



Increasing Access to Information



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OSI's mission

- Transforming closed societies into open ones and expanding the values of existing open societies
- Operate in more than 50 countries through a network of private foundations

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Background: CEE/FSU

- “Medical and health”
 - medical internet program
 - medical journals program (OVID)
 - EIFL/EBSCO
- Public Health Program (2001)

Public Health Program: CEE/FSU

- Promote sustainable improvement the health of the public through:
 - Infrastructure development (workforce and information)
 - Improving quality of care
 - Increasing public participation/vulnerable populations
 - promoting evidence based health policy

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Program objectives: Workforce Development

- Sustainable and effective public health training programs and policy institutes
- Competency of current leadership and professionals

Workforce - ICT component

- Develop short courses for front line public health workers
 - program with CDC - training; grants program (year 1: Armenia, Russia, Hungary, Lithuania, Macedonia, Romania; year 2: Moldova, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan); follow-on seminar; ongoing TA from CDC

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Program Objectives: Informatics

- Improve access to public health information for professionals and the general public
- Improve collection, analysis, and use of reliable, timely, consistent and comparable health data for decision making

Informatics: ICT component

- Infoservers
 - Grants to NIH: Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Bulgaria, Hungary, Georgia, Moscow; face to face lessons learned seminar
- ICD-10 - ACS automated coding system
 - Grant to national statistics offices in Hungary, Lithuania, Russia to use ACS as part of International Collaborative Effort in Automating Mortality Statistics. TA from NCHS

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Informatics: ICT component

- Real time searchable data systems
 - CDC wonder model (study tour to Utah, NY, Atlanta, grant submission, TA)

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Program Objectives: Public Participation/Vulnerable Populations

- Advocacy for healthy public policy
- Inclusion of NGOs in policy making

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Public Participation/Vulnerable Populations

- Networking
 - Regional issue based networks (women's health, mental disabilities, harm reduction, tobacco control, palliative care)
 - Legacy/leadership networks

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ICT Networking Tools

- Electronic newsletters
- Digests/websites
- Moderated discussions, archiving
- E-riders

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Policy: Objectives

- Evidenced based, equitable policies in specific areas (HIV/AIDS, TB, women's health, health sector reform, prison health, tobacco control)

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Policy: ICT component

- HIV/AIDS -
 - collaborative Russian language web-site between key NGOs in the region to post information, materials, etc
 - Global Fund Observer
 - STI web site
- TB - moderated discussions via HDNet before key conferences
- Health Reform - Observatory

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Lessons learned

- Support grantees
 - E-riders; trainings; seminars/face to face meetings to share lessons learned; other TA as needed
- Start where capacity/access exist
- Cut your losses
- Ensure activities are well focused