

Building an HIV combination prevention services checklist to assess their availability and access by key populations

Ann Isabelle von Lingen, European AIDS Treatment Group

And Daniel Simões, Chiara Longhi, Sarah North, Andrii Chernyshev, Ann Piercy, Ben Collins, Cianán B. Russell, Daniyar Orsekov, Daphne Chronopoulou, Harriet Langanke, Hirwa Carter Honorée Wolf, Jules James, Letonde Hermine Gbedo, Magdalena Ankiersztein-Bartczak, Marios Atzemis, Paulie Amanita Calderon-Cifuentes, Trajche Janushev

SCOPE - Strategic Community HIV Prevention Empowerment

- Support community engagement for access to HIV combination prevention for inadequately served communities
- Develop and validate checklist of population-specific standards for the delivery of effective HIV combination prevention services, including testing
- Enable rapid community assessments of services at a local level
- Facilitate the identification of points for improvement
- Support advocacy efforts for upscaling and improving the quality of HIV combination prevention.

The SCOPE project has been developed by the EATG and was made possible through a grant from ViiV Healthcare Europe Ltd.

Partners in building the Checklist

Eurasian Coalition on Health, Rights, Gender and Sexual Diversity (ECOM)

European Network of People who Use Drugs (EuroNPUD) "

European Sex Workers Rights Alliance (ESWA)

ILGA Europe;

ReShape / IHP / Chemsex forum,

Sex Workers' Rights Advocacy Network (SWAN);

Transgender Europe (TGEU)

SCOPE project community expert group

Process

October-November 2022

Meetings with key population networks:

- Agree on definition of combination prevention;
- key components for KP specific prevention services;
- Discuss critical issues to include

November-December 2022

- Produce draft checklists for review
- After revision, transfer checklists onto survey format

March 2023

- Feedback data to KP networks
- Adjust draft checklists according to survey responses and feedback received

April-May 2023

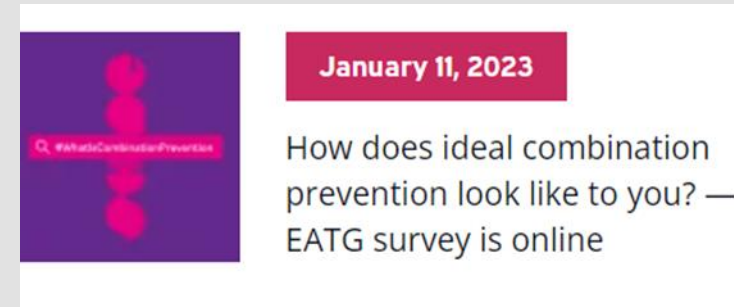
- First version of checklists shared for tests
- Finalised structured report

The Survey

24 Q, socio-demographic information, 9 sections:

1. Structural considerations/context in which services operate
2. Sexual health services
3. Support services
4. Service delivery/way services are provided
5. Transgender and gender diverse specific services
6. Services for persons who use drugs
7. Services for Chemsex users
8. Services for Sex workers
9. Services for migrants, mobile populations and displaced persons

- quantitative: rate relevance of each proposed standard or service
- qualitative: suggest important points missing for each of the sections

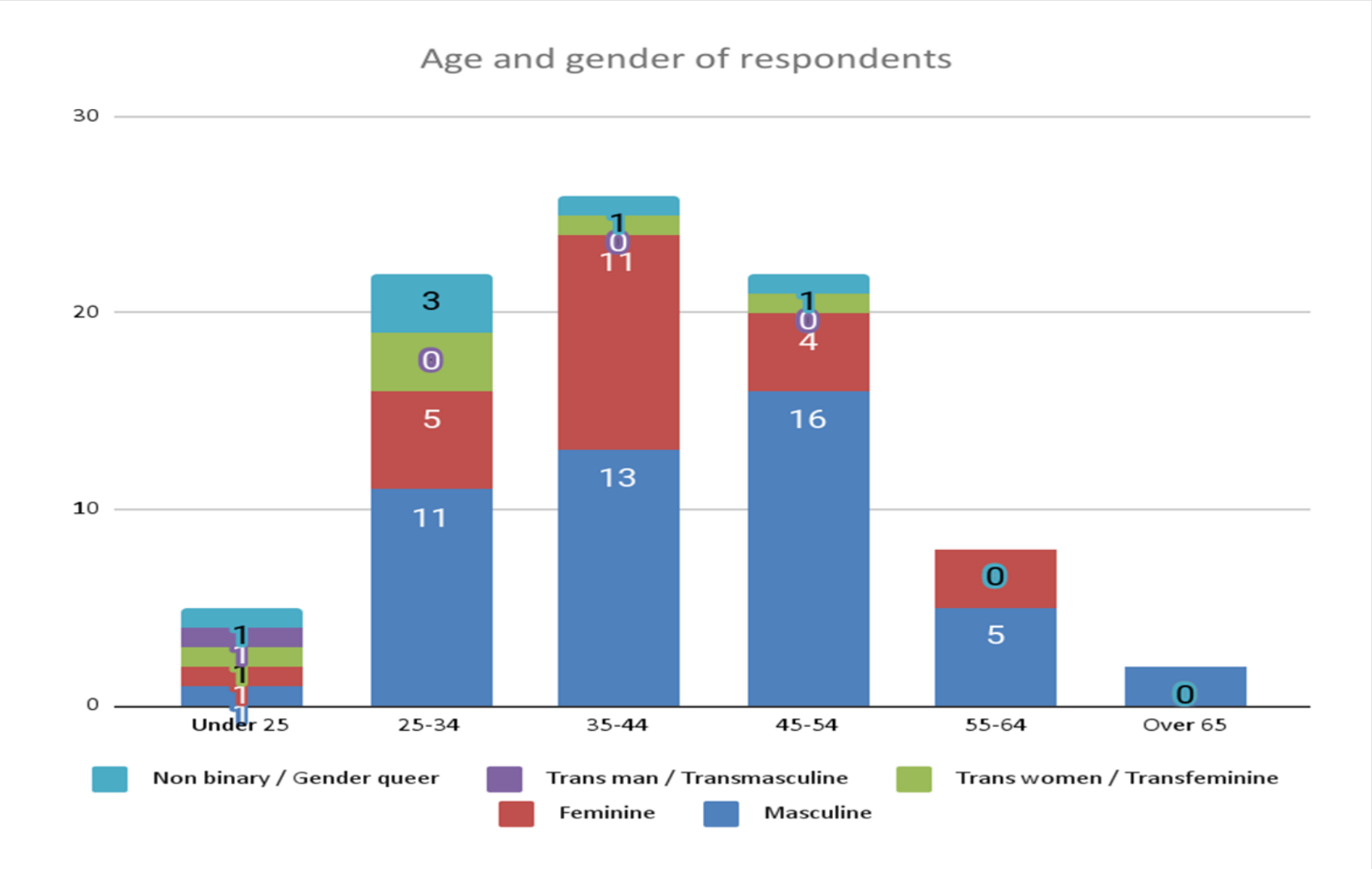


- EN, RU
- From 10/01 - 15/02/2023

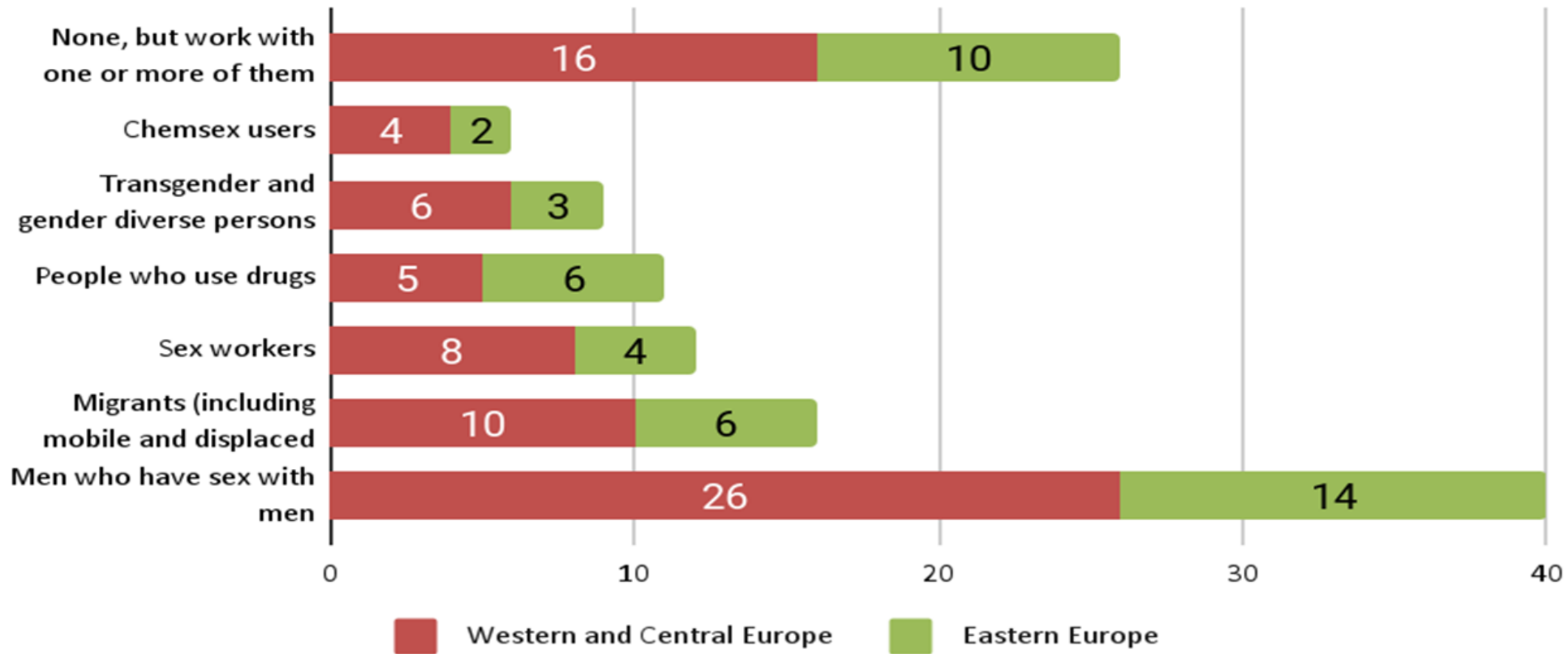
Results

- 85 persons responded - from 26 countries,
- 18 Western and Central Europe : Belgium, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom
- 5 Eastern Europe: Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine
- 3 Central Asia: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan
- Portugal (10), Georgia (9), Kazakhstan (8), Greece (6) and the Russian Federation (6)

Results



Self identification of respondents with key populations by Sub-Region (multiple responses possible)



over 40% of respondents work in organisations that are in contact with men who have sex with men (48.2%; 41 responses)

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sex workers (48.2%; 41 responses)

people who use drugs (45.9%; 39 responses)

migrants (43.5%; 37 responses)

31 respondents (36.5%) reported working with transgender or gender diverse persons, 29 (34.1%) reported working with chemsex users.

24 respondents reported not working in an organisation that works with key populations (28.2%).

Survey Results

- Over 70% considered all standards and services proposed as important or essential
- 75% considered the majority of services proposed essential.

Structural considerations/context in which services operate

Quantitative assessment							
		Essential	Important	Not important	I don't know	I don't want to respond	Total
Universal access to prevention and treatment of HIV and other co-infections regardless of the person's insurance (has a health insurance or not) or residency status (legal in the country or not)	EN	50	3	1	0	1	55
	RU	28	2	0	0	0	30
	Total	78	5	1	0	1	85
	%	91,8%	5,9%	1,2%	0,0%	1,2%	
Legal and regulatory framework in the country does not criminalise same sex relations	EN	49	6	0	0	0	55
	RU	17	10	2	1	0	30
	Total	66	16	2	1	0	85
	%	77,6%	18,8%	2,4%	1,2%	0,0%	
Legal and regulatory framework in the country does not criminalise sex work	EN	41	14	0	0	0	55
	RU	16	12	2	0	0	30
	Total	57	26	2	0	0	85
	%	67,1%	30,6%	2,4%	0,0%	0,0%	
Legal and regulatory framework in the country does not criminalise drug use	EN	37	18	0	0	0	55
	RU	14	13	2	1		30
	Total	51	31	2	1	0	85
	%	60,0%	36,5%	2,4%	1,2%	0,0%	
Name and gender change procedures are allowed and accessible in public services	EN	38	15	2	0	0	55
	RU	14	11	3	2	0	30
	Total	52	26	5	2	0	85
	%	61,2%	30,6%	5,9%	2,4%	0,0%	
Laws and regulations are in place to protect persons in situations of stigma and discrimination	EN	50	5	0	0	0	55
	RU	27	3	0	0	0	30
	Total	77	8	0	0	0	85
	%	90,6%	9,4%	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	

Quantitative assessment							
		Essential	Important	Not important	I don't know	I dont want to respond	Total
Provision of condoms and lubricant	EN	41	11	3	0	0	55
	RU	20	9	1	0	0	30
	Total	61	20	4	0	0	85
	%	71,8%	23,5%	4,7%	0,0%	0,0%	
Provision of voluntary HIV testing and counselling	EN	50	5	0	0	0	55
	RU	27	3	0	0	0	30
	Total	77	8	0	0	0	85
	%	90,6%	9,4%	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	
Provision of or referral to viral hepatitis, tuberculosis, and sexually transmitted infection testing	EN	49	5	0	1	0	55
	RU	24	6	0	0	0	30
	Total	73	11	0	1	0	85
	%	85,9%	12,9%	0,0%	1,2%	0,0%	
Testing and counselling available during flexible hours/days	EN	36	19	0	0	1	56
	RU	20	9	1	0	0	30
	Total	56	28	1	0	1	86
	%	65,1%	32,6%	1,2%	0,0%	1,2%	
Referral to or direct access to Post Exposure prophylaxis (PEP), Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) initiation and monitoring services	EN	45	9	0	0	0	54
	RU	21	8	0	1	0	30
	Total	66	17	0	1	0	84
	%	78,6%	20,2%	0,0%	1,2%	0,0%	
Provision of or referral to sexual and reproductive health counselling and services adapted to sexual practices (including, as necessary, access to contraception and family planning services, safe abortion services, pregnancy testing, gynaecological, pre and post-natal healthcare and male circumcision)	EN	38	15	1	0	1	55
	RU	17	13	0	0	0	30
	Total	55	28	1	0	1	85
	%	64,7%	32,9%	1,2%	0,0%	1,2%	
Referral or direct access to HPV vaccination	EN	33	19	2	1	0	55
	RU	15	12	3	0	0	30
	Total	48	31	5	1	0	85
	%	56,5%	36,5%	5,9%	1,2%	0,0%	
All non-medical services listed here can be provided by both public health services and Non-Governmental / Community based organisations	EN	37	16	1	1	0	55
	RU	23	4	2	1	0	30
	Total	60	20	3	2	0	85
	%	70,6%	23,5%	3,5%	2,4%	0,0%	

Discussing results and adapting the tool

- 2 levels of classification for the proposed standards and services did not make sense.
- After discussion with partners, adjustments were made to scoring, cost of services included
- Score rating against the “ideal” scenario, in a country where all services are possible to implement, and all structural considerations are in place
- Score to rate the service against what is possible to implement in the respective country (and thus excluding from the calculations all things that are not possible to be implemented)
- Organisations consulted higher expectations for a service checklist for combination prevention
- Request for a comprehensive tool to thoroughly assess HIV combination prevention services for key populations, to include more qualitative information on effective access to services, as well as cost related issues, amongst other topics.

The Combination Prevention Checklist

Section 1 - Structural considerations/context

Section 2 - Sexual health services for all key populations

Section 3 - Support services for all key populations

Section 4 - Service delivery/way services are provided

Section 5 - Transgender and gender diverse specific services (6)

Section 6 - Services for persons who use drugs (10 items)

Section 7 - Services for Chemsex users (9 items)

Section 8 - Services for Sex workers (4 items)

Section 9 - Services for migrants, mobile populations and displaced persons (8 items)

HIV combination prevention services checklist to assess their availability and access by key population				
Part 1 – For all combination prevention services, regardless of key population(s) the organization/service works with				
Section 1 – Structural considerations/context in which services	Yes	No		
Universal access to prevention and treatment of HIV and other co-infections regardless of the person's insurance (has a health insurance or not) or residency status (legal in the country or not)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Legal and regulatory framework in the country does not criminalise same sex relations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Legal and regulatory framework in the country does not criminalise sex work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Legal and regulatory framework in the country does not criminalise drug use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Name and gender change procedures are allowed and accessible in public services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Laws and regulations are in place to protect persons in situations of stigma and discrimination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Section 2 – Sexual health services for all key populations	Yes, available for free	Yes, available with a cost	No, not available	Not possible in this
Provision of internal and external condoms and lubricant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pre and post-test counselling available but not mandatory, and adapted to the needs and practices of the person testing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provision of voluntary HIV testing and counselling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Linkage to combination prevention and support services upon negative test result	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provision of or referral to viral hepatitis, tuberculosis, and sexually transmitted infection testing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Testing and counselling available during flexible hours/days	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Referral to or direct access to Post Exposure prophylaxis (PEP), Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) initiation and monitoring services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provision of or referral to sexual and reproductive health counselling and services adapted to sexual practices (including, as necessary, access to contraception and family planning services, safe abortion services, pregnancy testing, gynaecological, pre and post-natal healthcare and male	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Referral or direct access to vaccination, according to local epidemiology, and taking into account greater potential exposure of specific key populations (consider in particular HAV, HBV, Mpox, HPV)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All non-medical services listed here can be provided by both public health services and Non-Governmental / Community based organisations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments (any identified issues on access, quality, availability, finances or				

- Community organisations are currently testing the current version of the tool to assess the need for further improvements/refinements;
- Complementary pathways to be considered:
 - An assessment guide: to support those using the checklist to conduct a more thorough assessment of services, including issues of effective access, access barriers, among others (going beyond existence of services and into real world access).

This would need to be done in more of an interview/focus group format.

- Repository of guidelines, case studies and other support materials, to support organisations in addressing identified gaps in their service provision is also being considered.

This component may be harder to implement due to the constant need of updating.



Amplifying
Community Voices
for Prevention

Strategic
Community HIV
Prevention
Empowerment

THANK YOU!

Questions?

For more information, please visit
<https://www.eatg.org/projects/scope/>

Contacts:

Annisabelle.vonlingen@eatg.org

Chiara.longhi@eatg.org



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