



## **Georgia Country Coordinating Mechanism**

### **Annual Report**

**Reporting period: March 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018**

**The report outlines the main activities performed by Georgia CCM in the period covering  
March 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018**

#### **Background**

Georgia Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) is a central mechanism for implementing Global Fund supported TB and HIV programs in Georgia. CCM creates a multi-stakeholder platform for country ownership and participatory decision making on HIV and TB related policy and programmatic issues. Georgia CCM includes representatives from both the public and private sectors, including government organizations, multilateral and bilateral agencies, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, private businesses and people affected by and living with the diseases. CCM's operations are regulated with the Government resolution #220 as of June 18, 2012 and the CCM Governance Manual effective from June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

#### **Oversight activities/CCM meetings**

##### *CCM Meetings*

Four CCM meetings were held during the reporting period (86<sup>th</sup> CCM meeting – April 10, 2017; 87<sup>th</sup> CCM meeting – August 7, 2017; 88<sup>th</sup> CCM meeting – November 24, 2017; 89<sup>th</sup> CCM meeting – February 9, 2018).

##### **86<sup>th</sup> CCM meeting**

Focus of the meeting - the current status of implementation of the Global Fund's projects, the report of the Oversight Committee, EHRN Initiative on Establishment of community-level M&E for NSP and OST in Georgia, Information on the Global Fund Regional Program Community Actions to Increase Access of MSM and TG People to HIV Services in Eastern Europe and

Central Asia, Outcomes of the meetings of community organizations aimed at better engagement in the processes of development of funding request; accessibility to ambulatory services within Universal Health Care program for HIV infected people. Following the discussions of accessibility to ambulatory services within Universal Health Care program for HIV infected people the meeting with the Head of the healthcare department of MoLHSA and the representative of the department was convened. The representative of the HIV community, CCM Vice-Chair and Secretariat were present at the meeting. HIV/AIDS related stigma and discrimination and lack of information were identified as main reasons hindering the full usage of the services/benefits by HIV positive people offered by the State Program. The corrective measures were set up.

**87<sup>th</sup> CCM meeting.** Focus of the meeting: the current status of implementation of the Global Fund's projects, the report of the Oversight Committee, dashboards recommendations, the Global Fund Allocation Letter, funding application approaches, the role of the PAAC in the process of preparation of funding requests. Important outcomes of the meeting: selection of Programs Continuation Requests for HIV and TB grants as an application approach; decision on submission of two separate applications (HIV and TB); assigning to the PAAC a role of the platform in the development of the requests. In order to ensure broad country dialogue with an active involvement of all stakeholders, especially those representing KAPs and vulnerable populations in the working process the CCM it was decided to expand the composition of the PAAC. The members were requested to disseminate this information among interested parties; the corresponding announcement was published on the CCM web-site.

**88<sup>th</sup> CCM meeting.** Programs implementation status including planned reallocation/reprogramming activities was presented and discussed; it was decided to submit programs continuation requests under the Window 6, on August 6, 2018; the new initiative called end AIDS epidemic in Georgia was presented by Prof. Tengiz Tsertsvadze; it was decided that the issue of reselection of current PR will be brought to e-vote on no-objection basis; the brief outline of the first draft CCM transition plan was presented by EHG Consultants; the possibilities of receiving technical assistance from GIZ were discussed; it was decided to nominate two representatives from the country (from Civil Sector and Government Sector) to the EECA Constituency; the draft Code of Conduct was reviewed and it was decided to solicit inputs from the CCM members on a draft document electronically; The current PR- National Center for Disease Control and Public Health – was unanimously re-selected as PR of the Global Fund grants as a result of e-voting.

**89<sup>th</sup> CCM meeting.** Main focus of the meeting: HIV and TB grants implementation status/ The process of preparation of funding requests; Savings under current programs/Reprogramming proposals; report of the OC

*Meetings of the Oversight Committee/Site visits*

4 OC meetings and 4 site visits were conducted during the reporting period. Out of 4 site visits two visits were conducted in the regions. 11 sites were visited in total.

Site Visit Date	Location	Purpose
June 17, 2017	TB Mobile Ambulatory	The objectives of the visit: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To study closely the GFATM supported TB MA pilot project:</li> <li>2. To monitor TB treatment service delivery;</li> <li>3. To identify possible challenges of program implementation and set up the ways of their addressing.</li> </ol>
January 16, 2018	National Center of Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases	Objectives of the visit: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To study closely the GFATM supported project: Provision of Support for Patients with Resistant Tuberculosis to Provide Improvement in Treatment;</li> <li>2. To collect information on harmonization of the approaches to support TB treatment adherence;</li> <li>3. To identify possible challenges of program implementation and set up the ways of their addressing.</li> </ol>
January 25-26, 2018	Batumi, Ajara Sites of the visit:	Objective of the visit: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To collect information from SRs</li> </ol>

	<p>Batumi Infectious Diseases, AIDS and TB Regional Centre; Batumi Center for Mental Health and Prevention of Addiction. Methadone substitution therapy program; Georgian Harm Reduction Network (GHRN)/Imedi; Center for Information and Counseling on Reproductive Health TANADGOMA, Batumi branch; HIV/AIDS Patients Support Foundation, Batumi branch; Batumi Resource Center, “Identoba”</p>	<p>and SSRs about the implementation of GFATM-funded programmes, their performance and operations; 2. Review challenges in the process of grant implementation and discuss ways of their overcoming. The project implementation staff and program beneficiaries were met during the visit</p>
February 23, 2018	<p>Gori</p> <p>The sites visited: Center for Methadone Substitution Therapy; TB program; GHRN Service Center “Step to the Future”.</p>	<p>Objectives of the visit: to collect information about the implementation of the programmes, their performance and operations and review challenges in the process of grant implementation and discuss ways of their overcoming</p>
OC meeting date	Location	Purpose
	NCDC	Review of the oversight tool for

May 24, 2017		HIV/AIDS P2 (October 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016) and P3 (January 1 - March 31, 2017), and TB P2 ( October 1 – December 31, 2016) and P1 of current grant (January 1 – March 31, 2017).
October 25, 2017	NCDC	Review of the dashboards covering period of P4 (HIV) and P2 (TB)
November 9, 2017	NCDC	The meeting with Ms Gyongyver Jakab, Global Fund Portfolio Manager
November 17, 2017	NCDC	The meeting with the Global Fund Consultants assessing HIV program.
November 21, 2017	NCDC	The meeting with EHG consultants to discuss new dashboard tool.
February 1, 2018	NCDC	Review of the dashboards covering period of Q3 of the year 2017.

### **Transitional Planning / CCM Evolution Plan/PAAC**

5 meetings of the PAAC were conducted during the reporting period

- 1) PAAC Meeting #8. May 11, 2017. Objectives: to discuss the feedback to Georgian Transitional Plan comments on TSP and elaborate the comments of PAAC on proposed amendments and recommendations.
- 2) PAAC Meeting #9. June 28, 2017. Objectives: to inform the group members and discuss on the CCM transition plan outline presented by the Euro Health Group (EHG) consultants; to define the PAAC role in the development of the CCM transition plan and outline modus operandi of the group.
- 3) PAAC Meeting #10. August 11, 2017. Objectives: to discuss the main strategic scenarios/options for CCM transition; to discuss the draft outline for CCM transition plan developed by the EHG consultants, concerning the future regulatory framework, structure, functions and financial mechanisms of the CCM

4) PAAC Meeting #11. November 7, 2017. Objectives: to discuss the Funding Request preparation process.

5) PAAC Meeting #12. November 22, 2017. Objectives: to meet with EHG consultants to discuss the draft CCM Transition Plan. The brief outline of the first draft CCM transition plan was presented at the 86<sup>th</sup> CCM meeting;

### **CCM Civil Society Forum**

On February 20, 2018 Civil Society Forum organized by Georgia CCM was conducted. The concept of the forum was developed by the representatives of Civil Sector of Georgia CCM. The forum was very representative. More than 100 participants attended including broad representation of community organizations, KAPs, local NGOs, representatives of the Government Sector and International Organizations. The forum was covered by mass-media. The following topics were presented and discussed: the state support for the transition period / trends in growth of state funding, the Global Fund current grants, the process of preparation of programs continuation request, HIV/AIDS and TB control current initiatives and the role of the CSOs in their implementation.

### **TB-REP HSS National Group Mechanism**

On February 19, 2018 TB/HSS working group meeting #2 to discuss accessibility and quality improvement issues for TB outpatient services, as well as the challenges concerning the role of private providers and human resource mobilization in TB control programs was convened; the meeting was implemented in coordination with the TB-REP / HSS project;

### **TB Clinical Research Coordination Working Group**

The 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of TB Clinical Research Coordination Working Group was convened on January 16, 2018. The current status of clinical studies was discussed during the meeting.

### **Visit of the Global Fund to Georgia**

On November 6 – 12. 2017 Ms Gyongyver Jakab, Global Fund Portfolio Manager visited Georgia. During the mission meetings with the CCM Chair, PAAC Chair, donor organizations, Principal Recipient, LFA, PAAC, OC, CCM members were held. Site visit to OST, visit to

Equality Movement to review of PReP pilot implementation progress, MSM outreach session, site visit to New Vector, site visit to TB ambulatory, Site visit to Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Centre, the field visit to Zugdidi were conducted. Sites visited in Zugdidi: NSP; FSW targeting services; MSM targeting services; TB program

### **GFATM grants**

The implementation of NFM GEO-H-NCDC started on July 1, 2017. Implementation period: July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019.

The implementation of NFM GEO-T-NCDC started on January 1, 2017. Implementation period: January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2019.

Activities of GFATM supported grants are mainly being implemented as planned. Savings under current programs/Reprogramming proposals were presented at the 89th CCM meeting of February 9, 2018.

### **Preparation of new funding request**

Georgia CCM has started the endeavors for making the development of a new funding request a transparent and inclusive process. In its aspiration to develop the requests in transparent and open format ensuring the meaningful participation of all stakeholders especially those representing KAPs and vulnerable populations and following the decision of the 87th CCM meeting the CCM announced expansion of the PAAC composition. All those who expressed the willingness to participate were included in the PAAC. The process of preparation of funding request has been brought to the attention of a broad audience attended the CSO Forum of February 20, 2018 to ensure effective information sharing and broader participation.

***March 28, 2018***

***The report is prepared by Georgia CCM Secretariat***

