



Health Sector Support is a Bridge to Peace in the North Caucasus

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This presentation will show that health sector support can promote peace and understanding, while addressing at the same time weaknesses of the health system



Background

- North Caucasus armed conflicts
- Difficult socio-economic conditions
 - Beslan school terrorist attack



Entry of Polyclinic No.1, Grozny,
Chechen Republic



Gymnasium, School #1, Beslan,
Republic of North Ossetia-Alania

Since 2001 SDC support focused on regional health program, durable housing for refugees and IDPs as well as on rehabilitation of schools in the North Caucasus



Problems in the health sector

- Severe underfunding of the health sector
- Destruction of health facilities
- Poor laboratory quality: amalgam of lack of knowledge, equipment, quality assurance and general supply problems
- Problems in TB and HIV diagnostics
- Problems in TB treatment according to WHO-Standards
- Emerging HIV/AIDS-Epidemic
- Neglect of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
- Breakdown of continuous training system
- Breakdown of interaction between the three Republics



Interventions:

- Strengthening of laboratories' services (TB/HIV/HepB/C-Diagnostics) and Blood Banks
- Promoting DOTS-Strategy in the region
- Strengthening of continuous training activities both formal and on-the-job training of staff
- Strengthening of Health Promotion/Disease Prevention services supporting of AIDS-Centres, Medical Prophylaxis Centres





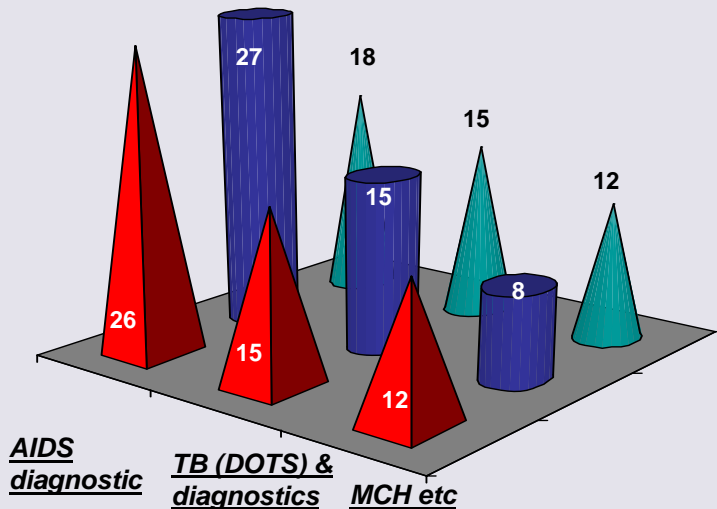
Selected Results: TB-Diagnostics and Treatment

- 3 TB-labs were supported with necessary equipment
 - 289 staff (medical and lab technicians) were trained, both on-the-job and through formal courses
 - Internal and external quality assurance activities were supported
 - DOTS is now applied in all three Republics
- ⇒ Diagnostics quality has reached acceptable level
- ⇒ Green light Committee support for MDR has been secured



Selected results: Continuous training activities

On-the-job training took place in each of the three Republics:
Joint courses and trainings



- Republic of North Ossetia-Alania
- Republic of Ingushetia
- Chechen Republic

International Medical Conference for Health Workers from South Federal District of Russia with lectures given by “International Society of Internal Medicine“ (more than 400 participants from the three Republics)





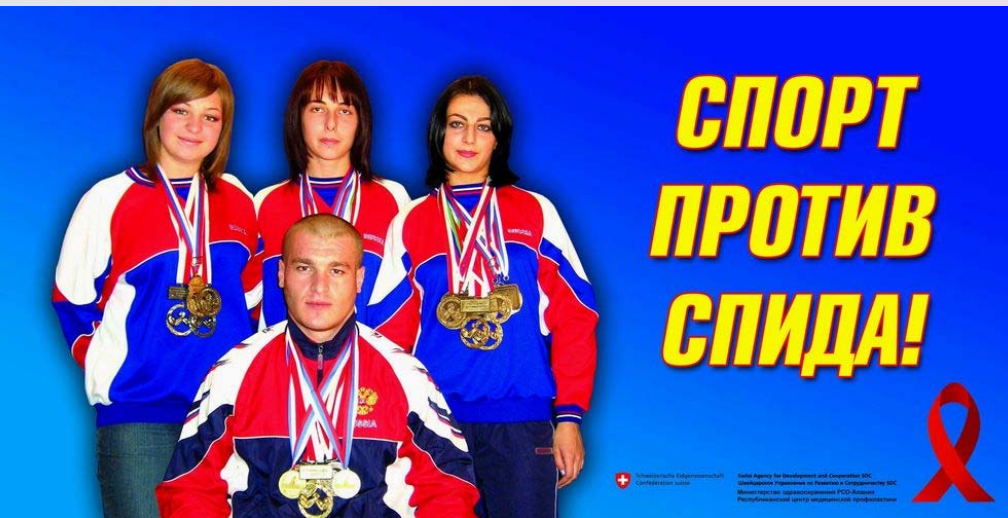
Health Promotion

- ⇒ 3 Medical Prophylaxis Centres received basic equipment (IT-Technology, Mediaequipment....)
- ⇒ Examples of joint ventures (elaboration of info campaigns, organizing courses, material etc.)
- ⇒ Regional Steering Committee have met 14 times during one year, have regular phone and e-mail contacts



Health Promotion

Examples of joint ventures
(elaboration of info campaigns, organizing courses, material etc.)



Example of poster campaign in the region



Project proposal writing



Interrepublican Cooperation

- ⇒ 3 Ministers went together for a Study Tour to Switzerland
- ⇒ MCH-Persons in Charge from the three Republics went to a Conference in Ufa
- ⇒ Joint trainings
- ⇒ Cooperation of MPC
- ⇒ Blood Banks collaboration (through training process)
- ⇒ Conferences



Success Factors

- **trusted third party (Switzerland/SDC) with “on the ground” activities;**
- **committed, well connected and competent professionals;**
- **clear focus on significant clinical and public health concerns;**
- **comparatively long term commitment of the external support.**



Based on our experience in the Northern Caucasus

“Health is a Bridge for Peace” is a valid approach



Putin “Avenue”, Grozny 2010



School #39, Grozny 2010