

AFEW PARTNERSHIP

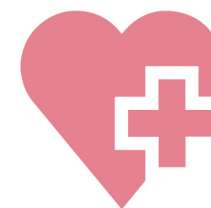


THEORY OF CHANGE

JANUARY 2020

WHY CHANGE IS NEEDED

- Given the ongoing HIV, tuberculosis and viral hepatitis health crisis and unequal access to services among key affected populations, *AFEW* works for all those in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) unable to access health services and justice, and those unable to participate in decision-making processes. *AFEW* focuses on those most at risk, stigmatised, and facing the most severe barriers.
- We view participation as multi-layered, where barriers primarily result from gender, age, sexual orientation, perceived (health) behaviours and health status.
- Vulnerable young people, who are more susceptible to demeaning policies and laws that criminalise their behaviours and to education and health systems that ignore or reject their needs, require special attention given widespread discrimination, stigma and violence.





In order to succeed, we aim for all people in EECA to fully and confidently participate in matters related to their health and rights in an inclusive and just society.

Working towards this goal requires enabling people in EECA to fully and confidently participate. To do so, we work to ensure that individuals can access services that meet their needs, have the capacity and opportunity to voice their needs and be heard, are not limited by inequitable laws and policies, and can influence policies and society through their contributions.

Achieving our vision for success requires progress along **four dimensions of change**.

1 Access to quality health services

Access implies not simply making health care available, but ensuring that individuals feel free to approach services, and that care remains inclusive, non-judgemental and affordable.

2 Appreciation of diversity

In EECA, the Soviet legacy continues to emphasise conformity and uniformity. A much-needed shift celebrates difference as valuable, adding richness to society.

3 Legal and social justice

Legal and social justice includes equality before the law and protection against human rights violations for all. Social justice also implies accessible services that maintain a minimum standard of living, including welfare, shelter and education.

4 The power to voice, participate and decide

Participation in society requires information, skills and the ability to organise autonomously. Individuals must capably engage in dialogues and decision-making processes, which require a strong civil society, support networks and political commitments.

The dimensions of change rely on four primary pathways:

1 Awareness

of a lack of appropriate response, behavior or service provision

3 Action

taken to address these needs

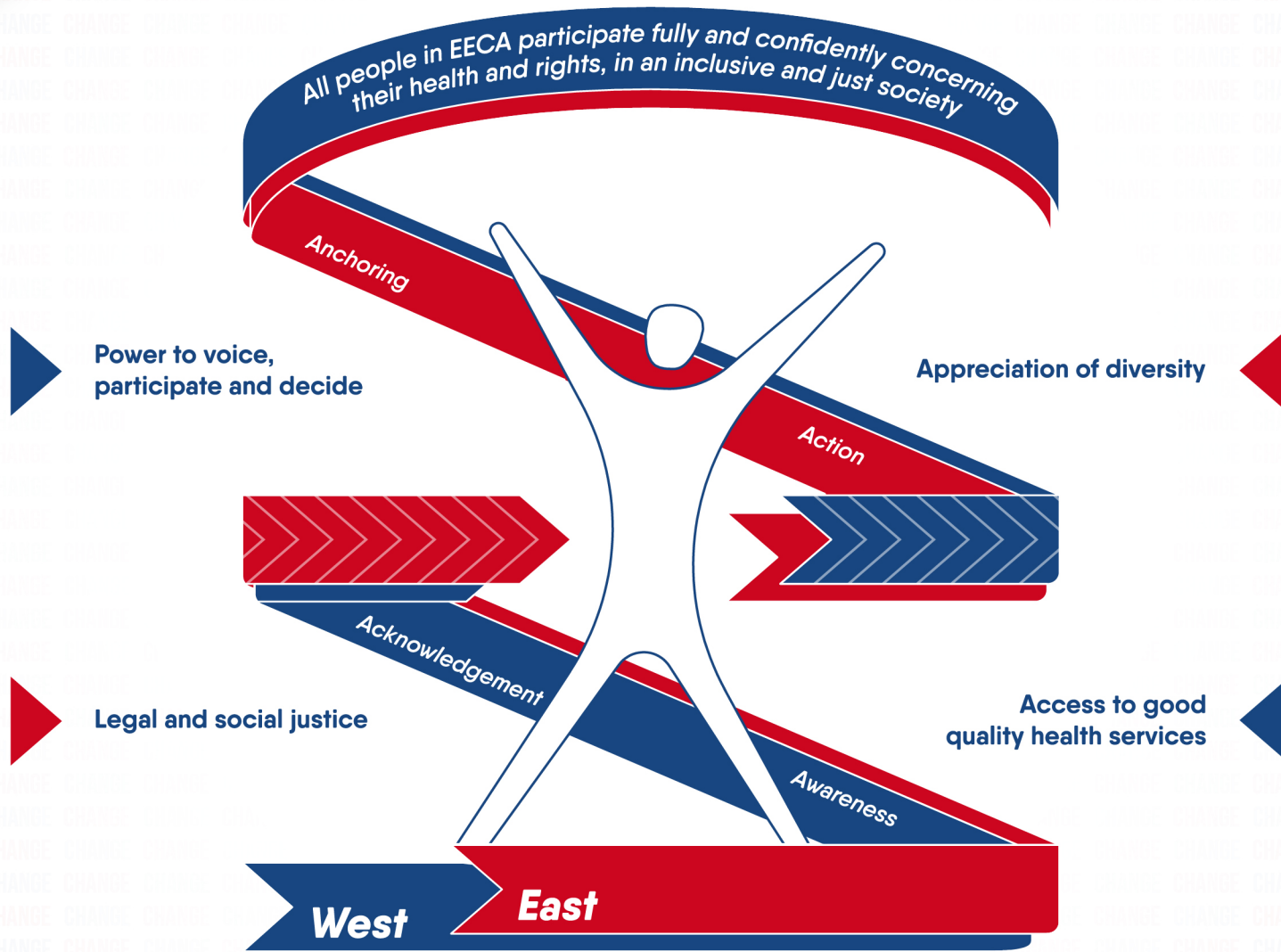
2 Acknowledge

that there is a need and opportunity to change

4 Anchoring

successful action for sustainability

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OUR CONTRIBUTION TO CHANGE

AFEW's core strengths include its local presence in EECA, linking the East and West. Uniquely positioned, *AFEW* works to create change, maintaining a strong collaborative network between the West and EECA, committed to equitable partnerships and clearly defined roles using local expertise.

AFEW:

Builds bridges and connections:

Given regional partnerships, *AFEW* is well-positioned to support various needs related to health and justice.



Provides expertise:

AFEW is now an acknowledged expert on HIV, tuberculosis, and viral hepatitis working with key populations embracing an inclusive definition of health and rights, improving its responsiveness to emerging needs in the region.



Innovates:

AFEW introduces interventions and approaches new to EECA, such as harm reduction interventions and a client-centred approach, and innovates for change.



Brokers knowledge:

AFEW combines international and regional knowledge and best practices, creating spaces to link researchers, clinicians, practitioners, community leaders and activists, as well as government officials.



Mobilises resources:

AFEW seeks funding for regional programmes, and substantively, supports local organisations.



Advocates:

AFEW maintains strong relationships with communities, intermediaries, governments and international institutions, influencing and participating in policy-making, contesting unjust policies and initiating dialogues.



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www.afew.org



www.afew.kg



www.afewrussia.ru



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#AFEWtowardchanges