

Mission, Vision and Values of the International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine (Alliance-Ukraine)

Alliance-Ukraine is a professional charitable organisation, that in partnership with key civil society and government agencies, leads the response to HIV/AIDS in Ukraine through managing HIV/AIDS programmes and providing cutting-edge technical support and financial resources to local organisations – partners . These efforts contribute to the attainment of the country's Universal Access to comprehensive HIV/AIDS services in Ukraine and effective community-based responses to the epidemic built on evidence and best practice.

As independent legal entity (registered in Ukraine since 2003), and on acquiring managerial independence from the beginning of 2009 the Alliance –Ukraine shares the key values and retains membership in the Alliance Global Partnership (an international charity uniting 30 organisations in the different countries of the world with the Secretariat in Brighton/ UK) .

Alliance-Ukraine has a **vision** *of a world in which people do not die of AIDS and where communities have brought HIV/AIDS under control.*

Alliance –Ukraine's **mission** is to

reduce the spread of the HIV infection and AIDS mortality and alleviate the negative impact of epidemic through supporting community action against HIV/AIDS in Ukraine and disseminating effective approaches to HIV prevention and care throughout Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Our values

The Alliance-Ukraine builds on human rights, public health and socio-economic development approaches. Our work is underpinned by a set of shared values. We believe that:

- The lives of all human beings are of equal value. People's vulnerability to HIV/AIDS is increased by unequal power relations. These arise, in particular, from poverty and the abuse of people's human rights.
- Gender, religion, class, race, ethnicity and sexual orientation are all sources of vulnerability and unequal power in most societies.
- Everyone has the right to access the information and services they need. People should have access to accurate and complete information about HIV prevention, comprehensive prevention programmes, and initiatives that promote the self-determination, dignity and quality of life for people living with HIV, and for groups who are likely to affect, or be affected by, the spread of HIV/AIDS. People have the right to access AIDS care and treatment and appropriate health and social services, including treatment and palliative care for those with AIDS.

Our guiding principles

Our work is guided by our belief in the importance of:

- meaningfully involving all vulnerable people, particularly those living with HIV and AIDS, in all aspects of the response to the epidemic
- ensuring that communities play a central role in the response to the epidemic
- challenging stigma and discrimination
- making sure that our programming and policy efforts are driven by evidence of 'what works'
- taking a gender approach to the epidemic that acknowledges the role of both women and men in meeting the challenges of HIV/AIDS
- reducing the vulnerability of children and young people, and involving them in planning, implementing and evaluating sex education, sexual and reproductive health, HIV/AIDS prevention and care programmes
- being accountable to the people we work to support, and to those who support our work.

For the period till 2010 Alliance Ukraine defined its two main strategic directions (AU-SD1 and 2), which meet the needs of response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Ukraine and are closely interrelated with the four strategic directions of the Alliance Global Partnership:

AU-SD1: Ensuring the level of access of communities to comprehensive needs-based high quality services sufficient to make an impact on the epidemic. This will result in behaviour changes that reduce vulnerability of the most vulnerable communities and improve the quality of life of HIV-positive people;

AU-SD2: Promoting sustainable responses to the epidemic at the local, national and regional levels by advocating for evidence-based policies, building the capacity of HIV-service and community based and other local relevant organisations, and leveraging adequate financial resources.