



## PRESS RELEASE

### Central Asian partners learned the Kyrgyz experience in rehabilitation of drug users at prisons

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Twenty-six national partners from Central Asia, representing the Kyrgyz State Service for Executing Sentences, Ministries of Internal Affairs, Ministries of Health, National Narcology Centres and Drug Control Agencies from five countries participated in a two-day regional workshop on 'Drug Treatment at Prisons and Alternatives to Imprisonment'.

During the two days of the workshop, participants exchanged information on how the opioid substitution treatment and medical services are rendered at prisons, how various harm reduction strategies can be transferred into prisons and how social reintegration practices are implemented at prisons in some Central Asian countries.

During the second day, they visited a needle and syringe exchange site, a methadone treatment site, an 'Atlantis' rehabilitation centre, as well as a rehabilitation and social adaptation centre 'Clean zone' located at the only female correctional institution in Kyrgyzstan. The participants learned the history of establishing 'Clean zones' at male and female colonies in Kyrgyzstan.

The 'Clean zone' facility located at the female colony in Kyrgyzstan has been constructed by CADAP. The cost of construction and equipment was about 150 thousand Euros.

CADAP 6 represents continuity of the EU policy and long-term engagement with Central Asian partners to contribute in further strengthening their national strategies in drug supply and drug demand reduction policies. The programme is funded by the European Union and implemented by a Consortium from the Netherlands, Czech Republic, Poland and Germany, led by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

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