

Activity-level Gender Equality and Inclusive Development(GEID) Analysis

Submitted by:

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The objectives of the gender analysis are:

1. Understanding the gender dynamics that will enable USAID to ensure access to quality and stigma-free HIV services;
2. Promoting the creation of community-led monitoring tools to oversee the quality of services provided to women from key populations in PEPFAR sites.

To conduct the analysis, key questions were identified addressing the main six areas that are most important for identifying gender issues: laws and policies, cultural norms and beliefs, gender roles (taking into account the burden of care), access to and control over resources, patterns of power and decision-making, and personal safety and security. The issues of access to sexual and reproductive health for women from key populations were also considered.

Methodology:

Within the framework of the field assessment, 65 women from key populations (30 PLHIV, 25 PWID, 10 SW) from Ust-Kamenogorsk, Semey, and Pavlodar cities were interviewed. The questions were based on the questionnaire used in the WHO guidelines on the sexual and reproductive health of women with HIV. The desk review included a study of existing legislative acts that affect the status of women from key populations in the society.

Results of the desk review and field analysis of women needs living with HIV and key populations in the paradigm of services they receive at health facilities and NGOs are presented below:

Analysis of key areas that define gender equality gaps

1. HIV prevention and treatment

Analysis of legislation and LSI:

Regulatory documents of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the field of HIV prevention do not contain specialized female approaches. Besides, when collecting statistics, and conducting state studies (including sentinel surveillance), there is no provision for gender segregation of certain categories of key population groups (PWID, SW, PLHIV), which significantly complicates the planning of programs focused on the needs of women. The only prevention programs "for women" that exist in the Republic of Kazakhstan is the Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT). The program is aimed only at one of the functions of a woman "to bear a child". But even in this case, the program takes into account only preventive issues (prevention of HIV transmission), without taking into account the needs of women

(lactation cessation, psychological support, anesthesia of childbirth for PWUD women, taking into account their specific perception of anesthetics).

Results of the field study:

According to the findings, 40% of the women from key populations are not aware of the possibility of getting pre-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for themselves or their partner, 36.92% of the women are not aware of the possibility of getting post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for themselves or their partner.

Women's quotes:

"I often don't have money for lubricants and contraceptives of good quality"

"Lubricants are expensive"

"I often don't have money to buy, so I only use condoms and lubricants if my partners bring them, but this is extremely rare"

"The friendly office does not always have lubricants and condoms and the quality is not always good, there is no choice".

1. Receiving medical care and reproductive health:

Analysis of legislation and LSI:

Regulatory documents of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the field of medical care and reproductive issues are also developed based on the general needs of patients, without taking into account the specific characteristics of women (there are no orders regulating the issues of menopause in women living with HIV; issues of compatibility of contraceptives and ART; ensuring mandatory screening of women with HIV for cervical cancer, access to all types of abortion for women from key populations). Despite the absence of legal prohibitions in the field of in vitro fertilization (IVF), NGOs in the regions report cases of denial of IVF to PLHIV, as well as discrimination and stigma in accessing other medical services for PLHIV.

Results of the field study:

When comparing the receipt of services in 3 different organizations (AIDS Centers, PHC, private clinics) it was found that most often women from key populations are satisfied with the treatment and services of AIDS Centers, while the services that were received in PHC did not meet expectations. 20% of women felt that they were treated in a biased manner due to their behavior/drug use/HIV status. Regarding private clinics, the data shows that 38.5% of women from key populations rarely

visit these facilities for various reasons (presumably lack of funds). The only item for which dissatisfaction with the AIDS Center exceeded 10% was pressure from a health worker to decide on receiving a service or treatment.

Women's quotes:

"No Compulsory Social Health Insurance, no doctor is available".

"A gynecologist does not understand what to do with HIV".

"Since I have HIV, I often meet doctors who are not competent"

"I would like that private clinics would not have the right to refuse to provide services, discriminate against these people".

"Consultations of narcologist, psychologist, hepatologist should be more accessible".

"Key population should have access to hospitalization and be able to get anesthetized".

"Medical services should be free".

"Consultations of a vascular doctor, dentist, therapist, gynecologist, infectious disease specialist, traumatologist, orthopedist are needed".

40% believe that health workers in PHCs providing services are not properly trained, not friendly, and not ready to support women from key populations. 38.5% of women have had negative experiences of receiving sexual and reproductive health services at PHCs and are not confident in the high quality of counseling and treatment.

Pregnancy and ability to get pregnant

According to the findings, 58.46% of women from key populations experienced unplanned pregnancy in their lives. 27.69% of women didn't have access to free emergency contraception and 40% of women were unable to choose their place of delivery. 20% of women indicated that their choice to have a child was not supported by their doctor, and 23.07% of women indicated that their family and environment did not support their choice to have a child. 32.3% of women indicated that they did not receive assistance to conceive safely (i.e. without exposing the woman or partner to the risk of HIV or other STI transmission). 20% believe that they cannot get free infertility treatment, or assisted reproductive technologies if they need them (e.g. IVF). 46.15% of women do not undergo examinations by a mammologist, and 36.92% of women do not take smear tests for early diagnosis of cervical cancer.

Women's quotes:

"When I got pregnant, the gynecologist at the AIDS Center criticized me: "Why did I do it without planning it?"

"After I told the doctor at the antenatal clinic that I had HIV, her attitude towards me changed dramatically, her smile disappeared from her face, she began to talk coldly and avoid touching me when examining my abdomen, she began to wear gloves, although she had not worn them before".

"I was denied IVF services at the hospital because of HIV, although doctors at the AIDS Center said I could get this service for free. After the denial, I turned to street lawyers and they assisted me but we got a denial again. The doctors of the hospital never apologized. In the private clinic, I was also denied the service despite the quota I had received".

"I had an abortion, and because of my drug use I felt stigmatized".

"It is necessary that during pregnancy a woman should not be afraid to talk about her problems, status and receive the maximum amount of services".

Sexual health

According to the data received and requests announced, 12.3% of women are unable to discuss their needs and sexual health with a gynecologist, 12.3% constantly and 27.69% occasionally need lubricants during sex, and 9.23% are unable to buy these materials. 6.15% of women have sex with fear of getting pregnant or transmitting HIV to their partner, and 13.84% are afraid of getting an STI.

Women's quotes:

"Lack of lubricants makes most of the intercourse unpleasant and painful and I endure for the sake of my partner".

Mental health

The survey data showed that women from key populations are prone to mental health problems, with the highest levels of depression (89.23%) and shame (83.08%), self-blame (78.46%), sleep problems and problems of low self-esteem (75.38%). It is important to note that a high percentage of women talk about the need to visit a psychologist, but do not go to a psychologist and do not think that it will help.

If we distinguish separate groups, women with HIV have increased mental problems after receiving the diagnosis, for example, the level of depression increased from 10% to 63.3% after receiving the diagnosis of HIV, low self-esteem problems also increased from 16.6% to 36.6% after receiving the diagnosis of HIV.

Stigma and discrimination:

Analysis of legislation and LSI:

Laws that protect from discrimination in the Republic of Kazakhstan are based on general data without taking into account the specifics of HIV infection in the country. Kazakhstan criminalizes HIV transmission (including mother-to-child transmission), possession of drugs without intent to sell, use in public places, and sex work. These laws reinforce discrimination and limit access to prevention programs for key populations. The Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan and other legislative acts ensure rights and access to social services, education, and employment for all RoK citizens regardless of gender.

Results of the field study:

According to the analysis, 44.61% of women from key populations think that health workers disclose details about clients and their status in PHC and 27.69% of women think that medical staff in private clinics do the same. In this regard, 43.07% of women are afraid to go to PHC to disclose details about their status/drug use/sex work, and 41.53% of women are afraid to go to private clinics. 16.92% of women do not know their rights, and if they are violated in health facilities, they do not know where to file a complaint.

Women's quotes:

"There was a case when I was denied by a dentist because of HIV, after that I avoided the dentist".

"To any doctors who ask about my diagnosis, I either lie that I don't have HIV or avoid going to the doctor".

"If they find out you're a drug addict, the attitude changes immediately."

"Wherever you go to a doctor, there is discrimination against HIV-positive women."

"I went to the doctor and said I was HIV-positive and they didn't accept it."

"It is necessary to create a law on the prosecution of discrimination".

"We need to tighten the law on medical secrecy."

"There is discrimination against HIV-positive people, something should be done about it."

"Drug addicts should be treated the same way as normal people".

Access to assets and resources

Analysis of legislation and LSI:

In Kazakhstan, there are no restrictions on the ability of key populations or women to acquire/sell/utilize/inherit property and any assets. These rights are available to capable adults, regardless of gender.

Economic support measures are provided for women in the field of entrepreneurship, as well as in the field of motherhood and childhood.

Results of the field study:

According to the analysis, only 41.5% of the women surveyed believe they have access to higher education. 32.3% of women can combine study and work without financial loss in wages.

50.8% of women are economically dependent on their partner, 32.3% know how to start a business, and 27.7% know where to ask for help to start a business.

41.5% of women own and manage their property.

40% of women have encountered sexual harassment during their studies, and 38.5% of women have encountered sexual harassment in the workplace.

29.2% of women do not know how to apply to the employment center, if necessary, and 27.70% of women cannot easily find a job with or without a specialty.

Caregiving burden

Based on the data obtained, women from key populations are involved in caring for relatives (16.9%), husbands (35.4%), and children (23.08%). 20% of them receive government support and 7.69% receive non-government support for child care. 6.15% of women receive state support and 4.62% receive non-state support to care for a sick husband or relative.

The majority (maximum 52.31%) of 19 listed household duties lie heavy on women, while for men the figure does not exceed 12.31%, according to the data indicated by women. This negatively affects women's opportunities to engage in their careers and work, and therefore limits their opportunities to advance in their careers and receive higher pay for their labor.

Personal safety and security

Analysis of legislation and LSI:

The Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Combating Domestic Violence¹ includes the concepts of sexual, psychological, and economic violence. At the same time,

¹ Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Prevention of Domestic Violence", Art. 1, 4. https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z090000214_Appendix_5. Legal orientation of victims of violence. Page 17.

the definition includes not only formal marriage but also relationships between persons who live or have lived together. The Criminal Code does not provide for a separate penalty for spouses. According to the legislation, marital rape is considered under the general criminal Article 120 "On Rape"².

There are no separate norms protecting key populations and women with HIV from violence in the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and general criminal legislation is used to address cases of violence against key populations or women with HIV and police abuse. Registration of cases of violence among key populations is carried out on general grounds³.

Primary psychological support is provided by contacting Crisis Centers⁴. The main work assistance to women victims of violence is provided in the crisis center "Zhan-Saya" (Almaty). There are 44 such centers in Kazakhstan⁵. However, women with HIV are not always accepted there, because officially the contraindication for receiving services is "infectious diseases", to which the management of the centers refers to HIV infection⁶.

Results of the field study:

According to the analysis conducted, the women of key populations are victims of violence and the sources of violence may be police (24.61%), family members (35.38%) health facilities (40%), society (41.53%), intimate partners (50.76%), 41.53% of women have experienced fear of violence.

Women's quotes:

"My partner would drink and beat me, insult me, pull me by the hair, tell me that nobody needs me because I'm HIV+, lock me in the apartment and leave for a long time, come back and beat me again. Then he got sober and asked for forgiveness - I forgave him."

"My husband beat me so badly that I had to have my uterus removed".

² Criminal Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 226-V dated July 3, 2014 (as amended as of 27.06.2022) Art. 120, 121. https://online.zakon.kz/document/?doc_id=31575252

³ Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Prevention of Domestic Violence", Art. 1, 4. https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z090000214_Order_of_the_Minister_of_Internal_Affairs_of_the_Republic_of_Kazakhstan_No._1097_dated_December_29,_2015_On_Approval_of_the_Rules_on_Organization_of_Work_of_the_Units_of_Internal_Affairs_Bodies_of_the_Republic_of_Kazakhstan_on_Protection_of_Women_from_Violence <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1500012948>

⁴ Crisis Center "Zhan-Saya" https://uki.kz/Where_to_go_in_case_of_domestic_violence_in_Almaty <https://www.zakon.kz/4997148-kuda-obrashchatsya-v-sluchae-domashnego.html?ysclid=16101pyfeq267435934>

⁵ https://gender.stat.gov.kz/page/frontend/detail?id=94&slug=-79&cat_id=4&lang=ru

⁶ Order of the Minister of Health and Social Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 1079 dated December 21, 2016 "On Approval of the Standard of Special Social Services for Victims of Domestic Violence" <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1600014701>

"My mother-in-law often threatens me that she will go to the police and file a report that I did not immediately tell him about my status. She insults me and accuses me of being dirty and ruining her son's life."

"In the polyclinic, I was forced to put an IUD, after my disagreement they called me to the office of the head of the clinic and tried to make me believe that I was dangerous and my pregnancy was dangerous, and the IUD was necessary. I agreed and later found out that it was illegal. I came to remove the spiral and the gynecologists kept finding reasons not to remove it."

"In PHC they forced me to put the IUD in."

"During pregnancy, the doctor who examined me did not know that I had HIV, then yelled that I had not warned her, she would have worn two pairs of gloves".

"At the maternity hospital #3 in Semey, they refused to do a cesarean section, they were afraid of hepatitis C and the child died, I have no children and will not have any more".

"I was forced to have an abortion."

"I had an abortion without anesthesia because of drug use. As I was in a lot of pain, they stopped in the middle of the procedure and later I got inflammation".

"My boss harassed me, insulted me in every possible way, calling me an HIV whore, etc, harassed me and forced me to have sex".

According to the survey, the most priority areas for changing legislation on women's protection are centers with 24-hour accommodation with children for women from key populations (70.76% of votes), as well as increasing social protection of women from key populations and children (69.23% of votes) (social benefits, free baby formula, prescriptions for free medicines, sanitary and spa rehabilitation, especially for children with disabilities), ensuring legal protection from all forms of violence against women (66.15%). The female respondents themselves proposed an item on "punishment for police officers for refusing to take a report for rape or domestic violence".

Influence on politics by women and key populations

Analysis of legislation and LSI:

Civil society organizations on HIV, including organizations of women living with HIV, are not singled out as a separate group and are registered on general grounds⁷.

⁷ Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 142 dated January 16, 2001, "On Non-Profit Organizations", Article 19 https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z010000142_

Organizations of women who use drugs can also be registered, and all of these community-led organizations are eligible to provide services, licensing is not required⁸. At the legislative level, the obstacle to registration for sex workers' organizations is that the term "sex worker" does not exist in Kazakhstan, which prevents sex workers from stipulating protection of their rights and other services for SW in their statutes. LGBT organizations are not registered in Kazakhstan.

Women living with HIV, women who use drugs, and sex workers participate in HIV policy development as representatives of each of their groups, without taking into account gender specifics. This is reflected in the roadmap, where indicators are fixed at the group level, without gender specificity. Participation of women living with HIV in the elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV is enshrined in the order of the Ministry of Healthcare of the Republic of Kazakhstan in 2017⁹. The Country Coordinating Committee¹⁰ includes a representative of the group of women living with HIV. The CCC also has a working group of women living with HIV¹¹.

In 2018, a shadow civil society report on discrimination and violence against women living with HIV, women who use drugs, sex workers, and women in prison¹² was prepared and submitted. Based on the report, the CEDAW committee made recommendations for each key group¹³, unfortunately, not many of the recommendations have been taken into account and reflected in normative acts.

Women's quotes:

"More women should be involved in politics who know and understand the problems of PLHIV, as well as the problems of mothers and how much it costs to be a mother."

"There should be no discrimination in terms of jobs and professions."

"It is necessary to ensure employment when drug treatment is registered".

Cultural norms and beliefs

⁸ Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 142 dated January 16, 2001, "On Non-Profit Organizations", Article 32 https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z010000142_

⁹ Annex 20. Order No. 768 dated 17.10.17 PMTCT

¹⁰ Annex to the Order of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan. http://www.ccmkz.kz/upload/CCM%20membership_ru.pdf

¹¹ Annex 19. ToR working group on Gender

¹² http://www.ewna.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Final_KZ_CEDAW_ru.pdf

¹³ Additional information to the Shadow Report of Civil Society Organisations on Discrimination and Violence against Women who use Drugs, Women Living with HIV, Sex Workers, and women in prison in Kazakhstan. Стр 6-8. https://harmreductioneurasia.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/F_Kazakhstan-CEDAW-2019-ENG.pdf

Cultural norms and beliefs

Gender norms are largely formed by tradition. Women are considered to be under the care of male relatives until marriage when they become the financial and moral responsibility of their spouse. Female sexuality is central to moral respectability and honor; moreover, it is embedded in a woman's family, reflecting both her character and that of her husband and family. Similarly, the only morally acceptable expression of female sexuality is limited to the context of marriage¹⁴.

Drug use is widely considered "inappropriate behavior" in Kazakhstan, and because of this, people are subjected to many forms of discrimination. Due to stigmatization, pregnant drug-dependent women are reluctant to seek medical help and receive necessary health services, including drug treatment, and prenatal and postnatal care. Female sex workers and drug users are more likely to be discriminated against because women are expected to be good behaviors, mothers, and homemakers. They are less likely to seek services because they risk losing parental rights or going to prison¹⁵.

Men still maintain the stereotypical view that politics is not for women because it prevents them from being mothers and wives and political activity itself is too difficult for women¹⁶. At the end of 2022, the share of women in the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan was 24.7%¹⁷.

Results of the field study:

According to the analysis, only 6.15% (4 women) believe that a woman should tolerate violence and does not deserve medical help because she belongs to key populations. 49.23% of women do not believe that if they seek help, they will be helped. 56.92% of women believe that the medical system in Kazakhstan is useless.

Existing gender norms exacerbate women's vulnerability to HIV prevention, as an obedient, abused, male-dependent woman will not be able to insist on condom use. It is necessary to introduce awareness-raising programs for the general population, which should contain information about women's rights in the field of their health and dispel gender stereotypes and negative cultural practices.

Gender roles

¹⁴ Annex 4. Kazakhstan Gender Assessment Report 2020. Page 28

¹⁵ Annex 4. Kazakhstan Gender Assessment Report 2020. Pages 36, 27.

¹⁶ Gender Study: How Kazakhstan implements policies on women and men. <https://www.zakon.kz/4872564-gendernoe-issledovanie-kak-v-kazahstane.html?ysclid=I5nghd454e913851788>

¹⁷ https://gender.stat.gov.kz/page/frontend/detail?id=70&slug=-57&cat_id=9&lang=ru

Women account for more than 70% of employees in the health, education, and social protection sectors, while women's representation in the financial and public sectors is just over half. Traditionally, these types of sectors are less profitable compared to "male-dominated sectors" such as construction, oil and gas, mining, transportation, etc. According to 2020 data, the share of women in construction was 23.3%, in industry - 31.7%, in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries - 42.4%, in transportation and warehousing - 23.3%, in professional, scientific, and technical activities - 49.9%, in education - 72.1%, in health - 72.3%¹⁸. Information on gender parity in the provision of HIV care and support services is not collected by NGOs and other structures.

Conclusions:

1. Women from key populations are insufficiently informed about PrEP and PEP.
2. Women from key populations are most often satisfied with the work of local AIDS Centers. Stigma and discrimination are more prevalent in family polyclinics, and staff are less qualified. There is little information about receiving services at private polyclinics.
3. Some narrow specialists remain inaccessible for women from key populations due to the lack of Compulsory Social Health Insurance, and lack of financial resources.
4. Representatives of women from key populations are not informed about existing laws and often do not assert their rights.
5. Women from key populations often do not take smear tests for early diagnosis of cervical cancer and do not visit a mammologist.
6. Women from key populations need free lubricants.
7. Women from key populations suffer from mental health problems but hardly ever see a psychologist.
8. Women from key populations are often economically dependent on their partner, do not have access to higher education and do not know how to start a business, cannot take courses to obtain a specialty.
9. Women from key populations are vulnerable to violence from their intimate partners, family, community, health care providers, and in some cases the police.

¹⁸ Decree of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan No.384 dated December 6, 2016 "On Approval of the Concept of Family and Gender Policy in the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2030".
<https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/U1600000384>

10. Women from key populations need stronger social protection for themselves and their children.

Recommendations:

1. Take into account the needs of women in the formation of further programs for key populations, namely:

- Strengthen awareness of PrEP and PEP;
- Strengthen awareness of existing laws and rights of women from key populations;
- Identify/maintain cases of violence amongst women from key populations;
- Provide women in key populations with lubricants;
- Provide women with psychosocial support through high-level specialists and demand-creation activities;
- Ensure that women are informed about the feasibility of/provide for smear tests and mammalogist visits;
- Ensure that funding is available for temporary accommodation for women from key populations in cases of intimate partner violence;
- Ensure the possibility of training women in new professions through employment centers and NGOs;
- Provide hygiene and food packages for women from key populations who have no income or with income less than 200,000;
- Ensure access to necessary narrow specialists by paying for Compulsory Social Health Insurance for female clients, or paying for doctor visits/diagnosis/treatment of diseases.

2. Work with PHC staff on tolerant attitudes towards women from key populations, as well as on increasing staff competence about the specifics of women from key populations.

3. Work on amending legislation to strengthen the position of women from key populations in the Social Code, in the standards of sexual and reproductive health services.

4. Work on raising the level of awareness of gender inequality among staff of AIDS Centers, NGOs, and among women from key populations.

5. When organizing monitoring work by the community, pay attention to:

- low awareness of gynecologists on menopause, prescription of contraceptives to women on ART;

- the high level of stigma and discrimination against women from key populations;
- registration of cases of violence/discrimination by medical staff.

APPENDIX 1. RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE FOR WOMEN LIVING WITH HIV

This questionnaire is intended to conduct research among women living with HIV in the PEPFAR region (Pavlodar, Ust-Kamenogorsk and Semey). The survey includes the following areas: sexual and reproductive health, gender equality and human rights, gender-based violence, economic and political opportunities for women living with HIV. The study was commissioned by USAID and consists of a survey of women living with HIV (questioning of 30 women from three regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan) and an expert analysis of policies, legislative acts, and HIV programs in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The priorities that will be identified by this study will help shape USAID's programmatic activities for 2025-2030.

Questionnaire

We do not ask for your name. Names provided in responses will be removed. Any information that can identify you, such as names of places of residence or organisations, will also be removed. This is necessary to ensure privacy. Any other identifying data will be removed from the responses.

This question requires an answer.

1. I understand that filling in the study, I give my consent for my responses to be used in publications. Please, highlight "I agree" to be able to continue

| | | |
|---|------------|------------------------|
| 1 | I agree | You continue the study |
| 2 | I disagree | The study is over |

This question requires an answer.

2. I am a woman living with HIV. Please highlight "Yes" to be able to continue

| | | |
|---|-----|------------------------|
| 1 | Yes | You continue the study |
| 2 | No | The study is over |

Part 1 – Personal Data

3. Please tell us about yourself

City _____ Age _____

4. Relationship Status. Please highlight one answer:

1. I am not sexually active
2. I am sexually active, but do not have a partner
3. I have one or more partner(s) living with HIV
4. I have one or more partner(s) not living with HIV
5. I have two or more sexual partners, one or more is living with HIV and one or more is not living with HIV

5. Special issues. Please highlight all that apply to you:

1. I do or have done sex work
2. I inject/use or have injected/used drugs
3. My sexual partner(s) injects/uses or has injected/used drugs
4. I am/have been a client of opioid substitution therapy programme
5. I am/have been in prison

6. I am/have been in a detention centre
7. I am living with disability
8. I have or have had active TB
9. I have or have had Hepatitis C
10. I migrated from one country to another for economic reasons
11. I migrated from one country to another for political reasons
12. I am lesbian, bisexual or have sex with women
13. I am a trans woman
14. I am a heterosexual woman
15. I am married, or in a stable relationship
16. I am an internally displaced person
17. I am or have been homeless
18. Other (optional) _____

6. Marital status

1. Single
2. Married
3. In a civil marriage
4. Divorced
5. Widow

7. I have _____ children,

1. of whom I gave birth to _____ children, having and HIV-positive status,
2. of whom _____ children have HIV.

8. I learned about my HIV status during pregnancy: YES _____ NO _____

9. Education

1. Lower secondary education
2. Secondary education
3. Incomplete higher education
4. Higher education

10. Occupation

1. Student
2. Employed in the commercial sphere
3. Civil servant
4. Entrepreneur
5. Unemployed
6. Housewife
7. Retiree. The amount of the pension _____
8. Other _____

11. I am _____ employed

1. Officially
2. Unofficially
3. Unemployed

Part 2 - Human Rights

12. Please tell us about your experience of accessing sexual and reproductive health services as a woman living with HIV. (Please choose one answer for each statement and mark with an X)

| No | Statement | Strongly agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|----|-----------|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|
|----|-----------|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1 | I experience the same service as any other women, when I go for sexual and reproductive health services | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 2 | I am aware of sexual and reproductive health treatments, information, services and commodities that exist in my country | | | | | |
| 3 | I can get free and quality sexual and reproductive health treatments, information, services or commodities, when I need them | | | | | |
| 4 | I find the service providers well-trained and knowledgeable, friendly, and supportive | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 5 | My experience of accessing sexual and reproductive health care has been good, and I have confidence in the advice and treatment I receive | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 6 | I believe my service provider offers a full range of choices for sexual and reproductive health care, including family planning options and prevention, diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 7 | I am given all the information I need to make a decision about proceeding with a service or treatment, without feeling any pressure from the service provider | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 8 | I trust the service providers not to share my HIV status or any other details about me without my permission | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 9 | My doctor listens to me, and gives advice based on my needs and realities as a woman living with HIV | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 10 | I know my rights, and if I experience a rights violation within the health service, I know where I can go to make a complaint | | | | | |
| Please explain in more detail where exactly you will contact: | | | | | | |
| 11 | If my rights as a woman living with HIV are violated, I know that I will receive the necessary legal protection | | | | | |
| 12 | I can contact an NGO to receive services | | | | | |
| If you answered "yes", please explain what services you receive from the NGO: | | | | | | |
| 13 | I can contact relevant specialists without fear of reporting HIV to the following organization | | | | | |
| | 1. Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | 2. Private clinic | | | | | |
| 14 | I can't afford to go to specialists | | | | | |
| If you answered "I agree," please explain why and indicate which specialist you are talking about: | | | | | | |

13. Please feel free to give more information on your experience of accessing your sexual and reproductive health and human rights if you would like to

14. What would you like to say to decision makers and policy makers in Kazakhstan about how they can help to promote and protect your sexual and reproductive health and human rights? Please try to be as specific as possible

15. What are the most important issues that you would like to see addressed in the legal and normative acts in order to make them the most useful tool? Please be as specific as possible _____

Part 3 - Context and realities for women living with HIV

3.1. Healthy sex life

Women living with HIV have the same right and possibility as all women to enjoy a healthy, safe and satisfying sex life, free from force, coercion, discrimination or violence.

16. Please tell us about your sex experience (Please **choose one answer** for each statement and mark with an X)

| Nº | Statement | Always | Usually | Some times | Never | Don't know | Not applicable |
|----|--|--------|---------|------------|-------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | I want to have sex often/have strong feelings of sexual desire | | | | | | |
| 2 | I find sex pleasurable for myself and for my partner(s) | | | | | | |
| 3 | I have sex to satisfy my partner | | | | | | |
| 4 | I initiate sex with my partner(s) and make suggestions about how we have sex | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 5 | I have sex when I want to | | | | | | |
| 6 | I have sex when my partner(s) want(s) to | | | | | | |
| 7 | I find it easy to “come”/have an orgasm during sex | | | | | | |
| 8 | My body makes enough lubrication (how “wet” you feel when you want to have sex) | | | | | | |
| 9 | I know where I can get information on sexually transmitted infections, safer sex, condom use, and contraception | | | | | | |
| 10 | I am able to have sex without fear of getting any sexually transmitted infections (STIs) from my partner | | | | | | |
| 11 | If I have an STI I am able to get diagnosis and treatment for it without fear of judgement from the health provider | | | | | | |
| 12 | I am able to have sex without fear of getting pregnant | | | | | | |
| 13 | I am able to have sex without fear of passing on HIV to my partner(s) | | | | | | |
| 14 | I feel safe with my partner(s) | | | | | | |
| 15 | I am able to talk to my health care provider about my sexual health and needs | | | | | | |
| 16 | I am able to access the products I need to have a good sex life (e.g. lubricants, dental dams, female condoms, male condoms, contraceptives) | | | | | | |
| 17 | I can afford to buy the products I need to have a good sex life (see above) | | | | | | |
| Explain which of the products you would like to use, but cannot and why: | | | | | | | |
| 18 | I am able to discuss in a friendly manner my HIV status with my partner(s) | | | | | | |
| 19 | My partner is happy to use a male condom if I want him to | | | | | | |
| If you answered “Never,” please explain how your partner explains his choice: | | | | | | | |
| 20 | I am able to use a female condom if I want to | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

17. As a woman living with HIV, what has helped you MOST to achieve a satisfying and enjoyable sex life? _____

18. What has been the BIGGEST barrier to you enjoying a satisfying sex life, or what do you think most urgently needs to change? _____

19. What would improve your sexual health, safety, well-being and pleasure? (These could be psychological, physical, sexual, spiritual financial, legal and/or institutional support - or something else. It's entirely up to you.) Please try to be as specific as possible.

3.2. Pregnancy and fertility

As women living with HIV, we have the same right as all women to make choices about when and whether we would like to have children, and to do this in a safe, informed and supportive environment, knowing that we can be healthy mothers to healthy children - or can be supported in our choice not to have children if we don't want to.

20. Please tell us about your experiences of pregnancy and fertility as an HIV-positive woman (Please choose one answer for each statement and mark with an X)

| Nº | Statement | Yes | No | Don't know | Not applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----|----|------------|----------------|
| 1 | I have been supported by my partner(s) to make choices about my fertility (to decide whether or not to have a child/children) | | | | |
| 2 | I have been supported my by health provider to make choices about my fertility | | | | |
| Explain why if the answer was "No": | | | | | |
| 3 | I have been supported by my family and community to make choices about my fertility | | | | |
| 4 | I have been given advice about safe conception (getting pregnant without putting myself or my partner at risk of transmission of HIV or other sexually transmitted infections) | | | | |
| 5 | I have been given support with safe conception (without putting myself or my partner at risk of transmission of HIV or other sexually transmitted infections) | | | | |
| 6 | I can talk to my doctor/service provider about my fertility desires | | | | |
| Explain why if the answer was "No": | | | | | |
| 7 | I have been/am able to access free infertility treatment, assisted reproductive technology if I need it (e.g. I.V.F.) | | | | |
| Explain why if the answer was "No": | | | | | |
| 8 | I was given adequate counselling before and after the test for HIV | | | | |
| 9 | I have been given counselling on family planning and advice on child spacing | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | |
| 10 | I have had one or more unplanned pregnancy | | | | |
| 11 | I have been given advice on how to disclose my HIV status to my partner(s) and my children | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | |
| | • NGO | | | | |
| 12 | I have access to safe and free or affordable abortion, if I need it | | | | |
| 13 | I have access to post-abortion/-miscarriage care, if I need it | | | | |
| 14 | I know I can speak to other women living with HIV who will give me advice on healthy motherhood if I want to | | | | |
| 15 | I have been able to make choices about where I want to deliver my baby | | | | |
| 16 | I have been supported to make decisions about how to feed my baby without fear of what people will say at the next health providers | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | |
| | • NGO | | | | |
| 17 | I can decide to have a(nother) child without fear of what people will say | | | | |
| 18 | I can access the family planning/contraception that I prefer | | | | |
| 19 | I am able to use the family planning/contraception that I prefer without resistance from my partner(s) | | | | |
| 20 | I have access to emergency contraception (the morning-after pill) if I need it | | | | |
| 21 | I can access legal counselling on adoption choices | | | | |
| 22 | I can access pre-exposure prophylaxis, if my partner needs it | | | | |
| 23 | I can access post-exposure prophylaxis, if my partner needs it | | | | |
| 24 | I have regular check-ups/Pap smears for early detection of cervical cancer | | | | |
| 25 | I do regular breast screening | | | | |

21. Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV

| No | Statement | Yes | No | Don't know | Not applicable |
|----|--|-----|----|------------|----------------|
| 1 | I took ARV at the time of conception | | | | |
| 2 | I started taking ARV as a prophylaxis during pregnancy | | | | |
| 3 | I did not take ARV throughout my pregnancy | | | | |
| 4 | I took ARV only in childbirth | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| 5 | My child took syrup in the first days of his/her life | | | | |
| 6 | I am provided with artificial formulas by the children's polyclinic | | | | |
| 7 | My baby had a PCR before he/she was 2 months old | | | | |

22. Describe the BEST experience you have had to support your decisions and desires about having children – or not having children.

23. What has been the BIGGEST barrier for you to make choices about your fertility desires?

24. What would improve your reproductive health and human rights? (Psychological, physical, sexual, spiritual financial, legal and/or institutional support – or something else). *Please try to be as specific as possible.*

3.3. Violence against women

Violence against women: Any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life. Violence against women includes child sexual abuse, rape, intimate partner violence, sexual violence and harassment, trafficking in human beings and harmful traditional practices, including female genital mutilation.

Intimate partner violence: Actual or threatened physical or sexual violence or psychological and emotional abuse directed towards a spouse, ex-spouse, current or former boyfriend or girlfriend, or current or former dating partner. Intimate partner violence includes slapping, kicking, burning, strangulation (physical); coerced sex through force, threats, intimidation, etc. (sexual); isolation, verbal aggression, humiliation, stalking, economic violence, controlling victim's access to health care or employment (psychological).

Violence against women living with HIV: Any act, structure or process in which power is exerted in such a way as to cause physical, sexual, psychological, financial or legal harm to women living with HIV. Violence against HIV-positive women is described in more detail below.

A: Violence from a sexual partner or spouse could include: hitting, kicking, punching; threats of physical or emotional violence (for example threatening to leave you); making you have sex when you don't want to; making you have sex without a condom; blame, name-calling; making you feel stupid; stopping you from seeing friends; working; leaving the house; seeking medical care for you or your children.

25. I have experienced violence from a sexual partner or spouse (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| Before my HIV diagnosis | Since my HIV diagnosis | Because of my HIV diagnosis | Never | Don't know |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|------------|
| | | | | |

B: Violence from a member of my family/neighbours could include: refusing to share

food/utensils; name-calling; blame; rejection; abandonment; physical violence like hitting, kicking, or pulling hair; a member of the family or neighbour touching, kissing or making you have sex when you don't want to.

26. I have experienced violence from a member of my family/neighbours (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| Before my HIV diagnosis | Since my HIV diagnosis | Because of my HIV diagnosis | Never | Don't know |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|------------|
| | | | | |

C: Violence in the community could include: gossip, bad words, rejection, avoidance, children being stigmatized or avoided; being attacked or beaten by a stranger; being touched or made to have sex with someone who is not your partner when you don't want to; being raped because of your sexual orientation or gender identity (“corrective rape”); hate motivated violence against trans women; any form of violence against sex workers by clients or strangers.

27. I have experienced violence in the community (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| Before my HIV diagnosis | Since my HIV diagnosis | Because of my HIV diagnosis | Never | Don't know |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|------------|
| | | | | |

D: Violence in a health setting could include: rude or judgmental service providers; denial of medical care; being asked how you came to be HIV-positive; disclosing your status without your consent; making you take an HIV test without telling you or without asking for your consent; refusing to give you all the information about available services; forced/coerced abortion or sterilization; making you wait until other clients have been seen; being refused a certain type of contraceptive, even when it is available; placing in separate or isolated rooms.

28. I have experienced violence in health settings (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| Before my HIV diagnosis | Since my HIV diagnosis | Because of my HIV diagnosis | Never | Don't know |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|------------|
| | | | | |

28.1. Over the past 2 years, I have experienced from medical staff:

- Forced abortion
- Forced use of a particular type of contraception
- Denial of access to contraception
- Verbal abuse
- Denial of health services because of HIV status
- Arrogance, pejorative attitudes, prejudice
- Physical violence
- Compulsory HIV testing
- Forced sterilization
- Add another, if relevant, and please clarify_____

E: Violence from the police/military/prison or detention services could include: police harassment; arrest without giving a reason, or because you are carrying condoms, lubricant or clean injection equipment; threat of or actual sexual violence or rape by police, prison/detention guards, military personnel; denial of health care in prison or detention; disclosure of HIV status; refusal to provide services.

29. I have experienced violence from the police/military/prison or detention services
(please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| Before my HIV diagnosis | Since my HIV diagnosis | Because of my HIV diagnosis | Never | Don't know |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|------------|
| | | | | |

30. I have experienced fear of any form of violence (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| Before my HIV diagnosis | Since my HIV diagnosis | Because of my HIV diagnosis | Never | Don't know |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|------------|
| | | | | |

31. Please tell us about any of these experiences of violence in more detail

32. If you have experienced any of these forms of violence, were you able to access support services, and did they help you to deal with the situation/experience?

33. What do you think are the most important ways to address or prevent these forms of violence? (Please choose one answer for each statement and mark with an X)

| Nº | Statement | Critical | Important | Less important | Don't know |
|----|---|----------|-----------|----------------|------------|
| 1 | Remove laws which criminalise sex work | | | | |
| 2 | Remove laws which criminalise drug possession | | | | |
| 3 | Remove laws which criminalize HIV exposure/transmission | | | | |
| 4 | Ensure access to free rehabilitation and addiction treatment (alcohol, drugs) | | | | |
| 5 | Increase access to education and employment for women (entrepreneurship education, vocational training, scholarships, free courses, interaction with employment centres) | | | | |
| 6 | Provide for enhanced social protection for women and children (social benefits, free infant formula, prescriptions for free medicines, health resorts, especially for children with disabilities) | | | | |
| 7 | Ensure the availability of pre-school education (eliminate turns in kindergartens) | | | | |
| 8 | Increase access to harm reduction programmes for women who use drugs and sex workers by providing women-centred services | | | | |
| 9 | Focus the attention of healthcare workers on the rights of women living with HIV (through training of healthcare workers on working with HIV+ women, introduction of courses in medical schools/institutes/universities, conducting trainings in hospitals and polyclinics) | | | | |
| 10 | Increase access to quality support services for women survivors of violence (including sexual | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | violence): | | | | |
| 10.1 | Centres/shelters with the possibility of round-the-clock accommodation, including with children | | | | |
| 10.2 | Centres/shelters with the possibility of round-the-clock accommodation, including with children and for women who use drugs, sex workers and/or OST patients | | | | |
| 10.3 | 24/7 hotline | | | | |
| 10.4 | Support groups | | | | |
| 10.5 | Professional counselling (doctor, psychotherapist, lawyer, social worker) | | | | |
| 11 | Provide a minimum free support after rape including post-exposure prophylaxis, emergency contraception, STI screening, social assistance and counselling | | | | |
| 12 | Provide legal protection against all forms of violence against women (free attorneys to handle litigations, street lawyers for women who use drugs and sex workers, mobile response teams, engagement with law enforcement to reduce police violence) | | | | |
| 13 | Recognize and address the issue of marital and date rape (analyze, build evidence, conduct education campaigns) | | | | |
| 14 | Provide effective mechanisms for filing complaints and redress in case of violation of rights in the healthcare service (hotline of the Ministry of Health of Kazakhstan or the oblast department of health, monitoring of violations and reports of community-based/patient organisations to coordination/supervisory boards) | | | | |
| 15 | Other (please specify _____) | | | | |

3.4. Mental health and HIV

Many women living with HIV experience mental health problems, and this can impact on our ability to have a healthy sex life and about ability to make choices about our fertility desires and to claim our human rights.

Please think about whether you have experienced any of the following for extended periods of time – i.e. more than the usual “ups and downs” of life.

34. I have experienced extended periods of: (choose the answer for each issue)

| No | Statement | Before my HIV diagnosis | Since my HIV diagnosis | Because of my HIV diagnosis | Never | Don't know |
|----|--|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|------------|
| 1 | Depression | | | | | |
| 2 | Shame | | | | | |
| 3 | Self-blame | | | | | |
| 4 | Low self esteem | | | | | |
| 5 | Feelings of rejection, including to accept one's diagnosis | | | | | |
| 6 | A strong sense of isolation | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| | (from friends, family, partners) | | | | | |
| 7 | Anxiety/fear/panic attacks | | | | | |
| 8 | Insomnia/difficulty sleeping | | | | | |
| 9 | Anorexia/difficulty eating | | | | | |
| 10 | Difficulty going out and socializing | | | | | |
| 11 | Loneliness | | | | | |
| 12 | Suicidal feelings | | | | | |
| 13 | Post-traumatic stress disorder (forexample, nightmares) | | | | | |
| 14 | Drug and/or alcohol abuse | | | | | |

15. Please tell us more about the impact of these experiences on your sexual and reproductive health and human rights.

16. I visited a psychologist in the following organizations:

| Name of organizations | Never | Rarely | Some times | Often | Always |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|------------|-------|--------|
| NGO | | | | | |
| AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |

Explain why If the answer is "Never":

17. If you visited a psychologist, were you satisfied with the consultation you received?

| Name of organizations | Never | Rarely | Some times | Often | Always |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|------------|-------|--------|
| NGO | | | | | |
| AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |

18. Do you agree with the following statements?

| Statement | Yes | No | Some times | Don't know | Not applicable |
|--|-----|----|------------|------------|----------------|
| A woman must tolerate violence. | | | | | |
| If I go for help, I won't get any help. | | | | | |
| Our medical system is useless. | | | | | |
| I don't deserve medical, psychological, and/or social help because I have HIV. | | | | | |

35. What do you think is the best way of supporting women living with HIV to deal with mental health issues?

3.5 Burden of care

36. The burden of care for other family members often falls on the shoulders of women living with HIV. Mark each line with an X only once.

| No | Statement | Never | Rarely | Some times | Often | Not applicable |
|----|---|-------|--------|------------|-------|----------------|
| 1 | I take care of a sick husband/partner at home | | | | | |
| 2 | I take care of a sick husband/partner living with HIV at home | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 3 | I take care of a sick child at home | | | | | |
| 4 | I take care of a sick child living with HIV at home | | | | | |
| 5 | I take care of sick relatives at home | | | | | |
| 6 | My husband/partner takes care of me at home when I am sick | | | | | |
| 7 | I take care of a sick husband/partner outside the home/in the hospital (I call a doctor, an ambulance, arrange transportation, collect medical tests, buy and deliver medicines, assist with medication, provide post-operative care, etc.) | | | | | |
| 8 | My husband/partner takes care of me outside the home/in the hospital (calls a doctor, an ambulance, arranges transportation, collects medical tests, buys and delivers medicines, assists with medication, provides post-operative care, etc.) | | | | | |
| 9 | I receive childcare financial assistance (government help) | | | | | |
| 10 | I receive childcare non-state support (charitable/public organisations) | | | | | |
| 11 | I receive support from the government to care for a sick husband/relative | | | | | |
| 12 | I receive support from charitable/public organisations to care for a sick husband/relative | | | | | |
| 13 | I receive help and support from women living with HIV to care for a sick husband/relative | | | | | |
| 14 | I receive help and support from women living with HIV to care for a sick child | | | | | |

37. This question is to be answered only by those of you who has a partner and has been living with him in the same territory for the last 3 months (mark each line with an X only once)

| Nº | Activity | Only me | Only my partner | Together | Sometimes he, sometimes me | Other family members | Not applicable |
|----|--|---------|-----------------|----------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Getting children ready to kindergarten/school in the morning | | | | | | |
| 2 | Cooking | | | | | | |
| 3 | Housecleaning | | | | | | |
| 4 | Laundry | | | | | | |
| 5 | Ironing | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 6 | Taking children from kindergarten/school in the evening | | | | | | |
| 7 | Purchase of foodstuffs/household chemical goods | | | | | | |
| 8 | Purchase of household appliances | | | | | | |
| 9 | Children's clothing shopping | | | | | | |
| 10 | Payment of utility bills | | | | | | |
| 11 | Organisation of house parties | | | | | | |
| 12 | Organisation of parties outside the home | | | | | | |
| 13 | Attending parent-teacher conferences/children's events | | | | | | |
| 14 | Visiting a paediatrician/purchasing medicine for children | | | | | | |
| 15 | Visits to the hospital/communication with doctors/purchasing medicines for adult family members | | | | | | |
| 16 | Taking care of sick children at home | | | | | | |
| 17 | Taking care of sick adult family members at home | | | | | | |
| 18 | Visiting social services, officials, social security, pension fund, migration service, etc. | | | | | | |
| 19 | Family budget income distribution (who should spend and for what) | | | | | | |

3.6. HIV treatment and side-effects

Our sexual and reproductive health and human rights can also be affected by our experience of accessing anti-retroviral medicine (ARVs). If we have access to ARVs when we need them, and are able to take them regularly with food (in case of such prescriptions), we can stay well. In this section, we ask you to reflect on some of these issues in relation to ARVs and our sexual and reproductive health and human rights.

39. How often do you see your doctor/HIV service provider?

40. When was your last check on CD4 count? *(Please highlight one answer)*

1. Within the last 3 months
2. 3-6 months ago

3. 6 months – 1 year ago
4. More than 1 year ago
5. Never

41. What is your CD4 count? _____ (if you don't know, just write it so)

42. Are you taking antiretrovirals (ARVs)? YES ___ NO ___

43. If yes, what is the name of your medication?

44. If no, please explain why.

45. Do you regularly experience any of the following? (Please highlight as many as apply):

1. Fatigue/tiredness
2. Loss of libido/sexual desire
3. Vomiting
4. Diarrhoea
5. Constipation
6. Headaches
7. Rashes
8. Mood swings
9. Changes of body shape
10. Hair loss
11. Loss of appetite
12. Strange dreams
13. Menstrual disorders (e.g.) heavy bleeding, very long or painful periods)
14. I have no side-effects
15. Other (please specify) _____

46. When was your last check on viral load? (Please highlight one answer)

1. Within the last 3 months
2. 3-6 months ago
3. 6 months – 1 year ago
4. More than 1 year ago
5. Never

47. What is your latest viral load? _____ (if you don't know, just write it so)

48. Are there any problems with having an undetectable viral load? If so, please explain in your own words.

7. Income and economic opportunities

49. Income. Please indicate your personal monthly income (including salaries, pension, child allowances, financial assistance to IDPs, etc.) _____ **KZT**

50. Number of members of your family living in the same household (area) _____ **people**

51. Indicate the monthly income of your family _____ **KZT**

52. Indicate the desired level of average monthly income (how much you need for a prosperous life, including to take care of your own health) _____ **KZT**

53. Access to services. Which of these issues has the biggest impact on you or other women living with HIV in your community to access quality sexual and reproductive health care and well-being? (Please highlight all that apply)

1. **Cost of services at point of delivery**
2. **Cost of travel to access services**
3. **The cost of preschool education, babysitting services, the queues for enrolling children in the kindergarten**
4. **Unequal inheritance and property rights**
5. **Divorce, widowhood, separation**
6. **Cost and burden of care for other family members**
7. **Lack of family support**
8. **Economic dependence on partner(s), family members**
9. **HIV-related stigma and discrimination in the workplace**
10. **Discrimination in the workplace based on gender, age or presence/lack of children**
11. **Other _____**

54. Economic opportunities. Please choose one answer for each statement and mark with an X

| Nº | Statement | Always | Usually | Some times | Never | Don't Know | Not applicable |
|----|--|--------|---------|------------|-------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | I have access to higher education | | | | | | |
| 2 | I am economically dependent on my partner | | | | | | |
| 3 | I can apply to the employment centre if necessary | | | | | | |
| 4 | I have the opportunity to combine study and work (distance learning) without financial losses in wages (for example, losses — unpaid leave during the session) | | | | | | |
| 5 | I can take free (or at a price that I can afford) courses for additional specialty/to acquire new skills | | | | | | |
| 6 | I easily find a job (within my specialty or not) | | | | | | |
| 7 | I experienced sexual harassment during my studies | | | | | | |
| 8 | I experienced sexual harassment in the workplace | | | | | | |
| 9 | I have access to lending services in any bank | | | | | | |
| 10 | I know how to start my own business if I want to | | | | | | |
| 11 | I know where to ask for help to start my own business | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 12 | I own real estate and other property | | | | | | |
| 13 | I have autonomy over my real estate or other property | | | | | | |
| 14 | I receive social benefits (including child allowances) and manage them independently/ freely/without coercion | | | | | | |
| 15 | Having a child has not affected my career path | | | | | | |
| 16 | Having a child has not affected my income (I have received all maternity benefits, there are prospects for salary increase in the future) | | | | | | |

54. What are the priority changes in policy and practice that would help address these financial issues?

Thank you for your answers! Stay healthy and safe!

APPENDIX 2. RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE FOR A GROUP OF WOMEN WHO USE DRUGS

This questionnaire is intended to conduct research among women who use drugs in the PEPFAR region (Pavlodar, Ust-Kamenogorsk and Semey). The survey includes the following areas: sexual and reproductive health, gender equality and human rights, gender-based violence, economic and political opportunities for women who use drugs. The study was commissioned by USAID and consists of a survey of women who use drugs (questioning of 25 women from three regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan), and an expert analysis of policies, legislative acts, and HIV programs in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The priorities that will be identified will help shape USAID's programmatic activities for 2025-2030.

Questionnaire

We do not ask for your name. Names provided in responses will be removed. Any information that can identify you, such as names of places of residence or organisations, will also be removed. This is necessary to ensure privacy. Any other identifying data will be removed from the responses.

This question requires an answer.

1. I understand that filling in the study, I give my consent for my responses to be used in publications. Please, highlight "I agree" to be able to continue

| | | |
|---|------------|------------------------|
| 1 | I agree | You continue the study |
| 2 | I disagree | The study is over |

This question requires an answer.

2. I am a woman who uses drugs. Please highlight "Yes" to be able to continue

| | | |
|---|-----|------------------------|
| 1 | Yes | You continue the study |
| 2 | No | The study is over |

Part 1 – Personal Data

3. Please tell us about yourself

City _____ Age _____

4. Relationship Status. Please highlight one answer:

1. I am not sexually active
2. I am sexually active, but do not have a partner
3. I have one or more partner(s) living with HIV
4. I have one or more partner(s) not living with HIV
5. I have two or more sexual partners, one or more is living with HIV and one or more is not living with HIV

5. Special issues. Please highlight all that apply to you:

1. I do or have done sex work
2. I inject/use or have injected/used drugs
3. My sexual partner(s) injects/uses or has injected/used drugs
4. I am/have been a client of opioid substitution therapy programme
5. I am/have been in prison
6. I am/have been in a detention centre

7. I am living with disability
8. I have or have had active TB
9. I have or have had Hepatitis C
10. I migrated from one country to another for economic reasons
11. I migrated from one country to another for political reasons
12. I am lesbian, bisexual or have sex with women
13. I am a trans woman
14. I am a heterosexual woman
15. I am married, or in a stable relationship
16. I am an internally displaced person
17. I am or have been homeless
18. Other (optional) _____

6. Marital status

1. Single
2. Married
3. In a civil marriage
4. Divorced
5. Widow

7. I have _____ children,

1. of which _____ children were born when I was using drugs.
1. of whom I gave birth to _____ children, having and HIV-positive status,
2. of whom _____ children have HIV.

8. I learned about my HIV status during pregnancy: YES _____ NO _____

9. Education

1. Lower secondary education
2. Secondary education
3. Incomplete higher education
4. Higher education

10. Occupation

1. Student
2. Employed in the commercial sphere
3. Civil servant
4. Entrepreneur
5. Unemployed
6. Housewife
7. Retiree. The amount of the pension _____
8. Other _____

11. I am _____ employed

1. Officially
2. Unofficially
3. Unemployed

Part 2 - Human Rights

12. Please tell us about your experience of accessing sexual and reproductive health services as a woman who uses drugs. (Please choose one answer for each statement and mark with an X)

| № | Statement | Strongly agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|---|---|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| 1 | I experience the same service as any other women, when I go for sexual and reproductive health services | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 2 | I am aware of sexual and reproductive health treatments, information, services and commodities that exist in my country | | | | | |
| 3 | I can get free and quality sexual and reproductive health treatments, information, services or commodities, when I need them | | | | | |
| 4 | I find the service providers well-trained and knowledgeable, friendly, and supportive | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 5 | My experience of accessing sexual and reproductive health care has been good, and I have confidence in the advice and treatment I receive | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 6 | I believe my service provider offers a full range of choices for sexual and reproductive health care, including family planning options and prevention, diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 7 | I am given all the information I need to make a decision about proceeding with a service or treatment, without feeling any pressure from the service provider | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 8 | I trust the service providers not to share my HIV status or any other details about me without my permission | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 9 | My doctor listens to me, and gives advice based on my needs and realities as a woman who uses drugs | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 10 | I know my rights, and if I experience a rights violation within the health service, I know where I can go to make a complaint | | | | | |
| Please explain in more detail where exactly you will contact: | | | | | | |
| 11 | I can contact an NGO to receive services | | | | | |
| If you answered "yes", please explain what services you receive from the NGO: | | | | | | |
| 12 | I can contact relevant specialists without fear of reporting drug use to the following organization | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 13 | I can't afford to go to specialists | | | | | |
| If you answered "I agree," please explain why and indicate which specialist you are talking about: | | | | | | |

13. Please feel free to give more information on your experience of accessing your sexual and reproductive health and human rights if you would like to

14. What would you like to say to decision makers and policy makers in Kazakhstan about how they can help to promote and protect your sexual and reproductive health and human rights? Please try to be as specific as possible

15. What are the most important issues that you would like to see addressed in the legal and normative acts in order to make them the most useful tool? Please be as specific as possible _____

Part 3 – Context and realities for women who use drugs

3.1. Healthy sex life

Women who uses drugs have the same right and possibility as all women to enjoy a healthy, safe and satisfying sex life, free from force, coercion, discrimination or violence.

16. Please tell us about your sex experience (Please **choose one answer** for each statement and mark with an X)

| Nº | Statement | Always | Usually | Some times | Never | Don't know | Not applicable |
|----|--|--------|---------|------------|-------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | I want to have sex often/have strong feelings of sexual desire | | | | | | |
| 2 | I find sex pleasurable for myself and for my partner(s) | | | | | | |
| 3 | I have sex to satisfy my partner | | | | | | |
| 4 | I initiate sex with my partner(s) and make suggestions about how | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | we have sex | | | | | | |
| 5 | I have sex when I want to | | | | | | |
| 6 | I have sex when my partner(s) want(s) to | | | | | | |
| 7 | I find it easy to “come”/have an orgasm during sex | | | | | | |
| 8 | My body makes enough lubrication (how “wet” you feel when you want to have sex) | | | | | | |
| 9 | I know where I can get information on sexually transmitted infections, safer sex, condom use, and contraception | | | | | | |
| 10 | I am able to have sex without fear of getting any sexually transmitted infections (STIs) from my partner | | | | | | |
| 11 | If I have an STI I am able to get diagnosis and treatment for it without fear of judgement from the health provider | | | | | | |
| 12 | I am able to have sex without fear of getting pregnant | | | | | | |
| 13 | I am able to have sex without fear of passing on HIV to my partner(s) | | | | | | |
| 14. | I know how to protect myself from HIV, and Hep C | | | | | | |
| 15. | I feel safe with my partner(s) | | | | | | |
| 16. | I am able to talk to my health care provider about my sexual health and needs | | | | | | |
| 17. | I am able to access the products I need to have a good sex life (e.g. lubricants, dental dams, female condoms, male condoms, contraceptives) | | | | | | |
| Explain which of the products you would like to use, but cannot and why: | | | | | | | |
| 18 | I can afford to buy the products I need to have a good sex life (see above) | | | | | | |
| 19 | My partner is happy to use a male condom if I want him to | | | | | | |
| If you answered “Never,” please explain how your partner explains his choice: | | | | | | | |
| 20 | I am able to use a female condom if I want to | | | | | | |
| If you answered “Never,” please explain why: | | | | | | | |

17. As a woman who uses drugs, what has helped you MOST to achieve a satisfying and enjoyable sex life? _____

18. What has been the BIGGEST barrier to you enjoying a satisfying sex life, or what do you think most urgently needs to change? _____

19. What would improve your sexual health, safety, well-being and pleasure? (These could

be psychological, physical, sexual, spiritual financial, legal and/or institutional support - or something else. It's entirely up to you.) Please try to be as specific as possible.

3.2. Pregnancy and fertility

As women who uses drugs, we have the same right as all women to make choices about when and whether we would like to have children, and to do this in a safe, informed and supportive environment, knowing that we can be healthy mothers to healthy children - or can be supported in our choice not to have children if we don't want to.

20. Please tell us about your experiences of pregnancy and fertility as a woman who uses drugs (Please choose one answer for each statement and mark with an X)

| Nº | Statement | Yes | No | Don't know | Not applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----|----|------------|----------------|
| 1 | I have been supported by my partner(s) to make choices about my fertility (to decide whether or not to have a child/children) | | | | |
| 2 | I have been supported my by health provider to make choices about my fertility | | | | |
| Explain why if the answer was "No": | | | | | |
| 3 | I have been supported by my family and community to make choices about my fertility | | | | |
| 4 | I have been given advice about safe conception (getting pregnant without putting myself or my partner at risk of transmission of HIV or other sexually transmitted infections) | | | | |
| 5 | I have been given support with safe conception (without putting myself or my partner at risk of transmission of HIV or other sexually transmitted infections) | | | | |
| 6 | I can talk to my doctor/service provider about my fertility desires | | | | |
| Explain why if the answer was "No": | | | | | |
| 7 | I have been/am able to access free infertility treatment, assisted reproductive technology if I need it (e.g. I.V.F.) | | | | |
| Explain why if the answer was "No": | | | | | |
| 8 | I was given adequate counselling before and after the test for HIV | | | | |
| 9 | I have been given counselling on family planning and advice on child spacing | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | |
| 10 | I have had one or more unplanned pregnancy | | | | |
| 11 | I have access to safe and free or affordable abortion, if I need it | | | | |
| 12 | I have access to post-abortion/-miscarriage care, if I need it | | | | |
| 13 | I know I can speak to other women who uses drugs who will give me advice on healthy | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|
| | motherhood if I want to | | | | |
| 14 | I have been able to make choices about where I want to deliver my baby | | | | |
| 15 | I can count on free formula from the state to feed my child up to 1 year of age | | | | |
| 16 | I have been supported to make decisions about how to feed my baby without fear of what people will say at the next health providers | | | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) • Family clinic (PHC) • Private clinic • NGO | | | | |
| 17 | I can decide to have a(nother) child without fear of what people will say | | | | |
| 18 | I can access the family planning/contraception that I prefer | | | | |
| 19 | I am able to use the family planning/contraception that I prefer without resistance from my partner(s) | | | | |
| 20 | I have access to emergency contraception (the morning-after pill) if I need it | | | | |
| 21 | I can access legal counselling on adoption choices | | | | |
| 22 | I can access pre-exposure prophylaxis, if my partner needs it | | | | |
| 23 | I can access post-exposure prophylaxis, if I need it | | | | |
| 24 | I have regular check-ups/Pap smears for early detection of cervical cancer | | | | |
| 25 | I do regular breast screening | | | | |
| 26 | I can get advice from a doctor on pregnancy management if I report my drug use | | | | |

21. Describe the BEST experience you have had to support your decisions and desires about having children – or not having children.

22. What has been the BIGGEST barrier for you to make choices about your fertility desires?

23. What would improve your reproductive health and human rights? (Psychological, physical, sexual, spiritual financial, legal and/or institutional support – or something else). *Please try to be as specific as possible.*

3.3. Violence against women

Violence against women: Any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.

Violence against women includes child sexual abuse, rape, intimate partner violence, sexual violence and harassment, trafficking in human beings and harmful traditional practices, including female genital mutilation.

Intimate partner violence: Actual or threatened physical or sexual violence or psychological and emotional abuse directed towards a spouse, ex-spouse, current or former boyfriend or girlfriend, or current or former dating partner. Intimate partner violence includes slapping, kicking, burning, strangulation (physical); coerced sex through force, threats, intimidation, etc. (sexual); isolation, verbal aggression, humiliation, stalking, economic violence, controlling victim’s access to health care or employment (psychological).

Violence against women who uses drugs: Any act, structure or process in which power is exerted in such a way as to cause physical, sexual, psychological, financial or legal harm to women uses drugs. Violence against women who use drugs is described in more detail below.

A: Violence from a sexual partner or spouse could include: hitting, kicking, punching; threats of physical or emotional violence (for example threatening to leave you); making you have sex when you don’t want to; making you have sex without a condom; blame, name-calling; making you feel stupid; stopping you from seeing friends; working; leaving the house; seeking medical care for you or your children.

24. I have experienced violence from a sexual partner or spouse (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| Yes | Never | Don’t know |
|-----|-------|------------|
| | | |

B: Violence from a member of my family/neighbours could include: refusing to share food/utensils; name-calling; blame; rejection; abandonment; physical violence like hitting, kicking, or pulling hair; a member of the family or neighbour touching, kissing or making you have sex when you don’t want to.

25. I have experienced violence from a member of my family/neighbours (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| Yes | Never | Don’t know |
|-----|-------|------------|
| | | |

C: Violence in the community could include: gossip, bad words, rejection, avoidance, children being stigmatized or avoided; being attacked or beaten by a stranger; being touched or made to have sex with someone who is not your partner when you don’t want to; being raped because of your sexual orientation or gender identity (“corrective rape”); hate motivated violence against trans women; any form of violence against sex workers by clients or strangers.

26. I have experienced violence in the community (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| Yes | Never | Don’t know |
|-----|-------|------------|
| | | |

D: Violence in a health setting could include: rude or judgmental service providers; denial of medical care; being asked how you came to be HIV-positive; disclosing your status without your consent; making you take an HIV test without telling you or without asking for your consent; refusing to give you all the information about available services; forced/coerced abortion or sterilization; making you wait until other clients have been seen; being refused a certain type of contraceptive, even when it is available; placing in separate or isolated rooms.

27. I have experienced violence in health settings (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| | | |
|-----|-------|------------|
| Yes | Never | Don't know |
| | | |

27.1. Over the past 2 years, I have experienced from medical staff:

- Forced abortion
- Forced use of a particular type of contraception
- Denial of access to contraception
- Verbal abuse
- Denial of health services because of HIV status
- Arrogance, pejorative attitudes, prejudice
- Physical violence
- Compulsory HIV testing
- Forced sterilization
- Add another, if relevant, and please clarify _____

E: Violence from the police/military/prison or detention services could include: police harassment; arrest without giving a reason, or because you are carrying condoms, lubricant or clean injection equipment; threat of or actual sexual violence or rape by police, prison/detention guards, military personnel; denial of health care in prison or detention; disclosure of HIV status; refusal to provide services.

28. I have experienced violence from the police/military/prison or detention services
(please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| | | |
|-----|-------|------------|
| Yes | Never | Don't know |
| | | |

29. I have experienced fear of any form of violence (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| | | |
|-----|-------|------------|
| Yes | Never | Don't know |
| | | |

30. Please tell us about any of these experiences of violence in more detail

31. If you have experienced any of these forms of violence, were you able to access support services, and did they help you to deal with the situation/experience?

32. What do you think are the most important ways to address or prevent these forms of violence? (Please choose one answer for each statement and mark with an X)

| Nº | Statement | Critical | Important | Less important | Don't know |
|----|---|----------|-----------|----------------|------------|
| 1 | Remove laws which criminalise sex work | | | | |
| 2 | Remove laws which criminalise drug possession | | | | |
| 3 | Remove laws which criminalize HIV exposure/transmission | | | | |
| 4 | Ensure access to free rehabilitation and | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|------|---|--|--|--|--|
| | addiction treatment (alcohol, drugs) | | | | |
| 5 | Increase access to education and employment for women (entrepreneurship education, vocational training, scholarships, free courses, interaction with employment centres) | | | | |
| 6 | Provide for enhanced social protection for women and children (social benefits, free infant formula, prescriptions for free medicines, health resorts, especially for children with disabilities) | | | | |
| 7 | Ensure the availability of pre-school education (eliminate turns in kindergartens) | | | | |
| 8 | Increase access to harm reduction programmes for women who use drugs and sex workers by providing women-centred services | | | | |
| 9 | Focus the attention of healthcare workers on the rights of women living with HIV (through training of healthcare workers on working with HIV+ women, introduction of courses in medical schools/institutes/universities, conducting trainings in hospitals and polyclinics) | | | | |
| 10 | Increase access to quality support services for women survivors of violence (including sexual violence): | | | | |
| 10.1 | Centres/shelters with the possibility of round-the-clock accommodation, including with children | | | | |
| 10.2 | Centres/shelters with the possibility of round-the-clock accommodation, including with children and for women who use drugs, sex workers and/or OST patients | | | | |
| 10.3 | 24/7 hotline | | | | |
| 10.4 | Support groups | | | | |
| 10.5 | Professional counselling (doctor, psychotherapist, lawyer, social worker) | | | | |
| 11 | Provide a minimum free support after rape including post-exposure prophylaxis, emergency contraception, STI screening, social assistance and counselling | | | | |
| 12 | Provide legal protection against all forms of violence against women (free attorneys to handle litigations, street lawyers for women who use drugs and sex workers, mobile response teams, engagement with law enforcement to reduce police violence) | | | | |
| 13 | Recognize and address the issue of marital and date rape (analyze, build evidence, conduct education campaigns) | | | | |
| 14 | Provide effective mechanisms for filing complaints and redress in case of violation of rights in the healthcare service (hotline of the Ministry of Health of Kazakhstan or the oblast department of health, monitoring of violations and reports of community- | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|
| | based/patient organisations to coordination/supervisory boards) | | | | |
| 15 | Other (please specify _____) | | | | |

3.4. Mental health

Many women who uses drugs experience mental health problems, and this can impact on our ability to have a healthy sex life and about ability to make choices about our fertility desires and to claim our human rights.

Please think about whether you have experienced any of the following for extended periods of time – i.e. more than the usual “ups and downs” of life.

33. I have experienced extended periods of: (choose the answer for each issue)

| Nº | Statement | Before my HIV diagnosis | Since my HIV diagnosis | Because of my HIV diagnosis |
|----|--|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Depression | | | |
| 2 | Shame | | | |
| 3 | Self-blame | | | |
| 4 | Low self esteem | | | |
| 5 | Feelings of rejection, including to accept one’s diagnosis | | | |
| 6 | A strong sense of isolation (from friends, family, partners) | | | |
| 7 | Anxiety/fear/panic attacks | | | |
| 8 | Insomnia/difficulty sleeping | | | |
| 9 | Anorexia/difficulty eating | | | |
| 10 | Difficulty going out and socializing | | | |
| 11 | Loneliness | | | |
| 12 | Suicidal feelings | | | |
| 13 | Post-traumatic stress disorder (forexample, nightmares) | | | |
| 14 | Drug and/or alcohol abuse | | | |

15. Please tell us more about the impact of these experiences on your sexual and reproductive health and human rights.

16. I visited a psychologist in the following organizations:

| Name of organizations | Never | Rarely | Some times | Often | Always |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|------------|-------|--------|
| NGO | | | | | |
| AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |

Explain why If the answer is “Never”:

17. If you visited a psychologist, were you satisfied with the consultation you received?

| Name of organizations | Never | Rarely | Some times | Often | Always |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|------------|-------|--------|
| NGO | | | | | |
| AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |

18. Do you agree with the following statements?

| Statement | Yes | No | Some times | Don’t know | Not applicable |
|-----------|-----|----|------------|------------|----------------|
|-----------|-----|----|------------|------------|----------------|

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| A woman must tolerate violence. | | | | | |
| If I go for help, I won't get any help. | | | | | |
| Our medical system is useless. | | | | | |
| I don't deserve medical, psychological, and/or social help because I have HIV. | | | | | |

34. What do you think is the best way of supporting women who uses drugs to deal with mental health issues?

3.5. Physical health

Many women who uses drugs experience physical health problems

35. I have experienced extended periods of: (choose the answer for each issue)

| No | Statement | Never | Rarly | Some times | Often | Not applicable |
|----|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|-------|----------------|
| 1 | Overdose | | | | | |
| 2 | Abscesses | | | | | |
| 3 | Thrombophlebitis | | | | | |
| 4 | Varicose veins | | | | | |
| 5 | Dental problems | | | | | |
| 6 | Irregularity/absence of menstruation | | | | | |

3.6 Burden of care

36. The burden of care for other family members often falls on the shoulders of women living with HIV. Mark each line with an X only once.

| No | Statement | Never | Rarely | Some times | Often | Not applicable |
|----|---|-------|--------|------------|-------|----------------|
| 1 | I take care of a sick husband/partner at home | | | | | |
| 2 | I take care of a sick husband/partner living with HIV at home | | | | | |
| 3 | I take care of a sick child at home | | | | | |
| 4 | I take care of a sick child living with HIV at home | | | | | |
| 5 | I take care of sick relatives at home | | | | | |
| 6 | My husband/partner takes care of me at home when I am sick | | | | | |
| 7 | I take care of a sick husband/partner outside the home/in the hospital (I call a doctor, an ambulance, arrange transportation, collect medical tests, buy and deliver medicines, assist with medication, provide post-operative care, etc.) | | | | | |
| 8 | My husband/partner takes care of me outside the home/in the | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | hospital (calls a doctor, an ambulance, arranges transportation, collects medical tests, buys and delivers medicines, assists with medication, provides post-operative care, etc.) | | | | | |
| 9 | I receive childcare financial assistance (government help) | | | | | |
| 10 | I receive childcare non-state support (charitable/public organisations) | | | | | |
| 11 | I receive support from the government to care for a sick husband/relative | | | | | |
| 12 | I receive support from charitable/public organisations to care for a sick husband/relative | | | | | |

37. This question is to be answered only by those of you who has a partner and has been living with him in the same territory for the last 3 months (mark each line with an X only once)

| Nº | Activity | Only me | Only my partner | Together | Sometimes he, sometimes me | Other family members | Not applicable |
|----|--|---------|-----------------|----------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Getting children ready to kindergarten/school in the morning | | | | | | |
| 2 | Cooking | | | | | | |
| 3 | Housecleaning | | | | | | |
| 4 | Laundry | | | | | | |
| 5 | Ironing | | | | | | |
| 6 | Taking children from kindergarten/school in the evening | | | | | | |
| 7 | Purchase of foodstuffs/household chemical goods | | | | | | |
| 8 | Purchase of household appliances | | | | | | |
| 9 | Children's clothing shopping | | | | | | |
| 10 | Payment of utility bills | | | | | | |
| 11 | Organisation of house parties | | | | | | |
| 12 | Organisation of parties outside the home | | | | | | |
| 13 | Attending parent-teacher conferences/children's events | | | | | | |
| 14 | Visiting a paediatrician/purchasing medicine for children | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 15 | Visits to the hospital/communication with doctors/purchasing medicines for adult family members | | | | | | |
| 16 | Taking care of sick children at home | | | | | | |
| 17 | Taking care of sick adult family members at home | | | | | | |
| 18 | Visiting social services, officials, social security, pension fund, migration service, etc. | | | | | | |
| 19 | Family budget income distribution (who should spend and for what) | | | | | | |
| 20 | Housing costs | | | | | | |

4. Income and economic opportunities

38. Income. Please indicate your personal monthly income (including salaries, pension, child allowances, financial assistance to IDPs, etc.) _____ **KZT**

39. Number of members of your family living in the same household (area) _____ people

40. Indicate the monthly income of your family _____ KZT

41. Indicate the desired level of average monthly income (how much you need for a prosperous life, including to take care of your own health) _____ **KZT**

42. Access to services. Which of these issues has the biggest impact on you or other women living with HIV in your community to access quality sexual and reproductive health care and well-being? (Please highlight all that apply)

1. **Cost of services at point of delivery**
2. **Cost of travel to access services**
3. **The cost of preschool education, babysitting services, the queues for enrolling children in the kindergarten**
4. **Unequal inheritance and property rights**
5. **Divorce, widowhood, separation**
6. **Cost and burden of care for other family members**
7. **Lack of family support**
8. **Economic dependence on partner(s), family members**
9. **HIV-related stigma and discrimination in the workplace**
10. **Discrimination in the workplace based on gender, age or presence/lack of children**
11. **Other _____**

43. Economic opportunities. Please choose one answer for each statement and mark with an X

| Nº | Statement | Always | Usually | Some times | Never | Don't Know | Not applicable |
|----|-------------------------|--------|---------|------------|-------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | I have access to higher | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | education | | | | | | |
| 2 | I am economically dependent on my partner | | | | | | |
| 3 | I can apply to the employment centre if necessary | | | | | | |
| 4 | I have the opportunity to combine study and work (distance learning) without financial losses in wages (for example, losses — unpaid leave during the session) | | | | | | |
| 5 | I can take free (or at a price that I can afford) courses for additional specialty/to acquire new skills | | | | | | |
| 6 | I easily find a job (within my specialty or not) | | | | | | |
| 7 | I experienced sexual harassment during my studies | | | | | | |
| 8 | I experienced sexual harassment in the workplace | | | | | | |
| 9 | I have access to lending services in any bank | | | | | | |
| 10 | I know how to start my own business if I want to | | | | | | |
| 11 | I know where to ask for help to start my own business | | | | | | |
| 12 | I own real estate and other property | | | | | | |
| 13 | I have autonomy over my real estate or other property | | | | | | |
| 14 | I receive social benefits (including child allowances) and manage them independently/freely/without coercion | | | | | | |
| 15 | Having a child has not affected my career path | | | | | | |
| 16 | Having a child has not affected my income (I have received all maternity benefits, there are prospects for salary increase in the | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| future) | | | | | | | |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

44. What are the priority changes in policy and practice that would help address these financial issues?_____

Thank you for your answers! Stay healthy and safe!

APPENDIX 3. RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE FOR WOMEN FROM THE GROUP OF SEX WORKERS

This questionnaire is intended to conduct research among sex workers in the PEPFAR region (Ust-Kamenogorsk and Semey). The survey includes the following areas: sexual and reproductive health, gender equality and human rights, gender-based violence, economic and political opportunities for women involved in sex work. The study was commissioned by USAID and consists of a survey of sex workers (questionnaire of 10 women), and an expert analysis of policies, legislation, and HIV programs in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The priorities that will be identified will help shape USAID's programmatic activities for 2025-2030.

Questionnaire

We do not ask for your name. Names provided in responses will be removed. Any information that can identify you, such as names of places of residence or organisations, will also be removed. This is necessary to ensure privacy. Any other identifying data will be removed from the responses.

This question requires an answer.

1. I understand that filling in the study, I give my consent for my responses to be used in publications. Please, highlight "I agree" to be able to continue

| | | |
|---|------------|------------------------|
| 1 | I agree | You continue the study |
| 2 | I disagree | The study is over |

This question requires an answer.

2. I am a sex worker. Please highlight "Yes" to be able to continue

| | | |
|---|-----|------------------------|
| 1 | Yes | You continue the study |
| 2 | No | The study is over |

Part 1 – Personal Data

3. Please tell us about yourself

City _____ Age _____

4. Relationship Status. Please highlight one answer:

1. I have one or more partner(s) living with HIV
2. I have one or more partner(s) not living with HIV
3. I have two or more sexual partners, one or more is living with HIV and one or more is not living with HIV
4. I don't know my partners living with HIV or no

5. Special issues. Please highlight all that apply to you:

1. I do or have done sex work
2. I inject/use or have injected/used drugs
3. My sexual partner(s) injects/uses or has injected/used drugs
4. I am/have been a client of opioid substitution therapy programme
5. I am/have been in prison
6. I am/have been in a detention centre
7. I am living with disability

8. I have or have had active TB
9. I have or have had Hepatitis C
10. I migrated from one country to another for economic reasons
11. I migrated from one country to another for political reasons
12. I am lesbian, bisexual or have sex with women
13. I am a trans woman
14. I am a heterosexual woman
15. I am married, or in a stable relationship
16. I am an internally displaced person
17. I am or have been homeless
18. Other (optional) _____

6. Marital status

1. Single
2. Married
3. In a civil marriage
4. Divorced
5. Widow

7. I have _____ children,

1. of which _____ children were born when I was using drugs.
2. of whom _____ children I gave birth to while doing sex work
1. of whom I gave birth to _____ children, having and HIV-positive status,
2. of whom _____ children have HIV.

8. I learned about my HIV status during pregnancy: YES _____ NO _____

9. Education

1. Lower secondary education
2. Secondary education
3. Incomplete higher education
4. Higher education

10. Occupation

1. Student
2. Employed in the commercial sphere
3. Civil servant
4. Entrepreneur
5. Unemployed
6. Housewife
7. Retiree. The amount of the pension _____
8. I work permanently under an employment contract
9. Unofficial income
- Other _____

Part 2 - Human Rights

12. Please tell us about your experience of accessing sexual and reproductive health services as a woman in sex work (Please choose one answer for each statement and mark with an X)

| Nº | Statement | Strongly agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|----|---|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| 1 | I experience the same service as any other women, when I go for sexual and reproductive | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | health services | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 2 | I am aware of sexual and reproductive health treatments, information, services and commodities that exist in my country | | | | | |
| 3 | I can get free and quality sexual and reproductive health treatments, information, services or commodities, when I need them | | | | | |
| 4 | I find the service providers well-trained and knowledgeable, friendly, and supportive of sex workers | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 5 | My experience of accessing sexual and reproductive health care has been good, and I have confidence in the advice and treatment I receive when I report my sex work | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 6 | I believe my service provider offers a full range of choices for sexual and reproductive health care, including family planning options and prevention, diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) based on my sex work | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 7 | I am given all the information I need to make a decision about proceeding with a service or treatment, without feeling any pressure from the service provider | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 8 | I trust the service providers not to share my HIV status or any other details about me without my permission | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 9 | My doctor listens to me, and gives advice based on my needs and realities as a woman in sex work | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 10 | I know my rights, and if I | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| | experience a rights violation within the health service, I know where I can go to make a complaint | | | | | |
| Please explain in more detail where exactly you will contact: | | | | | | |
| 11 | I can contact an NGO to receive services | | | | | |
| If you answered "yes", please explain what services you receive from the NGO: | | | | | | |
| 12 | I can contact relevant specialists without fear of reporting sex work to the following organization | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | | |
| 13 | I can't afford to go to specialists | | | | | |
| If you answered "I agree," please explain why and indicate which specialist you are talking about: | | | | | | |

13. Please feel free to give more information on your experience of accessing your sexual and reproductive health and human rights if you would like to

14. What would you like to say to decision makers and policy makers in Kazakhstan about how they can help to promote and protect your sexual and reproductive health and human rights? Please try to be as specific as possible

15. What are the most important issues that you would like to see addressed in the legal and normative acts in order to make them the most useful tool? Please be as specific as possible

Part 3 – Context and realities for women from group of sex workers

3.1. Healthy sex life

Women in sex work have the same right and possibility as all women to enjoy a healthy, safe and satisfying sex life, free from force, coercion, discrimination or violence.

16. Please tell us about your sex experience (Please **choose one answer** for each statement and mark with an X)

| Nº | Statement | Always | Usually | Some times | Never | Don't know | Not applicable |
|----|--|--------|---------|------------|-------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | I want to have sex often/have strong feelings of sexual desire | | | | | | |
| 2 | I find sex pleasurable for myself and for my partner(s) | | | | | | |
| 3 | I have sex to satisfy my partner | | | | | | |
| 4 | I initiate sex with my partner(s) and make suggestions about how we have sex | | | | | | |
| 5 | I have sex when I want to | | | | | | |
| 6 | I have sex when my partner(s) want(s) to | | | | | | |
| 7 | I have sex for income | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 7 | I find it easy to “come”/have an orgasm during sex | | | | | | |
| 8 | My body makes enough lubrication (how “wet” you feel when you want to have sex) | | | | | | |
| 9 | I know where I can get information on sexually transmitted infections, safer sex, condom use, and contraception | | | | | | |
| 10 | I am able to have sex without fear of getting any sexually transmitted infections (STIs) from my partner | | | | | | |
| 11 | If I have an STI I am able to get diagnosis and treatment for it without fear of judgement from the health provider | | | | | | |
| 12 | I am able to have sex without fear of getting pregnant | | | | | | |
| 13 | I am able to have sex without fear of passing on HIV to my partner(s) | | | | | | |
| 14. | I know how to protect myself from HIV, and Hep C | | | | | | |
| 15. | I feel safe with my partner(s) | | | | | | |
| | • My partner will not harm my body | | | | | | |
| | • My partner agrees with me about having sex with third parties | | | | | | |
| | • My partner disposes of my body and may give it to a third party | | | | | | |
| 17 | I am able to talk to my health care provider about my sexual health and how to stay safe during sex work | | | | | | |
| 18 | I am able to access the products I need to have a good sex life (e.g. lubricants, dental dams, female condoms, male condoms, contraceptives) | | | | | | |
| 19 | I can afford to buy the products I need to have a good sex life (see above) | | | | | | |
| Explain which of the products you would like to use, but cannot and why: | | | | | | | |
| 19 | My partner is happy to use a male condom if I want him to | | | | | | |
| If you answered “Never,” please explain how your partner explains his choice: | | | | | | | |
| 20 | I am able to use a female condom if I want to | | | | | | |
| If you answered “Never,” please explain why: | | | | | | | |

17. As a woman in sex work, what has helped you MOST to achieve a satisfying and enjoyable sex life? _____

18. What has been the BIGGEST barrier to you enjoying a satisfying sex life, or what do you think most urgently needs to change? _____

19. What would improve your sexual health, safety, well-being and pleasure? (These could be psychological, physical, sexual, spiritual financial, legal and/or institutional support - or something else. It's entirely up to you.) Please try to be as specific as possible.

3.2. Pregnancy and fertility

As women in sex work, we have the same right as all women to make choices about when and whether we would like to have children, and to do this in a safe, informed and supportive environment, knowing that we can be healthy mothers to healthy children - or can be supported in our choice not to have children if we don't want to.

20. Please tell us about your experiences of pregnancy and fertility as an woman in sex work (Please choose one answer for each statement and mark with an X)

1.1.

| No | Statement | Yes | No | Don't know | Not applicable |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----|----|------------|----------------|
| 1 | I have been supported by my partner(s) to make choices about my fertility (to decide whether or not to have a child/children) | | | | |
| 2 | I have been supported my by health provider to make choices about my fertility | | | | |
| Explain why if the answer was "No": | | | | | |
| 3 | I have been supported by my family and community to make choices about my fertility | | | | |
| 4 | I have been given advice about safe conception (getting pregnant without putting myself or my partner at risk of transmission of HIV or other sexually transmitted infections) | | | | |
| 5 | I have been given support with safe conception (without putting myself or my partner at risk of transmission of HIV or other sexually transmitted infections) | | | | |
| 6 | I can talk to my doctor/service provider about my fertility desires | | | | |
| Explain why if the answer was "No": | | | | | |
| 7 | I have been/am able to access free infertility treatment, assisted reproductive technology if I need it (e.g. I.V.F.) | | | | |
| Explain why if the answer was "No": | | | | | |
| 8 | I was given adequate counselling before and after the test for HIV | | | | |
| 9 | I have been given counselling on family planning and advice on child spacing considering my sex work | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | |
| 10 | I have had one or more unplanned pregnancy | | | | |
| 11 | I have access to safe and free or affordable | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|
| | abortion, if I need it | | | | |
| 12 | I have access to post-abortion/-miscarriage care, if I need it | | | | |
| 13 | I know I can speak to other women in sex work who will give me advice on healthy motherhood if I want to | | | | |
| 14 | I have been able to make choices about where I want to deliver my baby | | | | |
| 15 | I have been supported to make decisions about how to feed my baby (breastfeeding, formula), based on my sex work in the following organizations: | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | | | | |
| | • Private clinic | | | | |
| | • NGO | | | | |
| 16 | I can decide to have a(nother) child without fear of what people will say | | | | |
| 17 | I can access the family planning/contraception that I prefer | | | | |
| 18 | I am able to use the family planning/contraception that I prefer without resistance from my partner(s) | | | | |
| 19 | I have access to emergency contraception (the morning-after pill) if I need it | | | | |
| 20 | I can access legal counselling on adoption choices | | | | |
| 21 | I can access pre-exposure prophylaxis, if my partner needs it | | | | |
| 22 | I can access post-exposure prophylaxis, if I need it | | | | |
| 23 | I have regular check-ups/Pap smears for early detection of cervical cancer | | | | |
| 24 | I do regular breast screening | | | | |
| 25 | I can get advice from a doctor on pregnancy management if I report my sex work | | | | |
| 26 | I was vaccinated against HPV (human papillomavirus). | | | | |

21. Describe the BEST experience you have had to support your decisions and desires about having children – or not having children.

22. What has been the BIGGEST barrier for you to make choices about your fertility desires?

23. What would improve your reproductive health and human rights? (Psychological, physical, sexual, spiritual financial, legal and/or institutional support – or something else). *Please try to be as specific as possible.*

3.3. Violence against women

Violence against women: Any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.

Violence against women includes child sexual abuse, rape, intimate partner violence, sexual violence and harassment, trafficking in human beings and harmful traditional practices, including female genital mutilation.

Intimate partner violence: Actual or threatened physical or sexual violence or psychological and emotional abuse directed towards a spouse, ex-spouse, current or former boyfriend or girlfriend, or current or former dating partner. Intimate partner violence includes slapping, kicking, burning, strangulation (physical); coerced sex through force, threats, intimidation, etc. (sexual); isolation, verbal aggression, humiliation, stalking, economic violence, controlling victim's access to health care or employment (psychological).

Violence against women in sex work: Any act, structure or process in which power is exerted in such a way as to cause physical, sexual, psychological, financial or legal harm to women in sex work. Violence against women in sex work is described in more detail below.

A: Violence from a sexual partner or spouse could include: hitting, kicking, punching; threats of physical or emotional violence (for example threatening to leave you); making you have sex when you don't want to; making you have sex without a condom; blame, name-calling; making you feel stupid; stopping you from seeing friends; working; leaving the house; seeking medical care for you or your children.

24. I have experienced violence from a sexual partner or spouse (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| Yes | Never | Don't know |
|-----|-------|------------|
| | | |

B: Violence from a member of my family/neighbours could include: refusing to share food/utensils; name-calling; blame; rejection; abandonment; physical violence like hitting, kicking, or pulling hair; a member of the family or neighbour touching, kissing or making you have sex when you don't want to.

25. I have experienced violence from a member of my family/neighbours (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| Yes | Never | Don't know |
|-----|-------|------------|
| | | |

C: Violence in the community could include: gossip, bad words, rejection, avoidance, children being stigmatized or avoided; being attacked or beaten by a stranger; being touched or made to have sex with someone who is not your partner when you don't want to; being raped because of your sexual orientation or gender identity ("corrective rape"); hate motivated violence against trans women; any form of violence against sex workers by clients or strangers.

26. I have experienced violence in the community (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| Yes | Never | Don't know |
|-----|-------|------------|
| | | |

D: Violence in a health setting could include: rude or judgmental service providers; denial of medical care; being asked how you came to be HIV-positive; disclosing your status without your consent; making you take an HIV test without telling you or without asking for your consent; refusing to give you all the information about available services; forced/coerced abortion or sterilization; making you wait until other clients have been seen; being refused a certain type of

contraceptive, even when it is available; placing in separate or isolated rooms.

27. I have experienced violence in health settings (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| | | |
|-----|-------|------------|
| Yes | Never | Don't know |
| | | |

27.1. Over the past 2 years, I have experienced from medical staff:

- Forced abortion
- Forced use of a particular type of contraception
- Denial of access to contraception
- Verbal abuse
- Denial of health services because of HIV status
- Arrogance, pejorative attitudes, prejudice
- Physical violence
- Compulsory HIV testing
- Forced sterilization
- Add another, if relevant, and please clarify _____

E: Violence from the police/military/prison or detention services could include: police harassment; arrest without giving a reason, or because you are carrying condoms, lubricant or clean injection equipment; threat of or actual sexual violence or rape by police, prison/detention guards, military personnel; denial of health care in prison or detention; disclosure of HIV status; refusal to provide services.

28. I have experienced violence from the police/military/prison or detention services (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| | | |
|-----|-------|------------|
| Yes | Never | Don't know |
| | | |

29. I have experienced fear of any form of violence (please mark all the answers that apply with an X)

| | | |
|-----|-------|------------|
| Yes | Never | Don't know |
| | | |

30. Please tell us about any of these experiences of violence in more detail

31. If you have experienced any of these forms of violence, were you able to access support services, and did they help you to deal with the situation/experience?

32. What do you think are the most important ways to address or prevent these forms of violence? (Please choose one answer for each statement and mark with an X)

| No | Statement | Critical | Important | Less important | Don't know |
|----|---|----------|-----------|----------------|------------|
| 1 | Remove laws which criminalise sex work | | | | |
| 2 | Remove laws which criminalise drug possession | | | | |
| 3 | Remove laws which criminalize HIV | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|------|---|--|--|--|--|
| | exposure/transmission | | | | |
| 4 | Ensure access to free rehabilitation and addiction treatment (alcohol, drugs) | | | | |
| 5 | Increase access to education and employment for women (entrepreneurship education, vocational training, scholarships, free courses, interaction with employment centres) | | | | |
| 6 | Provide for enhanced social protection for women and children (social benefits, free infant formula, prescriptions for free medicines, health resorts, especially for children with disabilities) | | | | |
| 7 | Ensure the availability of pre-school education (eliminate turns in kindergartens) | | | | |
| 8 | Increase access to harm reduction programmes for women who use drugs and sex workers by providing women-centred services | | | | |
| 9 | Focus the attention of healthcare workers on the rights of women living with HIV (through training of healthcare workers on working with HIV+ women, introduction of courses in medical schools/institutes/universities, conducting trainings in hospitals and polyclinics) | | | | |
| 10 | Increase access to quality support services for women survivors of violence (including sexual violence): | | | | |
| 10.1 | Centres/shelters with the possibility of round-the-clock accommodation, including with children | | | | |
| 10.2 | Centres/shelters with the possibility of round-the-clock accommodation, including with children and for women who use drugs, sex workers and/or OST patients | | | | |
| 10.3 | 24/7 hotline | | | | |
| 10.4 | Support groups | | | | |
| 10.5 | Professional counselling (doctor, psychotherapist, lawyer, social worker) | | | | |
| 11 | Provide a minimum free support after rape including post-exposure prophylaxis, emergency contraception, STI screening, social assistance and counselling | | | | |
| 12 | Provide legal protection against all forms of violence against women (free attorneys to handle litigations, street lawyers for women who use drugs and sex workers, mobile response teams, engagement with law enforcement to reduce police violence) | | | | |
| 13 | Recognize and address the issue of marital and date rape (analyze, build evidence, conduct education campaigns) | | | | |
| 14 | Provide effective mechanisms for filing complaints and redress in case of violation of rights in the healthcare service (hotline of the Ministry of Health of Kazakhstan or the oblast | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|
| | department of health, monitoring of violations and reports of community-based/patient organisations to coordination/supervisory boards) | | | | |
| 15 | Other (please specify _____) | | | | |

3.4. Mental health

Many women in sex work experience mental health problems, and this can impact on our ability to have a healthy sex life and about ability to make choices about our fertility desires and to claim our human rights.

Please think about whether you have experienced any of the following for extended periods of time – i.e. more than the usual “ups and downs” of life.

33. I have experienced extended periods of: (choose the answer for each issue)

| No | Statement | Before my HIV diagnosis | Since my HIV diagnosis | Because of my HIV diagnosis |
|----|--|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Depression | | | |
| 2 | Shame | | | |
| 3 | Self-blame | | | |
| 4 | Low self esteem | | | |
| 5 | Feelings of rejection, including to accept one’s diagnosis | | | |
| 6 | A strong sense of isolation (from friends, family, partners) | | | |
| 7 | Anxiety/fear/panic attacks | | | |
| 8 | Insomnia/difficulty sleeping | | | |
| 9 | Anorexia/difficulty eating | | | |
| 10 | Difficulty going out and socializing | | | |
| 11 | Loneliness | | | |
| 12 | Suicidal feelings | | | |
| 13 | Post-traumatic stress disorder (forexample, nightmares) | | | |
| 14 | Drug and/or alcohol abuse | | | |

15. Please tell us more about the impact of these experiences on your sexual and reproductive health and human rights.

16. I visited a psychologist in the following organizations:

| Name of organizations | Never | Rarely | Some times | Often | Always |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|------------|-------|--------|
| NGO | | | | | |
| AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |

Explain why If the answer is “Never”:

17. If you visited a psychologist, were you satisfied with the consultation you received?

| Name of organizations | Never | Rarely | Some times | Often | Always |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|------------|-------|--------|
| NGO | | | | | |
| AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | | | | | |
| Family clinic (PHC) | | | | | |

18. Do you agree with the following statements?

| Statement | Yes | No | Some | Don’t | Not |
|-----------|-----|----|------|-------|-----|
|-----------|-----|----|------|-------|-----|

| | | | times | know | applicable |
|--|--|--|-------|------|------------|
| A woman must tolerate violence. | | | | | |
| If I go for help, I won't get any help. | | | | | |
| Our medical system is useless. | | | | | |
| I don't deserve medical, psychological, and/or social help because I have HIV. | | | | | |

34. What do you think is the best way of supporting women in sex work to deal with mental health issues?

3.5 Burden of care

35. The burden of care for other family members often falls on the shoulders of women in sex work. Mark each line with an X only once.

| Nº | Statement | Never | Rarely | Some times | Often | Not applicable |
|----|--|-------|--------|------------|-------|----------------|
| 1 | I take care of a sick husband/partner at home | | | | | |
| 2 | I take care of a sick husband/partner living with HIV at home | | | | | |
| 3 | I take care of a sick child at home | | | | | |
| 4 | I take care of a sick child living with HIV at home | | | | | |
| 5 | I take care of sick relatives at home | | | | | |
| 6 | My husband/partner takes care of me at home when I am sick | | | | | |
| 7 | I take care of a sick husband/partner outside the home/in the hospital (I call a doctor, an ambulance, arrange transportation, collect medical tests, buy and deliver medicines, assist with medication, provide post-operative care, etc.) | | | | | |
| 8 | My husband/partner takes care of me outside the home/in the hospital (calls a doctor, an ambulance, arranges transportation, collects medical tests, buys and delivers medicines, assists with medication, provides post-operative care, etc.) | | | | | |
| 9 | I receive childcare financial assistance (government help) | | | | | |
| 10 | I receive childcare non-state support (charitable/public organisations) | | | | | |
| 11 | I receive support from the government to care for a sick husband/relative | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 12 | I receive support from charitable/public organisations to care for a sick husband/relative | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

36. This question is to be answered only by those of you who has a partner and has been living with him in the same territory for the last 3 months (mark each line with an X only once)

| Nº | Activity | Only me | Only my partner | Together | Sometimes he, sometimes me | Other family members | Not applicable |
|----|---|---------|-----------------|----------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Getting children ready to kindergarten/school in the morning | | | | | | |
| 2 | Cooking | | | | | | |
| 3 | Housecleaning | | | | | | |
| 4 | Laundry | | | | | | |
| 5 | Ironing | | | | | | |
| 6 | Taking children from kindergarten/school in the evening | | | | | | |
| 7 | Purchase of foodstuffs/household chemical goods | | | | | | |
| 8 | Purchase of household appliances | | | | | | |
| 9 | Children's clothing shopping | | | | | | |
| 10 | Payment of utility bills | | | | | | |
| 11 | Organisation of house parties | | | | | | |
| 12 | Organisation of parties outside the home | | | | | | |
| 13 | Attending parent-teacher conferences/children's events | | | | | | |
| 14 | Visiting a paediatrician/purchasing medicine for children | | | | | | |
| 15 | Visits to the hospital/communication with doctors/purchasing medicines for adult family members | | | | | | |
| 16 | Taking care of sick children at home | | | | | | |
| 17 | Taking care of sick adult family members at home | | | | | | |
| 18 | Visiting social services, officials, social security, pension fund, migration service, etc. | | | | | | |
| 19 | Family budget income | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | distribution (who should spend and for what) | | | | | | |
| 20 | Housing costs | | | | | | |

4. Income and economic opportunities

38. Income. Please indicate your personal monthly income (including salaries, pension, child allowances, financial assistance to IDPs, etc.) _____ **KZT**

39. Number of members of your family living in the same household (area) _____ people

40. Indicate the monthly income of your family _____ KZT

41. Indicate the desired level of average monthly income (how much you need for a prosperous life, including to take care of your own health) _____ **KZT**

42. Access to services. Which of these issues has the biggest impact on you or other women living with HIV in your community to access quality sexual and reproductive health care and well-being? (Please highlight all that apply)

1. Cost of services at point of delivery
2. Cost of travel to access services
3. The cost of preschool education, babysitting services, the queues for enrolling children in the kindergarten
4. Unequal inheritance and property rights
5. Divorce, widowhood, separation
6. Cost and burden of care for other family members
7. Lack of family support
8. Economic dependence on partner(s), family members
9. Housing cost
10. Paid medical care (including treatment of diseases)
11. Other _____

43. Economic opportunities. Please choose one answer for each statement and mark with an X

| Nº | Statement | Always | Usually | Some times | Never | Don't Know | Not applicable |
|----|--|--------|---------|------------|-------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | I have access to higher education | | | | | | |
| 2 | I am economically dependent on my partner | | | | | | |
| 3 | I can apply to the employment centre if necessary | | | | | | |
| 4 | I have the opportunity to combine study and work (distance learning) without financial losses in wages (for example, losses — unpaid leave during the session) | | | | | | |
| 5 | I can take free (or at a price that I can afford) courses for additional | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | specialty/to acquire new skills | | | | | | |
| 6 | I easily find a job (within my specialty or not) | | | | | | |
| 7 | I experienced sexual harassment during my studies | | | | | | |
| 8 | I experienced sexual harassment in the workplace | | | | | | |
| 9 | I have access to lending services in any bank | | | | | | |
| 10 | I know how to start my own business if I want to | | | | | | |
| 11 | I know where to ask for help to start my own business | | | | | | |
| 12 | I own real estate and other property | | | | | | |
| 13 | I have autonomy over my real estate or other property | | | | | | |
| 14 | I receive social benefits (including child allowances) and manage them independently/freely/without coercion | | | | | | |
| 15 | Having a child has not affected my career path | | | | | | |
| 16 | Having a child has not affected my income (I have received all maternity benefits, there are prospects for salary increase in the future) | | | | | | |
| 17 | I am subjected to economic violence during sex work | | | | | | |

44. What are the priority changes in policy and practice that would help address these financial issues?

Thank you for your answers! Stay healthy and safe!

APPENDIX 4. GENERAL ANALYSIS DATA FOR THREE KEY GROUPS

Part 1 – Personal Data

1. The study involved 65 women, including 30 women living with HIV, 10 sex workers and 25 women who use drugs.

2. Cities:

Pavlodar, Ust-Kamenogorsk, Semey, Bobrovka village,

3. Age:

From 20 to 30 years – 15 women,

From 30 to 40 years – 26 women,

From 40 to 65 years – 24 women

Total: 65 women

4. Relationship Status.

| No | Status | Number of women |
|----|---|-----------------|
| 1 | I am not sexually active | 4 |
| 2 | I am sexually active, but do not have a partner | 12 |
| 3 | I have one or more partner(s) living with HIV | 14 |
| 4 | I have one or more partner(s) not living with HIV | 18 |
| 5 | I have two or more sexual partners, one or more is living with HIV and one or more is not living with HIV | 13 |
| 6 | No answer | 4 |

5. Special issues.

| Experience | Number of answers |
|--|-------------------|
| I do or have done sex work | 13 |
| I inject/use or have injected/used drugs | 32 |
| My sexual partner(s) injects/uses or has injected/used drugs | 34 |
| I am/have been a client of opioid substitution therapy programme | 7 |
| I am/have been in prison | 12 |
| I am/have been in a detention centre | 13 |
| I am living with disability | 8 |
| I have or have had Hepatitis C | 27 |
| I have or have had active TB | 5 |
| I am lesbian, bisexual or have sex with women | 4 |

| | |
|---|----|
| I am a heterosexual woman | 13 |
| I am married, or in a stable relationship | 23 |
| I am an internally displaced person | 11 |
| I am or have been homeless | 4 |
| I live in a village | 1 |

6. Marital status

| Nº | Marital status | Number of answers |
|----|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Single | 21 |
| 2 | Married | 17 |
| 3 | In a civil marriage | 18 |
| 4 | Divorced | 7 |
| 5 | Widow | 1 |
| 6 | No answer | 1 |

7. 40 women have 71 children:

1. of which 6 children were born when women were using drugs.
2. of which 10 children women gave birth to while doing sex work
3. of which 21 children women gave birth to being HIV-positive,
4. of which 2 children have HIV.

- 23 women have 1 child each,
- 17 women have 2 children
- 1 woman has 3 children,
- 1 woman has 4 children
- 1 woman has 7 children
- 22 women have no children
- 3 women abstained from answering

8. 10 women learned about HIV during pregnancy.

9. Education

| Nº | Education | Number of answers |
|----|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Lower secondary education | 11 |
| 2 | Secondary education | 43 |
| 3 | Incomplete higher education | 7 |
| 4 | Higher education | 3 |

| | | |
|---|-----------|---|
| 5 | No answer | 1 |
|---|-----------|---|

10. Occupation

| Nº | Occupation | Number of answers |
|----|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Employed in the commercial sphere | 29 |
| 2 | Civil servant | 2 |
| 3 | Entrepreneur | 1 |
| 4 | Unemployed | 17 |
| 5 | Housewife | 10 |
| 6 | Retiree. | 1 |
| 7 | No answer | 5 |

11. Work

18 women officially working.
 18 women working unofficially
 24 women don't work.
 5 women abstained from answering.

Part 2 - Human Rights

12. Please tell us about your experience of accessing sexual and reproductive health services as a woman from keys group.

| Nº | Statement | Strongly agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know | No answer |
|----|--|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|-----------|
| 1 | I experience the same service as any other women, when I go for sexual and reproductive health services | | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | 30 | 27 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | 12 | 24 | 13 | 0 | 8 | 8 |
| | • Private clinic | 7 | 14 | 17 | 2 | 13 | 12 |
| 2 | I am aware of sexual and reproductive health treatments, information, services and commodities that exist in my country | 19 | 26 | 15 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| 3 | I can get free and quality sexual and reproductive health treatments, information, services or commodities, when I need them | 17 | 25 | 15 | 0 | 7 | 1 |
| 4 | I find the service providers well-trained and knowledgeable, friendly, and supportive | | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly | 28 | 33 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|----|----|----|---|----|----|
| | Office) | | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | 10 | 15 | 23 | 3 | 6 | 8 |
| | • Private clinic | 9 | 9 | 16 | 3 | 18 | 10 |
| 5 | My experience of accessing sexual and reproductive health care has been good, and I have confidence in the advice and treatment I receive | | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | 28 | 28 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 3 |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | 9 | 14 | 22 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| | • Private clinic | 8 | 11 | 15 | 3 | 19 | 9 |
| 6 | I believe my service provider offers a full range of choices for sexual and reproductive health care, including family planning options and prevention, diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) | | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | 27 | 27 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 2 |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | 8 | 20 | 16 | 3 | 9 | 9 |
| | • Private clinic | 8 | 8 | 18 | 3 | 17 | 11 |
| 7 | I am given all the information I need to make a decision about proceeding with a service or treatment, without feeling any pressure from the service provider | | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | 24 | 30 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | 9 | 20 | 16 | 2 | 10 | 8 |
| | • Private clinic | 9 | 7 | 17 | 4 | 16 | 12 |
| 8 | I trust the service providers not to share my HIV status or any other details about me without my permission | | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | 24 | 30 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 4 |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | 7 | 9 | 24 | 5 | 9 | 11 |
| | • Private clinic | 6 | 8 | 13 | 5 | 20 | 13 |
| 9 | My doctor listens to me, and gives advice based on my needs and realities as a woman from keys group | | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | 27 | 30 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | 8 | 11 | 19 | 5 | 9 | 13 |
| | • Private clinic | 7 | 6 | 13 | 5 | 20 | 14 |
| 10 | I know my rights, and if I experience a rights violation within the health service, I know where I can go to make a complaint | | | | | | |
| <p>Answers:</p> <p>Aids Center – 3 answers</p> <p>Ministry of Health of Kazakhstan – 12 answers</p> <p>Прокуратура – 4 answers</p> <p>NGO – 8 answers</p> <p>Street lawyer – 3 answers</p> <p>lawyer – 3 answers</p> <p>court – 1 answer</p> <p>social media – 1 answer</p> <p>Chief physician of the institution - 3 answers</p> <p>Patient support service - 6 answers</p> <p>Health Care Administration - 6 answers</p> <p>Prosecutor's Office - 4 answers</p> | | | | | | | |

| "I don't think anyone would help a sex worker." | | | | | | | |
|--|--|----|----|----|---|---|----|
| 11 | I can contact an NGO to receive services | 17 | 26 | 8 | 0 | 7 | 7 |
| <p>If you answered yes, please explain what services you receive from the NGO:</p> <p>Consulting/information – 13 answers Escort – 9 answers, algorithm of actions for going for medical services, social services Support – 10 answers Peer to peer –5 answers testing – 2 answers legal support - 7 answers psychologist – 6 answers Money – 2 answers «condoms» Street layers self help group -3 answers advocacy – 3 answers Medical "Never been to the NGO", "None so far" "ART questions" "Getting HIV benefits" "Everything necessary", "All possible help", "Only all good things", "Any I am interested in" referral "I get calls from NGOs to provide services available" "Social assistance" - 8 responses</p> | | | | | | | |
| 12 | I can reach out to specialists without fear of disclosing my drug use/HIV/sex work to the following organization | | | | | | |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | 11 | 16 | 22 | 6 | 3 | 7 |
| | • Private clinic | 9 | 13 | 22 | 5 | 5 | 11 |
| 13 | I am not able to go to specialists | 7 | 10 | 30 | 2 | 4 | 12 |
| <p>If you answered "I agree," please explain why and indicate which specialist you are talking about:</p> <p>"There was a case when I was refused by a dentist because of HIV, after that I avoided dentist". "Any doctors who ask about my diagnosis, I either lie that I don't have HIV or avoid going to the dentist". "Due to financial situation" - 3 answers "All doctors" - 3 answers "Gynecologist does not understand what to do with HIV". "No Compulsory Social Health Insurance, no doctor is available". "Consultations of a vascular doctor, dentist, therapist, gynecologist, infectious disease specialist, traumatologist, orthopedist are needed". "A dentist's services are needed because drugs damage the teeth and sometimes a person feels pain" "Since I have HIV, the doctors are often not competent". "When they find out that you are a drug addict, the attitude changes immediately".</p> | | | | | | | |

14. Please feel free to give more information on your experience of accessing your sexual and reproductive health and human rights if you would like to

"No one talks to me about it in PHC".
" Wherever you address the medical staff, there is discrimination against HIV+ women".
"I went to the doctor and said I was HIV positive and they didn't accept me".
"I had an abortion, because of my drug use I felt stigmatized".
"When I went for STI treatment or during pregnancy I was treated well".
"When I got pregnant, the gynecologist at the AIDS Center criticized me: "Why did I do it without planning it?"

"After I told the doctor at the antenatal clinic that I had HIV, her attitude towards me changed dramatically, her smile disappeared from her face, she began to talk coldly and avoid touching me when examining my abdomen, she began to wear gloves, although she had not worn them before. "They didn't want to accept tests without an ID card at the AIDS Center".

"I was denied IVF services at the hospital because of HIV, although doctors at the AIDS Center said I could get this service for free. After the denial, I turned to street lawyers and they assisted me but we got a denial again. The doctors of the hospital never apologized. In the private clinic, I was also denied the service despite the quota I had received".

"I have not had a positive experience in receiving such services" - 3 answers

"In Semey, the hospital had an individual approach regardless of status".

15. What would you like to say to decision makers and policy makers in Kazakhstan about how they can help to promote and protect your sexual and reproductive health and human rights?

Discrimination by medical staff:

"Be humane, we are people too and we want to live!!!"

"Be tolerant", "Don't be afraid of us", "Don't poke me for being an addict"

"First of all, it is essential to realize that addicts are human beings too".

"A doctor should love his/her job, hire people who are tolerant".

"Take care of each person more than for yourself".

"Every person should work where they want to work and everyone is responsible for themselves".

"People from vulnerable groups, whose rights are violated, the most need your support; many of them because of the violation of rights cannot rebuild their lives and become useful members of society".

"I would like medical staff to treat everyone equally, regardless of status".

"Everyone should be treated and assisted equally, not just through connections".

"All women are equal regardless of their job, position, or status".

"No stigma and discrimination".

Improving the knowledge of health workers

"To have more informed doctors in antenatal clinics about HIV".

"I would like doctors to be informed about HIV infection, to be told that it is a chronic disease that can be treated, ways of transmission, and most importantly U=U - many doctors do not even know what it is, although they should not only know about it but also tell their patients"

Accessibility of services:

"To allow being realized as a woman (motherhood)"

"All tests should be free without Compulsory Social Health Insurance - 2 answers

"Not all people can pay for Compulsory Social Health Insurance because of the standard of living and credit, I, for example, will not be able to pay soon, so what kind of health are we talking about?"

"To allow treating drug addicts anonymously, not to report to the hospital, etc."

"To pay more attention to the level of education of medical staff"

"To ensure accessibility of services"

"To reduce prices for health care services"

"I would like the AIDS Center to have more services, the therapist would immediately refer to narrow specialists, and dentist's services are very much needed".

Specifics of providing services for women from key populations:

Individualized approach in terms of anesthesia for drug users

Review of services for key groups, and improvement of their quality.

Attention to our needs

Legislation:

"To create a law to prosecute discrimination"

"When creating laws don't act on personal beliefs and feelings, talk to those affected first, get to know people's needs"

"To tighten the law on medical secrecy" - 2 answers
 "When passing laws, I would like everyone to treat this issue as if they or their loved ones were affected."
 "To be as tolerant as possible to everyone" - 2 answers.
 "To remove criminal responsibility for drug use"

16. Legislation:

"We need equal rights so that there are no refusals to nursing homes, homes for the disabled, and other centers".
 "We need algorithms of actions in case of violation of rights and compensation for damages if these rights are violated, these documents should be available" - 3 answers
 "I don't know the laws" - 13 answers
 "There shall be a sentence for discrimination".
 "Disclosure of the statuses "drug use", "HIV" should be strictly punished".
 "To repeal the law criminalizing HIV transmission".
 "To ensure that women with HIV have enough formula and the opportunity to choose formula"
 "To increase child care allowance" - 2 answers
 "To legalize prostitution to make it easier for us to provide sex services"
 "People from key populations need medical care the most, but cannot afford to pay for Compulsory Social Health Insurance" - 2 answers

"To improve the expertise of medical staff"

"To provide instructions for doctors on how to work with key populations"
 "To ensure that medical staff are better informed about HIV"
 "To train medical staff on how to work with key populations"
 "To check the qualifications of the medical staff at the legislative level"

Discrimination by medical staff

"There is discrimination against HIV people, they need to do something about it".
 "Tolerance of key populations"
 "During pregnancy, a woman should not be afraid to talk about her problems, and status and receive the maximum amount of services".
 "Drug users should be treated the same as normal people".

Accessibility of services

"I would like that private clinic would not have the right to refuse to provide services, discriminate against these people".
 "Consultations of narcologist, psychologist, hepatologist should be more accessible".
 "Key population should have access to hospitalization and be able to get anesthetized".
 "Medical services should be free".

Part 3 – Context and realities for women from keys group

3.1. Healthy sex life

16. Please tell us about your sex experience

| Nº | Statement | Always | Usually | Some times | Never | Don't know | Not applicable | No answer |
|----|--|--------|---------|------------|-------|------------|----------------|-----------|
| 1 | I want to have sex often/have strong feelings of sexual desire | 7 | 18 | 28 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| 2 | I find sex pleasurable for myself and for my partner(s) | 22 | 26 | 16 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | I have sex to satisfy my partner | 10 | 15 | 24 | 11 | | 4 | 1 |
| 4 | I initiate sex with my partner(s) | 5 | 12 | 41 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 0 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|--|----|----|----|---|---|---|---|
| | and make suggestions about how we have sex | | | | | | | |
| 5 | I have sex when I want to | 15 | 23 | 16 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 6 | I have sex when my partner(s) want(s) to | 9 | 20 | 27 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| 7 | I find it easy to "come"/have an orgasm during sex | 12 | 17 | 32 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 8 | My body makes enough lubrication (how "wet" you feel when you want to have sex) | 14 | 22 | 18 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| 9 | I know where I can get information on sexually transmitted infections, safer sex, condom use, and contraception | 31 | 27 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 10 | I am able to have sex without fear of getting any sexually transmitted infections (STIs) from my partner | 17 | 22 | 11 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| 11 | If I have an STI I am able to get diagnosis and treatment for it without fear of judgement from the health provider | 19 | 21 | 11 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 0 |
| 12 | I am able to have sex without fear of getting pregnant | 20 | 26 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| 13 | I am able to have sex without fear of passing on HIV to my partner(s) | 19 | 25 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 0 |
| 14. | I know how to protect myself from HIV, and Hep C (WHUD+SW) | 19 | 10 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 15. | I feel safe with my partner(s) | 30 | 17 | 9 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| | My partner will not harm my body (SW). | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | My partner agrees with me about having sex with third parties (SW). | 1 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | My partner disposes of my body and may give it to a third party (SW). | 0 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 16. | I am able to talk to my health care provider about my sexual health and needs | 23 | 14 | 17 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| 17. | I am able to access the products I need to have a good sex life (e.g. lubricants, dental dams, female condoms, male condoms, contraceptives) | 21 | 22 | 13 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| | <p>Explain which of the products you would like to use, but cannot and why: Female condoms - 1 answer "I often have no money for lubricants and contraceptives of good quality" - 5 answers "Lubricants are expensive; I often don't have money to buy them, so I only use condoms and lubricants if my partners bring them, but this is very rare". "I get all these things from NGOs".</p> | | | | | | | |
| 18 | I can afford to buy the products I | 14 | 18 | 21 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 0 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|----|----|----|---|----|---|
| | need to have a good sex life (see above) | | | | | | | |
| 19 | I am able to discuss in a friendly manner my HIV status with my partner(s) (women with HIV) | 11 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 20 | My partner is happy to use a male condom if I want him to | 27 | 13 | 16 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| | If you answered "Never," please explain how your partner explains his choice: "My partner says he/she is allergic to condoms". "My partner says condom feels bad, not comfortable" - 2 answers "We use protection. It's important". "He/she does not explain his/her choice in any way" - 2 answers | | | | | | | |
| 21 | I am able to use a female condom if I want to | 9 | 7 | 9 | 14 | 5 | 14 | 7 |
| | If you answered "Never," please explain why: "We use male condom" - 2 answers "Condoms are not provided in the handouts". "I don't like condoms". "We have not used them" - 2 answers "Condoms seem very inconvenient for me" - 3 answers "I've learned that condoms exist for the first time today". | | | | | | | |

17. As a woman from key group, what has helped you MOST to achieve a satisfying and enjoyable sex life?

"The friendly office does not always have lubricants and condoms and the quality is not always good, there is no choice".
 "I often visit the friendly office; I have peace of mind about my health".
 "I need female condoms - 1 and lubricants - 7, male condoms"
 "Knowing the U=U principle helps because you can avoid using a condom" - 5 responses
 "ARV helped me, at first I wanted to give up on my personal life, but then the NGO told me about U=U and it became easy for me to live".
 "When I disclose my status to my partner, I get fulfilling sex as I relax and don't worry about it anymore"
 "Adequate partner/husband" - 11 answers
 "I use nothing" - 2
 "I need to stop using drugs" - 3
 "Nothing, no desire to have sex, I do it through force, I don't enjoy it" - 2
 "Internal emotional state" - 6
 "Mutual understanding with partner" - 3
 "Healthy female libido" - 3
 "Realizing that love is love and work is work".
 "No judgment to have a sex life the way I want it, "my business is my business".
 "Separate housing and peace of mind".
 "Financial independence" - 4

18. What has been the BIGGEST barrier to you enjoying a satisfying sex life, or what do you think most urgently needs to change?

Utilization - 6
 Partner's use -2
 Partner does not use therapy - 1
 Fear of contracting an STI - 1
 Fear of transmitting HIV - 3
 Fear of getting pregnant - 2

I can transmit HIV and will not be able to have children - 1
 Pain, dryness, discomfort - 5
 "Lack of lubricants leads to the fact that most of the sexual intercourse is unpleasant and painful for me and I tolerate it for the sake of my partner".
 "Before taking therapy, many of my partners did not want to use a condom and I was obliged and needed to tell them about the status, because of this I avoided liaisons".
 "When my man is afraid of getting infected from me" - 1
 "I'm afraid that my partner will find out about my status" - 1
 "No partner" - 1
 "Low self-esteem and fear of transmitting the virus prevents me from enjoying myself as I would like to. But I can't ask for help, for example, from specialists because of fear of being judged as having HIV and shyness"
 "When talking to a psychologist in an NGO, I was told that now I needed to use protection, and my partner often did not want to and I refused to communicate and live with him, I lived alone for several years until a girl from another NGO told me about U=U".
 "Relationship between partners" - 2
 "An obstacle is the memory of rape in a perverted form with beating".
 "Separate housing" - 2
 "Stressful situations that I live with at work".
 "Just the rates for the services"
 "Making sure I don't get infected" - 1.
 "Body scars and acne"

19. What would improve your sexual health, safety, well-being and pleasure? (These could be psychological, physical, sexual, spiritual financial, legal and/or institutional support – or something else. It's entirely up to you.)

Psychological help - 28
 "Working through low self-esteem, learning to love yourself, self-confidence"
 "Competent counseling at the time of diagnosis" - 1
 "Peer counseling is important at the first stage of diagnosis" -1
 "Trust in each other and your partner" - 4
 "I can't get rid of pain during intercourse, doctors can't help me"
 "Drugs interfere with my life" - 2
 Sexologist - 3
 Financial help (to buy materials, to visit doctors) - 20
 Legal assistance - 4
 Place of residence - 1
 Advocacy for women's health, preventive care, health maintenance medications
 Reliable partner - 3
 No stigma toward PLHIV
 Stable job - 2
 No dependence on a partner

3.2. Pregnancy and fertility

20. Please tell us about your experiences of pregnancy and fertility as an HIV-positive woman.

| Nº | Statement | Yes | No | Don't know | Not applicable | No answer |
|----|---|-----|----|------------|----------------|-----------|
| 1 | I have been supported by my partner(s) to make choices about my fertility (to decide whether or not to have a child/children) | 41 | 9 | 2 | 12 | 1 |
| 2 | I have been supported my by health provider to make choices about my fertility | 32 | 13 | 5 | 13 | 2 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|----|----|----|----|----|
| If you answered "No," please explain why: Age "The gynecologist said: "You have HIV and oncology, you don't need to have more children, you have one and that's enough". "The gynecologist at the AIDS Center said that it was a mistake for me to get pregnant". "The doctors didn't know I was taking drugs". "My husband asked for a child, but I don't want, I already have one". "They didn't support me, but gave me the right to choose". "I was denied IVF quota because of HIV". "My partner insisted on an abortion, the health worker told me not to have a baby with HIV, and criticized me". "I was lucky to have a good doctor". "Because I have hepatitis C". "I have never wanted and do not want to have children". | | | | | | |
| 3 | I have been supported by my family and community to make choices about my fertility | 37 | 15 | 0 | 10 | 3 |
| 4 | I have been given advice about safe conception (getting pregnant without putting myself or my partner at risk of transmission of HIV or other sexually transmitted infections) | 36 | 11 | 3 | 12 | 3 |
| 5 | I have been given support with safe conception (without putting myself or my partner at risk of transmission of HIV or other sexually transmitted infections) | 21 | 21 | 5 | 16 | 2 |
| 6 | I can talk to my doctor/service provider about my fertility desires | 45 | 6 | 4 | 10 | 0 |
| If you answered "No," please explain why: "I'm afraid of criticism". "Everything worked out on its own, it was explained to me that I should take therapy and monitor my tests and I did". "I don't trust them". "I didn't say I was a drug addict". | | | | | | |
| 7 | I have been/am able to access free infertility treatment, assisted reproductive technology if I need it (e.g. I.V.F.) | 18 | 13 | 19 | 13 | 2 |
| If you answered "No," please explain why: No money. "I don't think there are any free services". "I was denied. I'm trying to get it now". "I had my uterus removed 13 years ago". "It's very expensive, they don't offer free treatment". "I use drugs, no one gives me free treatment". | | | | | | |
| 8 | I was given adequate counselling before and after the test for HIV | 28 | 9 | 9 | 17 | 2 |
| 9 | I have been given counselling on family planning and advice on child spacing | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | 43 | 10 | 2 | 6 | 4 |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | 22 | 21 | 4 | 9 | 9 |
| | • Private clinic | 11 | 23 | 5 | 11 | 15 |
| 10 | I have had one or more unplanned pregnancy | 38 | 18 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| 10 A | I have been given advice on how to disclose my HIV status to my partner(s) and my children (women with HIV) | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | 18 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| | • NGO | 14 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 5 |
| 11 | I have access to safe and free or affordable abortion, if I need it | 31 | 10 | 15 | 8 | 1 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| 12 | I have access to post-abortion/-miscarriage care, if I need it | 25 | 12 | 16 | 11 | 1 |
| 13 | I know I can speak to other women from my community who will give me advice on healthy motherhood if I want to | 42 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 1 |
| 14 | I have been able to make choices about where I want to deliver my baby | 20 | 26 | 5 | 12 | 2 |
| 15 | "I can count on free formula from the state to feed my child up to 1 year of age (WUD)". | 8 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 2 |
| 16 | I have been supported to make decisions about how to feed my baby without fear of what people will say at the next health providers | | | | | |
| | • AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | 36 | 5 | 5 | 15 | 4 |
| | • Family clinic (PHC) | 21 | 9 | 7 | 12 | 16 |
| | • Private clinic | 7 | 15 | 9 | 16 | 18 |
| | • NGO | 16 | 12 | 6 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | I can decide to have a(nother) child without fear of what people will say | 43 | 4 | 3 | 13 | 2 |
| 18 | I can access the family planning/contraception that I prefer | 36 | 8 | 10 | 9 | 2 |
| 19 | I am able to use the family planning/contraception that I prefer without resistance from my partner(s) | 45 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 1 |
| 20 | I have access to emergency contraception (the morning-after pill) if I need it | 30 | 18 | 8 | 8 | 1 |
| 21 | I can access legal counselling on adoption choices | 23 | 8 | 24 | 7 | 3 |
| 22 | I can access pre-exposure prophylaxis, if my partner needs it | 32 | 3 | 26 | 3 | 1 |
| 23 | I can access post-exposure prophylaxis, if I need it | 33 | 4 | 24 | 3 | 1 |
| 24 | I have regular check-ups/Pap smears for early detection of cervical cancer | 35 | 24 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 25 | I do regular breast screening | 27 | 30 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 26 | I can get advice from a doctor on pregnancy management if I report my drug use/sex work (WUD, SW) | 22 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 1 |

21. Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV

| No | Statement | Yes | No | Don't know | Not applicable | No answer |
|----|---|-----|----|------------|----------------|-----------|
| 1 | I took ARV at the time of conception | 10 | 6 | 0 | 14 | 0 |
| 2 | I started taking ARV as a prophylaxis during pregnancy | 13 | 3 | 0 | 13 | 1 |
| 3 | I did not take ARV throughout my pregnancy | 4 | 11 | 0 | 14 | 1 |
| 4 | I took ARV only in childbirth | 0 | 16 | 0 | 14 | 0 |
| 5 | My child took syrup in the first days of his/her life | 16 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 |
| 6 | I am provided with artificial formulas by the children's polyclinic | 16 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|----|---|---|----|---|
| 7 | My baby had a PCR before he/she was 2 months old | 16 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 |
|---|--|----|---|---|----|---|

21A. Describe the BEST experience you have had to support your decisions and desires about having children – or not having children.

The attitude of relatives:

- "The child's father was scared, but then accepted and supported my decision" - 3
- "The father of the child and my relatives insisted on the abortion, driving me to hysterics, but I decided anyway and I have no regrets".
- "My husband does not support me in the fact that I do not want to have children anymore".
- "My husband was the only one who supported me".
- "My husband was supportive, when he found out that he gave me HIV he paid even more attention to make up for it".
- "I get support from my family" – 7

The attitude of the doctors:

- "Everyone was against it because of HIV., In the end, the baby was not born and the uterus was removed".
- "The doctor said it was possible to have children and supported me in every possible way".
- " I wanted to get pregnant, and everyone supported me".
- "The doctor at the AIDS Center supports IVF, says there are no contraindications".
- "They didn't insist on abortion, but they didn't persuade me to give birth".
- "I had all-around support, both from my relatives and from the medical staff of the AIDS Center and polyclinic".
- "I found out about HIV when I was pregnant and decided to give birth! I gave birth to two healthy children, thanks to the doctors".
- "The doctor's negative attitude towards your desire to have children".
- "I didn't tell the clinic that I was taking drugs".

A woman's attitude:

- "It's my decision not to have children at the moment".
- "I want to have a child, but I can't, I was stressed out, now it's up to God".
- "A woman decides whether to give birth or not, regardless of support.
- It's my decision not to have children until I've settled my life".
- "I want to have kids if I stay sober".
- "I'm not planning a pregnancy".
- "I gave birth before HIV, now my decision not to have children because I am HIV+".
- "Early abortion, psychological trauma".
- "It was my decision; I didn't need any help or support".
- "I would like to have another baby but I have oncology".
- "I had my uterus removed; I can't have children".

22. What has been the BIGGEST barrier for you to make choices about your fertility desires?

Drug use - 7 answers

- "I was very afraid that the father of the child would refuse to recognize the child".
- "I have HIV" - 5
- "I can't get pregnant" - 2
- "I'm afraid of transmitting HIV to the child" - 4
- "No regular partner" - 2
- "It was a shock for me that I had HIV, but everything was normal".
- "The problem was that I decided to give birth without my husband. I was scared, but everything was fine in the end".
- "Everyone was against it (including my family)" - 6.

"I'M FINANCIALLY DEPENDENT" -

"I lack money" - 10

"I have no place to live" - 5

"My baby died because I didn't have a C-section for hepatitis C, according to Order No.289. I gave birth at the age of 38".

"Health status" - 4

"Attitude of the medical staff" - 2.

"Sex work is the only obstacle so far"

"Insufficient amount of formula"

23. What would improve your reproductive health and human rights?

"To be more tolerant towards drug addicts, "normal attitude towards me"

"Due to lack of Compulsory Social Health Insurance, I cannot improve my physical condition" - 1

"Financial support" - 20 answers

"Quality of medicine in the village"

"A new job not related to sex work"

"Quality counseling about what services I am entitled to"

"Confidentiality"

"Legal support" - 14 answers

"Psychological support" - 19 answers

"Psychological support would help me to cope with self-stigma, improve my self-esteem and find a partner".

3.3. Violence against women

24. I have experienced violence from a sexual partner or spouse

| Yes | Never | Don't know |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| 33 | 29 | 3 |

25. I have experienced violence from a member of my family/neighbours

| Yes | Never | Don't know |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| 23 | 41 | 1 |

26. I have experienced violence in the community

| Yes | Never | Don't know |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| 27 | 34 | 4 |

27. I have experienced violence in health settings

| Yes | Never | Don't know |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| 26 | 37 | 2 |

27.1. Over the past 2 years, I have experienced from medical staff:

| Nº | Types of violence | Number of answers from women from key populations |
|-----------|--|--|
| 1 | Forced abortion | 2 |
| 2 | Forced use of a particular type of contraception | 2 |
| 3 | Denial of access to contraception | 1 |

| | | |
|---|---|----|
| 4 | Verbal abuse | 12 |
| 5 | Denial of health services because of HIV status | 11 |
| 6 | Arrogance, pejorative attitudes, prejudice | 2 |

- Add another, if relevant, and please clarify.
 ___In the PHC, I do not talk about status so as not to provoke

28. I have experienced violence from the police/military/prison or detention services

| Yes | Never | Don't know |
|-----|-------|------------|
| 16 | 46 | 3 |

29. I have experienced fear of any form of violence

| Yes | Never | Don't know |
|-----|-------|------------|
| 27 | 31 | 7 |

30. Please tell us about any of these experiences of violence in more detail

On the part of the partner:

"My ex-husband beat me after he found out I was involved in prostitution"

"There was non-consensual sex, my husband was drunk".

"I was beaten by the man I was living with; he found out about my status, beat me, and told all my friends and relatives".

"It hurts to remember, but there was a case of gang rape. It was after an event, just happened to be in a company where my client recognized me. The guys got drunk and locked me in the house and took turns raping me.

"The mother of the father of my child often threatens me that she will go to the police and file a report that I did not immediately tell him about my status. She insults me and accuses me of being a victim of rape".

"Young husband was jealous, sometimes we fought".

"Physical and psychological violence from the husband" -16

"My partner would drink and beat me, insult me, pull me by the hair, tell me that nobody needs me anyway, lock me in the apartment and leave for a long time, come back and beat me again. Then he got sober and asked for forgiveness - I forgave him."

"My husband beat me so badly that I had to have my uterus removed".

"Economic violence"

On the part of the medical staff:

"Indifferent attitude on the part of the medical staff"

"At the hospital, they pointed fingers, as everyone was aware of my status.

In the polyclinic, I was forced to put a spiral, after my disagreement they called me to the office of the head of the clinic and tried to make me believe that I was dangerous my pregnancy was dangerous, and the spiral was necessary. I agreed and later found out that it was illegal. I came to remove the spiral and the gynecologists kept finding reasons not to remove it".

"Violence from the medical staff of the maternity hospital"

"Violence only on the part of the medical staff"

"I was forced to put the spiral in the PHC".

"During pregnancy, the doctor who examined me did not know that I had HIV, then yelled that I had not warned her, she would have worn two pairs of gloves".

"At the maternity hospital #3 in Semey, they refused to do a cesarean section, they were afraid of hepatitis C and the child died, I have no children and will not have any more".

"I was forced to have an abortion"

"I experienced disclosure of data and insults at the clinic".
"I had an abortion without anesthesia because of drug use. As I was in a lot of pain, they stopped in the middle of the procedure and later I got inflammation".
"I experienced biased attitude in hospitals".

On the part of the family:

"The squeamish attitude in the family"
"The family gave me separate dishes and towels".
"My dad used to beat my mom in front of me".
"I survived violence, my stepfather raped me from the age of 15, my mom didn't know anything".
"After my stepmother was diagnosed with HIV, she prevented me from staying in my father's house, did not share dishes, or bedding, washed the house with bleach after I left, and insulted me".
"I survived rape at the age of 15 by my uncle".
"I experienced insults, threats, abuse by stepfather".

On the part of the police:

"There were cases when police officers insulted me with swear words and beat me".
"I experienced a bad attitude in prison".
"Medical workers disclosed my status to the administration staff. They put on a gas mask, and said: "We're going to lock you up, you'll get high and take over everything". Suffering due to withdrawal syndrome".
"I got beaten by customers, and staff if I refused to provide service to them".
"Near the pharmacy, the police put me in a car and just drove me around the city.
I worked on Saturdays, i.e. I served police officers for free, and I was beaten, and raped in all sorts of ways

Violence in the workplace:

"My boss harassed me, insulted me in every way possible, calling me an HIV whore, etc., harassment and forced sex".

Fear of violence:

"I was afraid of rumors".

31. If you have experienced any of these forms of violence, were you able to access support services, and did they help you to deal with the situation/experience?

"No one to turn to for help/no opportunity" - 14

"I did not turn to anyone" -4

"I managed on my own" -4

"No, what's the point in filing a police report against their police officers?"

"There was no support, this is a common practice in our sphere".

"I could not do anything, I tried to file a report, but it was not even accepted, they told me that a prostitute has no rights. They also added that it was my job, for which I just didn't get paid".

"I went to the police but they didn't help me, they assumed it was my fault".

"I filed for divorce, I didn't ask for help as it was my legal husband at the time and therefore the authorities wouldn't do anything to him".

"I was ashamed to ask for help, I didn't tell anyone".

"There was no support, everyone pretended as if they didn't notice anything".

"I called the police, the prosecutor's office".

"My parents told me that the doctors did everything right and that it was my fault, I never went anywhere else".

"I called an acquaintance who is more familiar with our rights".

"I needed psychological and financial support" - 3

32. What do you think are the most important ways to address or prevent these forms of violence?

| Nº | Statement | Critical | Important | Less important | Don't know |
|-----------|---|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Remove laws which criminalise sex work | 21 | 17 | 7 | 21 |
| 2 | Remove laws which criminalise drug possession | 20 | 16 | 9 | 20 |
| 3 | Remove laws which criminalize HIV exposure/transmission | 22 | 24 | 5 | 14 |
| 4 | Ensure access to free rehabilitation and addiction treatment (alcohol, drugs) | 40 | 21 | 1 | 2 |
| 5 | Increase access to education and employment for women (entrepreneurship education, vocational training, scholarships, free courses, interaction with employment centres) | 39 | 25 | 1 | 0 |
| 6 | Provide for enhanced social protection for women and children (social benefits, free infant formula, prescriptions for free medicines, health resorts, especially for children with disabilities) | 45 | 18 | 1 | 1 |
| 7 | Ensure the availability of pre-school education (eliminate turns in kindergartens) | 43 | 18 | 2 | 2 |
| 8 | Increase access to harm reduction programmes for women who use drugs and sex workers by providing women-centred services | 43 | 12 | 3 | 7 |
| 9 | Focus the attention of healthcare workers on the rights of women living with HIV (through training of healthcare workers on working with HIV+ women, introduction of courses in medical schools/institutes/universities, conducting trainings in hospitals and polyclinics) | 42 | 20 | 1 | 2 |
| 10 | Increase access to quality support services for women survivors of violence (including sexual violence): | | | | |
| 10.1 | Centres/shelters with the possibility of round-the-clock accommodation, including with children | 44 | 19 | 1 | 1 |
| 10.2 | Centres/shelters with the possibility of round-the-clock accommodation, including with children and for women who use drugs, sex workers and/or OST patients | 46 | 12 | 1 | 6 |
| 10.3 | 24/7 hotline | 42 | 19 | 1 | 3 |
| 10.4 | Support groups | 38 | 22 | 1 | 4 |
| 10.5 | Professional counselling (doctor, psychotherapist, lawyer, social worker) | 39 | 20 | 1 | 5 |
| 11 | Provide a minimum free support after rape including post-exposure prophylaxis, emergency contraception, STI screening, social assistance and counselling | 40 | 18 | 3 | 4 |
| 12 | Provide legal protection against all forms of violence against women (free attorneys to handle litigations, street lawyers for women who use drugs and sex workers, mobile response teams, engagement with law enforcement to reduce police violence) | 43 | 17 | 3 | 2 |

| | | | | | |
|----|--|----|----|---|---|
| 13 | Recognize and address the issue of marital and date rape (analyze, build evidence, conduct education campaigns) | 42 | 15 | 4 | 3 |
| 14 | Provide effective mechanisms for filing complaints and redress in case of violation of rights in the healthcare service (hotline of the Ministry of Health of Kazakhstan or the oblast department of health, monitoring of violations and reports of community-based/patient organisations to coordination/supervisory boards) | 42 | 17 | 3 | 3 |
| 15 | Other: There should be a punishment for refusing to accept a report of rape or domestic violence. It is important to believe women when accepting a report of violence. | | | | |

3.4. Mental health

33. I have experienced extended periods of:

| № | Утверждение | Yes | Never | Don't know |
|----|--|-----|-------|------------|
| 1 | Depression | 58 | 3 | 4 |
| 2 | Shame | 54 | 7 | 4 |
| 3 | Self-blame | 51 | 11 | 3 |
| 4 | Low self esteem | 49 | 12 | 4 |
| 5 | Feelings of rejection, including to accept one's diagnosis | 42 | 16 | 7 |
| 6 | A strong sense of isolation (from friends, family, partners) | 38 | 19 | 8 |
| 7 | Anxiety/fear/panic attacks | 45 | 15 | 5 |
| 8 | Insomnia/difficulty sleeping | 49 | 11 | 5 |
| 9 | Anorexia/difficulty eating | 22 | 38 | 5 |
| 10 | Difficulty going out and socializing | 24 | 34 | 7 |
| 11 | Loneliness | 35 | 26 | 4 |
| 12 | Suicidal feelings | 27 | 34 | 4 |
| 13 | Post-traumatic stress disorder (forexample, nightmares) | 33 | 25 | 7 |
| 14 | Drug and/or alcohol abuse | 48 | 13 | 4 |

15. Please tell us more about the impact of these experiences on your sexual and reproductive health and human rights.

"For a long time I tolerated violence and had sex with my partner because I thought that since I have HIV, no one needs me".

"Of course, when I'm in poor physical condition, I become frigid" - 4

"I'm afraid to tell my beloved partner, to know his reaction" - 4

"For a long time, I didn't want to have a relationship with anyone" - 4

"I've given up on my love life" - 2

"I feel no self-confidence"

"I don't want to have children anymore because I have HIV".

"I'm afraid to transmit HIV to my child and my partner. I feel dirty".

"It cannot be explained - when you think about how long you have left to live, what kind of plans and children can be?"

| 16. I visited a psychologist in the following organizations: | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Name of organizations | Never | Rarely | Some times | Often | Always | No answer |
| NGO | 12 | 8 | 13 | 9 | 1 | 21 |
| AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | 17 | 8 | 19 | 12 | 0 | 10 |
| Family clinic (PHC) | 15 | 2 | 16 | 12 | 1 | 29 |
| Explain why If the answer is "Never": . I trust NGO workers more "There was family support, it was enough for me". "I was helped by a peer counselor Alexander; I am very grateful to him". "I had no opportunity, no money for traveling, no connections" - 2 "I didn't know" - 4. "I didn't know he was there and how to get to him." "I didn't believe that someone else could help me, I went on a bender". "I tried to figure things out on my own". "I'm embarrassed to talk to a psychologist, I'm not sure they can help me with anything" - 3 "I was ashamed, afraid of being judged" - 3 "I don't need it". "I didn't seek counseling". "I didn't want to share my problem with strangers". "My mom was there to support me". "I doubted the professionalism of psychologists, I think only paid psychologists can help, but those who are in AIDS Center or polyclinic, they are useless". "I have friends who are supportive". | | | | | | |
| 17. If you visited a psychologist, were you satisfied with the consultation you received? | | | | | | |
| | Никогда | Редко | Иногда | Часто | Всегда | Нет ответа |
| NGO | 12 | 2 | 5 | 17 | 9 | 20 |
| AIDS Center (Friendly Office) | 10 | 4 | 11 | 7 | 7 | 26 |
| Family clinic (PHC) | 17 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 44 |
| 18. Do you agree with the following statements? | | | | | | |
| | Yes | No | Sometimes | I don't know | Not applicable | |
| A woman must tolerate violence. | 2 | 58 | 2 | 2 | 1 | |
| If I go for help, I won't get any help. | 13 | 22 | 19 | 10 | 1 | |
| Our medical system is useless. | 15 | 21 | 22 | 7 | 0 | |
| I don't deserve medical, psychological, and/or social help because I have HIV. | 1 | 48 | 3 | 5 | 8 | |

34. What do you think is the best way of supporting women from key populations to deal with mental health issues?

Stop using drugs - 2

Closed hospitals for female users - 3

To show that a life without drugs is possible (examples from life, quality remissions).

Psychologist - 12

Alcohol

The main thing is not to be nervous, to live like a normal person.

Laws that will protect women, not work against them

Accessible information

When you are not subjected to violence from clients, your nerves are calm and your condition is good.

Security, it's dangerous to work on your own these days.

Drop-in centers
 Not to work alone.
 To have some laws protecting the rights of women sex workers
 Peer counseling, so that a girl is counseled by a girl with status - 2
 Comprehensive support (family, medical professionals)
 Detailed counseling for every pregnant woman with HIV
 Monthly allowance for PLHIV
 Acceptance of the diagnosis by the community - 2
 support groups
 Social support
 Support of relatives/family/friends is the most important thing

3.5 Burden of care

36. The burden of care for other family members often falls on the shoulders of women living with HIV.

| Nº | Statement | Never | Rarely | Some times | Often | Not applicable |
|----|--|-------|--------|------------|-------|----------------|
| 1 | I take care of a sick husband/partner at home | 24 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 25 |
| 2 | I take care of a sick husband/partner living with HIV at home | 25 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 32 |
| 3 | I take care of a sick child at home | 26 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 24 |
| 4 | I take care of a sick child living with HIV at home | 27 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 36 |
| 5 | I take care of sick relatives at home | 28 | 0 | 4 | 7 | 26 |
| 6 | My husband/partner takes care of me at home when I am sick | 17 | 11 | 11 | 9 | 17 |
| 7 | I take care of a sick husband/partner outside the home/in the hospital (I call a doctor, an ambulance, arrange transportation, collect medical tests, buy and deliver medicines, assist with medication, provide post-operative care, etc.) | 20 | 3 | 8 | 12 | 21 |
| 8 | My husband/partner takes care of me outside the home/in the hospital (calls a doctor, an ambulance, arranges transportation, collects medical tests, buys and delivers medicines, assists with medication, provides post-operative care, etc.) | 17 | 9 | 14 | 6 | 19 |
| 9 | I receive childcare financial assistance (government help) | 24 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 28 |
| 10 | I receive childcare non-state support (charitable/public organisations) | 30 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 30 |
| 11 | I receive support from the government to care for a sick | 32 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 29 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|---|---|----|
| | husband/relative | | | | | |
| 12 | I receive support from charitable/public organisations to care for a sick husband/relative | 31 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 31 |
| 13 | I receive help and support from women living with HIV to care for a sick husband/relative (women with HIV) | 13 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 13 |
| 14 | I receive help and support from women living with HIV to care for a sick child (women with HIV) | 14 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 13 |

38. This question is to be answered only by those of you who has a partner and has been living with him in the same territory for the last 3 months

| Nº | Activity | Only me | Only my partner | Together | Sometimes he, sometimes me | Other family members | Not applicable |
|----|---|---------|-----------------|----------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Getting children ready to kindergarten/school in the morning | 17 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 36 |
| 2 | Cooking | 26 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 21 |
| 3 | Housecleaning | 27 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 21 |
| 4 | Laundry | 32 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 19 |
| 5 | Ironing | 34 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 20 |
| 6 | Taking children from kindergarten/school in the evening | 10 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 38 |
| 7 | Purchase of foodstuffs/household chemical goods | 16 | 1 | 18 | 7 | 1 | 22 |
| 8 | Purchase of household appliances | 8 | 3 | 23 | 6 | 2 | 23 |
| 9 | Children's clothing shopping | 19 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 0 | 32 |
| 10 | Payment of utility bills | 23 | 2 | 11 | 6 | 2 | 21 |
| 11 | Organisation of house parties | 23 | 0 | 15 | 4 | 1 | 22 |
| 12 | Organisation of parties outside the home | 17 | 1 | 12 | 3 | 2 | 30 |
| 13 | Attending parent-teacher conferences/children's events | 23 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 35 |
| 14 | Visiting a paediatrician/purchasing medicine for children | 24 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 34 |
| 15 | Visits to the hospital/communication with doctors/purchasing medicines for adult family members | 21 | 0 | 10 | 9 | 2 | 23 |
| 16 | Taking care of sick | 18 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 36 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|----|---|---|----|
| | children at home | | | | | | |
| 17 | Taking care of sick adult family members at home | 16 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 37 |
| 18 | Visiting social services, officials, social security, pension fund, migration service, etc. | 23 | 0 | 11 | 3 | 1 | 27 |
| 19 | Family budget income distribution (who should spend and for what) | 13 | 2 | 21 | 4 | 2 | 23 |
| 20 | Housing costs (SW and WUD) | 5 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 20 |

3.7. Income and economic opportunities

39. Income. Please indicate your personal monthly income

No income – 8 women

≤50 000 KZT – 10 women (minimum amount 16,000 KZT)

≤100 000 KZT – 9 women

from 100 000 to 150 000 KZT – 14 women

from 180 000 to 300 000 KZT – 15 women

from 350 000 to 1 000 000 KZT - 9 women

40. Number of members of your family living in the same household (area) _____ people

1 people – 13 women

2 people - 14 women

3 people – 22 women

4 people - 11 women

5 people – 1 woman

11 people – 1 woman

No answer – 3 women

41. Indicate the monthly income of your family

Don't know – 2 women

No income – 3 women

≤100 000 KZT – 7 women

from 100 000 to 200 000 KZT – 14 women

from 200 000 to 300 000 KZT – 17 women

from 300 000 to 500 000 KZT – 14 women

from 600 000 to 1000 000 KZT – 4 women

42. Indicate the desired level of average monthly income (how much you need for a prosperous life, including to take care of your own health)

Don't know – 2 women

30000 KZT – 1 woman

≤100000 KZT – 7 women

from 100000 to 200000 KZT – 8 women

from 250 000 to 400 000 KZT – 22 women

from 450 000 to 1000 000 KZT – 25 women

from 1000 000 KZT and above– 6 women

43. Access to services. Which of these issues has the biggest impact on you or other women living with HIV in your community to access quality sexual and reproductive health care and well-being?

| № | Вопросы | Количество ответов |
|----|--|--------------------|
| 1 | Cost of services at point of delivery | 54 |
| 2 | Cost of travel to access services | 40 |
| 3 | The cost of preschool education, babysitting services, the queues for enrolling children in the kindergarten | 34 |
| 4 | Unequal inheritance and property rights | 26 |
| 5 | Divorce, widowhood, separation | 23 |
| 6 | Cost and burden of care for other family members | 24 |
| 7 | Lack of family support | 31 |
| 8 | Economic dependence on partner(s), family members | 30 |
| 9 | HIV-related stigma and discrimination in the workplace | 27 |
| 10 | Discrimination in the workplace based on gender, age or presence/lack of children | 24 |
| 11 | Housing costs (SW only) | 7 |
| 12 | Paid medical care (including treatment of diseases) (SW only) | 7 |

44. Economic opportunities.

| № | Statement | Always | Usual ly | Some times | Never | Don't Know | Not applicable | No answer |
|---|--|--------|----------|------------|-------|------------|----------------|-----------|
| 1 | I have access to higher education | 5 | 16 | 6 | 18 | 7 | 8 | 5 |
| 2 | I am economically dependent on my partner | 3 | 10 | 20 | 22 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| 3 | I can apply to the employment centre if necessary | 17 | 20 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| 4 | I have the opportunity to combine study and work (distance learning) without financial losses in wages (for example, losses — unpaid leave during the session) | 7 | 3 | 11 | 21 | 8 | 11 | 4 |
| 5 | I can take free (or at a price that I can afford) courses for additional specialty/to acquire new skills | 13 | 13 | 14 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 4 |
| 6 | I easily find a job (within my specialty or not) | 11 | 19 | 17 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| 7 | I experienced | 2 | 6 | 18 | 27 | 1 | 7 | 4 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| | sexual harassment during my studies | | | | | | | |
| 8 | I experienced sexual harassment in the workplace | 2 | 4 | 19 | 25 | 2 | 9 | 4 |
| 9 | I have access to lending services in any bank | 5 | 9 | 13 | 21 | 6 | 7 | 4 |
| 10 | I know how to start my own business if I want to | 8 | 7 | 6 | 17 | 15 | 8 | 4 |
| 11 | I know where to ask for help to start my own business | 6 | 6 | 6 | 20 | 17 | 6 | 4 |
| 12 | I own real estate and other property | 16 | 6 | 5 | 18 | 4 | 13 | 5 |
| 13 | I have autonomy over my real estate or other property | 12 | 6 | 9 | 18 | 1 | 15 | 4 |
| 14 | I receive social benefits (including child allowances) and manage them independently/freely/without coercion | 12 | 13 | 13 | 12 | 0 | 11 | 4 |
| 15 | Having a child has not affected my career path | 3 | 7 | 6 | 15 | 3 | 27 | 4 |
| 16 | Having a child has not affected my income (I have received all maternity benefits, there are prospects for salary increase in the future) | 5 | 8 | 7 | 14 | 3 | 23 | 5 |

54. What are the priority changes in policy and practice that would help address these financial issues?

Politics:

More women in politics who know and understand the issues of PLHIV as well as the issues of moms and how much it costs to be a mom - 2

There should be no discrimination in terms of jobs and professions

To allow sex workers to work under individual entrepreneurship certificates - 4

To decriminalize drug use - 3

To recognize drug addiction as a disease, not a crime, or at least give a shorter sentence for women than for men

Work:

Employ drug addiction registry-2

No training for different professions - 2

Help with employment - 5

To eliminate denial of employment due to small children.

To ensure equal pay with men- 4

Real wages, which are commensurate with prices in the store, and services

"I would like to become a doctor, even though I am living with HIV, because I have U=U, how can I harm?"

Allowances, and social packages:

Allowances for women from key populations (for PLHIV - as they are not hired due to HIV registration) - 4

To increase the level of allowances for childbirth, childcare - 5

free kindergartens, no waiting lists,

help with diapers, pads, and other hygiene items

assistance with accommodation

motivation, psychological assistance, mentoring

HIV treatment and side-effects (Only applicable to the group of women with HIV)

55. How often do you see your doctor/HIV service provider?

| Nº | Periodicity | Number of answers |
|----|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | 1 time per month | 4 |
| 2 | 1 time per 3 months | 10 |
| 3 | Once every 6 months | 9 |
| 4 | when they call for an appointment | 5 |
| 5 | often | 1 |
| 6 | rarely (work a lot) | 1 |

56. When was your last check on CD4 count?

| Nº | Periodicity | Number of answers |
|----|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Within the last 3 months | 10 |
| 2 | 3-6 months ago | 11 |
| 3 | 6 months - 1 year ago | 8 |
| 4 | Don't remember | 1 |

57. What is your CD4 count?

Don't know - 8 women

Don't remember - 1 woman

From 400 to 500 - 4 women

From 600 to 800 - 11 women

Above 800 - 6 women

58. Are you taking antiretrovirals (ARVs)? YES 29 NO 1

59. If yes, what is the name of your medication?

- 17 women were able to indicate the name of the drug (Tenmifa (Atripla) - 12 women, Emtriten/Tegrad - 2 women, Tegrad+Epivir-1, Resolsta/Abacavir, Kivexa +Rizolsta_.
- 4 women indicated a regimen (2 tablets*1 time per day - 2 women, one tablet per day - 2 women)
- 8 women do not remember

60. If no, please explain why.

side-effects, тошнота, vomiting – 1 woman

61. Do you regularly experience any of the following? (Please highlight as many as apply):

1. Fatigue/tiredness – 20
2. Loss of libido/sexual desire - 10
3. Vomiting 1
4. Diarrhoea – 4
5. Constipation - 3
6. Headaches -18
7. Rashes-0
8. Mood swings - 8
9. Changes of body shape - 5
10. Hair loss - 9
11. Loss of appetite - 8
12. Strange dreams- 9
13. Menstrual disorders (e.g.) heavy bleeding, very long or painful periods) - 9
14. I have no side-effects - 8
15. Other (please specify)_____I'm losing weight _____

62. When was your last check on viral load?

1. Within the last 3 months – 12 women
2. 3-6 months ago – 7 women
3. 6 months – 1 year ago – 7 women
4. More than 1 year ago
5. Never

63. What is your latest viral load?

undetectable – 9 women
«0» - 7 women
≤50 copies - 7 women
≤200 copies - 2 women
>200 copies - 2 women
Don't know – 1 woman

64. Are there any problems with having an undetectable viral load?

«Sometimes I forget to take it»

«When I don't have a place to live it is difficult to carry therapy with me, to store it somewhere»

«Of course, if you don't take the therapy»

«Sleep and alcohol»

ANNEX 5. SURVEY GUIDE FOR INTERVIEWERS

Guide for Interviewers

1. Get a group of potential respondents together for a specified time.
Attention! During this time, people who are not participating in the study (particularly partners/husbands/relatives of the participants) cannot be in the room.
2. Ask the respondent(s) to read the preamble to the study.
3. Succinctly answer their questions that relate to the study. It is important here not to enter into long dialogues and discussions.
4. Invite each of them to give their verbal informed consent to participate in the study.
5. Make sure that the respondents have enough space in the room and do not interfere with each other in filling out the questionnaires, they cannot look at each other's answers and talk.
6. If the respondents start talking and asking questions to each other, come up and clarify any unclear points. Try to put the focus of conversation on yourself.
7. Ask the respondents to raise their hands if they encounter any difficulty completing the questionnaire.
8. Should there be any difficulty with the questions, especially those relating to intimate life, try to answer them quietly, sitting next to the respondent. If necessary, in order to answer, go to another room with her.

Attention! Under no circumstances fill out the questionnaire instead of the respondent and do not dictate to her the "correct" answers.

9. When accepting completed questionnaires, skim through them, especially the middle, without dwelling on individual points. If it is not filled out, ask the respondent to complete it. If everything is in order, proceed to the payment of remuneration.

Attention! Do not put any marks on the questionnaires in the presence of the respondents!