



KAZAKHSTAN

DHAPP

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HIV/AIDS
PREVENTION PROGRAM

REDUCING THE INCIDENCE OF HIV/AIDS
AMONG UNIFORMED PERSONNEL IN
SELECTED AFRICAN NATIONS AND BEYOND

WINNING BATTLES IN THE WAR AGAINST HIV/AIDS

BACKGROUND

Country Statistics

The population of Kazakhstan is estimated to be 15.2 million people, with an average life expectancy of 66.9 years. Russian is the official language of Kazakhstan, which has an estimated literacy rate of 98.4%, evenly distributed between men and women. Kazakhstan, the largest of the former Soviet republics in territory, excluding Russia, possesses enormous fossil fuel reserves and plentiful supplies of other minerals and metals. It also has a large agricultural sector featuring livestock and grain. The gross domestic product (GDP) per capita is \$8,300, with 19% of the population living below the poverty line.

HIV/AIDS Statistics

The HIV prevalence rate in the general population of Kazakhstan is estimated at 0.1%, with approximately 12,000 individuals living with HIV/AIDS. The HIV epidemic in Kazakhstan is concentrated mainly among intravenous drug users and their sexual partners. Intravenous drug users accounted for about 75% of new HIV cases, with the remainder of new cases infected through sexual transmission.

Military Statistics

The Kazakhstan Armed Forces are estimated at approximately 64,000 members. Kazakhstan expends 0.9% of its GDP for military purposes. Military HIV prevalence rates are unknown.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In-Country Ongoing Assistance

DHAPP staff members have maintained contact with US Embassy staff in Kazakhstan and have provided technical assistance, along with their military colleagues there, for continued development of a plan for future prevention activities for military members.

Proposed Future Activities

No proposal was received from Kazakhstan for activities in fiscal year 2007.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

Prevention

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No official programmatic activities took place in Kazakhstan during the fiscal year, although prevention materials sent by DHAPP have been translated for use. DHAPP staff members look forward to future engagement with Kazakhstan to plan a successful program there.