Recommendations from EECA Regional Consultation on Sustainability and Transition

24 July 2015
“It has been weeks since the Montenegro HIV grant closed, and the NGO-run services for key populations are closing down.”

Transition is not business as usual. It requires innovative approaches and renewed commitment from us all.
Definitions & Approach

1. We must have a common definition of **sustainability**, which includes a country-led response that (i) promotes human rights, (ii) utilizes evidence-based approaches, and (iii) strives for increasing health gains.

2. **Key populations** must be central to all transition efforts. They must serve as leaders of the process, and safeguarding programs devoted to their health must be a priority during transitions to national funding.

3. Transition to domestic funding and ownership of HIV and TB responses is a **process** that includes planning, implementation, and monitoring. **Guidance** is needed for countries to navigate all phases of this process successfully.
Necessary Support

4. **Policy dialogue** and **advocacy** will continue to be an important component during and after transition, and need to be supported both technically and financially.

5. In order to plan and implement a successful transition, countries need **predictability** of transition timeline and levels of available funding from the Global Fund.

6. Because transition is complex, it **requires additional and better use of resources**, and cannot be completed successfully in an environment of shrinking funding.
Special Needs and Circumstances

7. Graduation/transition criteria (in addition to eligibility criteria) and timelines should be tailored to country readiness, and a safety net mechanism is needed for countries that fail to graduate/transition successfully.

8. Challenging operating environment categorization is applicable in EECA, and may necessitate a different approach to transition.

9. For countries that have already graduated, an emergency solution must be developed to assure their gains are not threatened due to lack of transition support.
Transition is a *shared responsibility* and will not happen without:

- *political leadership*,
- an on-going multi-stakeholder dialogue at country and international levels
- *and partnership*. 