





## **Focus Harm Reduction**

GIZ – LAKO II Nepal 2011



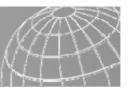


### What is Harm Reduction?

- Successful, evidence-based, cost-effective HIV prevention approach for people, who use drugs
- Main intervention: Opioid Substitution Therapy with Methadone and Buprenorphine
- Germany has more than 20 years of experience in implementing Harm Reduction measures









### How is it implemented ?

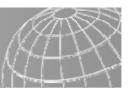
### **Public Private Partnership Project** – **Methadone Substitution**

- Countries: Nepal, India, Malaysia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan
- Support to the implementation and scaling-up of national **Opioid Substitution Therapy** programmes including capacity building by GIZ



Provision of IT-based documentation and dispensing systems by **CompWare Medical** 







#### giz How is it implemented?

### **GIZ Harm Reduction Project Nepal**

- Commissioning Ministry: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
- Partner: Ministry of Health and Population
- Timeframe: 5/2011 until 6/2014
- Contract value: 2 Million Euro







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### **Characteristics of the HIV epidemic in Nepal**

- Nepal has a concentrated **HIV** epidemic
- Injecting drug use as a main route of transmission, besides migrant work and sex work
- HIV prevention services for injecting drug users not sufficient (e.g. less than 3 % have access to Opioid Substitution Therapy services)



Buprenorphine, diazepam and an antihistamine – the "South-Asian cocktail" popular among injectors in Asia, as it mimics the effects of heroin.





#### giz What is GIZ's approach in Nepal?

 Supports the implementation and scaling up of the national Methadone Maintenance Programme under the Ministry of Health

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Complementary to the grant of the Global Fund, which is covering the running costs of the Methadone Maintenance Programme





**Entrance to Nepal's** model for the region



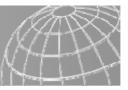
## **giz** What is GIZ's approach in Nepal?



Builds on the activities of the GIZ regional Public Private Partnership Project for Methadone Substitution

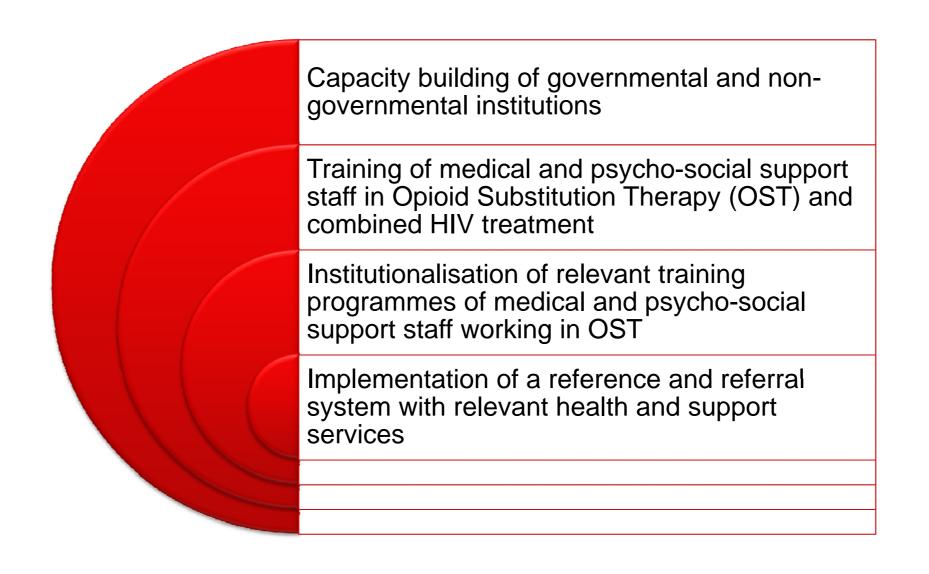
Contributes to the implementation of the UNAIDS Strategy in the field of injecting drug use (2011-2014) -Zero New Infections



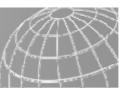




## giz What are the main activities in Nepal?





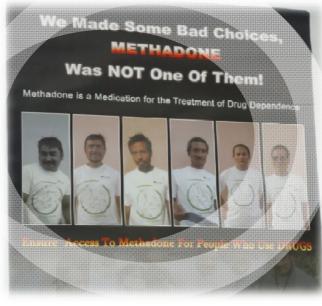




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### About Success...

- Model Methadone Maintenance Programme in South Asia comprising medical and social support unit
- In the process of scaling up from a pilot project to a national program



- Institutionalisation of training in Opioid Substitution Therapy for medical doctors and nurses (Curriculum on OST and combined HIV treatment): in process for social workers
- Policy advocacy & community preparedness, cooperation with law enforcement







### ... and Challenges

- Coverage is still very low
- HIV and TB services need to be linked with or integrated in Opioid Substitution Therapy services
- National Monitoring and Evaluation system for the Methadone Maintenance Programme needs to be developed (standardised documentation)
- Division of labour between Ministry of Home Affair and Ministry of Health & Population needs to be clearly defined









### **Photo Gallery**



