

July 23, 2004

Re: Sex Worker Harm Reduction Initiative – **Policy and Advocacy Funding Application**

Dear Colleague:

Beginning in late 2000, the International Harm Reduction Development (IHRD) program began funding sex worker harm reduction projects in eleven countries of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. This IHRD funding initiative was established in recognition of the vulnerability of sex workers to the potential harms related to drug use and HIV. From 2000 to 2004, IHRD succeeded in supporting many organizations to initiate and pilot new service projects that linked, for the first time, harm reduction services to the needs of sex workers. Many of the funded projects have succeeded in delivering excellent services, engaging local stakeholders, integrating sex worker targeted services into broader organizational activities, attracting new funding from other sources and involving sex workers in the development and implementation of services.

However, during the following four years, projects funded by IHRD reported that many sex workers, particularly those injecting drugs, working on the street, and working alone, continue to face significant risks related to:

- health, including risk of HIV and sexually-transmitted infections,
- violence from clients, other sexual partners, pimps, police and militia,
- discrimination, including refusal of services from health and social care institutions and public services, and
- poverty and homelessness.

Furthermore, projects have recommended that IHRD support policy and advocacy efforts, such as:

- documentation of sex work population risks in terms of health, violence, discrimination and poverty, and development of policy analyses and recommendations to reduce these risks,
- education and training of sex workers, health providers, police and militia, government officials, media, and community members about current and potential policy changes to reduce stigma and discrimination and to create a more welcoming environment for sex worker policy initiatives,
- changes in policy and practice through legislation, litigation, and other legal means, to ensure that the civil and human rights of sex workers are respected and upheld,
- mobilizing alliances of communities and organizations, especially those alliances involving vulnerable populations of sex workers, drug users, and people living with HIV/AIDS, so that these populations will be empowered to advocate for their needs as a cohesive group.

Based on these recommendations, IHRD is now inviting applications for funding for policy and advocacy activities to advance harm reduction efforts for sex workers. The goal of this new funding initiative will be to change environments affecting the health and rights of sex workers.

All organizations are invited to apply to IHRD for funding, including sex worker advocacy groups, human rights organizations, legal service providers, harm reduction providers and others. Funding can be used for a 12-month project or for a one-time activity or outcome. IHRD welcomes proposals for innovative projects and activities. From this application process, IHRD hopes to fund approximately ten projects in late 2004. All funded projects will be eligible for on-going training and technical assistance. Applications are due by Friday, September 10, 2004. Please contact us at efinnerty@sorosny.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Sue Simon, Associate Director
International Harm Reduction Development (IHRD)

IHRD Grants for Policy and Advocacy Related to Sex Work and Harm Reduction

Funding Application Form for 2004/2005

To be considered for new funding in 2004, please send this application (in English) and the attached budget forms to IHRD in New York **by Friday, September 10, 2004**. Please send your application and report to:

Erin Finnerty
Program Coordinator
Open Society Institute/IHRD
400 West 59th Street
New York, NY 10019
Tel: (212) 548-0679/ Fax: (212) 548-4617
E-mail: efinnerty@sorosny.org

This application is for funding to support policy and advocacy activities related to sex work and harm reduction. This initiative is not intended to fund on-going harm reduction services.

1. Organization and project information

Name of organization:

Name of project:

Name and title of individual submitting application:

Project address:

City:

Country:

Postal code:

Phone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Organization funding

___ Total organization budget in 2003 (*in US dollars*).

___ Total harm reduction funding received by your organization in 2003 (all funding, including IHRD) (*in US dollars*).

Top three overall funders of your organization in 2003:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2. Funding Request

_____ Total sex worker harm reduction policy/advocacy initiative funding requested by your organization from IHRD (in US dollars). *(The average grant in this initiative will be \$10,000 - \$20,000 (maximum). You should calculate that the funds will be sent in late 2004, and can be used for an on-going 12-month project or for an activity of shorter duration.)*

3. Problem Statement - In 3-5 paragraphs, please describe the problem or issue that you seek to address with this initiative. Please explain the specific circumstances of the problem, the source of the problem, the negative consequences for sex workers' health, safety and empowerment, and why any previous efforts (if they exist) have not been sufficient to address the problem.

4. Intended policy/advocacy outcomes

What broad policy outcomes will your organization achieve? *(please check all that apply)*

- _____ new documentation of population risks in health, violence, discrimination and poverty, and development of policy analyses and recommendations to reduce these risks,
- _____ education and training of sex workers, health providers, police and militia, government officials, media, and community members about current and potential policy changes,
- _____ changes in policy and practice through legislation, litigation, and other legal means,
- _____ changes in policy and practice through mobilizing alliances of communities and organizations, especially alliances involving vulnerable populations of sex workers, drug users, and people living with HIV/AIDS,
- _____ empowerment of sex worker populations so they become a voice for their own advocacy,
- _____ changes in the policy environment, so it is more understanding of and welcoming to changes that positively impact sex workers' lives,
- _____ changes in policy and practice through other means: *(please describe briefly:*
_____)

5. Policy/advocacy initiative summary description

In a few sentences below, please summarize your initiative. Ideally, this summary should state the goal, who will do what, when, where, for what measurable outcome, and to benefit what population.

6. Policy/advocacy initiative narrative description

In a maximum of three pages, please describe your proposed policy/advocacy initiative. As a guide, please be aware that your description will be judged on the following criteria:

- Intended policy/advocacy outcome that is clearly stated, measurable, and realistic
- A plan of action that is clearly stated and realistic
- Experience of the applicant organization (and its staff and volunteers) with vulnerable sex workers and their needs, and with the intended targets of policy work (such as community groups, police and militia, or government officials)
- Experience of the applicant organization (and its staff and volunteers) with policy work
- Description of past and planned collaborations with other NGOs and government agencies

IHRD Grants for Policy and Advocacy Related to Sex Work and Harm Reduction

2004 Budget Form

Please provide your proposed grant budget for up to U.S.\$20,000. Please create your budget using U.S. dollars. In this budget, please indicate what funds you are seeking from IHRD and what funds you are seeking from other sources (if any). It is seen as an advantage if an organization has other funding sources and/or is actively seeking other funds for this initiative or complementary work.

\$ _____ Total sex worker harm reduction policy/advocacy project funding requested for 2004-5 by your organization from IHRD (in US dollars). *(The average grant in this initiative will be \$10,000 - \$20,000. You should calculate that the funds will be sent in late 2004, and can be used for an on-going 12-month project or for an activity of shorter duration.)*

Project Personnel

- Please include all people to be paid from this grant, including full-time project staff, part-time staff and consultants, trainers, lawyers, community organizers, and volunteers supported by stipends. Please describe each person by title or role, and then by name, if known.
- At the end, include a budget line for any payroll taxes, insurance, or benefits associated with personnel costs.

Project Title/Role	Name	Number of hours spent on project (per week)	Funds requested from IHRD	Funds from other sources	Total annual salary
TOTAL					

Other Costs

- Please list transportation costs for trainings, meetings, conferences, or other gatherings, including visits by trainers or national travel by staff and volunteers.
- Please list supply costs such as presentation materials, food or other supplies for trainings, conferences, support groups and educational meetings, or related supplies such as publication purchases. Please also include costs of all other necessary project supplies, including office supplies such as postage, paper and pens, or equipment maintenance supplies.
- Please list costs related to space rental and use, including rent, utilities, and insurance.
- Please list costs of equipment, such as telephones, computers or equipment rental costs, although be aware that this IHRD initiative does not encourage large equipment expenditures.
- Please list regular service costs, such as telephone and internet access charges, web site costs, costs of document production, such as design and printing, and any bank fees.

Description	Funds requested from IHRD	Funds from other sources	Total
TOTAL			

Budget Narrative

In the space below, *where necessary*, please provide a narrative to briefly explain and justify each of the funding lines described in your budget. A narrative for every item is not required; this narrative is an opportunity for you to provide additional explanation about each funding request if you have additional supporting facts and explanations. Please use the major budget categories.