

## Report

### Enhancing Partnerships between Law Enforcement and Civil Society Organizations in the context of Drug Use and HIV: Sensitization Workshop

#### 1. General information

<b>Date</b>	April 03 – April 04, 2014
<b>Venue</b>	Chisinau, Moldova
<b>Title</b>	Enhancing Partnerships Between Law Enforcement and Civil Society Organizations in the context of Drug Use and HIV: Sensitization Workshop
<b>Brief description: training goals and objectives</b>	<p>The workshops had been guided by three main objectives as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) To sensitise law enforcement officials about harm reduction services in the context of HIV and how law enforcement practices can influence (positively or negatively), the access of people who use drugs to harm reduction services;</li><li>2) To build capacity of the CSOs to advocate with LEAs to ensure greater access of people who used drugs to harm reduction services;</li><li>3) To create a space for LEAs and CSOs to share respective positions, concerns and ideas for enhancing future collaboration.</li></ol>
<b>Trainers</b>	Aleksandr Zelichenko
<b>Target auditory/group</b>	The workshop is designed for between 20-30 participants, drawn equally from the LEAs and CSOs active at the country level.
<b>Number of participants</b>	30 participants – from them: 16 participants – the law enforcement officials from Moldova, including 8 representatives of penitentiary system and 8 police officers; 3 medical doctors – representatives of the Republican Dependency Treatment Center; and 11 – representatives from HIV-servicing CSOs, working with IDUs and other risk-behavior groups of population on the country level (Attachment 1 – List of participants)

#### 2. Brief description

##### Background:

In the context of HIV Prevention, Treatment, Care and Support among Key Affected Populations, it is clear that the fostering and protection of an enabling environment for service delivery is of paramount importance. While much work has been focused on the impact of an

enabling legal and policy environment, a relative lack of attention has been paid to the operational environment on the ground, especially the need for partnerships and collaboration between law enforcement agencies (LEAs) and services including civil society organizations (CSOs) working with Key Affected Populations.

The main focus of the workshops is on enhancing partnerships in the context of the enabling environment for scaling up access to the comprehensive package of interventions for people who use drugs, it is however anticipated that the workshops will also discuss the need for partnerships between LEAs and CSOs in the context on HIV among other Key Affected Populations.

The participants had been also asked to complete a pre/posttest and training evaluation form (21 respondents) (see Attachment 2, 3, 4, 5) in order to gauge the effectiveness of the workshops for future endeavors.

### **Goal of the seminar/training:**

- To learn the opportunities and key ingredients for enhancing partnerships between LEAs and CSOs that can both increase access to harm reduction services and increase public safety

### **Objectives:**

The workshops had been guided by three main objectives as follows:

- 1) To sensitise law enforcement officials about harm reduction services in the context of HIV and how law enforcement practices can influence (positively or negatively), the access of people who use drugs to harm reduction services;
- 2) To build capacity of the CSOs to advocate with LEAs to ensure greater access of people who used drugs to harm reduction services;
- 3) To create a space for LEAs and CSOs to share respective positions, concerns and ideas for enhancing future collaboration.

**Participants** – 30 participants – from them: 16 participants – the law enforcement officials from Moldova, including 8 representatives of penitentiary system and 8 police officers; 3 medical doctors – representatives of the Republican Dependency Treatment Center; and 11 – representatives from HIV-servicing CSOs, working with IDUs and other risk-behavior groups of population on the country level.

See Attachment #1 - List of participants.

### **Preparatory period**

The preparatory period (for all high priority countries) was focused on developing a standard two-days' workshop, partially based on the draft HIV Prevention Training Manual for Law Enforcement Agencies, tailored to the to the local situations of the assigned HPCs, including the following tasks:

In line with the existing draft global training manual develop, in collaboration with two other selected consultants, a standard two-day workshop for LEA and CSOs, including

- Generic workshop outline

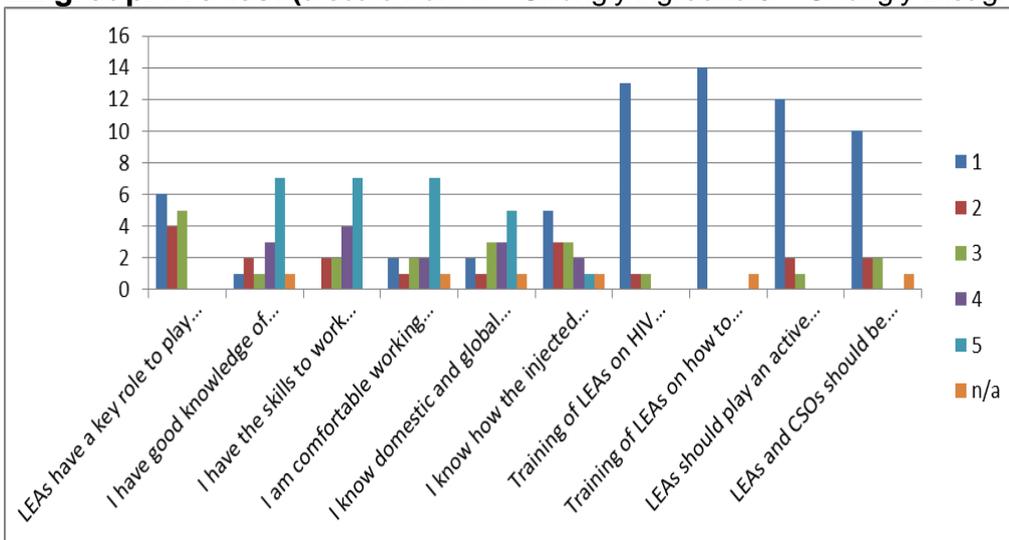
- Presentations
- Case-study materials
- Hand-outs
- Pre- and posttest forms
- Workshop evaluation forms
- Reference list, including international and country-specific information resources

The workshop support material (presentations, exercises, hand-outs, reading materials, etc.) are prepared and shared with UNODC field-based HIV Experts prior to the arrival the country and all reproduction requests are communicated.

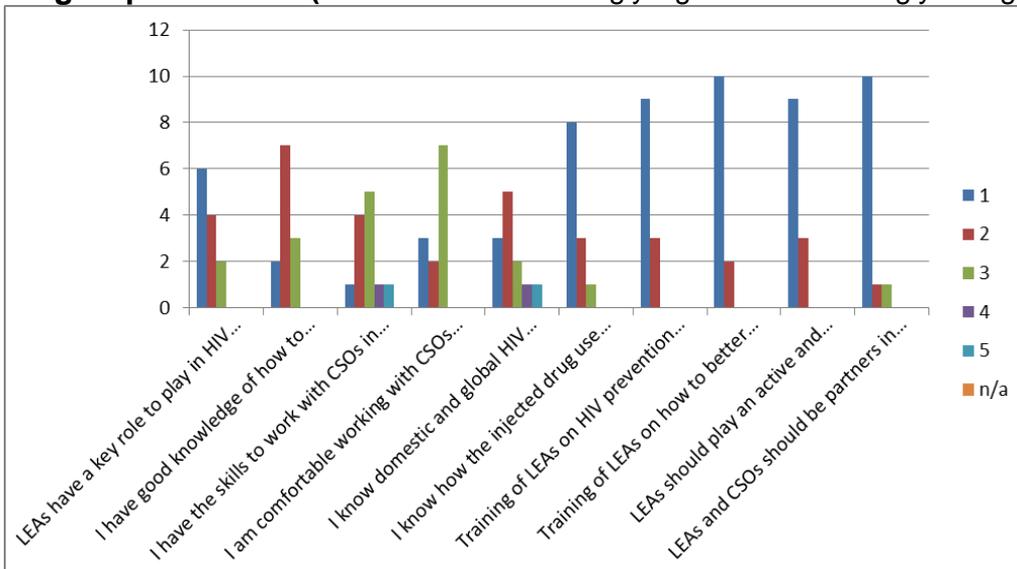
Workshop support material (presentations, exercises, hand-outs, reading materials, etc.), are made available electronically to participants (for re-use locally) and in hard-copy

**Pre- and post-tests (questionnaires)**, offered to participants, are intended to assess the ground level and post-workshop level of participants in 3 dimensions: knowledge, skills and attitudes. The comparative analysis of the filled in questionnaires indicates the marked improvement in all 3, especially in the CSO group (see attachments # 2, 3, 4 and 5)

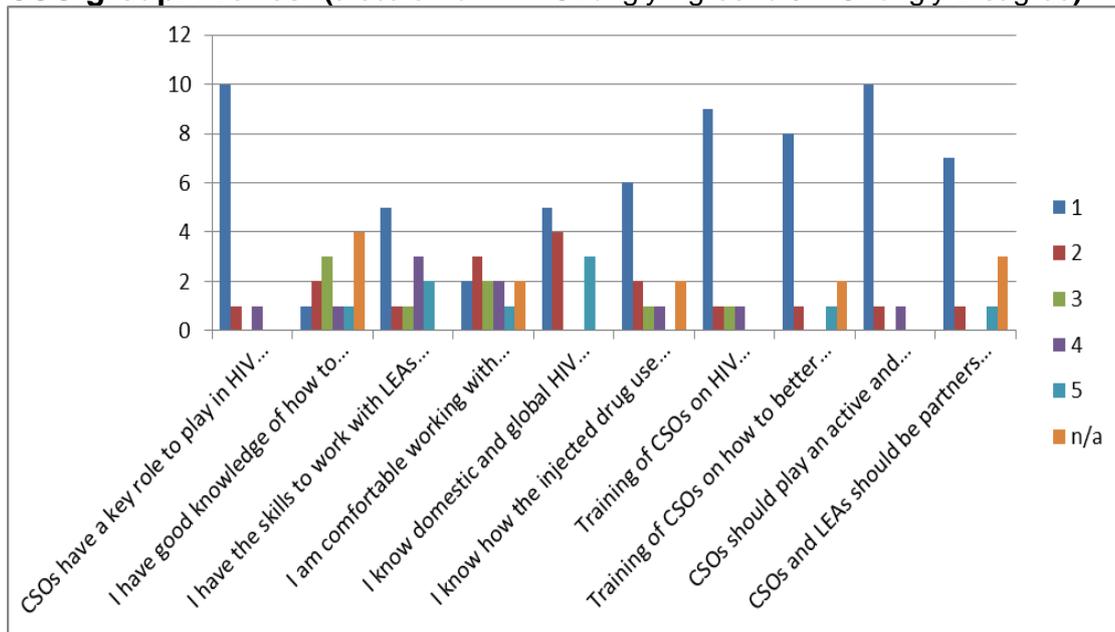
**LE group. Pre-test (a scale from 1 = Strongly Agree to 5 = Strongly Disagree)**



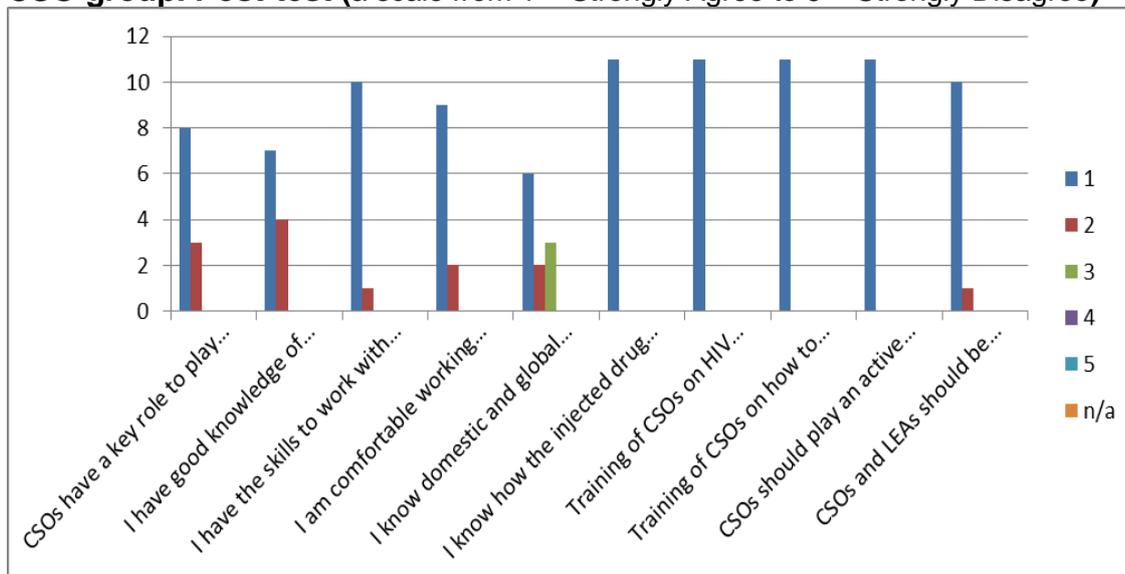
**LE group. Post-test (a scale from 1 = Strongly Agree to 5 = Strongly Disagree)**



**CSO group. Pre-test (a scale from 1 = Strongly Agree to 5 = Strongly Disagree)**



**CSO group. Post-test (a scale from 1 = Strongly Agree to 5 = Strongly Disagree)**



**General workshop outline.**

This workshop covered the following topics, including general and country-specific materials:

- How the Afghan drugs affect the national security of CA countries (regional specific)
- Statistics on opium production in Afghanistan
- Drug-traffic routes and situation in transit countries
- Harms and threats on international, national and community levels
  - The harms associated with drug trafficking and corruption (including police corruption).
  - The harms of drug prohibition and a War on Drugs approach.
  - The causes of drug dependence and injection and the harms, including HIV and hepatitis.

- 3 general approaches in drug policy
- Need for retargeting the punitive policy out of drug-users towards drug-traffickers
- Need for humanization of national drug laws, decriminalization and depenalization
- Need for Harm Reduction approaches introduction
- A clear definition and overview of harm reduction and its relationship to supply and demand reduction.
- Drug control from the law enforcement perspective and how that shapes the police world view; drug control from the harm reduction NGO/user perspective and how that shapes the NGO world view: dealing with stereotypes.
- Strategies used/that can be used by police that can allow for harm reduction approaches.
- Some approaches that can gain police support for the aims and objectives of CSOs involved with HIV and harm reduction.
- Starting the process of collaboration with local police services.
- Need for uniform approach of CSOs when dealing with police. Need consistent training and several joint training sessions police/CSO.
- Many of modules in a police training package would also be good for CSOs.
- The common police view of harm reduction and CSOs as promoting drugs.
- The common CSO view of police being obstacles to harm reduction and intent only on criminalization and punishment.
- The role of police in public health; harm reduction as public health.
- Role of co-operative agreements between LEAs and CSOs etc.
- The benefits of collaboration between organizations that implement HIV programs, including harm-reduction strategies, and police services.
- The ways in which collaboration can be increased and maintained.
- The ways in which the enabling environment can be enhanced and maintained.
- The importance of advocacy and communication when working with police services.
- Some perspective on the working environment and culture of police and some of the barriers to harm reduction raised by this.
- Understanding how police often see key affected populations such as drug users and how this affects their views.

- The role of police services in enhancing the enabling environment and some of the barriers they face; dealing with the barriers; the role of police reform and training; the role of Civil Society and networks.
- OST: even if available, many police still opposed to OST and many drug services take confusing positions on it so that they can be worse than police; many professionals not educated about it (i.e., not just police).
- The needs of drug users and others most at risk for HIV: harm reduction services, treatment, housing, support etc.
- Human rights and drug users, sex workers, MSM, street kids, migrants and other most-at-risk populations.
- Gender-related consequences of HIV/AIDS. Gender inequalities underling the spread of the HIV/AIDS epidemic.
- Occupational health and safety, HIV, hepatitis, TB.
- Role of police in VGP education in ways of HIV invasion and preventive measures, availability of post-contact prevention
- Role of police in dissemination of information about current programs on harm reduction and HIV/AIDS prevention: needles/syringes exchange units, methadone therapy centers, specialized medical facilities, rehabilitation centers, social services, crisis counseling centers and hot-lines, peer-to-peer groups.
- The LEAHN website and country focal points and the role and formation of the International Police Advisory Group and the International Statement on Policing Support for Harm reduction and other evidence based HIV prevention services and programs declaration and website <http://www.leahn.org/>

For the workshop schedule see attachment # 4

#### **Methods used:**

- Presentations
- Case study
- Group discussions
- Questions-and-answers sessions
- Brain storming (small groups work)

#### **Equipment used:**

LCD projector, laptop, flipcharts

#### **Plans for future**

The Brain storming (small groups work) was focused on drafting the step-wise action plan for future cooperation of LEA and CSOs.

Upon completion of the seminar almost all participants improved their knowledge in the discussed subjects, and shaped a clear understanding of the key role of LEA and CSOs partnership, necessitated by the HIV-related threats.

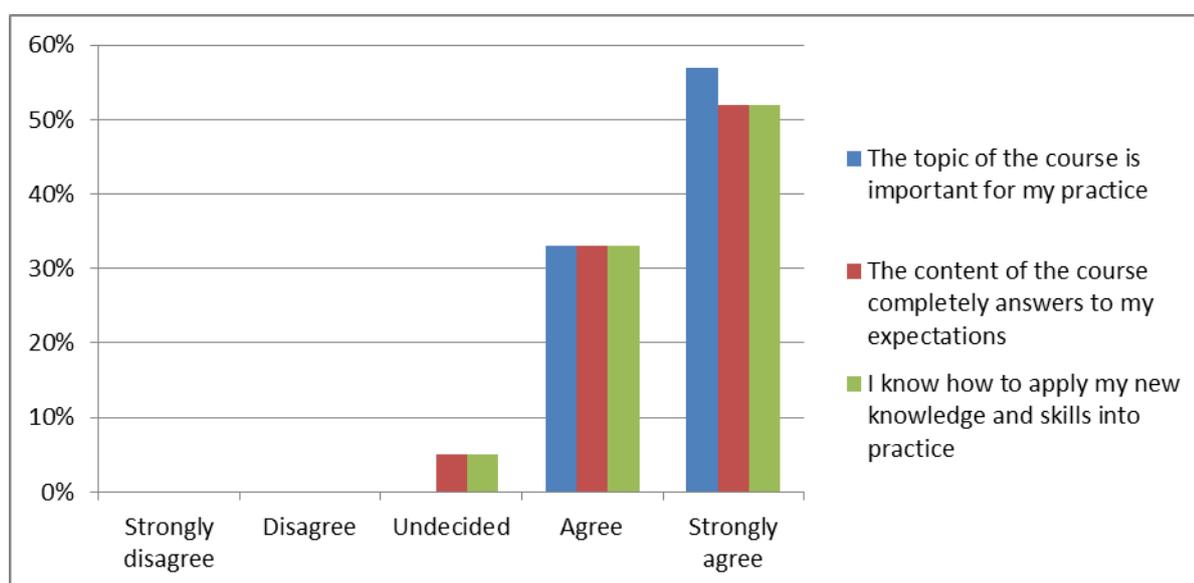
## Workshop evaluation (by course participants)

Categories of post-workshop evaluation:

1. Importance of the topic and its impact on professional competence / practice
2. Methodology / efficiency of training
3. Trainers
4. Participants
5. Achievement of learning objectives

### 1. Importance of the topic and its impact on professional competence / practice

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly agree	n/a
The topic of the course is important for my practice				7	14	
The content of the course completely answers to my expectations			1	7	13	
I know how to apply my new knowledge and skills into practice			1	7	13	

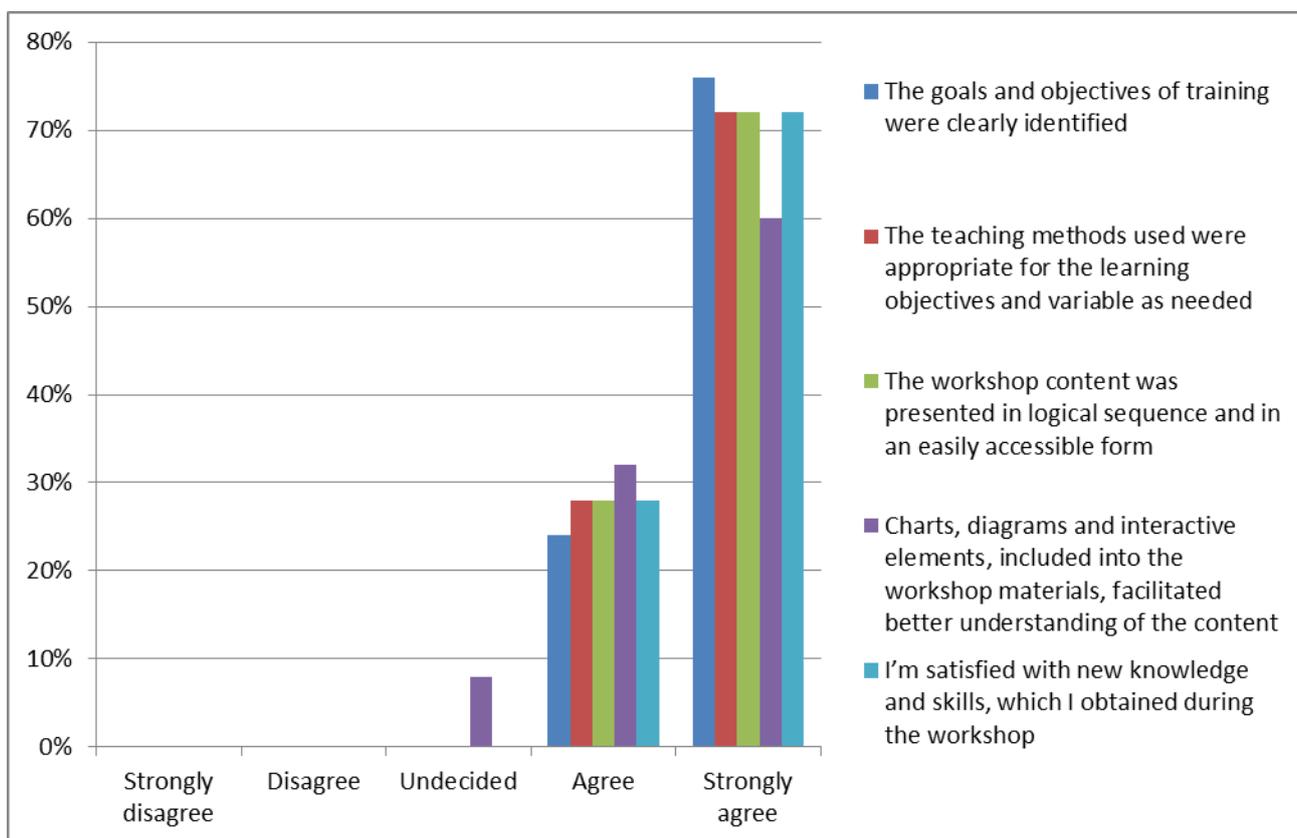


33% agree and 57% of participants strongly agree that the topic of the course is important for their practice; above 90% agree and strongly agree that the content of the workshop completely answers their expectations and they can translate their new knowledge into practice and have specific plans of their new knowledge practical application.

### 2. Methodology / efficiency of training

How do you assess the training methodology?	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly agree	n/a

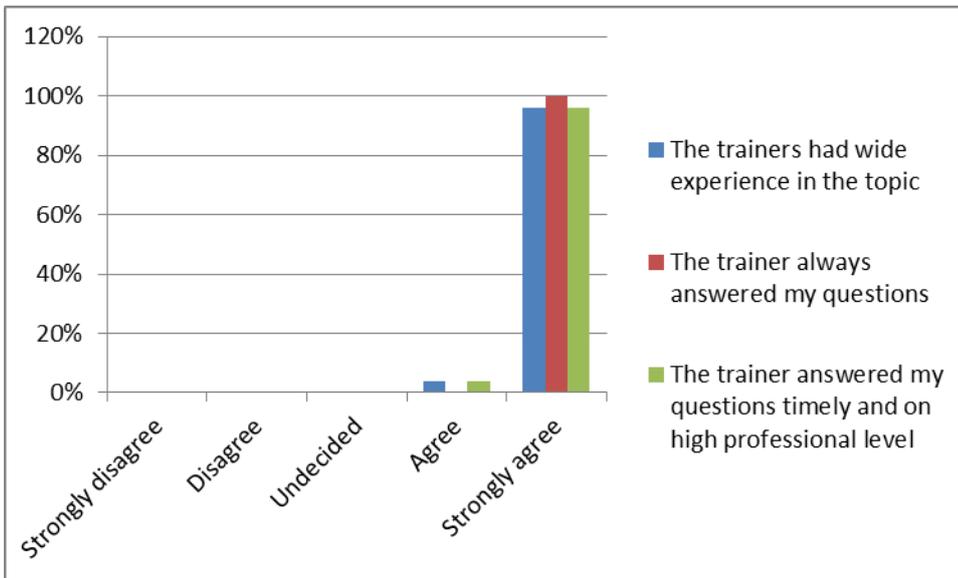
The goals and objectives of training were clearly identified					5	16	
The teaching methods used were appropriate for the learning objectives and variable as needed					6	15	
The workshop content was presented in logical sequence and in an easily accessible form					5	15	
Charts, diagrams and interactive elements, included into the workshop materials, facilitated better understanding of the content				2	8	11	
I'm satisfied with new knowledge and skills, which I obtained during the workshop					6	15	



Above 90% of participants agree or strongly agree that the goals and objectives of training, content of the workshop and teaching methods and aids were appropriate and satisfied their expectations.

### 3. Trainers

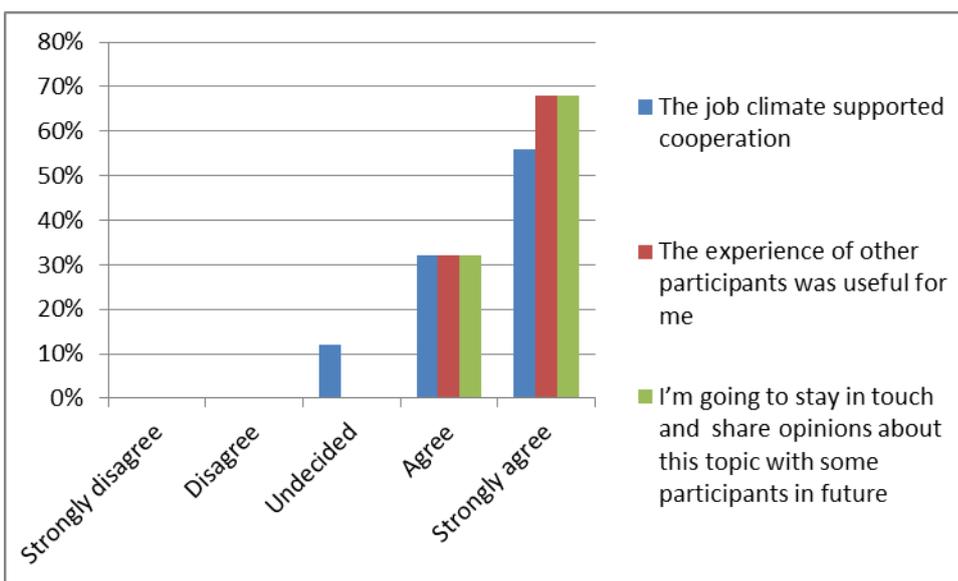
How do you assess the professional competence of your trainers?	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly agree	n/a
The trainers had wide experience in the topic				1	20	
The trainer always answered my questions					21	
The trainer answered my questions timely and on high professional level				1	20	



The workshop participants gave high scores (almost 100%) to the professional skills of trainer in respect of following characteristics: professional expertise, timeliness and quality of answers on questions from participants.

#### 4. Participants

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly agree	n/a
The job climate supported cooperation			3	8	10	
The experience of other participants was useful for me				8	13	
I'm going to stay in touch and share opinions about this topic with some participants in future				8	13	



Majority of respondents agree that the job climate supported cooperation; they admitted that learned a lot from other participants and going to stay in touch in future.

## 5. Achievement of learning objectives

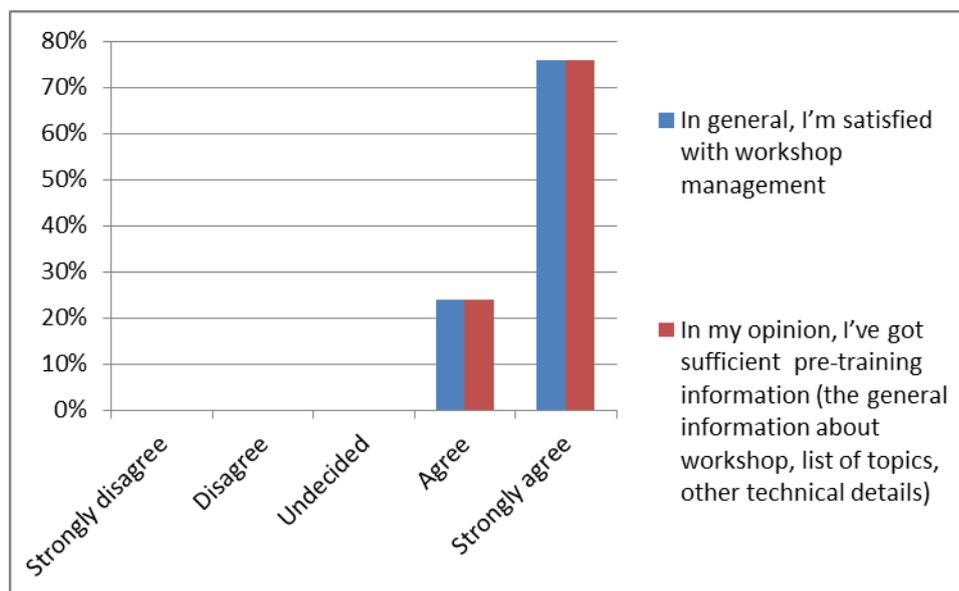
By your opinion, did you achieve the workshop objectives?	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly agree	N/A
				10	11	

All participants agree that the workshop objectives had been successfully achieved.

What was the new knowledge and experience that you managed to obtain in addition to the pre-defined goals and objectives of the workshop?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was good experience to participate in the workshop and to feel the work atmosphere of cooperation between civil society and law enforcement structures;</li> <li>• Good experience of discussing and drafting the action plan for future cooperation of CSOs and LE, working with vulnerable groups of population;</li> <li>• Important information about the world best practices of LE and CSOs cooperation;</li> <li>• History of drug production; global trends in drug-trafficking; history of drug-business and how it affects political and economic security of the state;</li> <li>• Mutual cooperation of governmental and non-governmental sectors.</li> </ul>

## 6. Course management and organizational issues

How do you assess the overall workshop management and organization?	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly agree	n/a
In general, I'm satisfied with workshop management				6	15	
In my opinion, I've got sufficient pre-training information (the general information about workshop, list of topics, other technical details)				6	15	



In your opinion, what type of information/documents you felt missing?

We need more group work for the joint action plan developing;

As long as many important aspects were not covered by this questionnaire, we gladly welcome any additional comments, offers and recommendations.

Some participants added to the evaluation forms additional comments, offers and recommendations:

- It will be useful to have similar workshops in 2 years to assess progress;
- It would be useful to have scheduled periodic workshops, involving both CSOs and LE;

### 7. The overall score

	Excellent ++	Good +	Fair 0	Could be better -	Poor --
<b>How would you score the overall workshop?</b>	15	6			

Please, tick one

Will you recommend the workshop to other candidates?	Yes	No
	21	

All 100% of participants satisfied with workshop management, scored the workshop as good and excellent, and will recommend it to other candidates.

All participants – respondents stressed that the seminar program was well structured, consistent with the subject, with adequately allocated time to discuss and illuminate every topic. Most participants estimated the teaching methods used for seminar and organizational, logistic and administrative arrangements of the seminar host as high. All seminar participants pointed out the importance and fruitfulness of small – group discussions; this method allowed involvement of all participants in profound exchange of opinions and discussion the problems and barriers for HR programs introduction and implementation on practical grounds.

The workshop materials of the second day included the information on the Law Enforcement and HIV network. After brief introduction we offered participant (LEA officers) to read and sign «The Statement of Support by Law Enforcement Agents for Harm Reduction and Related Policies for HIV Prevention». All participants expressed their support to the Statement and 13 law enforcement representatives signed the document.

### Recommendations, based on the lessons learned:

1. To select “advanced” candidates for ToT training police officers and penitentiary service personnel - candidates for ToT training (training of trainers), so they could run the high quality field training sessions;
2. To develop instruction for law enforcement personnel on improvement of HIV prevention at work with vulnerable groups of population, similar to the joint instruction issued in January 2014 by the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the State Penitentiary Service, and the State Drug Control Service of Kyrgyz Republic. To conduct cluster of field trainings to study the above document, and incorporate the instruction into the curriculum of continuous professional education for LE personnel.

3. To initiate drafting of training course on HIV prevention at work with vulnerable groups of population for Police Academy of Moldova. To form a working group on courseware authoring involving law enforcement representatives, Police Academy teachers, medical doctors, HIV and drug-service CSOs, and representatives of vulnerable groups – drug users and people living with HIV.
4. To initiate fundraising process to finance a study tour for the courseware authoring working group participants (see recommendation #3) to the Kyrgyz Police Academy (Bishkek), that started to teach a similar course since 2004.