

## Situation Report on the Status of HIV/TB/HCV/OST Prevention and Treatment Programs in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts (as of 18 May 2016)

From the first days of annexation of Crimea and launch of the military operation in eastern Ukraine, Alliance for Public Health (hereinafter – Alliance) defined that one of its priorities was support of HIV, tuberculosis, and viral hepatitis prevention and treatment programs, as well as support of patients of opioid substitution therapy. The goals of Alliance are of pure humanitarian nature – despite any political factors, to provide maximum support to those who have already been receiving treatment or prevention services, if possible to ensure uninterrupted delivery of such services, and to support those clients who are in need of assistance. The situation with implementation of comprehensive HIV, TB and hepatitis activities in eastern Ukraine (in the areas of military conflict) has somewhat stabilized in 2016 but remains tense.

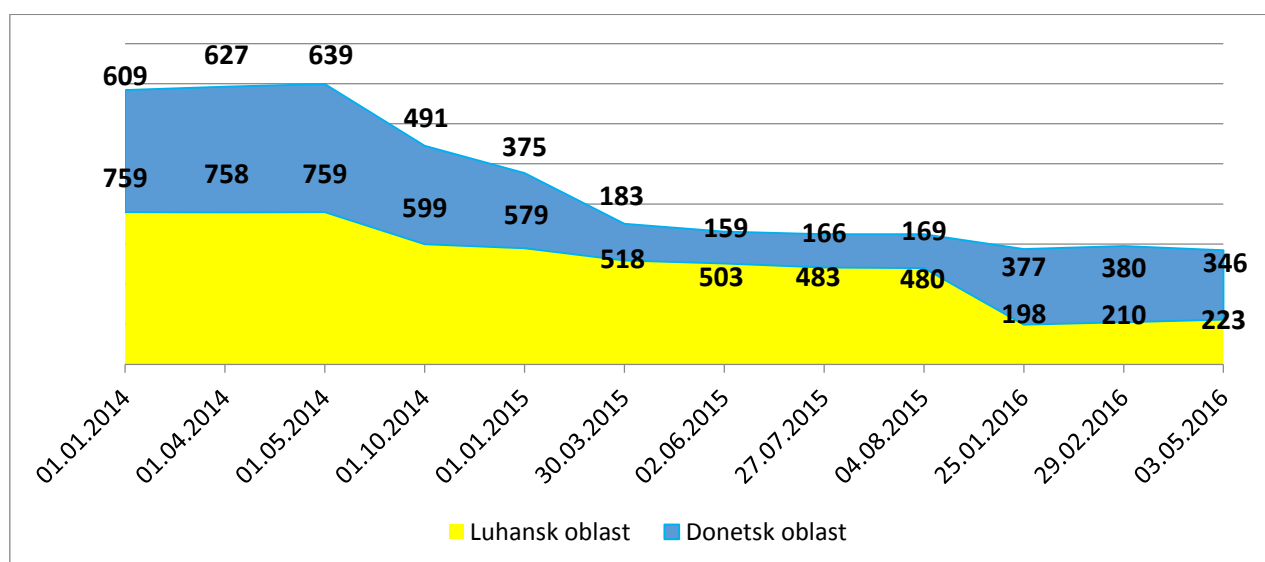
### Opioid Substitution Therapy (OST)

Back in 2015, OST programs were suspended in most sites located in the areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts not controlled by the Ukrainian Government. In fact, in the area controlled by the “DPR” authorities, only one OST site is still operating in Donetsk, with 29 patients receiving methadone (with the average daily dose not exceeding 25 mg). Since the beginning of military operations, almost 900 patients in the uncontrolled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts lost access to OST primarily through the depletion of the stocks of drugs. Due to security restrictions and regulatory controls established by the Ukrainian Government, the delivery of OST drugs to the affected areas was stopped back in the second half of 2014.

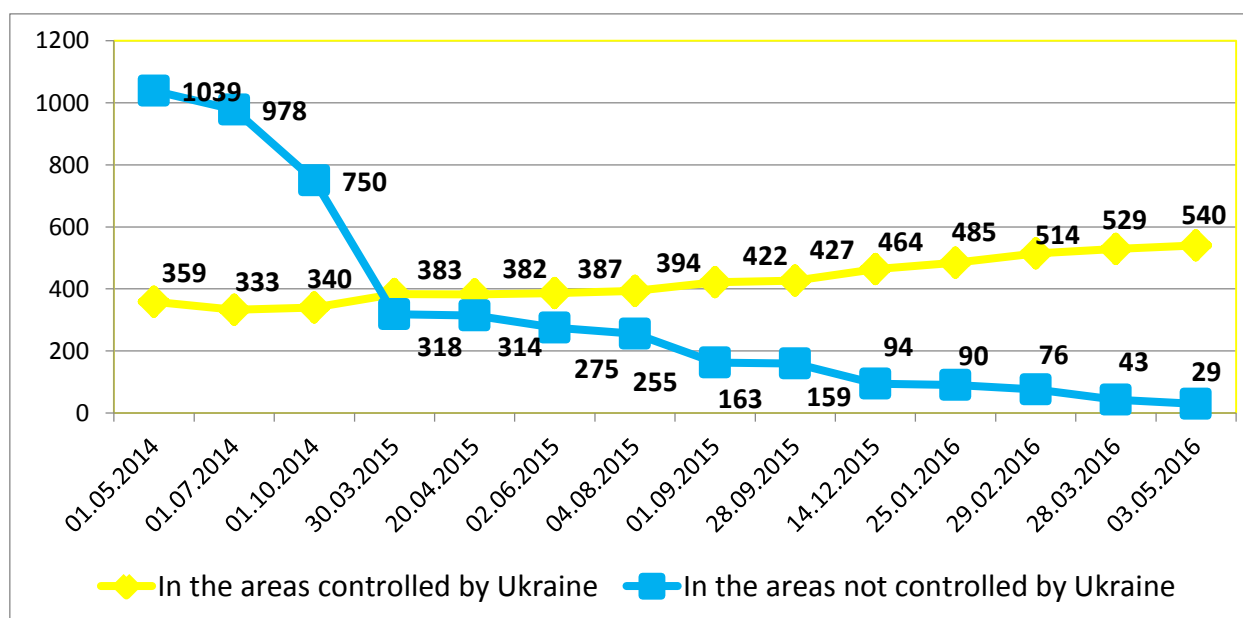
### Information on access to OST in Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts (as of 3 May 2016)

	Donetsk oblast	Luhansk oblast	Total	Change since 27 January 2016
Total number of patients as of 1 May 2014	759	639	1,398	
Actual number of patients as of 3 May 2016	346	223	569	<b>-2</b>
Number of patients, including:				
<i>Those on the territory controlled by Ukraine</i>	317	223	540	<b>+61</b>
<b><i>Those on the territory not controlled by Ukraine</i></b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>- 63</b>
Number of OST sites:				
<i>Those on the territory controlled by Ukraine</i>	4	3	7	<b>+1</b>
<i>Those on the territory not controlled by Ukraine</i>	1	<b>0</b>	1	<b>0</b>

### Dynamics in the number of OST patients in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts



### Dynamics in the number of OST patients in the areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts controlled and not controlled by the Ukrainian Government



Since May 2014, Alliance has been implementing a project to support OST patients coming from the annexed Crimea and the areas of the military operations in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. Since June 2015, the project has been funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (hereinafter – Global Fund).

As of 3 May 2016, the project to support OST patients-internally displaced persons provided services to 234 clients in 8 oblasts of Ukraine, including 122 clients from Luhansk oblast, 102 – from Donetsk oblast, and 10 – from Crimea. Project activities are carried out in 16 cities and towns, with 18 OST sites operating.

From May 2014 to May 2016, project services were provided to over 370 patients-internal migrants.

Thanks to the services provided, 95% of project participants became registered with appropriate authorities as forced migrants, 36% found regular or temporary jobs, 19% became recipients of disability benefits, 5% became recipients of government child support payments, their children enrolled in preschool and school institutions, etc. Nearly 150 patients now continue to access OST without project support at the new places of residence, and, if required, receive HIV and TB treatment services, or returned to their homes after active hostilities had ceased.

For the first time, this project supported by the Global Fund envisaged technical support to equip and renovate OST sites functioning in the Government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. So far, premises of the OST sites have been renovated in Mariupol, Kramatorsk, Sloviansk (Donetsk oblast) and Lysychansk, Severodonetsk, and Rubizhne (Luhansk oblast). Furniture and equipment were procured for all OST sites in the Government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, which allowed improving the conditions of service delivery at the above-mentioned sites and considerably increasing the scope of service provision to additional OST clients. Those sites are of the biggest demand among internal migrants; they account for 52% of all project clients.

As a result of interaction with the Departments of Health in Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts, to provide for and increase the delivery of services to patients coming from the areas of military operations, in 2015 orders were issued to redistribute OST drugs among the sites located in the Government-controlled areas of those oblasts which receive regular deliveries of such drugs. Currently, most OST sites in those oblasts offer handing out 7-10-day supply of OST drugs to patients based on prescriptions or in healthcare facilities hosting OST sites.

### HIV Prevention in Vulnerable Populations

Alliance continues to support HIV/STI prevention projects implemented in most vulnerable populations by **11** local partner NGOs. Activities are carried out in **18** populated areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts temporarily not controlled by the Ukrainian Government (Alchevsk, Antratsyt, Brianka, Horlivka, Debaltsevo, Donetsk, Yenakieve, Zuievka, Karlo-Marksovo, Kirovske, Krasnodon, Krasnyi Luch, Luhansk, Makiivka, Perevalsk, Stakhanov, Teplohirsk, Khartsyzsk) and in **32** populated areas in the Government-controlled territory (Avdiivka, Andriivka, Artemivsk, Bilbasivka, Borovske, Voronove, Dzerzhynsk, Dymytrov, Dobropillia, Drobyshevo, Druzhkivka, Kirovsk, Kostiantynivka, Kramatorsk, Krasnohorka, Krasnoarmiisk, Chervonyi Lyman, Kreminna, Lysychansk, Mariupol, Myrne, Mykolaivka, Novoaidar, Rodynske, Rubizhne, Svatovo, Severodonetsk, Selidovo, Sloviansk, Staryi Karavan, Cherkaske, Yampil). Within the above-mentioned projects implemented in the areas temporarily not controlled by Ukraine, **30 thousand** clients, from among populations most vulnerable to HIV, receive relevant HIV/STI prevention services from the minimum package.

#### ***Coverage of Populations Vulnerable to HIV by Harm Reduction Projects from 01.01.2016 to 12.05.2016 (preliminary data)***

Oblast	PWID			SW			MSM		
	Plan 2016	Actual	%	Plan 2016	Actual	%	Plan 2016	Actual	%
Donetsk oblast	27891	21018	75%	1533	1170	81%	1134	940	83%
incl. areas not controlled by Ukraine		10145			615			201	
Luhansk oblast	8477	6126	72%	722	629	87%	-	-	-
incl. areas not controlled by Ukraine		4266			629				
<b>TOTAL*</b>	<b>36368</b>	<b>27089</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>2255</b>	<b>1799</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>1134</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>83%</b>
incl. areas not controlled by Ukraine*		14391			1244			201	

\* The total figures demonstrate the number of persons (not visits), who receive prevention services in different organizations/regions.

Besides, project “TOR-based sub-granting for non-governmental organizations in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts to introduce an enhanced package of minimum services for project clients in the areas of military conflict in eastern Ukraine” was launched in 7 organizations in 2016. Project activities are aimed at expanding the standard package of minimum services through providing PWID, SW and MSM in the areas of military operations with counseling of psychologists and paramedics; distribution of medications and healthcare products, food and hygiene packages.

### **HIV and STI Testing**

The projects provide rapid testing for HIV and other sexually transmitted infections. Based on preliminary estimates for the period of 1 January through 12 May 2016, the projects conducting rapid tests and operating in Donetsk oblast have tested 10,421 persons from among key populations (the test results for 88 (0.8%) out of them came back positive), whereas in Luhansk oblast the number of clients tested for HIV was 2,787 (the test results for 31 (1.1%) out of them coming back positive).

### **Early TB Detection in Vulnerable Populations**

Nine NGOs in Donetsk oblast and three NGOs in Luhansk oblast are working with the component of early TB detection in vulnerable populations. Based on preliminary data for the period of 1 January through 12 May 2015, 6,290 NGO clients in Donetsk oblast have been screened for TB using survey questionnaires, with 720 positive results obtained. 289 (40%) clients sought TB diagnostics services in healthcare facilities, 17 of them being diagnosed with TB. In Luhansk oblast, 2,241 clients were screened for TB using survey questionnaires, with 317 positive results obtained. The number of clients who sought TB diagnostics services in healthcare facilities was 304 (95.8%), 2 of them confirmed their TB diagnosis. In total, 19 patients with confirmed tuberculosis diagnoses started treatment (89%).

### **Procurement and Supply of Drugs and Medical Goods**

The deliveries of over 8 million items of consumables carried out in 2015 allowed providing for programmatic activities of four partner NGOs in Donetsk oblast and two in Luhansk oblast at least till July 2016, and within the components of testing for HIV, hepatitis and STIs – up to the end of 2016. Besides, Alliance organized the deliveries of drugs for multidrug-resistant TB treatment in Donetsk oblast clinical TB hospital and Luhansk oblast TB treatment center.

Currently Alliance is making a thorough analysis of the needs in consumable materials for the second six months of 2016 and TB drugs and also makes the analysis to define the best routes for future deliveries.

***National HIV/AIDS Hotline: 0-800-500-451***

***National OST Hotline: 0-800-507-727***

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