

Children of Especially Marginalized Groups

World Vision's Experience in Family Centered Approaches

Middle East & Eastern Europe
HOPE INITIATIVE

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Presentation Plan

- 🚫 Vulnerable Children in Eastern Europe & Central Asia
- 🚫 Challenges increasing the vulnerability of children
- 🚫 Examples from World Vision's experience
- 🚫 The importance of family centered approaches for prevention, care and support
- 🚫 Key recommendation



Risk and Vulnerability Landscape for Children/youth in Eastern Europe/Central Asia Context

- 🚫 Political/socio-economic transition** – Rapid social change, war/armed conflicts, political unrest, gap between rich & poor
- 🚫 Environment** – 20% children live with single parents; easy access to drugs & alcohol; poor access to health/social services; Up to 58% of girls/women have never heard of HIV or AIDS.
- 🚫 Employment opportunities** - labour migration leaving children behind; trafficking; sex work; drug dealing.



Especially Vulnerable/Hard to Reach Children *in Eastern Europe/Central Asia*

- 🚫 **Family** is the primary provider of protection , care & support, influencing children's social development
- 🚫 **Risks** not limited to HIV, but exacerbating the risk of HIV
- 🚫 More **"Vulnerable"** than "orphans"
- 🚫 Lack of **vulnerability/risk reduction** focus
- 🚫 Child **rights/self-protection** not addressed
- 🚫 Vague/ad hoc **family/dependent targeting**



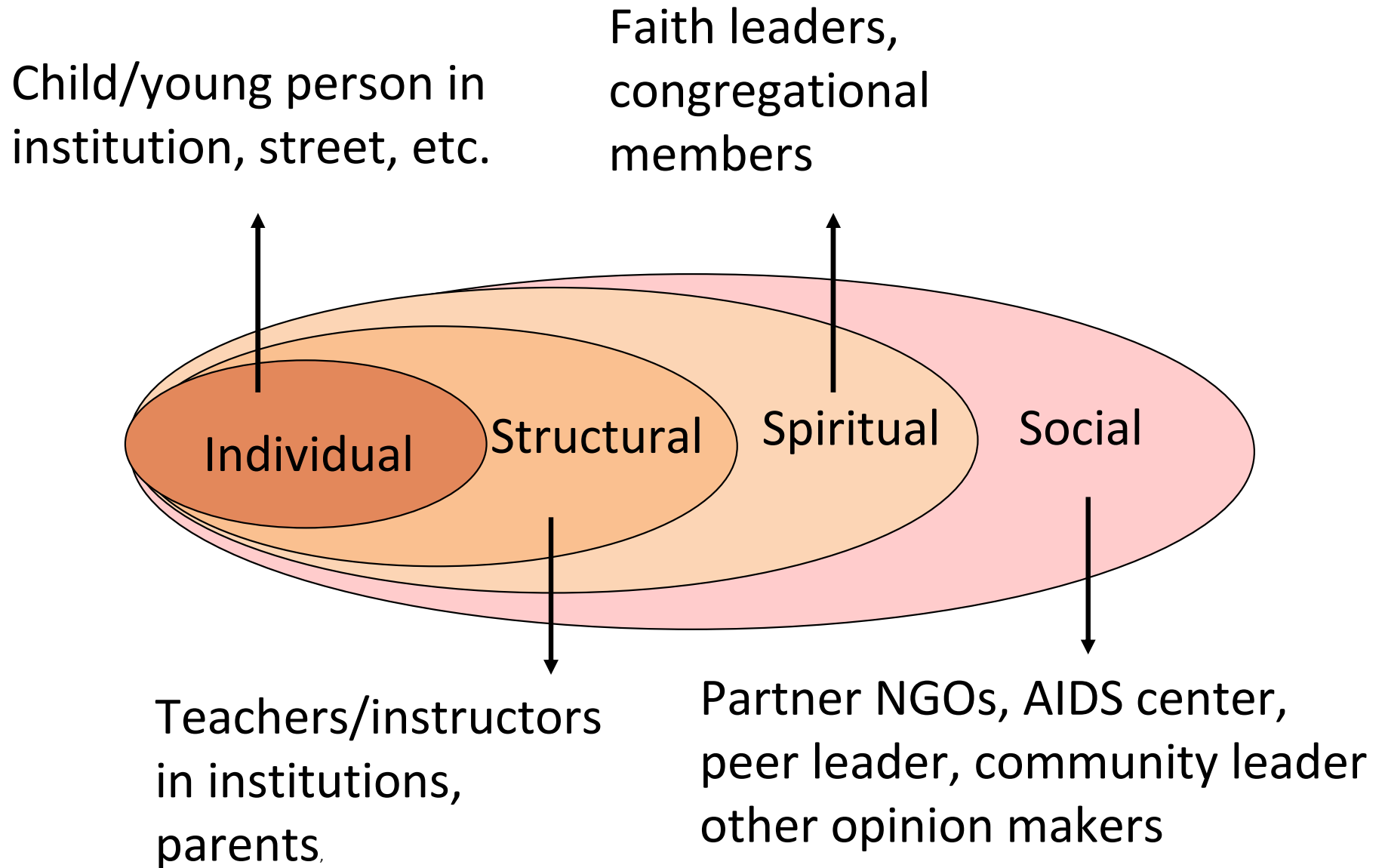
Family & Children/Youth in *Eastern Europe/Central Asia context*



- ⚡ Weakened family ties** and cultural traditions, especially relationship between parents & children/youth
- ⚡ Reversed hierarchy of traditional norms** - early sexual début, confused social identity
- ⚡ “Systems replacement”** – family/friends with drugs and alcohol

Creating an Enabling Environment

Conceptual Framework for Programming



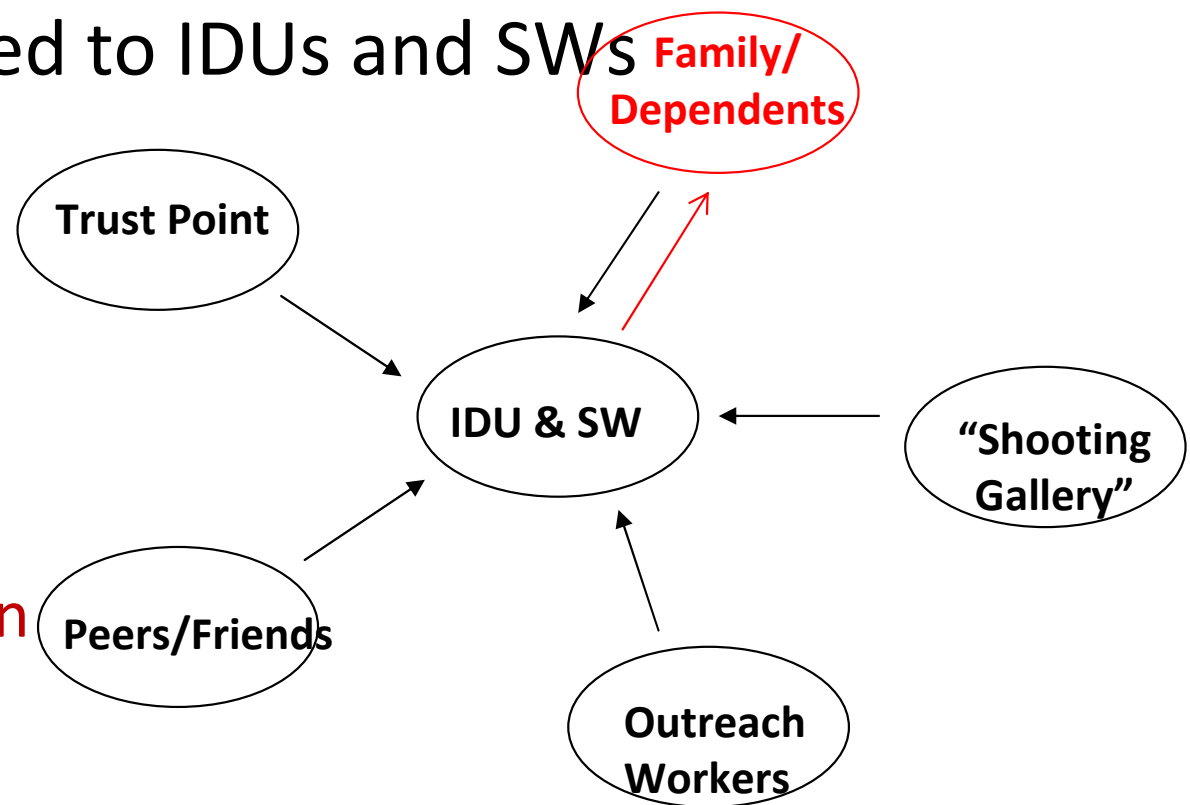
World Vision's Experience in Uzbekistan

Harm Reduction and HIV Prevention

Uzbekistan – Counselling for **Injecting Drug Users' (IDUs)** and **Sex Workers' (SW)** dependents through 10 Trust Points in Tashkent City where comprehensive HIV prevention and Harm Reduction services were provided to IDUs and SWs

8738 direct beneficiaries,
(1867 SWs & 5212 IDUs)
served 2006-2009

821 dependents consulted in
5 TPs in 2009 in Tashkent
City.

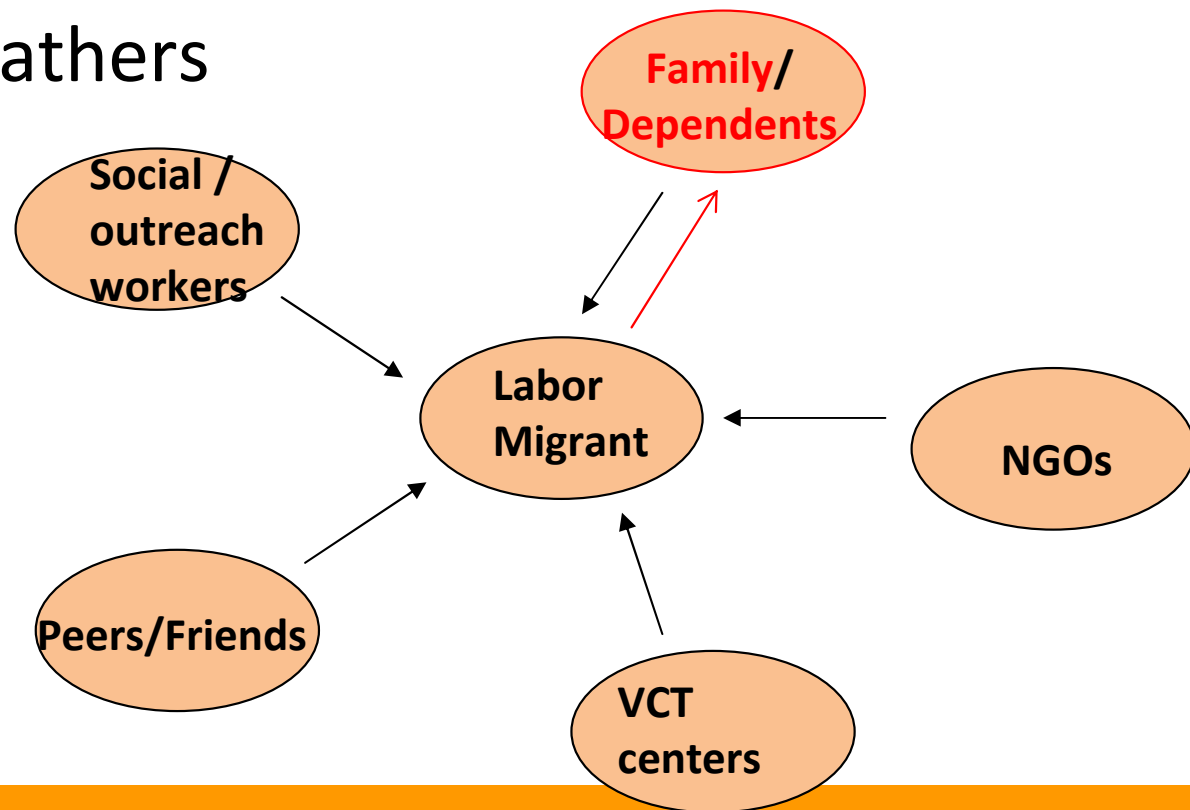


World Vision's Experience in Caucasus (Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan)

HIV Prevention and Stigma Reduction

🚫 Caucasus – Children, wives and parents of **Labour Migrants** that are left behind are targeted with promotion of prevention, getting skills for promoting prevention with returning fathers, accessing VCT centers for counseling in source countries and promoting it among fathers

Total of 2818 Families in all three countries

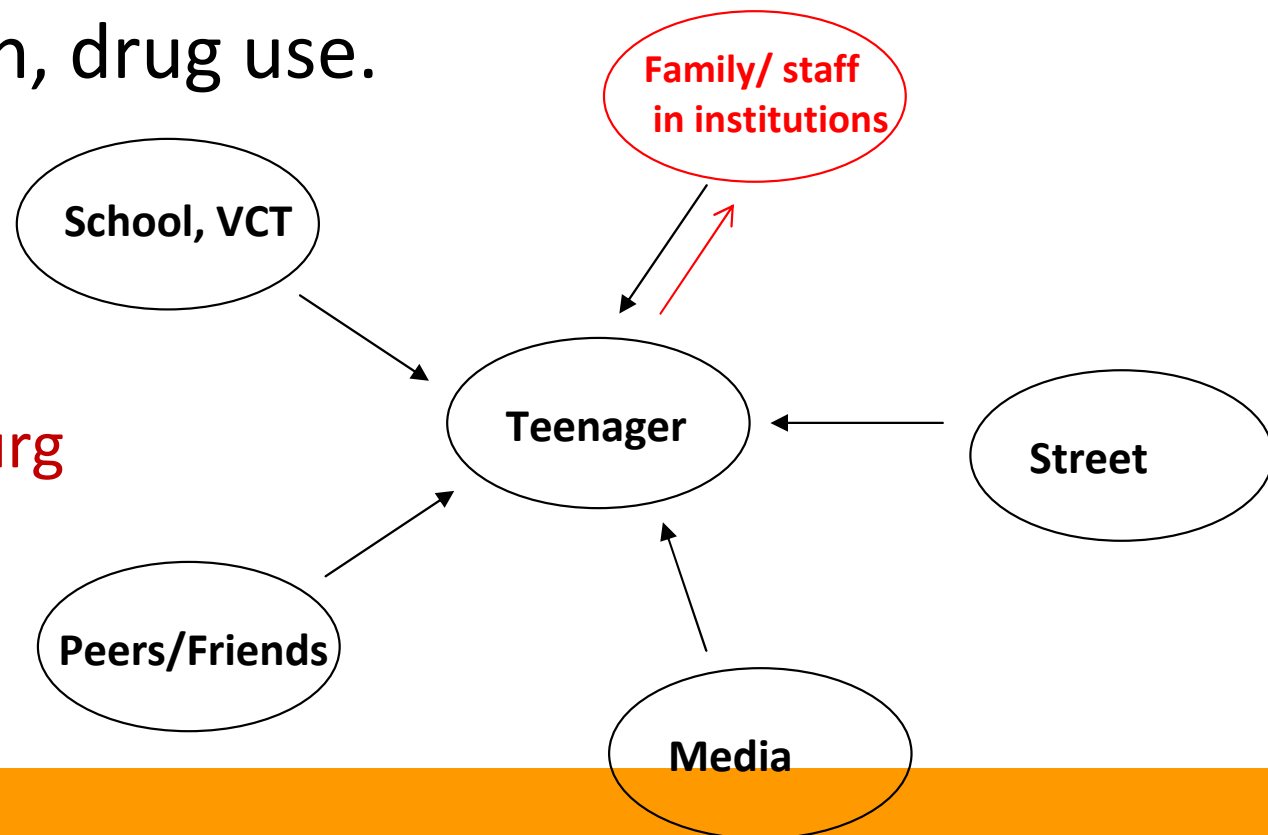


World Vision's Experience in Russian Federation

HIV Prevention and Stigma Reduction

RUSSIA - Value based Life Skills for **Vulnerable Children & Youth** 14-24 in boarding & vocational schools, “socially maladapted” families enrolled with NGOs or State social support programs, public schools and living in “normal” family, but engaged in crimes, alcohol consumption, drug use.

Total of 4410 children benefitted during 2007-2009 in Moscow, Orenburg and St. Petersburg

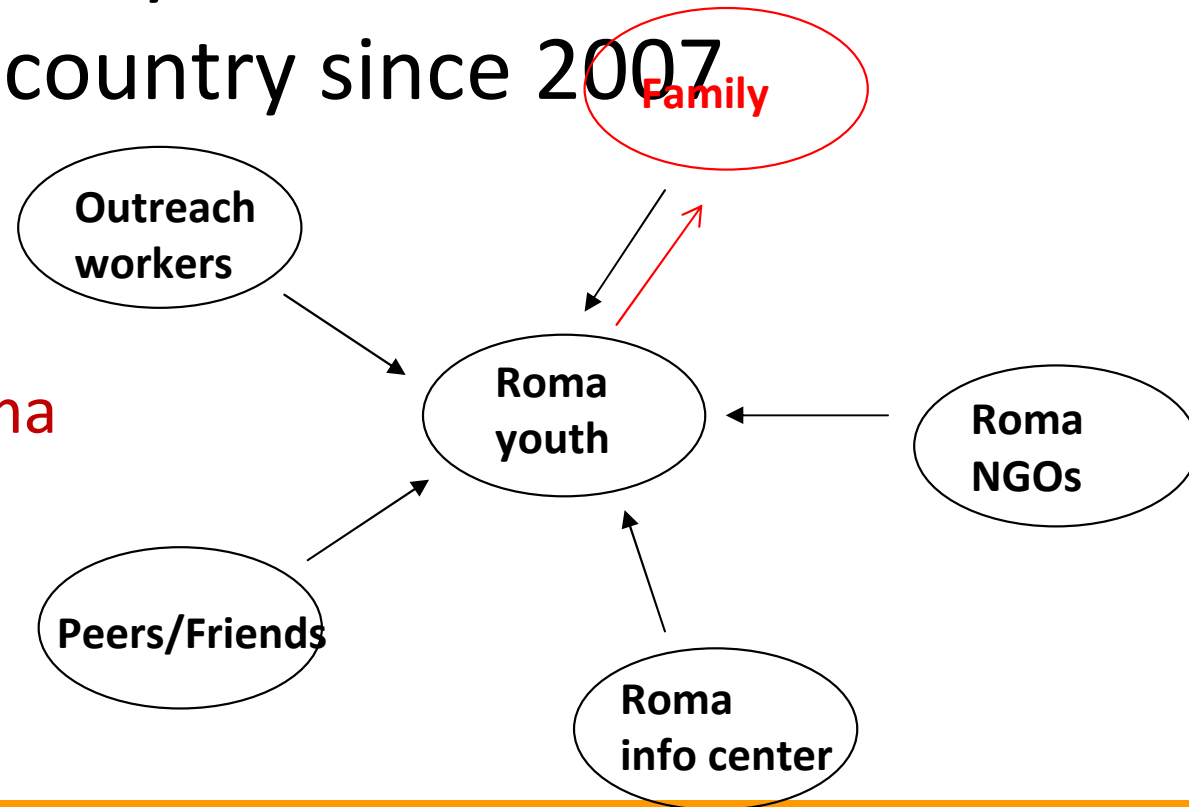


World Vision's Experience in Bosnia & Herzegovina

HIV Prevention and Stigma Reduction

🚫 Bosnia & Herzegovina – Health Service Access promotion & behaviour change communication for Roma Women and Children 13-15 in 40 Roma communities, 1 Asylum center and 1 refugee camp across country since 2007

11,922 Roma people were targeted, of which 6,342 Roma women & girls under 24 .



Qualitative Evidence for Family Centered Approaches Helping Prevention, Care/Support

- 🎗️ Ensured family tolerance, care/support for marginalized people
- 🎗️ Better recognition of own rights & utilization of that rights for access to information/services resulting in increased access
- 🎗️ Less attraction to street & less time for risky behaviours
- 🎗️ Reinforced family values & cultural norms alleviating risks & vulnerabilities for children/youth
- 🎗️ Enabling environment for children/youth to freely share opinions, create life plans, know & use their rights.



Recommendations based on WV's Key Learning

- ❧ Family, dependents, parents, friends altogether create the enabling environment requiring systemic engagement.
- ❧ Family centered approaches should be at the heart of HIV prevention/ Harm Reduction programs.
- ❧ Tailor interventions for parents/caregivers of vulnerable children
- ❧ Engage dependents of Especially Marginalized Groups in core program activities.
- ❧ Keeping children/their rights in mind, even when they are invisible.



Vulnerable Children in Eastern Europe/Central Asia Need Protection!



Rights Based Family Centered Approaches Work