

# FUNDING INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION IN PROBATION

Penal Reform International

# 3 levels of working

- Regional programmes of penal reform, carried out in five regional offices – Moscow, Tblisi, Almaty, Amman and Kigali
- Information and publication resources – *Compendium of prison legislation, Making Standards Work*
- International advocacy through UN institutions and other agencies

# 3 Thematic Priorities

- Reducing the unnecessary use of imprisonment – pre-trial detention, community service, probation
- Implementing human rights – improving prison conditions and training
- Respecting special needs – of juveniles, women in prison, people with mental and physical illness

# Discussion points

- Motivation to work in this way
  - Aims – what we hope to achieve
  - Range of donors
  - Tips, hints and problems
  - Sustainability
  - Benefits
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- PRI as a case study

# Motivation

- To meet our mandate and promote one of PRI's priorities: to reduce the unnecessary use of imprisonment. This is achieved by establishing or developing an alternative to custody and aid reintegration of offenders.
- Programmes identify good practice that can be adapted elsewhere.

# AIMS

- We aim to achieve specific reforms in line with the donor's objectives.
- Examples include:
  - Promoting civil society
  - Reducing prison population
  - Skills training for release
  - Setting up a new probation service
  - Capacity building - for civil society and training staff
  - Poverty reduction

# RANGE OF FUNDERS

- Embassies
- Government donors
- International development agencies
- EU bodies
- Foundations
- Match funding may be required
- Consortia bids - tendering

# TIPS, HINTS, PROBLEMS

- FUNDING
- How to obtain it – meeting the guidelines
- Planning the budget to allow for full costs recovery
- Problems if grant received is less than requested – adjustment downward can lead to loss of activities

# INTERNAL OR DESIGN FACTORS

- 3 GOOD CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS
- Legislative and procedural basis for reform
- Professional support – lawyers, judges, prison and probation staff, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Labour . . .
- Public awareness and support for programme aims

# EXTERNAL OR IMPLEMENTATION FACTORS

- Need for stable environment and commitment
- Adequate resources and equipment
- Capacity of partners and agreeing terms of collaboration or co-operation
- Relationship with donors, partners and government must be managed

# SUSTAINABILITY

- Pace of change may be slower than expected
- There must be a real culture change
- Difficulty in maintaining support once the initial impetus is lost
- Investment of resources is needed long term

# IS IT WORTH IT

- YES
- Involvement of non-state agencies to introduce and implement change provide an expert resource and compliance with international standards and good practice
- Reduces risk
- Value for money
- High morale and satisfaction