiretrovirals within the Clinical Hospital of Infectious Diseases «T. Ciorba» and in Balti District Clinics.
3. To increase the number of investigations to AIDS opportunistic infections.
4. Development of national standards regarding the volume and methods of treatment of PLHA from AIDS opportunistic infections and STIs.
5. Assure a state minimum guaranteed medical and social assistance to PLHA and members of their families.
6. Development and provision of practical recommendation for home care of PLHA to members of the family and NGOs.
7. Establishment of informational systems (trust phones, hot-lines) for promotion of healthy lifestyles, psychological support for HIV/AIDS/STI infected persons and drug users.
8. Development of a National Standard for palliative care for patients with HIV/AIDS and implementation of the standard.

STRATEGY 8

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE OF HIV/AIDS AND STIs AND STATE MONITORING OF THE INFECTIONS.

PURPOSE – Continuous monitoring of the epidemiological situation with HIV/AIDS and STIs. Situational evaluation, development of adequate measures for prevention, and exercising control over implementation of the National Program.

ACTIVITIES:

1. To assure state monitoring over HIV/AIDS and STIs at national and district level including sentinel surveillance of groups at high risk.
2. Assuring realization of right of the citizens of the republic to be examined for HIV/AIDS, with an anonymous pre- and post- counseling consultation.
3. Improvement of state control over observance of the legislation of the Republic of Moldova regarding prevention measures of nosocomial infecting of population in state medical institutions, private departments, beauty saloons, manicure and pedicure saloons and other institutions with raised risk of infection.
4. Ensure functioning of a continuous system of interventions and implementation of antiepidemic activities in epidemiologic beds with HIV/AIDS.
5. Re-examination of methodological recommendations regarding organization and implementation of the epidemiological surveillance of the IInd generation after HIV/AIDS.
6. Holding sentinel surveillance of TB among persons with HIV/AIDS.

MAIN IMPLEMENTERS OF THE PROGRAMME

Main implementers of the program are: Government of Republic of Moldova, Ministry of Health of Republic of Moldova, Ministry of Education and Science of Republic of Moldova, Ministry of Finance of Republic of Moldova, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Republic of Moldova, Ministry of External Affairs of Republic of Moldova, Ministry of Justice of Republic of Moldova, Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection of Republic of Moldova, State Company «Teleradio Moldova», Heads of local public administration, mass – media, non governmental organizations – «AntiSIDA», «Tineri pentru dreptul la viata» (Chisinau, Balti), «InfoSIDA» (Singerei), «Mileniul 3», «antiHIV» (Chisinau) etc. The basic responsibilities of the main executors of the Programme are presented in Anex 1 to the present Programme.

RESPONSIBILITIES

OF MINISTRIES AND DEPARTAMENTS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF HIV/AIDS and STIs.

Government of Republic of Moldova and Heads of local public administration.

Establishment of National and district interdepartmental and inter sectoral commissions for prevention and control of HIV/AIDS/STIs.

Monitoring over implementation of National and district programs for prevention and control of HIV/AIDS/STIs.

Legislative initiatives regarding groups at high risk.

Allocation from national and district budgets of financial means for financing of basic strategies and activities regarding HIV/AIDS/STIs (safety of blood transfusion, diagnostics, treatment, educational programs, development and editing of educational materials, equipment and medical kits etc.).

Ministry of Health of Republic of Moldova.

Recycling and training of medical specialists in HIV/AIDS and STIs.

Development of projects, standards and instructions in HIV/AIDS and STIs.

Epidemiological surveillance of HIV/AIDS and STIs, implementation of prevention and antiepidemics activities.

Providing of medical assistance to PLHA and STIs patients.

Assure safety of blood transfusion, surgical and medical interventions.

Information and education of the population in HIV/AIDS and STIs.

Supporting, consulting and cooperating with non governmental organizations that activate in the field of HIV/AIDS/STIs prevention.

Cooperation with international organizations – UNAIDS, WHO, Europeans Center for Epidemiological Surveillance, UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS in Republic of Moldova, UNICEF, Soros Foundation, UNESCO etc.

Development and submittance to international organizations of projects for financing and technical support.

Ministry of Education and Science of Republic of Moldova.

Ensure performance of a continuous system on teaching and education of youth and teenagers on sexuality and prevention of HIV/AIDS and STIs.

Including in school and university curricular of training programs on «Sexuality, prevention of HIV, AIDS, STIs and drug misuse».

Organization of sustainable courses, trainings and recycling for specialists.

Development and editing of methodological materials for specialists in education, for pupils and students.

Involvement of students from colleges and universities in promotional activities on healthy lifestyle, sexual education, prevention of HIV, AIDS, STIs and drug misuse.

Formation of harmless sexual behavior, and establishment of support groups for parents.

Ministry of Internal Affairs of Republic of Moldova.

Combating of illicit drugs trafficking and of narcobusiness.
Staff education on HIV/AIDS/STIs. Mandatory introduction of the compartment Prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs and drug misuse in the recycling and training programs.
Ensure safety of medical and surgical interventions in departmental clinics.
Implementing preventive activities in population and in groups at risk.
Observing the law regarding prohibition of audio-video materials of violent, drug misuse and pornographic character.

Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection of Republic of Moldova

Assure a minimum state social assistance guarantee for PLHA.
Coordination of a social assistance interdepartmental with assistance from local public administrations and non governmental organizations.
Implementing of social rehabilitation programmes for persons with high risk to HIV/AIDS and STI.

Ministry of Finance of Republic of Moldova

Stipulation and insurance of the National Program with financial support through special financing of Ministry of Health and other ministries for implementing activities stipulated in the National Program for prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and STIs.

Ministry of External Affairs of Republic of Moldova

Information, through embassies, consulates and in the process of visa performance of foreign citizen on legislation regarding HIV/AIDS.
Assure rights and interests of citizens of Moldova working in foreign countries on aspects of prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs.

Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Moldova

Providing expertise to legislative acts regarding HIV/AIDS/STIs prevention and control and bringing them to international standards.
Protection of human rights of PLHA.
Establishment of a prevention and control system over HIV/AIDS/STIs in penitentiary institutions.

Non governmental organizations

Development and implementing of educational programs, providing assistance and care to PLHA.
Implementing of prevention activities among vulnerable groups and groups at high risk (women of sex business, injecting drug users, homo and bisexuals).

Formation and training of volunteers teams selected from PLHA and injecting drug users, women of sex business with the purpose of implementation of prevention, educational and support activities among vulnerable groups.

Raising of funds for projects and programs.

MASS – MEDIA

Development and broadcasting of specialized TV, radio and press editions with the purpose to raise awareness of the population on issues of prevention HIV/AIDS and STIs.

Organization of public campaigns against discrimination and stigmatization of PLHA.

SOURCES OF POTENTIAL FINANCING AND THE BUDGET

1. Budget of Republic of Moldova;
2. Districts budgets (local);
3. Grants of International organizations;
4. Projects of non governmental organizations;
5. Individual or institutional donations;
6. Financial means of organization, enterprises and institutions with different forms of property.

Explicative note:

1. Development of territorial programs for prevention of HIV/AIDS and STIs:

The development of district (judets) programs is foreseen for 2001 with a financing of 0.254 mln. Moldovan lei from projects submitted to international donors.

2. Blood transfusion safety, prevention of spreading of infection through blood transfusion. An estimated number of 126,000 blood donator investigations is planned annually X 0,75US\$ (cost per test) = 94,8 thousand US\$ X 12,67 (exchange rate lei/dollar) = 1,2 billion Moldovan lei.

3. The programs based on Harm Reduction Strategy are foreseen for implementation in Chisinau, Balti, Orhei, Soroca, Falesti with a total financing of 0,4 mln. Moldovan lei from the budgets of the projects projects financed by Soros Foundation and UNAIDS and co-financed by State budget in the amount of 0,05 billion Moldovan lei.

4. Prevention of HIV/AIDS and STI through sexual way of transmission – development of 3 thematic video spots, equipping of district medical institutions with video and audio technique in sum of 0,16 mln Moldovan lei yearly, from projects submitted to international donors.

5. Diagnostics and treatment for persons with Sexual Transmitted Infections.

Examination to syphilis and gonorrhea for free, according to stipulations in legislative acts of vulnerable groups, 0,1 mln. Moldovan lei, yearly, for procurement of necessary reagents:

Procurement of laboratory reagents diagnostic of syphilis (reaction of precipitate), 0,05 mln. Moldovan lei, the same sum for reaction of complement fixing or TPHA is necessary;

Free of charge treatment with specific medicines (to be procured: benzatin-benzil penicillin G, penicillin – 0,210 mln. Moldovan lei, ciprofloxacin – 0,0673 mln. Moldovan lei) in Total – 0.4 mln Moldovan lei.

6. Development and editing of educational materials. Annually over 300 thousand copies shall be developed 1 copy – 0.87 lei X 300,000 = 0,261 mln Moldovan lei.

7. Ensure accessibility to medical assistance, including to specific antiretroviral therapy (300 persons). In conformity with WHO recommendations a specific treatment shall be applied with antiretrovirals with 2-3 specific drugs. The annually treatment with 2 antiretrovirals (Zidovudin and Didanozin) two nucleoside inhibitors of reverstranscriptaze. The cost of annual therapy is – 4840,00 US\$ X 300 persons =1,452 mln. US\$ X 12,67 = 18,396 mln. Moldovan lei.

8. Epidemiological supervision and state monitoring infection HIV/AIDS, inclusive sentinel supervision of group with raised risk of infection: is stipulated testing of 12 thousand injecting drug users, 13 thousand persons with clinical manifestation of STI, 10 thousand blood donators, medicines for blood dialyze, 10 thousand prisoners, 5 thousand of anonym tests, 10 thousand in conformity with epidemiological and clinical indications, 20 thousand persons witch lived and turn back in Moldova. In total – 50 thousand tests X 0,79 US\$ = 43,45 thousand US\$ X 12,67 = 0,55 mln. Moldovan lei.

9. Epidemiological supervision and state monitoring, including sentinel surveillance of sexually transmitted infections. Annual testing of 50 thousand pregnant women, 2,5 thousand persons travelling abroad, 22 thousand persons with clinical manifestation of STIs is foreseen. The cost of the mentioned activities is –0,211 mln. Moldovan lei.

10. Provision of HIV/AIDS diagnostic:

Confirmative tests (Western Blot): 500 investigations X 35 US\$ = 17,5 thousand US\$ X 12,67 = 0,222 mln. Moldovan lei.

Immune condition tests: 1000 tests X 13 US\$ = 13 thousand US\$ X 12,67 = 0,165 mln Moldovan lei.

11. Monitoring of HIV/AIDS treatment: procurement of equipment to perform the chain polymerize reaction and viral load charge – 30 thousand US\$ X 12,67 = 0,381 mln. Moldovan lei.

* Source of financing - Soros Foundation – 29,430.00 USD, UNAIDS – 37,840.00 USD

BASIC INDICATORS AND CRITERION OF ASSESSMENT OF NATIONAL PROGRAM ON PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF HIV/AIDS AND STIs

STRATEGY 1

1. Development and establishment of national policy in the filed of HIV/AIDS and STIs.

Expected Outputs

1. Establishment of National Inter-Departmental Committee on prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs. Assuring of intersectoral participation.

Approving of National Program on prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and STIs.

Terms of implementation: IV quarter, 2000.

2. Protection of Human Rights declared as priority in state policy.

Expected Outputs

Improvement of the legislation in the filed of sex workers, homosexuals and drug users.

Terms of implementation: 2001 – 2002.

3. Implementing of activities based on multisectoral, interdepartmental approach.

Expected Outputs

Ministries, departments and heads of local administration shall develop and implement programs (activities) for successful realization of the National Program on prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and STIs. Terms of implementation 2001

STRATEGY 2

1. Involvement of IDUs in harm reduction programmes.

Expected Outputs

Implementation of the programmes in Chisinau, Balti, Falesti, Orhei. Terms of implementation 2001

2. Effective treatment of injecting drug users.

Expected Outputs

Up to 10% of injecting drug users shall be subject to treatment. Terms of implementing: 2001

Up to 25% of injecting drug users shall be subject to treatment. Terms of implementing: 2002

3. Number of injecting drug users covered by treatment.

Expected Outputs

Not less than 95% of the registered IDUs. Terms of implementing: 2001 – 2002

Not less than 50% of total number of injecting drug users. Terms of implementing: 2003 – 2005

4. Drug using primary prevention.

Expected Outputs

Up to 25% of youth from groups at high risk shall change behavior. Terms of implementing: 2001 – 2002

Up to 35% of youth from groups at high risk shall change the behavior. Terms of implementing: 2003 – 2005

STRATEGY 3

1. PREVENTION OF HIV/AIDS AND STIs INFECTION AMONG YOUTH.

Expected Outputs

Youth from schools, colleges and universities involved in trainings on sexuality, prevention of HIV/AIDS/STI and drugs misuse. Formation of safe sexual behavior with a prevention purpose. Terms of implementing: 2001 – 2005

STRATEGY 4

1. ASSURING THE INOFFENSIVITY OF BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS, MEDICAL SERVICES AND MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS.

Expected outputs

Mandatory testing of each sample of donated blood and blood products for AIDS, syphilis and hepatitis.

Equipping medical institutions with a minimum of necessary equipment, tinstrumentary, detergents and disinfectants.

Assuring medical staff with the necessary individual protection means. Terms of implementing: 2000 – 2005

STRATEGY 5

1. Efficiency of educational programs.

Expected outputs

Stabilization in population of rate of incidence with syphilis. Terms of implementing: 2001 – 2002

Decrease in syphilis morbidity rates among population. Terms of implementing: 2003 – 2005

2. Accessibility of population to dermatovenerological assistance.

Expected outputs

Increased numbers of addressing to medical institutions of persons with clinical manifestation of gonorrhoea and urethritis up to 30%.

Treatment of sexually transmitted infections in non specialized medical institutions up to 10% of total cases. Terms of implementing: 2001

Treatment of sexually transmitted infections in non specialized medical institutions up to 20% of total cases. Terms of implementing: 2002 - 2005

3. Condoms accessibility.

Expected outputs

Selling of condoms in pharmacies, hotels, restaurants, commercial centers etc. Terms of implementing: 2001 - 2005

STRATEGY 6

1. Strict evidence and consultancy of HIV positive women.

Expected outputs

Involvement of a 100% of HIV positive women, in consultancy activities regarding the risk of transmission of HIV from mother to child during pregnancy, delivery and nursing.

Terms of implementing: 2001 – 2005

2. Early diagnosis of pregnancy in HIV positive women.

Expected outputs

Involvement of a 100% of HIV positive women in ultrasound investigations with the purpose of determination of pregnancy terms. Terms of implementing: 2001 – 2005

3. Accessibility of HIV positive women to condoms.

Expected outputs

Distribution of condoms to HIV positive women through family planning agencies. Terms of implementing: 2001 – 2005

STRATEGY 7

1. PROVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS.

Expected outputs

Hospitalization and accessibility to specific antiretroviral therapy to HIV positive persons and patients with AIDS. Terms of implementing: 2001 – 2005

STRATEGY 8

1. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE OF HIV/AIDS AND STIs AND STATE MONITORING OF THE INFECTIONS.

Expected outputs

Epidemiological surveillance of HIV/AIDS and STIs infections in Moldova and in administrative districts. Terms of implementing: 2001 – 2005

Sentinel surveillance among:

- Injecting drug users – 5000;
- Persons with clinical manifestations of STIs – 2000;
- Pregnant women – 5000;
- Prisoners – 2000;
- Women of sex business - 500;
- Persons returned to Moldova form foreign countries – 2000;
- Orphans – 2000.

LIST OF PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS CONTRIBUTING TO IMPLEMENTATION OF SOME STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES STIPULATED IN THE NATIONAL PROGRAM OF PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF HIV/AIDS AND STIs.

1. National Program on Education for Health and Promotion of Healthy Lifestyle. *Decision of the Government of Republic of Moldova N – 1000 of 28.09.1998.*
2. National Program on Control of Hepatitis (of B/C/D types). *Decision of the Government of Republic of Moldova N – 507 of 02.06.1997.*
3. National Program on Combatting Drug Misuse, Illicit Drugs Trafficking and Narcobusiness. *Decision of the Government of Republic of Moldova N – 303 of 30.03.2000.*

4. National Program on Family Planning and Reproductive Health. *Decision of the Government of the Republic of Moldova N – 527 of 08.06.1999.*
5. National Program on Improvement of Perinatal Medical Assistance. *Decision of Government of the Republic of Moldova N – 1171 of 18.12.1997.*
6. Project MOL/99/001 «Providing of Assistance in Strategic Planning in HIV/AIDS/STIs and implementation of preventive and informational activities.
7. National Programme on TB prevention and Control.

LIST OF PROJECTS, ADOPTED BY UN THEME GROUP ON HIV/AIDS MOLDOVA, AND OF THOSE SUBMITTED FOR FINANCING.

1. Harm reduction among drug users (Chisinau, Balti, Orhei, Falesti).
TOTAL COST: - 100.000 US\$
2. Development of National Standards on Palliative Care for PLHA.
TOTAL COST: - 9,960 US\$
2. Support to development of territorial (judet) programmes on prevention and control of HIV/AIDS/STIs.- TOTAL COST \$45.000USD

BUDGET FOR 2001-2005, in Moldovan lei, 12,67lei = \$1USD

Strategies/activities	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total 2001-2005	State Budget	Other sources	
								Approved grants	Submitted projects
Development of territorial (judet) programmes on prevention and control of HIV/AIDS/STIs	0,254 billion					0,254 billion			0,254 billion
Assuring the inofensivity of blood transfusions, medical services and medical interventions.	1,2 billion	1,2 billion	1,2 billion	1,2 billion	1,2 billion	6.0 billion	6.0 billion		
Harm Reduction Strategy for IDUs	0,414 billion	0,414 billion	0,414 billion	0,414 billion	0,414 billion	2,028 billion	0,200	0,828 billion	1,0 billion
Prevention of spreading of HIV/AIDS and STIs	0,16 billion	0,16 billion	0,16 billion	0,16 billion	0,16 billion	0,5 billion			0,5 billion

through sexual way of transmission.										
Accessibility to diagnostics and treatment for patients with STIs	0,4 billion	0,4 billion	0,4 billion	0,4 billion	0,4 billion	2,0 billion	2,0 billion			
Development and printing of educational materials	0,261 billion	0,261 billion	0,261 billion	0,261 billion	0,261 billion	1,305 billion	0,305 billion			1,0 billion
Hospitalization and accessibility to specific antiretroviral therapy to HIV positive persons and patients with AIDS (300 patients).	18,396 billion	18,396 billion	18,396 billion	18,396 billion	18,396 billion	91,98 billion	30,66 billion			61,32 billion
Epidemiological surveillance of HIV/AIDS and state monitoring of the infections including sentinel surveillance of vulnerable groups.	0,55 billion	0,55 billion	0,55 billion	0,55 billion	0,55 billion	2,75 billion	2,75 billion			
Epidemiological surveillance of STIs and state monitoring of the infections including sentinel surveillance of vulnerable groups.	0,21 billion	0,21 billion	0,21 billion	0,21 billion	0,21 billion	1,05 billion	0,55 billion			0,50 billion
Diagnosis of HIV/AIDS	0,387 billion	0,387 billion	0,387 billion	0,387 billion	0,387 billion	1,935 billion	1,0 billion			0,935 billion
Monitoring of HIV/AIDS treatment	0,381 billion	0,381 billion	0,381 billion	0,381 billion	0,381 billion	1,905 billion	1,0 billion			0,905 billion
TOTAL	22,613 billion	22,359 billion	22,245 billion	22,245 billion	22,245 billion	111,707 billion	44,465 billion	0,828 billion		66,242 billion