

UNICEF Programming among Most-at-Risk and Especially Vulnerable Adolescents in CEE/CIS Region

**5th Regional Balkans HIV/AIDS Conference
Zagreb, Croatia 24 March 2010
Paul Nary, UNICEF Regional Office for CEE/CIS**

UNICEF MARA/EVA Programming

- MARA/EVA programming in 9 countries of CEE/CIS
 - Who are “MARA?” -- IDUs, MSM, SWs
 - Who are “EVA?” – Roma/other minorities, adolescents living/working on the streets, adolescents in institutional care
- Programming includes: Albania, BiH, Montenegro, Serbia
- Programming phases:
 - Research and advocacy (20 studies)
 - Intervention design and implementation
 - Monitoring, reporting and beyond

Today's Session

- LSHTM: Institutional partner for research, monitoring and evaluation
- Albania: preventing initiation of injecting drug use, "Break the Cycle"
- BiH: Prevention among adolescents in institutional care ("collective accommodation")
- Montenegro: Prevention among Roma adolescents in settlements for internally displaced persons
- Serbia: Adolescents living/working on the streets

Themes

- A small part of comprehensive programmes
- HIV/AIDS: entry point to address vulnerability
- Adolescents are excluded (from services, programmes, societies)
- Approaches require building understanding and trust
- Sustainable models require structural change
 - Legislation, guidelines
 - Creation/adaptation of services
 - Changing provider/government attitudes and building skills

Thank You!

