

Programmatic Cooperation Framework for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus

Funded
by the European Union
and the Council of Europe



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NOTE FOR THE PRESS

“Criminal Justice Responses to Drug Dependent Prisoners” Regional Project

Who will benefit?

- ▶ Drug dependent persons, prisoners and their relatives in Armenia, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.
- ▶ Policy makers responsible for cross-cutting issues related to drug use in the field of criminal justice and public health.
- ▶ Medical and non-medical prison staff.
- ▶ Civil Society Organisations providing services to drug dependent persons in contact with the criminal justice system.

The aims of the project

- ▶ To establish regional co-operation and share good practices on prison overcrowding, alternatives to imprisonment and rehabilitation between Armenia, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine.
- ▶ To improve National policies on prison overcrowding and on alternatives to imprisonment in Georgia in line with European standards.
- ▶ To strengthen and diversify drug treatment and rehabilitation services in Moldovan prisons.

How will the project work?

- ▶ In close cooperation and partnership with relevant Ministries, Penitentiary Departments, International Partners and Civil Society Organisations.
- ▶ By linking policy, practice and science in the field of criminal justice, public health and human rights.
- ▶ Through regional cooperation, coordination and provision of a multidisciplinary forum for discussion and exchange of good practice.

Project activities

- ▶ Round tables and research to develop a roadmap for Georgian policy makers on alternatives to imprisonment.
- ▶ Workshops and trainings on improving drug treatment services in prisons in Armenia, Moldova and Ukraine.
- ▶ Refurbishment of prison wards which will accommodate Therapeutic Communities in the Republic of Moldova.
- ▶ International Conferences to exchange good practices and present national and regional strategies for improving criminal justice responses to drug dependent persons.

How much will it cost?

- ▶ The total budget for the project is 400.000 Euros

Length of project

- ▶ The programme will run from 1 January 2015-31 December 2017
- ▶ The project was launched on 10 January 2015

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Who is responsible for the project?

The project is implemented by the Council of Europe's Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs (Pompidou Group)

For more information

- ▶ Thomas Kattau Programme Manager
Thomas.Kattau@coe.int
- ▶ Robert Teltzrow, Principal Project Consultant
Robert.Teltzrow@coe.int

In April 2014, the European Union and the Council of Europe agreed that targeted cooperation activities with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus - the EU's Eastern Partnership countries - would be implemented under a 'Programmatic Cooperation Framework' (PCF).

These cooperation activities will strengthen the capacity of Eastern Partnership countries, which are member States of the Council of Europe, with the exception of Belarus, to implement domestic reforms to bring them closer to European standards in the fields of human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

The overall PCF budget for 2015-2017 is €33.8 million.

<http://eap-pcf-eu.coe.int>