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How can the introduction of new criteria of operational police performance help protect the rights of vulnerable communities?

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A New Model of Police Work

- ❖ The main principle of making progress in strengthening the interaction between police and public health system is the adoption of a new model of police work.

Support & Prevention

- ❖ Vulnerable people may come into contact with the police in a range of contexts, some involving potential criminality and some - not. Irrespective of the context, it is necessary for professionals to consider the most appropriate support and intervention.

New Criteria: Referral Mechanism

- ❖ New criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of police work include data on how many people the police officers are referring for assistance in the public health system.

New Criteria: Referral Mechanism

- ❖ This will allow people who use drugs to participate in the substitution therapy or needle exchange programs to reduce the risk of spreading dangerous diseases transmitted through blood or sexually, including HIV, tuberculosis, hepatitis and other diseases.

New Criteria & Methodological Guidelines

- ❖ In 2014, in cooperation with UNAIDS, we have done an extensive work on the regulation of internal provisions of police in efforts to prevent HIV infection among drug users. To do this, methodological guidelines for the police have been developed.
- ❖ Thus, we combined public safety and public health. In addition, one of the objectives of the methodological guidelines is to ensure the safety of staff and the heads of police departments during the performance of official duties by adhering to generally accepted standard precautions to reduce the risk of HIV infection, viral hepatitis and other diseases transmitted through blood.

New Criteria: Public Opinion

- ❖ In the Kyrgyz Republic in 2016, we began to use new criteria for evaluating police activity, including a new mechanism such as measuring public opinion about police work and individual staff assessments.

Trainings

- ❖ At the moment, intensive trainings of police officers are under way, which are also attended by experts from NGOs and public organizations working with vulnerable groups: drug users, sex workers.



Future

- ❖ The first results of the new evaluation criteria will be announced at the end of this year, and then we can talk about the changes that happened.
- ❖ However, a regulatory framework governing the process of transition to a new model work has been established, and this is encouraging.