

CONFERENCE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

HARM REDUCTION 2011



Beirut

LEBANON
3-7 APRIL 2011

Your guide to the Dialogue Space, Workshops and Trainings, and Harm Reduction Demonstrations

Welcome to three days of conference activities. We have arranged a wide range of conference events including workshops, trainings, skills building, dialogue and debate, launches and exhibitions and much more. These are open to all conference. Come along and debate harm reduction issues. Meet colleagues working in harm reduction from around the world.

The Dialogue Space and the Harm Reduction Demonstrations take place in the Hotel side exhibition area. Workshops and trainings take place in the Jamhour Room, on level 3 of the Convention Centre.

Places for Workshops and Trainings are limited! Sign up early.

Workshop and Training sessions are each limited to strictly 25 people, in order to maximize the training opportunity. Delegates who have emailed interest in participating ahead of the conference must confirm their place. You can sign-up and confirm your place at the IHRA booth in the Dome on Sunday and Monday morning., and thereafter outside the Workshop room. Workshops and trainings are coordinated by Patrick Gallahue (IHRA) and Nadir Nassif (Menahra).

Dialogue space – at a glance

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1.00–1.30	Introducing MENAHRA's New Global Fund Grant	Reckitt Benckiser	João Castel-Branco Goulão – decriminalisation in Portuga
1.30–2.00	Change we can believe in? The inside story of PEPFAR and US Politics	Equity, Human Rights and the Global Fund	
2.00–2.30	on Drug Policy	Meet the Sex Work Activists	Meet The Leaders: The Global Fund and Partners
2.30–3.00	Book launch – Harm Reduction at Work	Book launch – Women specific harm reduction materials	
3.00–3.30	Introduction to Drug User Organising	Meet the Drug User Activists	INPUD: structural violence, stigma, discrimination and drug user organising
3.30–4.00	Book launch – Young People and Drugs	Advocacy Opportunities 2011 and Beyond	Roll back of harm reduction in Europe
4.00–4.30	Advocating for Harm Reduction: The Role of Civil Society Advocacy Networks	Harm reduction in Eurasia: what are regional advocacy priorities?	DIY Detox
4.30–5.00	"Harm Reduction" and the "New Recovery": time to evolve a more integrated approach?	Harm reduction in Eurasia. cont	Naloxone Panel
5.00–5.30			

Dialogue Space in detail

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<p>Introducing MENAHRA's New Global Fund Grant In 2010, the Global Fund approved a US\$ 8m proposal from the Middle East and North Africa Harm Reduction Association (MENAHRA). This session will introduce the proposal and describe the planned activities and discuss how best to strengthen civil society and harm reduction in the region. Speakers: Mick Matthews, Civil Society Team, GFATM (Chair), Emran Razaghi, MENAHRA, Mark Saalfeld, Fund Portfolio Manager, GFATM</p> <p>Change we can believe in? The inside story of PEPFAR and US Politics on Drug Policy For the first time since the beginning of the AIDS epidemic, the US federal government is providing funding for syringe access programs. The Drug Czar declared an end to the "War on drugs" and California voters came within striking distance of legalizing marijuana. Is this the sign of a new era? This session will assess US policy on drugs and HIV/AIDS including methadone and overdose prevention, the national drug control strategy, state reform initiatives, and HIV/AIDS funding. It will focus on prospects for reform in the context of a conservative Congress and a divided nation. Panelists will invite discussion about engaging in advocacy on drug policy in advance of the International AIDS Conference hosted in Washington, DC in 2012. Speakers: Patrick Gallahue, IHRA (Chair), Zoe Hudson, Open Society Foundations, Jirair Ratevosian, amfAR, Richard Needle, Senior Public Health Advisor – PEPFAR.</p> <p>Harm Reduction at Work One concrete way for harm reduction programs to meaningfully involve people who use drugs is by giving them paying jobs. This session offers highlights from Harm Reduction at Work, a new manual offering guidance to people who use drugs who want to work, and employers who want to hire them. The war on drugs often militates against drug users working in the drugs field, and all kinds of social, legal, moral and bureaucratic challenges conspire against their meaningful employment. Raffi Balian, co-author of the manual and the coordinator of a drug-user run harm reduction project in Canada, and Daniel Wolfe, a longtime funder of drug user groups -will discuss strategies for navigating the complications of hiring active drug users. Topics covered will include how the manual was written, key findings, and why work with users of illicit drugs is arguably the deciding factor in whether you have an authentic harm reduction program or not. Speakers: Raffi Balian; Daniel Wolfe – International Harm Reduction Development, Open Society Foundations.</p>	<p>Equity, Human Rights and the Global Fund As part of discussions around its 2011-2016 strategy, the Global Fund is working closely with its partners and stakeholders to improve its performance in terms of equitable service access and human rights. This informal session will allow participants to contribute to these efforts and find out more about what the Global Fund is doing. Speakers: Richard Pearshouse, Human Rights Watch (Chair), Anurita Bains and Mauro Guarinieri, Global Fund</p> <p>Meet the Sex Work Activists Sex workers are often talked about, often not talked to. In this session four sex workers from across the globe will talk about their activism, what they are doing and why they are doing it. They will also discuss the need to continue building a strong movement to protect sex workers human rights as well as discuss the consequences of living with the social stigma that affects all sex workers one way or another. How can harm reduction further strengthen the situation of sex workers, and what could go wrong while trying to provide services to sex workers? Moreover why do some sex workers have a negative experience of harm reduction and how can we work together to change that? Speakers: Morten Sortodden (Chair), Sandra Andersson, Thierry Schaffauser, Melissa Ditmore, Nicolette Burrows.</p> <p>Book launch – Women specific harm reduction materials Women who use opiates and/or crack-cocaine are especially vulnerable and have their own set of problems, for example in connection to working as a sex worker or their relationship with a male dealer. Women also face specific issues connected to the female body, like pregnancy and menopause. Mainline pays special attention to women who use drugs, which includes producing women specific publications in which the experience and knowledge of drug using women, together with practical and medical knowledge, is translated into information materials which connects to the perception and interests of women who use drugs. Special publications for women enable outreach workers to discuss certain issues with women more easily. Furthermore they provide tools for women to deal with certain issues and to make their own choices in these matters. Speakers: Arie Sijbesma, Renate van Bodegom</p> <p>Meet the Drug User Activists This session will offer an opportunity to meet drug user activists from around the world. Discussion will centre on the varying regional issues</p>	<p>João Castel-Branco Goulão – decriminalisation in Portugal John Hedge, Conference Consortium Chair João Castel-Branco Goulão – Gerry what's his full title?</p> <p>Meet The Leaders: The Global Fund and Partners The Global Fund is a unique global partnership between governments, donors, multilateral organizations, civil society, the private sector and affected communities – and has become the leading donor for harm reduction. Following on from a Major Session about the Global Fund, this session will allow participants to pose their questions to senior staff from the organization and some of its partners. Speakers: Daniel Wolfe, Director of International Harm Reduction Development, OSI (Chair), Rifat Atun, Director of the Strategy, Performance and Evaluation Cluster, Global Fund, Annette Verster, WHO</p> <p>INPUD: structural violence, stigma, discrimination and drug user organising This session will examine ways in which individuals and groups have dealt with this ongoing hindrance. It will examine the impact structural violence, stigma and discrimination has had on the development of drug user groups. It will highlight the MENA region as a current example. Speakers: Eka (Chair) Olga Belyeva, Annie Madden</p> <p>Roll back of harm reduction in Europe Europe is often described as the cradle of harm reduction, but in recent years we have seen a "roll back" in terms of harm reduction. Some Governments such as the UK and the Netherlands, previous pioneers and supporters of harm reduction are moving away from this to a "tough on drugs" rhetoric. This session chaired by the European Harm Reduction Network will discuss the importance of a pan-European network and how collective advocacy can raise the profile of harm reduction and protect harm reduction services where they may be under threat. Speakers: Eberhard Schatz, John-Peter Kools</p> <p>DIY Detox This workshop will demonstrate how a person can greatly improve the odds of a successful home-based opiate detox. Drug users are not empowered to detox at home, thus defaulting to more medical models of addictions treatment such as residential treatment centres or substitution therapy. The current treatment models favoured by the Canadian system discourage the empowerment of drug users. We believe that through the combination of medication, the elaboration of a comprehensive quit plan, symptom management techniques and supportive</p>

Introduction to Drug User Organising

An introduction to the International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD) and Drug User Organisations. This fascinating session will include panel discussion outlining different models of drug user organising and what these models mean to drug users. It will also highlight the importance of the involvement of drug user organising in addressing drug user issues. **Speakers:** Jude Byrne, Matthew Southwell, INPUD

Young People and Drugs

Youth RISE have launched in December 2010 its first peer developed guide on sex and drugs and will be launching in March a pocket booklet for young people who use drugs. The aim of this dialogue space session is to discuss with the participants the procedure by which the two books were developed and the evaluation until today and hence leading up to a discussion of youth friendly resources developed by young people. **Speakers:** Damon Barrett (Chair) Aram Barra, Kyla Zanardi, Brun González

Advocating for Harm Reduction: The role of civil society advocacy networks

Harm Reduction: The role of civil society advocacy networks
"Networks" are the new buzz word, they are used to describe everything from anti-globalisation protests, the G8, civil society activism and even terrorism, but what do networks do and do they work?

This interactive session including experts from IHRA, the HIV/AIDS Alliance and regional harm reduction networks will outline the reasons for and role for civil society advocacy networks. It will examine the functions networks can perform, the form they can take and keys to successful networking. It will also discuss the ways in which network members, can, through collective advocacy, work together to raise the profile of harm reduction and protect harm reduction services where they may be under threat. **Speakers:** Maria Phelan, Networking and Advocacy Officer, IHRA, Susie McClean

"Harm Reduction" and the "New Recovery": time to evolve a more integrated approach?

The rhetoric of UK drug policy debates in practice and professional settings and the media has become critical of harm reduction. The UK's national drug strategies have shifted towards recovery, with increased expectations regarding the number of people who become drug free and leave services. This session will reflect how threats might be averted and systems improved. Recent developments in the UK recovery sector appear to offer opportunities that harm reductionists should understand and appraise. Closer integration and engagement with recovery systems may be beneficial. This session will explore the development of closer positions on policy and practice between recovery and harm reduction advocates and that, collaboration will deliver the highest achievable levels of health, well-being, civil rights and citizenship for current and former drug users. **Speaker:** Neil Hunt, Director of Research, KCA

faced by individuals and groups. It will cover issues such as Hepatitis C treatment and prevention, compulsory detention centres in Asia, issues of personal disclosure for individual activists and the power imbalance for female drug users. **Speakers:** Dayle Stubbs, Dean Lewis

Advocacy Opportunities 2011 and Beyond

More people than ever before are advocating for evidence-based drugs policies. Initiatives such as the Vienna Declaration and the Latin American Commission on Drugs and Democracy have succeeded in reaching a large international audience. Many more opportunities lie in engaging groups which do not have obvious ties to drug policy reform, as well as tapping in to other public debates. This dialogue session will look at the tools for drug policy reform. It will identify opportunities for advocacy, such as the 50th Anniversary of the Single Convention, and spark a discussion on how we can more effectively campaign for rational, humane drugs policies. **Speaker:** Tamas Varga, Global Drug Policy Program.

Harm reduction in Eurasia: what are regional advocacy priorities?

The main objective of this session is to help recognize issues that need to be addressed in order to develop effective regional and international advocacy strategies to influence policy-making that affect access to and quality of harm reduction in the CEE/CA region as a whole and in individual countries. At the dialogue space EHRN plans to: discuss the state of harm reduction in the region of CEE/CA; outline main advocacy needs; discuss national and local advocacy efforts; provide ideas on possible advocacy actions engaging EHRN as partner organization; discuss collaboration and networking opportunities with regional and national stakeholders **Speakers:** Asta Minkeviciene, Sergey Votyagov, Dasha Ocheret, Eurasian Harm Reduction Network

counselling it is possible for opiate users to detoxify on their own. We feel that learning to detox from opiates can greatly benefit the person, as it provides them the techniques to help themselves and others. We believe that the information presented is very beneficial. The treatment model is cost effective, it can easily be modified to meet individual or cultural needs, it is person centered and it is strength based. **Speaker:** Jean – Francois Martinbault

Naloxone Panel

This panel will discuss innovative advocacy campaigns and programmes aimed at scaling up the distribution of Naloxone. Stephen Malloy will discuss the Scottish Government's decision to fund a nationwide programme involving training and the supply of Naloxone to those at risk of opiate overdose. This seeks to reduce the huge burden of drug-related deaths in Scotland. Scotland has an estimated 55000-60000 people with drug problems in a total population of 5m, with over 500 deaths each year due to drugs-related overdose, mostly involving opiates. These deaths affect families, communities and the whole nation. Against this background, and with declining government spending resources available, the Scottish Government has recognised opiate users' fundamental right to life. The Eurasian Harm Reduction Network will launch the campaign "I'm the Evidence that Naloxone Works" that will unite drug users activists from different parts of the world to draw attention of international stakeholders to the issue of overdose mortality and to the evidence supporting naloxone distribution among drug users. **Speakers:** Stephen Malloy – Scottish Drugs Forum, Dasha Ocheret – Eurasian Harm Reduction Network

Workshops and trainings – at a glance

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
11.00–12.30	Setting up a nationwide programme on opioid substitution treatment (OST)	How to set up a vocational training program for in-treatment drug users	What does a multi-sectoral service system for drug users look like?
12.45–14.15	Peer Support Work: meaningful co-operations between communities, services and policy makers	How to implement harm reduction in prisons	Opioid Substitution Treatment in practice
14.30–16.00	Overdose prevention training	Hepatitis C treatment and care: A participative training resource for developing and improving services	Building capacity for youth friendly harm reduction
16.10–17.40	Challenges to the adoption of harm reduction policies	Establishing a low-threshold community based opioid substitution treatment (OST) programme	Estimating the size of most at risk populations

Workshops in detail

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<p>Setting up a nationwide programme on opioid substitution treatment.</p> <p>Monday 4th April, 11.00–12.30pm</p> <p>WORKSHOP CONTENT: Introduce principles of addiction treatment; the combined pharmacology and psychosocial support model in limited resource setting. Milestones from pilot to scale up phase on opioid substitution treatment: experience, challenges, and lesson learnt. Key outcomes from evaluation of pilot OST programme in Vietnam. WHO THIS WORKSHOP MIGHT APPEAL TO: People who work in opioid dependent treatment programmes or involved in advocacy, programming, implementing and capacity building. TRAINERS: Nguyen Nhu and Simon Baldwin, Family Health International</p>	<p>How to set up a vocational training program for in-treatment drug users.</p> <p>Tuesday 5th April, 11.00–12.30pm</p> <p>What needs to think about when designing a vocational training and employment program; analysis of barriers and solutions to develop critical program components and strategies: vocational training, vocational counseling, micro-finance, life skills training and advocacy with employers and business development training for self-employment. THIS WORKSHOP MIGHT APPEAL TO: Programme people who seek to develop effective vocational training and employment program for former drug users as part of a comprehensive drug treatment programme. TRAINERS: Hough Thu and Simon Baldwin, Family Health International</p>	<p>What does a multi-sectorial service system for drug users look like?</p> <p>Wednesday 6th April, 11.00–12.30pm</p> <p>This training is for those in the initial stages of developing a comprehensive HIV response for people who use drugs. Based on evidence from Vietnam's national response participants will discuss the 'ideal' mix of interventions. Coverage and coordination, especially between law enforcement and public health will be a particular focus of the workshop. The importance of engaging with people who use drugs will also be highlighted. THIS WORKSHOP MIGHT APPEAL TO: This training is designed for program implementers, donors and government officials, especially those in the initial stages of developing a comprehensive response HIV response for people who use drugs. TRAINERS: Hough Thu and Simon Baldwin, Family Health International</p>
<p>Peer Support Work: meaningful co-operation between communities, services and policymakers.</p> <p>Monday 4th April, 12.45–14.15pm</p> <p>Peer Support Work is an essential approach in public health. It supports the empowerment of people using drugs and stimulates their involvement in all aspects of service delivery and policy development. PSW is also a method to reach, inform and support hard-to-reach populations that can not be reached by regular services. This workshop will provide brief introductions on Peer Support Work, benefits of the approach and elaborate on developing skills and practical insights on starting Peer Support Work. The workshop will have a high interactive and participative character and will invite the audience to contribute to the process of exploring different models, discussing barriers of peer involvement and developing practical steps forward to initiate Peer Support Work. Special attention will be given to experience and opportunities in the MENA region. WHO THIS WORKSHOP MIGHT APPEAL TO: Participants who are interested in initiating peer activities. Especially people from the MENA region are encouraged to visit the workshop. TRAINERS: Katrin Schiffer, Mat Southwell, John-Peter Kools, INPUD, Correlation Network and Trimbos</p>	<p>How to implement harm reduction in prisons.</p> <p>Tuesday 5th April, 12.45–14.15pm</p> <p>This session will outline the introduction of harm reduction in prisons. The topics covered include advocacy, harm reduction programmes, drug treatment including methadone maintenance treatment, monitoring and evaluation, and cooperation within prisons and between prisons and external organisations. It will be relevant to policy makers, prison staff, and staff of NGO's working in and with prisons. The implementation of harm reduction in Iranian prisons will be used as a case example, and a document will be distributed on Harm Reduction Activities in Iranian Prisons. THIS WORKSHOP MIGHT APPEAL TO: Policy makers, prison staff, and staff of NGOs working in and with prisons. TRAINERS: Dr Marziyeh Farnia, Dr Nazari, Mr Hoseini and Dr. Alasvand, MENAHRA and Iranian National Centre on Addictions Studies (INCAS)</p>	<p>Opioid Substitution Treatment in practice.</p> <p>Wednesday 6th April, 12.45–14.15pm</p> <p>This session will focus on practical aspects of running opioid substitution treatment services including how to run a methadone maintenance clinic, prescribing methadone and buprenorphine, and following-up patients. It will be relevant to physicians, organisations providing or intending to provide OST, and people on OST. THIS WORKSHOP MIGHT APPEAL TO: Physicians, organisations providing or intending to provide OST, and people on OST. TRAINERS: Charles Yacoub, MENAHRA</p>
<p>Overdose prevention training.</p> <p>Monday 4th April, 14.30–16.00pm</p> <p>Overdose prevention and response is overlooked and underfunded. Interventions to reverse opiate overdose are safe and effective; there is not yet a good antidote to stimulant overdose, stimulant users and harm reduction providers can reduce risk and improve responses. The session will cover basic overdose prevention, recognition, and</p>	<p>Hepatitis C treatment and care: A participative training resource for developing and improving services.</p> <p>Tuesday 5th April, 14.30–16.00pm</p> <p>This training workshop draws from a three day HCV treatment and care training programme developed for the European Network Correlation and the Eurasian Harm Reduction Network. Participants will explore the programme and supporting materials and consider how they can be used to improve HCV treatment and care within their own countries in line with current guidance and best practice. The training addresses key topics relating to the management of HCV: the liver; HCV and other forms of viral hepatitis; testing; treatment; side effects;</p>	<p>Building capacity for youth friendly harm reduction.</p> <p>Wednesday 6th April, 14.30–16.00pm</p> <p>Drug use, including injecting, is usually initiated in adolescence and early adulthood, but young people who use drugs are often invisible in data, and appropriate interventions are rarely available. Ignoring their specific and developmental needs places them at increased risk including: HIV, HCV, STIs, earlier and riskier sex, mental health difficulties, and social and economic exclusion. Involving young people in the planning, design, implementation and evaluation of harm reduction services is essential for service delivery success. This session brings together innovative initiatives in harm reduction for young people. The session will include discussion on: what does a youth friendly approach look like from a youth perspective; a training toolkit that can be adapted local needs; a curriculum on drug use in a safe-space environment; and recommendations on youth friendly service delivery model. THIS</p>

response, including rescue breathing and naloxone administration. While we will focus on opiates, we will also discuss tips for reacting to stimulant overdose. The trainers will stress the importance of providing training and tools to drug users themselves, and will discuss models of service provision. We will explain how overdose programming can introduce participants to other harm reduction services, and explore aftercare for overdose survivors. We will brainstorm with participants about first steps for implementing overdose prevention, and answer practical questions about starting interventions. **THIS WORKSHOP MIGHT APPEAL TO:** Harm reduction and HIV program implementers and policy makers from all regions, as well as international organizations considering supporting programs to address overdose. **TRAINERS:** Roxanne Saucier, Nabarun Dasgupta, Dasha Ocheret, and Eliza Wheeler, Open Society Foundations, Project Lazarus, Eurasian Harm Reduction Network, and Harm Reduction Coalition

Challenges to the adoption of harm reduction policies.

Monday 4th April, 16.10–17.40pm

This session conducted with the Menahra Knowledge Hubs will outline how to advocate for harm reduction, undertaking an assessment for implementing harm reduction, prioritization of harm reduction activities, and working with stakeholders. It will be relevant for harm reduction advocates, policy makers, people working in NGOs, and drug users. **THIS WORKSHOP MIGHT APPEAL TO:** Harm reduction advocates, policy makers, people working in NGOs, and drug users. **TRAINERS:** Jallal Toufiq, Menahra

treatment quality and access; stigma and discrimination; living with HCV; and, co-infection with HIV. Advocacy is a cross-cutting theme and the programme is organised to promote an action planning approach. **TRAINERS:** Eberhard Schatz and Neil Hunt, Correlation and Eurasian Harm Reduction Network

Establishing a low-threshold community based opioid substitution treatment programme.

Tuesday 5th April, 16.10–17.40pm

This workshop will show how OST can be delivered by a grass root organization mostly based on peer driven model, with major support from homeless IDUs collaborating with health care professionals. You will learn how to overcome barriers relating to program advocacy, design and evaluation. A practical example will be used of the first low threshold MMT project in a harm reduction pilot project in Tehran, Iran established by Persepolis NGO. International participants will participate in discussion surrounding low threshold substitution therapy as a possible solution for scaling up OST. Showcasing a practical example of low threshold MMT project in first harm reduction pilot project in Tehran, Iran by Persepolis NGO. **THIS WORKSHOP MIGHT APPEAL TO:** Health care professionals, doctors, nurses, social workers, project managers, grass root organisations. **TRAINERS:** Bijan Nasiri, Open Society Institute

WORKSHOP MIGHT APPEAL TO: Those working or planning to work with young people at management or field level. **TRAINERS:** Anita Krug; Gerard de Kort, John Howard; Kolawole Oreoluwal; Allen Frimpong Kwabena, YouthRise, Access Quality International & NDARC, Harm Reduction Coalition

Estimating the size of most at risk populations.

Wednesday 6th April, 16.10–17.40pm

The workshop will provide information on methods for estimating the size of at-risk populations. Reliable estimates of high-priority populations for HIV prevention are lacking in many countries. Estimating the size of populations at risk is critical for planning, implementing, and evaluating intervention programmes, and for convincing policy-makers of magnitude of the public health problem. Good estimates of population size assist in prioritizing target populations. Various size estimation methods will be presented: census and enumeration; capture and recapture; multiplier; network scale-up; and multiple sources of data. Participants will: understand the importance and uses of size estimation; review methods and field procedures for size estimation. **THIS WORKSHOP MIGHT APPEAL TO:** country programme managers and programme implementers, research and intervention staff, policy makers and advocates. The UNAIDS size estimation guidance will be distributed. **TRAINER:** Abu Abdul-Quader, Centers for Disease Control, USA

Harm reduction demonstration area – at a glance

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
10.30–11.00	Tobacco harm reduction	Female condoms	Overdose
12.30–1.00	Crack cocaine harm reduction	Overdose	Female condoms
1.00–1.30	Overdose	Crack cocaine harm reduction	Tobacco harm reduction
1.30–2.00	Needles and syringes	Tobacco harm reduction	Needles and syringes
3.30–4.00	Female condom	Needles and syringes	Crack cocaine harm reduction

- Tobacco Harm Reduction: Carl Phillips and colleagues, TobaccoHarmReduction.org
- Female Condoms: Lucie van Mens, UAFC (Universal Access to Female Condom) Joint Programme
- Overdose: Eliza Wheeler, Harm Reduction Coalition
- Crack cocaine harm reduction: Raffi Balian, CounterFIT
- Needles and syringes: Lenneke Keijzer, Apothicom