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### **Foreword**

#### from the Vice-Chair of INPUD's Board, Geoffrey Ward

We live in a very difficult time in human history with many uncertainties and complex problems. The systemic human rights abuses faced by illicit drug users is one problem that can actually be fixed with the rescinding of the global UN conventions that legitimise and perpetuate the "war on people who use drugs." INPUD is playing a crucial role in making the case for an end to the failed global policy of prohibition and there is much work to be proud of that you can see in this document.

INPUD's presence in global advocacy forums is especially important. INPUD provides a global voice for a community that has struggled in the face of adversity and oppression to gain access to basic respect let alone access to harm reduction services. The time has come for those who know that prohibition is tantamount to genocide to speak up and help INPUD, user organisations and drug users all around the world.

I especially wish to recommend that people watch the 10 part documentary series "Taking Back What's Ours! An Oral History of the Movement of People Who Use Drugs". Throughout the world drug user led advocacy has become a crucial part of the struggle to protect and defend the health and human rights of the drug using community.

Thanks to Istvan and his team from Rights Reporter Foundations and also to Judy from INPUD for seeing through this most important of projects. Special thanks to Tonny van Montfoort for calling for such a project for many years. You will meet an array of activists who have fought, and are continuing to fight, for the rights of people who use drugs all over the world.

I also want to thank all the wonderful INPUD staff for their hard work and dedication and my fellow Board members for their commitment and determination.

We have to see an end to prohibition before more lives are needlessly cut short or adversely impacted.

Geoff Ward, INPUD Vice-Chair

### **About Us**

The International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD) is the international organization representing issues of global significance for people who use drugs (PWUD). INPUD exposes and challenges stigma, discrimination and criminalisation of people who use drugs and their impacts on the drug-using community's health and rights. INPUD achieves this through processes of empowerment and advocacy at the international level, while supporting empowerment and advocacy at community, national and regional levels.

Over the last thirteen years we have grown significantly and now have a global Secretariat of seven staff. INPUD's core team works across management, policy and advocacy, programmes, finance and administration.

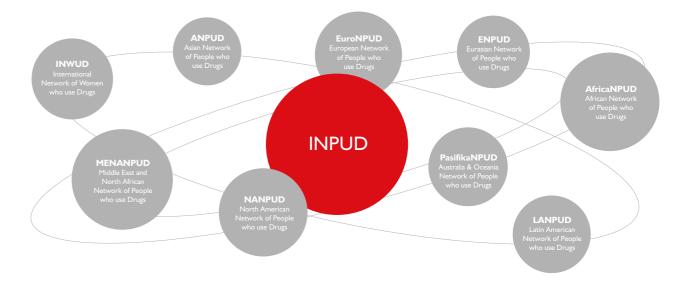
INPUD is governed by the Board of Directors, which represents the eight regional drug user networks and the International Network of Women who Use Drugs (INWUD). These Directors are elected by the regions, are responsible for the stewardship of INPUD, and accountable to the Boards or Steering Committees of their respective networks.

INPUD was first conceived at the International Harm Reduction Conference (IHRC) in Belfast in 2005. At the IHRC in Vancouver in 2006, drug user activists developed the founding statement of INPUD – the Vancouver Declaration, which emphasises self-empowerment, self-representation, and the need for the meaningful input of people who use drugs

#### "... processes of empowerment and advocacy at the international level ..."

into the decisions that affect our lives. In 2015, a review recommended a shift to a membership and governance structure based on regional organisations and networks. Later that year INPUD held an AGM in Kuala Lumpur to formally adopt this change.

Current INPUD members are regional drug user networks from the following regions: Asia, Eurasia, Europe (EU+), Latin America, Middle East and North Africa, North America, the Pacific, and Sub-Saharan Africa, alongside the International Network of Women who use Drugs (INWUD). All member organisations are required to endorse and support the values and principles within the Vancouver Declaration and our Consensus Statement on Drug Use under Prohibition – Health, Human Rights and the Law. Under this governance structure INPUD works with, and through, regional networks and INWUD to achieve our common aims and objectives. The regional networks are the African Network of People who use Drugs (AfricaNPUD), Asian Network of People who use Drugs (ANPUD), Eurasian Network of People who use Drugs (ENPUD), European Network of People who use Drugs (EuroNPUD), Latin American Network of People who use Drugs (LANPUD), Middle East and North African Network of People who use Drugs (MENANPUD), North American Network of People who use Drugs (NANPUD), and the Pacific & Oceania Network of People who use Drugs (PasifikaNPUD)



### **Structure and Governance**

#### INPUD's Principles

- Pro drug user rights: people who use drugs have the right to be treated with dignity and respect and to live their lives free from discrimination, stigma and health and human rights violations
- people who use drugs are best placed to represent their own interests and the network will champion the prioritisation of people who use drugs in consultation and advocacy processes
- Pro harm reduction and safer drug use:
   Harm reduction services should be available and accessible to all people who use drugs, which includes information on safer drug use strategies
- Respecting the right of people to take drugs: We take a non-judgemental, value-neutral approach to drug use, and believe people who use drugs have the right to be treated with dignity and respect
- Anti-prohibitionist: We are committed to achieving fundamental drug policy reform, including the full-scale decriminalisation of drug use, and supporting intermediate reforms to drug laws
- Pro equality: INPUD's organisational philosophy is based on the principles of selfdetermination, equity, and social justice

#### INPUD's Goals

- To advocate for intermediate reforms to drug laws in order to end the criminalisation and combat the stigmatisation of people who use drugs, while striving in the longer term for an end to prohibition
- 2. To maintain an organization that is effective, transparent and accountable to its membership.
- To promote effective prevention, treatment, care and support for people who use drugs who are living with and affected by HIV, hepatitis, TB and other relevant health issues
- 4. To advocate for intermediate reforms to drug laws in order to reduce the criminalization and stigmatization of people who use drugs while striving in the longer term to an end to prohibition.
- To promote and advocate harm reduction as a means of supporting safer drug use and reducing drug-related harm among people who use drugs
- To promote and advocate for harm reduction as a means of supporting safer drug use and reducing drug related harm among people who use drugs.
- To support and seed the development of selfdetermining networks of people who use drugs that advocate for their own health, citizenship and human rights
- 8. To advocate and lobby at the international level for the human rights of people who use drugs
- To build alliances with like-minded organisations and broader civil society to further the aims of INPUD
- **10**. To maintain an organisation that is effective, transparent and accountable to its membership

#### Secretariat

Judy Chang, Executive Director

Jake Agliata, Policy and Communications Officer

Tina Chkhaidze, Finance Officer

Mauro Guarinieri, RCF Consortium Coordinator

Kim Jackson, Office Manager

Mick Matthews, Technical Consultant

**Hannah Shephard-Lewis**, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

Valentin Simionov, Programmes Coordinator

"Over the last thirteen
years we have grown
significantly and now
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#### **Board of Directors**

**Brun Gonzalez**, Mexico (Chair) Representative of Latin American Network of People who Use Drugs (LANPUD)

**Geoffrey Ward**, Australia (Vice Chair)
Representative of Pasifika Network of People who
Use Drugs (PasifikaNPUD)

**Hasan Taraif** (Treasurer), Bahrain Representative of Middle East and North African Network of People who Use Drugs (MENANPUD)

**Happy Assan**, Tanzania Representative of International Network of Women who Use Drugs (AfricaNPUD)

**Binod Gurung**, Nepal Representative of Asian Network of People who Use Drugs (ANPUD)

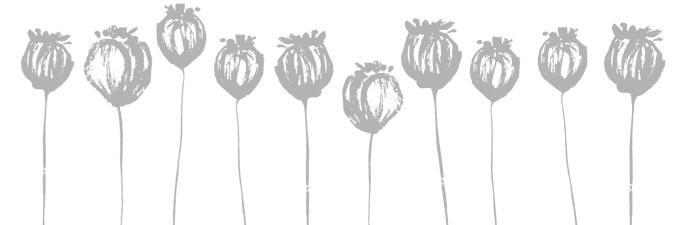
**Anton Basenko**, Ukraine Representative of Eurasian Network of People who Use Drugs (ENPUD)

**Jane Marie Dicka**, Australia Representative of Pasifika Network of People who Use Drugs (PasifikaNPUD)

**Tonny Van Montfort**, Belgium Representative of European Network of People who Use Drugs (EuroNPUD)

**Kassim Nyuni**, Zanzibar Representative of African Network of People who Use Drugs (AfricaNPUD)

**Louise Beale Vincent**, United States Representative of North American Network of People who Use Drugs (NANPUD)



# Highlights and Achievements

## Community Mobilization and Empowerment

### **Pre-Commission on Narcotic Drugs Regional Consultation**

INPUD held a consultation with the member networks in the days leading up to the 62nd CND and High-Level Ministerial Segment in Vienna. Representatives from seven networks of people who use drugs were in attendance to discuss advocacy priorities and set objectives for the week. Those in attendance were: the Asian Network of People who Use Drugs (ANPUD), Eurasian Network of People who Use Drugs (ENPUD), the African Network of People who Use Drugs (AfricanPUD), the Middle East and North African Network of People who Use Drugs (MENANPUD), the European Network of People who Use Drugs (EuroNPUD), the North American Network of People who Use Drugs (NANPUD), and the Latin American Network of People who Use Drugs (LANPUD). The consultation allowed us to develop a unified community message across various levels of engagement at the CND, including delivering statements during the plenary session, our self-organised side event, and in the deliberation of CND resolutions.

#### **Regional and National Network Development**

INPUD has played an important role in mobilising, training, and supporting the development of networks of people who use drugs around the world. Working in collaboration with regional member organisations and local partners, we assisted with community-based projects, workshops, and monitoring evaluations to provide technical assistance as these networks conduct their critical work.

Some examples of INPUD's technical assistance in 2018-2019 include:

 In February 2018, worked with members of the Eurasian Network of People who Use Drugs (ENPUD) to organize a five-day training on the Injecting Drug User Implementation Tool (IDUIT) and the Global Fund in Bishkek. The training focused on effective engagement with the processes of the Global Fund's Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCM), allowing people who use drugs more meaningful participation " ... and to make essential services more accessible to women who use drugs in Nepal..."

in national decision-making and increasing their ability to mobilise national communities. After the Bishkek training collaborations in the region have continued through alliances and partnerships between key population networks. The community of people who use drugs in Kyrgyzstan were mobilised to actively engage in advocacy on national policies on drugs and along with representatives in Belarus began advocating for the diversification of substitution treatment.

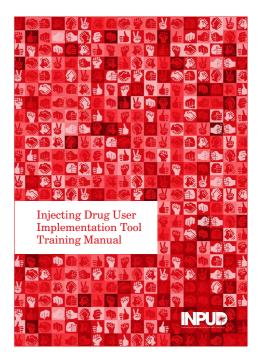
- In 2018 Recovering Nepal Women's Network, through funding support, worked to strengthen the capacity of the national network of women who use drugs by conducting an assessment of services for women who use drugs. The report paid particular attention to monitoring whether women who use drugs are meaningfully engaged in service delivery and advocacy. This was used to identify areas of need and to make essential services more accessible to women who use drugs in Nepal, where it is estimated 80% of women who use drugs are not engaging with harm reduction services.
- In 2019, AfricaNPUD organized a two day strategic planning meeting to develop and adopt a three year Strategic Plan, finalised board elections and appointed an Executive Director. The meeting was attended by the whole board and facilitated by a consultant from VOCAL Kenya. Site visits to KeNPUD and VOCAL Kenya were organised during the meeting.
- Conducted a monitoring and evaluation visit to the Tanzania Network of People who Use Drugs (TaNPUD). During this visit we assisted with the network's development of a new board, new constitution and new strategic plan to guide future advocacy and programmatic work.
- After conducting a Global Fund/IDUIT training
  in 2019, the Latin American Network of People
  who Use Drugs became a key participant in a
  Global Fund regional grant, the first of its kind
  involving people who use drugs. INPUD provided
  assistance developing their activities within the
  grant by providing support to set up governance,
  financial and communication mechanisms.

"... working groups and committees where we work to amplify the voices and concerns of the global community of people who use drugs."

#### Programming and Technical Assistance

### Injection Drug User Implementation Tool Training Manual

After hosting several successful trainings in 2018, INPUD developed a training manual designed to support the roll-out of the Injecting Drug User Implementation Tool (IDUIT) through technical assistance at regional, country or local levels. It has been developed to facilitate the work of trainers in organizing and delivering training and workshops to communities of people who use drugs, helping them serve their own community in line with the evidence based and human rights-based approaches outlined in the IDUIT. It also trains communities on interacting with a wide range of governmental and non-governmental organisations, including public health and drug policy makers, and harm reduction and HIV programme managers and staff. INPUD has hosted several trainings on the IDUIT in 2018-2019, while regional networks have additionally organised their own IDUIT trainings.



The map below demonstrates the global impact of these trainings by visualizing where attendees of IDUIT trainings in 2018-2019 came from.



" ... we emphasised our position that human rights must always take precedence over drug control..."

#### Advocacy and Campaigning

#### **Engaging in Cross-sector Partnerships**

INPUD holds seats in several relevant advocacy forums, working groups and committees where we work to amplify the voices and concerns of the global community of people who use drugs. These can be roughly divided into two categories:

Forums on drug policy and harm reduction:

- UN Office on Drugs and Crime Civil Society
   Working Group on Drug Use and HIV (UNODC-CSO)
- Strategic Advisory Group to the United Nations on HIV and Drug Use (SAG)

And forums on HIV and other key populations:

- UNAIDS Global HIV Prevention Coalition
- Global Fund Community Rights and Gender Advisory Group (CRG)
- Free Space Process
- International Network on Hepatitis in Substance Users - International Program Committee (INHSU)
- UNAIDS Steering Committee for 2025 Target Setting, Impact and Resource Needs

Not only does our presence allow us more access to the decision-making process of these forums but allows us to be a conduit for regional and national networks of people who use drugs to raise points and participate in these groups. For example, the UNODC-CSO has made seats available for nearly all other regional networks. Additionally, the Asian Network of People who Use Drugs, Eurasian Network of People who Use Drugs, and the International Network of Women who Use Drugs also have seats on the SAG.



Above: Breakout group during the 2018 consultation on human rights and drug policy

### Highlighting Communities Left Behind in Global Funding: Kyrgyzstan Case Study

Community-led organisations were the first to experience cuts after funding to Eastern Europe and Central Asia shrank across the region. To highlight this issue, INPUD drew from our membership status with the Strategic Advisory Group to the United Nations on Injecting Drug Use and HIV and the Global Fund Community, Rights & Gender Strategic Initiative to conduct a national case study on Kyrgyzstan demonstrating how community-led organisations were left with little time to prepare or resource themselves in the reduction of Global Fund national funding allocation. An INPUD consultant ran qualitative interviews with the Primary Recipient, grantees, and service users to understand how these funding cuts were made. The results of the case study were used for internal advocacy within Kyrgyzstan, and to inform changes to Global Fund policies regarding sustainability and transition, including the halt to sudden drops in funding to grantees.

"These guidelines are of huge significance for our community as advocating for a human rights-based approach to drug policy is something the global community of people who use drugs has been working on for years."

### Consultation on the International Guidelines on Human Rights and Drug Policy

In 2018 INPUD held a consultation on human rights and drug policy with 20 representatives from networks of people who use drugs around the world. The objective of this consultation was to provide community input on the International Guidelines on Human Rights and Drug Policy, an initiative of the United Nations Development Programme. Along with recommendations on the content, style and format of the Guidelines we emphasised our position that human rights must always take precedence over drug control. These guidelines are of huge significance for our community as advocating for a human rights-based approach to drug policy is something the global community of people who use drugs has been working on for years. This consultation was crucial towards ensuring voices of people who use drugs were heard and incorporated into the final version of the guidelines, which were formally released in 2019 during the 62nd Commission on Narcotic Drugs. Judy Chang also spoke the side event introducing the guidelines, which was organized by UNAIDS and the WHO alongside the governments of Canada, Germany, Mexico and Switzerland.

#### **Treatment Standards on Drug Use Disorders**

During the 61st Commission on Narcotic Drugs in 2018, the World Health Organization (WHO) and UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) planned to release their new International Standards on Drug Use Disorders. INPUD took the lead in responding to these highly problematic issues by highlighting the repeated use of stigmatising language, negative stereotypes of people who use drugs, inaccurate or misleading information, and an overall lack of emphasis on harm reduction. An open letter with 188 signatories was published along with a letter from the UN Strategic Advisory Committee to the Executive Directors of the WHO and UNODC, followed by a face-to-face meeting with officials from the WHO and UNODC to outline our concerns. In the end we successfully managed to block the release of the international standards. In 2019 we continued to monitor developments with the treatment standards and held further consultations with the UNODC and WHO department heads. We were able to successfully negotiate significant changes to the Treatment Standards, including the removal of many instances of stigmatizing language and stereotypes of people who use drugs.

#### Intervention on Funding Barriers to Community-Led Organisations at UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board

During the 2018 meeting of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB), INPUD made an intervention calling attention to the challenges of effective funding of community-led HIV responses. We expressed our disappointment that the discussion over the problem was being centered on changes to data collection systems while avoiding substantive discussion of the real barriers to funding of community-led HIV responses: criminalization of key populations, stigma and discrimination, failure of national governments to acknowledge and invest in parnerships with community-led organisations and networks and the low-level of core funding that is made available. During the PCB we also participated in thematic discussions on mental health and universal health coverage (UHC). We emphasized that basic issues such as criminalisation and stigmatisation must be addressed in the larger conversation around UHC and why people who use drugs are often left behind in national health programs. If these issues are not being actively discussed, then governments are simply not keen on protecting the health and interests of people who use drugs.

"... we emphasised our position that human rights must always take precedence over drug control..."

#### 2019 International Harm Reduction Conference

During the 2019 International Harm Reduction Conference (HRI 19) in Porto, INPUD presented our new publication *Chemsex: A Case Study of Drug-Userphobia*. During a concurrent session on "Drugs and Sex: Supporting People who Engage in Chemsex" we discussed our consultation undertaken in South Africa to understand how the community of people who engage in chemsex in Cape Town have been thriving for over a decade. Valentin Simionov of the INPUD secretariat also led a session on the Injection Drug User Implementation Tool (IDUIT).

Additionally, Bikas Gurung of the Asian Network of People who Use Drugs spoke during the conferences opening plenary, "Drug Policy: The Push for Justice". Louise Beale Vincent, representing INPUD as our North American board member, also spoke during the closing ceremony of the conference in a powerful statement addressing the stigma of being a woman who uses drugs.

#### **Advocacy and Participation at AIDS 2018**

INPUD had a significant presence at the 2018 International AIDS Society conference (AIDS 2018). Alongside the UN Office on Drugs and Crime we co-chaired a session titled "'Nothing about us without us': Advancing human rights for key populations". This session discussed how community-led organisations and other

*Top:* Louise Beale Vincent, the North American representative on INPUD's Board, speaking during the closing ceremony of HR19.

Bottom left: INPUD secretariat and members meeting during HR19.



advocacy groups are applying new strategies in response to shrinking spaces for civil society activism, alongside discussion about efforts to decriminalise and penalise people who use drugs. We also participated in the session "Harm reduction and war on drugs: community-based work in a challenging environment in Africa and the Caribbean." Anton Basenko from the Eurasian Network of People who Use Drugs spoke during a session organized through Bridging the Gaps titled "What is the future of funding for key populations? Funders, communities and governments speak out on opportunities and gaps." Another session organised by Michel Kazatchkine and featuring people who use drugs as presenters, "Connecting the dots: Stop overdose now", also focused



"This session discussed how community-led organisations and other advocacy groups are applying new strategies in response to shrinking spaces for civil society activism, alongside discussion about efforts to decriminalize and penalise people who use drugs."

"... INPUD was able to provide support for 13 people who use drugs to attend the 62nd Commission on Narcotic Drugs..."

specifically on changing drug policies and implementing public harm reduction programmes to prevent overdose.

Additionally INPUD joined with numerous other druguser networks and harm reduction organisations

etter expressing our disappointment with the decision by the International AIDS Society (IAS) and Public Health Service of Amsterdam (GGD)

"... we emphasised our position that human rights must always take precedence over drug control..."

as a component of harm reduction services at AIDS 2018. Despite legal restrictions around the supply of naloxone, we believe it to be the responsibility of the IAS and GGD to ensure the safety of all conference delegates by navigating these legal restrictions to ensure naloxone is readily available and accessible at AIDS 2018

The announcement that the 2020 International AIDS Conference would be held in San Francisco, against the recommendations of community advocates, sparked vocal protests during AIDS2018 from people who believe the United States is not a welcome environment to people most affected by HIV and AIDS. Additionally, discriminatory travel and immigration policies governing entry into the United States would make it very difficult for people in certain regions of the world to attend. Aligning ourselves with these protests, INPUD joined an alliance of key population-led networks, networks of people living with HIV, treatment activists, and supporters to declare an intention to organize a community-led alternative conference, HIV2020: Community Reclaiming the Global Response. This event, planned to be held in Mexico City in July 2020, intends to be a community-centered, key population-led, interdisciplinary, intersectional, and sex positive event open for everyone.

Right: Side event with Judy Chang at the 62nd CND presenting the International Guidelines on Human Rights and Drug Policy

#### **UNAIDS Steering Committee**

In 2019 INPUD joined the UNAIDS Steering Committee for 2025 Target Setting, Impact and Resource Needs, one of only two key populations representatives. In this capacity we can give direct inputs on targets related to HIV prevention, testing,

treatment, integration and social enablers. Working alongside other key population networks such as MPact and NSWP, as well as GNP+ and ITPC, we have advocated for UNAIDS to include indicators on criminalisation for the first time within their monitoring and evaluation framework.

We also worked with members of the UNAIDS strategic information and community engagement team to develop definitions on meaningful community involvement.

#### Taking Stock of the Drug-Free World Failures: Safeguarding Human Rights at the 62nd CND and High-Level Ministerial Segment

At the largest UN meeting on drugs since the 2016 UNGASS, INPUD was able to provide support for 13 people who use drugs to attend the 62nd Commission on Narcotic Drugs and High-Level Ministerial Segment, representing the following drug user networks and country level networks:



"We created a campaign video made up of vignettes documenting the impacts of punitive drug policies on the lives of peers around the globe."

Asian Network of People who Use Drugs (ANPUD), Eurasian Network of People who Use Drugs (ENPUD), European Network of People who Use Drugs (EuroNPUD), African Network of People who Use Drugs (AfricaNPUD), Middle East and North African Network of People who Use Drugs (MENANPUD), and the North American Network of People who Use Drugs (NANPUD).

In the weeks leading up to the 62nd CND and High-Level Ministerial segment we ran a campaign - Taking Stock of the Drug-Free World Failures: Safeguarding Human Rights, alongside our regional partners with the intent of elevating human rights and meaningful community involvement within drug policy decision making. We created a campaign video made up of vignettes documenting the impacts of punitive drug policies on the lives of peers around the globe. We also worked alongside the Asian Network of People who Use Drugs, Eurasian Network of People who Use Drugs, European Network of People who Use Drugs, and the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+) to craft NGO statement based on the needs and priorities of people who use drugs and other key populations, which was submitted to the ECOSOC in the lead up to the High-Level Ministerial Segment. The statement was also distributed to member state delegations during the sessions itself.

One of the highlights of our CND presence this year was our side event "Taking Stock of the World Drug Policy Problem: Impacts of the War on Drugs". The event was co-sponsored by ANPUD and ENPUD and included a screening of the short film *If We Do Not End the War on Drugs, the War will End Us,* which was part of our Safeguarding Human Rights campaign. The film was also screened at the booths of government delegations from Canada and The Netherlands throughout the week.

Our delegation participated in several other side events as well. We co-sponsored in a special side event titled "Leaving No One Behind: People at the Centre of a Harm Reduction, Human Rights and Public Health approach to Drug Use." This session was organised by the governments of the Netherlands and Norway along with several UN agencies: UN Office on Drugs and Crime, UN Development Programme, UNAIDS and the World Health Organization. Speakers from ANPUD participated in a side event titled "A Decade of Drug Policy and Harm Reduction Across Asia: How Far Have We Come?"

Left: Panelists talk to a full room during the side event "Leaving No One Behind: People at the Centre of a Harm Reduction, Human Rights and Public Health approach to Drug Use" at the 62nd CND.

Bottom left: Brun Gonzalez, chair of INPUD's Board, speaks during our side event at the 62nd CND.

Your Targets
Impact
Our Lives
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World Failures
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"Existing drug policies threaten security, democracy and the wellbeing of all, especially those most marginalized and vulnerable. The war on drugs and drug-free agenda undermines the SDG agenda."

"History was made in October 2019 when governments, philanthropic donors and the private sector pledged US\$14 billion for the Sixth Global Fund Replenishment."

During the week we engaged in lobbying around a key resolution on Brazil titled Promoting measures to prevent transmission of HIV attributable to drug use among women and for women who are exposed to risk factors associated with drug use, including by improving access to post-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). We were concerned this resolution was being used as a last-minute tactic by governments to push the use of PrEP as a strategy for preventing HIV over other tactics, such as those with a harm reduction focus. The problem is that PrEP is not a treatment in high demand for people who use drugs, and we were concerned that insisting on PrEP would delegitimise NSP, OST and other harm reduction practices. In the end, while PrEP was still mentioned in the final resolution draft, it did not feature as prominently as it would have been.

Right: The Gobal Fund Sixth Replenishment Conference

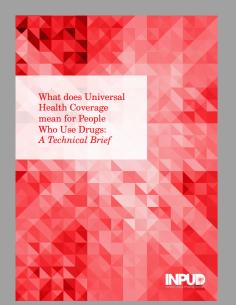
was hosted by the French government, in Lyon, 2019.

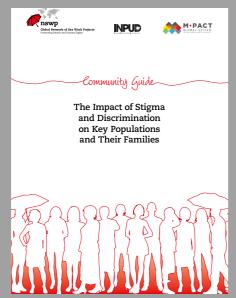


History was made in October 2019 when governments, philanthropic donors and the private sector pledged US\$14 billion for the Sixth Global Fund Replenishment, more than any global health institution has ever raised. While this was a tremendous advocacy success, a seismic change is needed if the world is truly committed to ending AIDS. INPUD, along with Harm Reduction International, the Eurasian Harm Reduction Association, and the India HIV/AIDS Alliance released this joint statement on what is needed to ensure people who use drugs are not left behind.

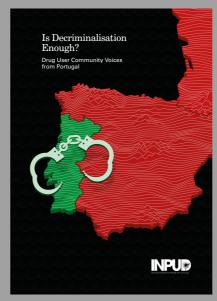


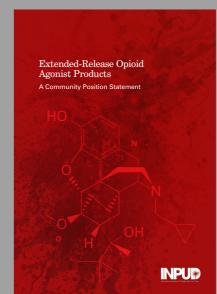






"Societal stigma and punitive legal frameworks often severely impede the rights of key populations to raise families free from interference and discrimination."







#### **Key Publications**

### What does Universal Health Coverage mean for People who Use Drugs: A technical brief

On 23rd of September 2019, the UN General Assembly held a High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage (UHC) with the theme "Universal Health Coverage: Moving Together to Build a Healthier World." UHC is also prominently featured in the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 3.8 which calls for members to achieve universal health coverage. This technical brief explains how Universal Health Coverage (UHC) can be both an opportunity and a concern for the health and rights of people who use drugs, and established that UHC must be founded on the understanding that health is not a commodity or privilege, but a fundamental human right for all.

### The Impact of Stigma and Discrimination on Key Populations and Their Families

Societal stigma and punitive legal frameworks often severely impede the rights of key populations to raise families free from interference and discrimination. This policy brief, a joint effort with MPact and NSWP, explores these challenges and provides recommendations for policymakers by bringing attention to the ways stigma and discrimination inform the lived experiences of key populations and their families.

### Is Decriminalisation Enough? Drug User Community Voices from Portugal

Portugal's model of decriminalisation is frequently referred to as an example of legislative reform that has improved the health and well-being of people who use drugs. This document, the first community-driven evaluation of Portugal's model, builds on INPUD's Consensus Statement on Drug Use Under Prohibition: Human Rights, Health, and the Law, which was developed by global consultations with representatives of drug user rights organisations all over the world. This document demonstrates the outcomes, both the positives and the shortcomings, of Portugal's model of decriminalisation. Importantly, it establishes that Portugal's decriminalisation of people who use drugs is not – as is claimed – a full decriminalisation.

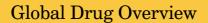
"Portugal's model of decriminalisation is frequently referred to as an example of legislative reform that has improved the health and wellbeing of people who use drugs."

### **Extended-Release Opioid Agonist Products: A Community Position Statement**

Services and options for people with opiate dependence have expanded to include a range of prolonged-release buprenorphine formulations. Although these new options can represent the right solution for some individuals, a significant risk of a coercive use exists, especially in countries where people who use drugs are highly criminalised and discriminated against. In such contexts, these medications could be used to reduce people's choice regarding their bodily integrity and drug use and essentially enforce morally driven ideas of abstinence. This paper outlines our position, developed after extensive research and in consultation with people who use drugs and our allies. It was included in the key materials during consultations on the introduction of extendedrelease opioids organised by the health authorities in the United Kingdom, Scotland and Italy. It was also used to argue against the decision to switch all prisoners who access OST in Scotland (around 26% of all people incarcerated) onto extended release (depot) buprenorphine.

#### When Situations Go from Bad to Worse: Guidance for International and Regional Actors Responding to Acute Violence Against Key Populations

As the violence directed at members of key populations most affected by HIV — gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men; people who inject drugs; sex workers; and transgender people — intensifies and becomes "acute" in many parts of the globe, this brief offers guidance to international and regional actors who wish to be part of an effective and coordinated response. International and regional actors who may benefit from this guidance include, but are not limited to, key population networks, governmental bodies, donors, embassies, security experts, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), media, research institutions, United Nations (UN) agencies or offices, and human rights organizations operating globally or regionally.





Major barriers to the health and rights of drug users worldwide



90% of pharmaceutical opioids available for the wealthiest 12% globally

10% available for poorest 88%



of new HIV infections

attributable to injecting drugs



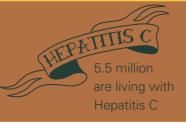
there was a drug-related

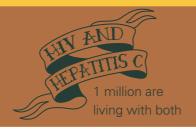
adequate access to



drug-related

deaths in 2019





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illicit substance worldwide, with an estimated 192 million people using it.



#### LANPUD Grows it Network

Since LANPUD became a key participant in a Global Fund regional grant, the first of its kind involving people who use drugs, they have taken off as a network. During this time they have doubled their membership across the region, developed effective partnerships with sex worker, MSM and Transgender organisations to engage with people who use drugs within those communities, and have established themselves as the prominent platform for the voices of people who use drugs to be heard by policy makers in the Latin American region.

#### **KeNPUD** Biometrics Consultation

After the government of Kenya revealed it planned to use biometric data, such as fingerprints or iris scans, in a government study of HIV the Kenyan Network of People who Use Drugs (KeNPUD) worked along with the Kenya Key Population Consortium to advocate against the use of this data. Leveraging connections with the UNAIDS human rights team and the Global Fund Community Rights & Gender Strategic Initiative, the group conducted a consultation in January 2019 with Kenyan state authorities to reach a compromise that would

eliminate biometrics from the study. KeNPUD invited members from all areas of the country to attend the consultation and represent the voice of people who use drugs. In the end, the government agreed to exclude biometric data from the HIV study and further agreed to give key populations a larger role in the process of designing and implementing the study.

## GeNPUD Successfully Registers and Sets Legal Precedent

The Georgian Network of People who Use Drugs (GeNPUD) successfully undertook strategic litigation to register as a drug user-led network with their full name in their country. The organization had made previous attempts to get official recognition but were refused under domestic statues on public registry. After winning their initial case in March 2018 the litigation was moved to the Tibilisi Appellate Court, where a judgement was rendered ordering the state to allow GeNPUD to register with their full name. GeNPUD completed their registration in early 2019 and their case has set an important precedent in Georgia for the protection of the rights to expression and assembly.

Left: AfricaNPUD group of women who use drugs

Bottom right: Members of KeNPUD after a training on sexual and reproductive health

#### AfricaNPUD Formally Organises

The African Network of People who Use Drugs was initiated in 2015, during the regional training organised by INPUD and attended by drug user activists from Kenya, Tanzania, Zanzibar and Nigeria. The network functioned informally until 2018, when it became a partner in the RCF Consortium project. AfricaNPUD represents drug user organisations from 11 Sub-saharan countries in global and regional level events, conferences and consultations, such as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs or ICASA.

ZaNPUD builds national support after CND statement – After ZaNPUD director Kassim Nyuni delivered a statement on the stigmatisation against drug user activism at the 62nd CND, the national drug control agency of Zanzibar reached out with interest in establishing a working relationship moving forward.

#### NANPUD Develops Constitution

During the 2019 International Drug Policy Reform Conference in St. Louis, the North American Network of People who Use Drugs held their first official meeting as a regional network. Attendees from the United States and Canada discussed how to form a transnational platform uniting drug user-led organisations to work collectively in the face of an overdose crisis fuelled by neglect, criminalisation, and stigmatisation. They also talked about the importance of international access to education, emphasising how important it is for drug users to be well informed on issues which affect our health and rights around the globe.

The result of the meeting was the development of NANPUD's founding constitution, which lays a foundation for a regional network which will challenge the status quo in the epicenter of the War on Drugs. NANPUD will continue to grow and develop a unified platform for people who use drugs in the region.



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### **Looking Forward to** 2020 and Beyond

#### HIV2020 Online

The decision by the International Aids Society to host the 2020 International AIDS Conference in the United States created a dilemma for members of key populations and other impacted communities who feel the country is currently an inhospitable environment for an international conference. In response, an international group of stakeholders representing communities and key populations came together to organise an alternative event: HIV2020. Originally planned to be held over three days in Mexico City during July 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has moved the conference to a virtual format which will take place from July through October 2020. HIV2020 will be key populationled, inter-disciplinary, sex positive, and revolve around the themes of affinity, solidarity, and intersectionality. Most important, the conference will reaffirm the leading role of communities in the global HIV response.

#### Conference

INPUD is one of the core conference organizers along with the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+), MPact Global Action for Gay Men's Health and Rights (MPact), and the Global Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP). We will be co-hosting two conference session: "Global Advocacy and National Movement Building: Shifting the Paradigm", and "By Us/For Us: Monitoring Support for Community- and Key Population-led HIV responses." Additionally the Latin American Network of People who Use Drugs (LANPUD) will be co-hosting sessions titled "Política de ALC y reducción de daños: Previniendo el VIH/SIDA" and "El VIH, las Drogas y Mujeres positivas en respuesta". The Eurasian Network of People who Use Drugs (ENPUD) will also be co-hosting sessions on "Overcoming legal barriers as a mechanism for fighting for the rights of vulnerable populations within the HIV epidemic in the EECA region."

For more information about HIV2020, visit the conference website at www.hiv2020.org



#### HIV2020:

#### Community Reclaiming the Global Response

Community advocates can use these key talking points to spread the word about HIV2020 in conferences, meetings, discussions, and dialogues in the lead up to the 5-7th of July in Mexico. Making HIV2020 a success will reaffirm the central role of communities in the HIV response and will be a critical opportunity to broadcast our voices, issues, and priorities on a global stage.

In an extraordinary show of solidarity, an international group of people living with HIV, gay and bisexual men, people who used drugs, sex workers, transpender people, youth, and indigenous advocates are working together to design an alternative event specifically tailured to the needs of frontline community members. Entitled HIV/2002 Community Reclaiming the Global Response, the event is scheduled to take place in Mexico City, July 5-7, 2020, and will nut concurrently with the first half of the international AIDS conference.

United States as the site for its next international AIDS Conference in 2020. Given the Turny administration's discriminatory immigration laws, detention and family separation policies, and the country's worsening human rights conditions, advocates believe that the US is an international conference of this size and scope. Additionally, travel restrictions imposed by the US. on sex workers and people who use drugs make it very difficult for members of these communities to enter the country.

The IAS' description:

The IAS' decision creates a dilemma for many in the global HIV movement and reveals a willingness by mainstream HIV actors to tolerate the discrimination of black and brown migrants, people who use drugs, sex workers, and transgender people in U.S. immigration and travel policies. The IAS' decision also resurfaces questions about the community-relevance of large,

HIV2020 is key population-led, inter-disciplinary, and sex positive, and will focus on the following themes:

"... people living with HIV. gav and bisexual men, people who use drugs, sex workers, advocates are working together to design an alternative event..."

Above: Press release for HIV2020, which was produced in English, Spanish, French and Russian.

### **Financial Summary** 2017-2019

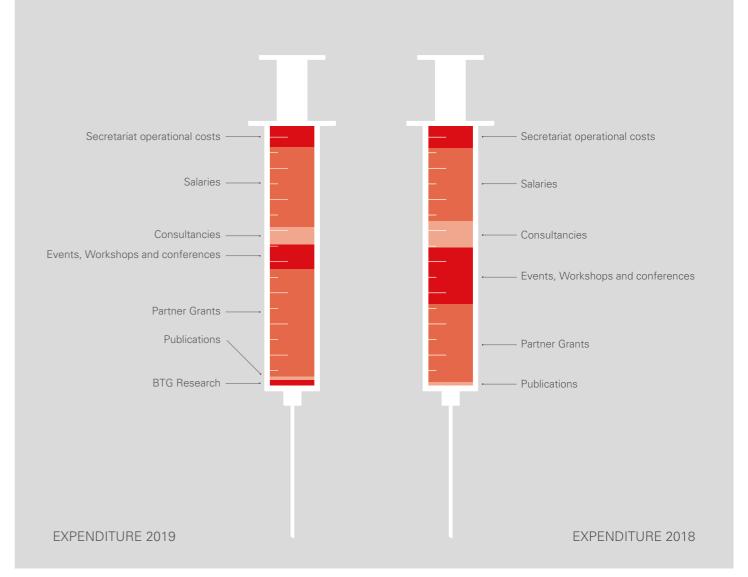
**INCOME 2019** 

Total income received in 2019	£836,620.64	Total income received in 2018	£837,077.62

**INCOME 2018** 

#### **EXPENDITURE 2019 EXPENDITURE 2018**

Secretariat operational costs	£67,237.03	Secretariat operational costs	£76,144.65
Salaries	£256,360.64	Salaries	£240,145.71
Consultancies	£55,347.28	Consultancies	£90,171.97
Events, Workshops and conferences	£77,419.41	Events, Workshops and conferences	£185,516.57
Partner Grants	£349,331.70	Partner Grants	£257,398.03
Publications	£7,968.47	Publications	£9,595.98
Community-Led Research	£17,081.51		



The International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD) is a global peer-based organisation that seeks to promote the health and defend the rights of people who use drugs. INPUD will expose and challenge stigma, discrimination, and the criminalisation of people who use drugs, and their impact on the drug-using community's health and rights. INPUD will achieve this through processes of empowerment and advocacy at the international level, while supporting empowerment and advocacy at community, national and regional levels. www.inpud.net

INPUD is part of Bridging the Gaps – health and rights for key populations. This unique programme addresses the common challenges faced by sex workers, people who use drugs and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in terms of human rights violations and accessing much-needed HIV and health services. Visit www.hivgaps. org for more information.

INPUD is very grateful for financial support from Bridging the Gaps; the Robert Carr civil society Networks Fund; the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); the World Health Organisation (WHO); and the USAID and PEPFAR-supported LINKAGES project.

INPUD would also like to thank all of the **organisations** and individuals who contributed to our work over the last two years and to this document.

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Designed by: Mike Stonelake

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