



# Data Demand and Use for Decision Making (DDUDM)

The RESPOND project implemented a number of activities in 2013/14 aimed at promoting evidence-based and data-driven decision making. The primary targets of these activities were members of the regional HIV coordination councils, regional M&E center staff, NGO leaders, government social services, and others.

## Key achievements include:

- Adaptation of the DDUDM training curriculum developed by the USAID MEASURE Evaluation Project for use in Ukraine and hosting of **two national-level and eight regional DDUDM training events**.
- Development of an online data visualization tool called *Regional Profiles* displaying national and regional-level HIV indicators. Currently indicators on eight project regions are presented in the form of an interactive data dashboard: <http://theta.in.ua/VisDemo/Visualiazations.html?locale=en>
- Mapping of HIV services in eight project regions, producing a set of **11 online interactive service maps**: <http://respond.org.ua/eng/service-mapping>
- **Eight regional training events** on the utilization of Regional Profiles and service maps.
- Development of a **guidebook on the use of strategic information** on HIV/AIDS in Ukraine.
- **Small grant competition** for the total amount of \$142,690.55 to improve DDUDM in eight project regions.

## Results of DDUDM activities

- A total of 295 regional-level government and NGO decision-makers and service providers have been trained on the DDUDM approach and the use of data visualization tools.
- Accuracy of DDUDM knowledge among training participants improved from 27% to 58% according to pre- and post-test scores.

- 20 small grant proposals had been received, and nine were supported (see Table). Supported proposals included DDUDM approaches and/or aimed to improve data demand and use.

## Next steps

Activities planned for the upcoming year include:

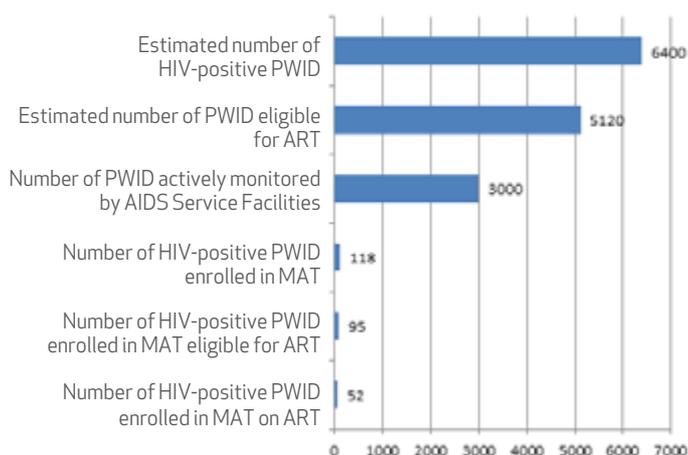
- Develop regional profiles for all 27 regions of Ukraine by the end of 2014.
- Train up to 50 regional M&E center staff on the use of strategic information and service mapping.
- Provide ad-hoc DDUDM trainings in the regions to address their specific needs.
- Create an online National Strategic Information Resource (NSIR) on the HIV epidemic in Ukraine to provide access to Regional Profiles, service maps, inventory of HIV prevention interventions, Ukrainian Compendium of effective HIV prevention interventions, HIV studies, inventory of donors and implementers of HIV programs and other instruments through a single Web portal.
- Hand over NSIR to UCDC in 2015 for maintenance and regular updates.

## RESPOND small grants to facilitate DDUDM

Region	Implementing partner	Project
Chernihiv	Vidrodzhennya Natsii	Improve access to HIV viral load testing
Cherkasy	Vid serdcya do serdcya	Improve HIV/AIDS knowledge in journalists
Dnipropetrovsk	Dniprovski humanitarni iniciatyvy	Study on barriers to services for MSM and CSWs
Dnipropetrovsk	Dialog Plus	Develop regional on-line HIV/AIDS resource
Lviv	Network of PLHIV	Training TB specialists in HIV counseling and testing
Mykolayiv	Unitus	S&D training for medical and social service providers
Odesa	Shlyakh do Domu	Study on barriers to ART in MAT clients
Poltava	Svitlo Nadii	Improve effectiveness of district HIV/AIDS Councils
Zaporizhzhya	Red Cross	Improve effectiveness of district HIV/AIDS Councils

### Case Study: Shlyakh do Domu, Odesa

Shlyakh do Domu ('Way Home') is the Odesa-based NGO working with key populations, including people who inject drugs, prisoners, and most-at-risk adolescents. In their DDUDM small grant proposal, Way Home utilized a cascade analysis demonstrating poor access to ART by HIV-positive clients of medication-assisted treatment (MAT) programs (see diagram).



Way Home proposed a study to identify barriers to ART uptake among MAT clients through:

- Laboratory testing of 50 HIV-positive MAT clients to determine their need for ART;
- Survey among HIV-positive MAT clients receiving and not receiving ART;
- Survey among medical and social service providers.

### Results

The study among 80 MAT clients revealed the following:

- 87% of HIV-positive MAT clients require ART;
- 96% MAT clients require TB screening because of symptoms;
- 72.5% receive some NGO services;
- 22.8% have not been at the AIDS Center for more than 6 months;
- There is a lack of psychosocial support to help clients navigate healthcare services;
- Only one third of survey participants are satisfied with HIV services they receive;
- Self-identified barriers to ART uptake by MAT clients include: anticipated frequent visits to receive medications, anticipated costs, and inconvenient location of medical facilities.

### Recommendations

- Establish integrated MAT and ART sites;
- Provide funding for HIV laboratory services from the regional budget;
- Provide psychosocial support, motivational counseling and case management services (based on RESPOND Seven Steps intervention);
- Implement interventions to improve livelihood of HIV-positive MAT clients.

## RESPOND: Quality of Services - Network and Organizational Strengthening - Data for Decision Making

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