



UNDP / Global Fund Project January Update: Planning forward

January 2019

Under the Global Fund grant, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) continues to support efforts to end tuberculosis and HIV in Kyrgyzstan. Our work consists in providing best quality and free drugs for all patients on treatment and in need, improving diagnosis, organizing education and prevention activities, supporting NGOs, communities and patients. Here's an update of our January activities.

The **methadone treatment**, provided by the UNDP / Global Fund, saves lives of people who inject drugs



As part of the Global Fund grant, the UNDP provides methadone substitute treatment and other services to prevent the spread of HIV among people who inject drugs in the Kyrgyz Republic.

“Methadone helped me get back on my feet and walk forward. It’s the only way I found out of drug addiction,” says Islam, as he takes his daily medicine from the nurse he’s come to get to know well.



1 - A nurse prepares methadone treatment



2 - A doctor prescribes methadone for her patient



3 - People who inject drugs are given free syringes, condoms and information on HIV

Islam now has a job, a wife, and a healthy four-year-old son.

Islam has been on the methadone substitute treatment for 13 years already. Methadone is a legal synthetic drug provided for free by the Global Fund grant to around 1,000 patients in Kyrgyzstan on a daily basis. It doesn't create euphoria in its users, but fulfills the feeling of need and erases any pain created by addiction and absence of drugs, meaning patients who use methadone are completely conscious, healthy, and can live a normal life.

Read the full story:

<https://www.kg.undp.org/content/kyrgyzstan/en/home/presscenter/stories/2020/01/how-methadone-saved-islam-from-drug-addiction.html>

The UNDP and partners discuss the **future Global Fund grant**



Bishkek, January 21-22

National and international partners, NGOs, key populations and people affected by TB and HIV gathered in Bishkek to discuss the future plans for the **new Global Fund grant, 2021-2023**. The Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria will give around **26.5 million USD** to Kyrgyzstan for this period, to help the country fight with the HIV and TB epidemics. This funding will first be used to **buy diagnostic methods and drugs** for the treatment of these two diseases, and to organize **prevention among key populations**.

The UNDP is actively participating and leading the country dialogues to ensure that everyone is heard and that the new grant will be carried out as efficiently as possible.

Participants also insisted that it was very important to continue supporting patients, to create inclusive and quality medical services, and to provide free services for women affected by TB and HIV. The additional funds given within the framework of the **Catalyc Funds** grant will be used to **protect human rights** of patients and key populations, develop the civil sector and improve access to services.

The UNDP has been implementing the Global Fund grant in the Kyrgyz Republic since 2011, purchasing quality drugs, improving diagnostic, involving the civil sector and key populations, caring for patients and strengthening the health system.





The UNDP / Global Fund case managers **return 22 patients to TB treatment**



Since July 2019, the UNDP is working with **qualified case managers to support patients on treatment for drug-resistant tuberculosis**. Trained by the USAID Challenge TB project (KNCV), the case managers educate patients and their relatives, help them solve any problems related to treatment, and ensure they are able to complete their treatment and beat TB.

In January, **1233 patients were under the case managers' observation throughout the country**. 365 of them received individual work, including consultations, social and psychological help, work with relatives,

and **at home visits for 155 patients**. As a result, case managers were able to **return 22 patients, who had stopped taking their pills, to their treatment**, giving them a chance to get cured.

The case managers work in **every region of the Kyrgyz Republic**, except in Bishkek, where this work is provided by the Global Fund sub-recipient, the National Red Crescent Society.

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