

Reduce drug initiation into injecting in ALBANIA



Prepared by: STOP AIDS ASSOCIATION

Program implemented by: UNICEF



“Break the Cycle” Intervention

BTC is an efficient and effective brief intervention to motivate and enable drug injectors to avoid initiating non-injecting drug users into injecting behavior.

“Break the Cycle” Intervention

It aims to:

- Enable people to think about their attitude to initiating others;
- Develop resistance to initiating others;
- Increase awareness among DUs about how their actions affect the initiation of others;
- Enhance ability to manage initiation requests.



BTC Intervention

- Structured one to one intervention delivered to IDUs in treatment services/needle exchange:
 - Introducing the conversation
 - Assessment
 - Their initiation history
 - Experience of initiating others
 - Initiation risks
 - To them
 - To the new injector
 - Social learning
 - Discuss difficult situations
- Takes about 30-60 minutes

Rationale of BTC implementation in Albania

- Increasing number of injecting drug users among adolescents;
 - Data from services record keeping
- Reported cases of injectors being asked to initiate;
 - Anecdotal data from daily provision of services
- Drug use patterns;
 - (survey, mapping and daily work);



BTC in ALBANIA

- Organizations involved

UNICEF, STOP AIDS Association, Aksion +

- Target Population

Adolescent Injecting drug users (no. 150 clients)

- Time frame of implementation

October 2009 – February 2010 – preparatory phase

April – June 2010 short piloting phase

June 2010 – 2011 continuation of the piloting

Evaluation in 2011 and recommendations for national replication

- Methodology of implementation

intensive intervention → → break the cycle IEC (BCC)

→ → evaluation

Development Process

- Establishment of Technical Advisory Group;
 - Guide and Lead the Implementation Process
- Training of program service providers on BTC;
- Development of intervention protocol;
- Adaption of IEC materials in Albanian language and context.



Monitoring and Evaluation

- gather basic research data about initiation into injecting behavior
- assess the efficiency and effectiveness of the intervention in different service provision contexts.

List of Components:

- Inputs
- Process
- Behaviour change
- Practitioners' views
- Drug users' views

Expected Results

- A reduction in the number of adolescents drug users being initiated into injecting behavior.
- A reduction in the negative consequences experienced by current injectors as result of initiating others.



Break the Cycle TRAINING





Discussing on
Break the Cycle





Dil nga Rrethi

Parandalimi i fillimit të injektimit

THANK YOU!