GLOBAL TRENDS IN INJECTING AND HIV
EMCDDA WEEK ON: MEASURING, UNDERSTANDING AND RESPONDING TO DRUG PROBLEMS IN EUROPE
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Global estimates of People who inject drugs

- In 2013 new estimates for people who inject drugs (PWID) were published – World Drug Report 2013
- 83 countries reported an estimate on injecting drug use (compared to 62 from 2008 estimate)
- covering 82% of the global population aged 15-64 years
Data Sources

- ARQ
- UNAIDS (Global AIDS Response Progress Reporting)
- EMCDDA
- Country behavioural surveillance reports
- Previous estimates from IDU Reference Group 2008 Lancet paper

Review/validation

- Member States
- UNAIDS, WHO
- Regional organisations (EMCDDA, CICAD)
- Civil Society organisations (HRI, OSI, ANPUD, etc)
- Members of Reference Group to UN on HIV and IDU
- UNODC Field offices
Methodology for regional and global estimates

- Country-level prevalence
- Sub-regional prevalence based on known countries
- Range based on 10th and 90th percentile of known countries with same sub-region
- Best estimate is population-weighted country estimates
- Best estimate and range applied to population from countries without prevalence
- Regional and global estimates based on sum of sub-regional estimates
People who inject drugs – global estimates

Prevalence 0.31%
(0.24% - 0.48%) or 14.0 million
(11.2 – 22.0 million)
Compared with 15.9 million
(11.0 – 21.2 million) - 2008 estimate

Highest prevalence
• Central Asia (1.3%) and
• Eastern/South E Europe (1.26%)

Largest numbers
• East & South East Asia (3.8 million)
• Eastern/South East Europe (2.9 million)
• China, Russia and US account for 46% of global estimates
HIV estimates among PWID

• New estimates based on reporting from 106 countries (compared to 85 in 2008)

• HIV prevalence 11.5% (1.6 million)

Highest prevalence are
• South-West Asia (24%)
• Eastern/South E Europe (14.9)
• North America (13.5%)

Higher numbers in
• Eastern/South East Europe (434,000),
• East & South East Asia (328,000)
• North America (271,000)
• China, Russian Federation and USA account for 46% of global numbers

HCV prevalence 50% (7.2 million)
Regional considerations: population, injecting and HIV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Population (aged 15-64) (1,000's)</th>
<th>Prevalence (%) IDUs among population 15-64</th>
<th>Prevalence (%) HIV among IDUs</th>
<th>Number of IDUs living with HIV (1,000's)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
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<tr>
<td>West/ Central Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern/ South-East Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Near and Middle East / South-West Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>East and South-East Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Asia and Transcaucasia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
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<tr>
<td>North America</td>
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<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The numbers represent prevalence rates and population estimates in various regions, focusing on injecting drug users (IDUs) and HIV. The visual representation includes size and color of circles to indicate prevalence and population data, respectively.
Main reasons behind the changes in PWID and HIV since 2008

- an increase in injecting drug use behaviour or the spread of HIV among people who inject drugs (such as in Pakistan)
- change in drug use patterns away from injection to other routes of administration or a decline in the spread of HIV infection among injecting drug users (such as in Brazil)
- changes as a result of improvements in
  - the estimation methods applied
  - increased coverage of bio-behavioural surveillance or
  - special surveys among people who inject drugs
  - Example: South Africa, Indonesia, Ukraine, Russian Federation, Kenya, Seychelles, etc
Countries largely accountable for revised estimates of PWID

- Prevalence estimates for injecting drug use were revised upwards in 38% of the countries that were updated
  - Particularly Pakistan, the Russian Federation and Viet Nam
- 8 countries combined account for 80% of the reported global reduction of estimated number of injecting drug users
  - United States
  - Brazil
  - South Africa
  - Italy
  - Indonesia
  - Thailand
  - Kenya and
  - Australia
Countries largely accountable for revised estimates of HIV among PWID

- prevalence estimates for HIV among PWID were revised upwards in 40% of the countries that were updated
  - Philippines, Czech Republic, Belarus, Greece
- in several large population size countries estimated number of people who inject drugs who are also living with HIV notably lower than the previous estimate
- 9 countries combined account for >85% of the reported global reduced estimates
  - Brazil, Russian Federation, China, Ukraine, Thailand, Indonesia, United States and Kenya
Brazil and Russian Federation: two most evident examples of countries with lower estimates in the number of people who inject drugs and who are living with HIV

Brazil

- Population aged 15-64: 133.5 million people
- A small estimated decline in the number of injecting drug users (from 0.67% in 2003 to 0.5% in 2012)
- Estimated prevalence of HIV among injecting drug users has dramatically reduced (from 48% in 2000 to 5.9% in 2011)
- Partly as consequence of concerted efforts to minimize spread of HIV among injecting drug users.
Russian Federation:

- Population aged 15-64 103 million
- IDU estimates revised from 1.78% to 2.29%
- 2008 HIV prevalence estimated **37.15%** (Mathers, et al 2008)
  - based on the HIV prevalence among injecting drug users in eight cities
  - lowest 0.3% (Pskov); highest 74% (Biysk) averaged to 37.15%
  - Simple average of 8 cities is 18.6%
- 2008 Country Progress Report to UNAIDS
  - prevalence of 10.3% for Moscow and 11.8% for the Russian Federation
  - based on five regional studies (UNODC, WHO, and UK DFID etc)
- 2010 Country Progress Report to UNAIDS
  - prevalence of 15.6% for Moscow
- 2011 ARQ 14.4% for country (Federal Statistics 2010)
### Table 2

**HIV Prevalence Among Injection Drug Users in Different Towns and Cities of the Russian Federation (according to sero-surveillance surveys)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year when study was conducted</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Number of IDUs tested for HIV</th>
<th>HIV+ (%)</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Moscow</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>12.41</td>
<td>Koshkina et al., 2003⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Pskov</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>Eroshina et al., 2003⁵</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Velikiy Novgorod</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>Smolskaya et al., 2005⁶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Cherepovets</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>Smolskaya et al., 2005⁷</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Arkhangelsk/Pskov</td>
<td>153/150</td>
<td>0/0*</td>
<td>Smolskaya et al., 2005⁸</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Biysk</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>Smolskaya et al., 2005⁹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Barnaul</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Smolskaya et al., 2005¹⁰</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Saint-Petersburg</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Verevochkin et al., 2005¹¹</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* In Arkhangelsk and in Pskov, no HIV antibodies were identified in blood samples that were taken from street drug users. Harm-reduction programs are operating in these cities.
THANK YOU