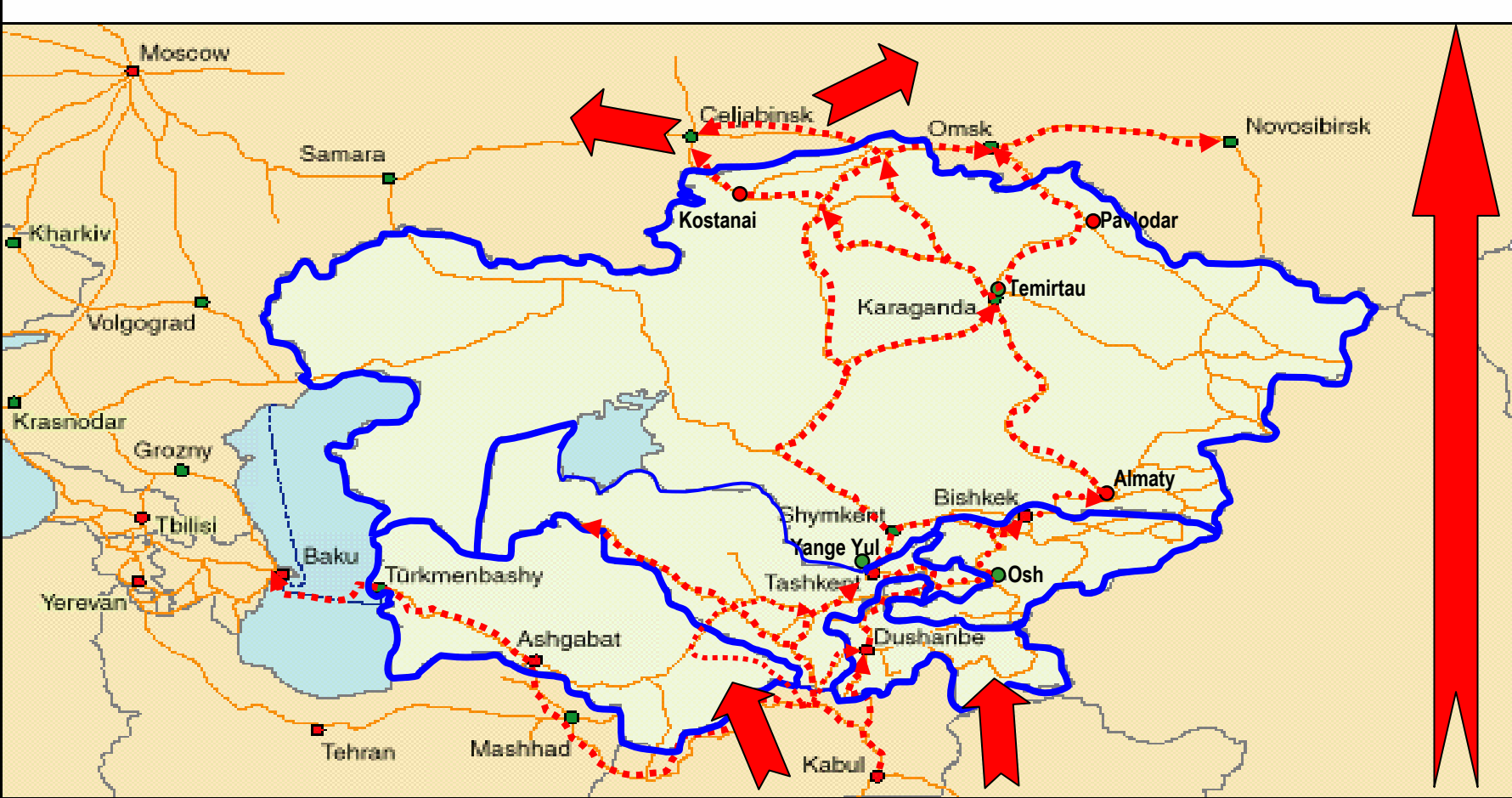


Drug Situation in Central Asia and USAID Response to drug-related HIV/AIDS epidemic



Jennifer Adams, PhD
USAID Regional Mission for Central Asia

Narcotics Trafficking Routes in Central Asia



After September 11: New environment and patterns of drug use

Decline in opium production in Afghanistan and increase in Pakistan and the other parts of Central Asia?

Strengthening drug interdiction efforts and political support for the war against drugs in Central Asian countries

International assistance significantly increased

A new pattern of drug use in Central Asia:

- Switch from “khanka” (less available) to heroin (more expensive)
- Increased consumption of alcohol and toxicants

Heroin users are less accessible and tend to share needles and practice unsafe injection

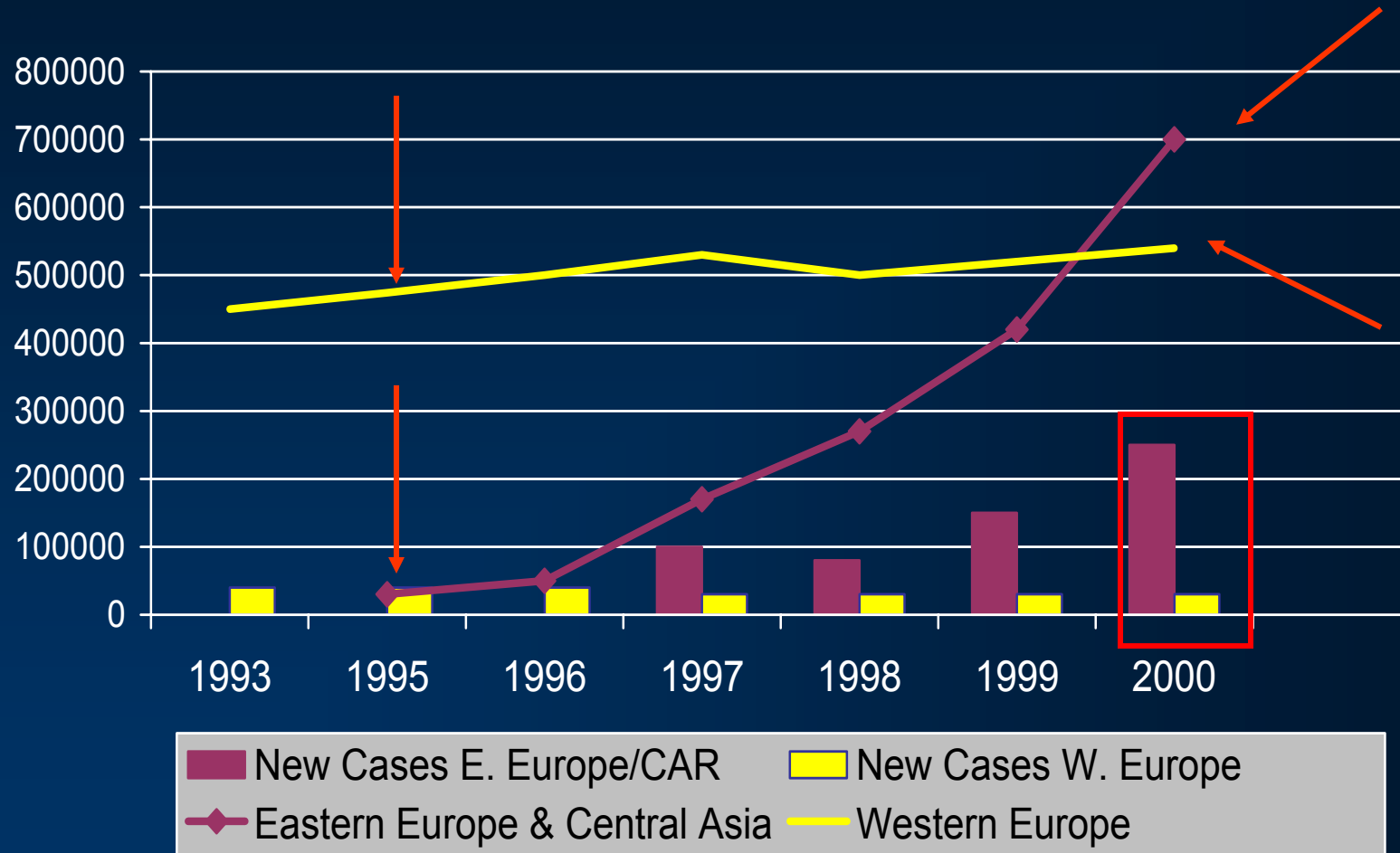
Current and Future Trends in HIV Epidemic

The number of intravenous drug users in Central Asia is expected to grow at rapid pace, fueling HIV infection from contaminated needles.

In addition to expansion of the HIV/AIDS epidemic among intravenous drug users, the epidemic could grow exponentially through so-called “bridge” populations: sexually active drug users and drug injecting sex workers.

Unless prevention measures are soon established, this trend will lead to widespread heterosexual transmission as HIV/AIDS finds its way into the general population.

HIV Trends in Eastern Europe & Central Asia and Western Europe, 1993 - 2000



HIV/AIDS Epidemic in Central Asia: Official Statistics



**Temirtau,
Kazakhstan**

**HIV infected
by April 2002:**

Kazakhstan:	2,780
Kyrgyz Republic:	253
Uzbekistan:	1,120
Tajikistan	48
Turkmenistan	2

**Osh,
Kyrgyzstan**

**Yangi-Yul,
Uzbekistan**

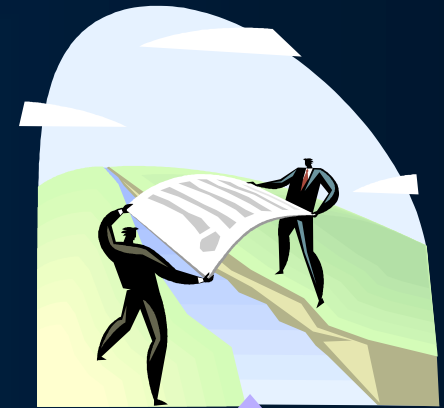
USAID/CAR HIV/AIDS Strategy

Interventions and targets

Drug prevention

IEC programs, outreach education

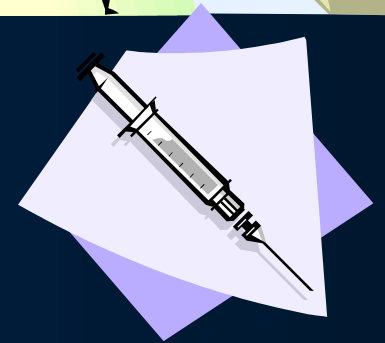
Vulnerable youth



Harm reduction

Needle exchange/ancillary services:

Injecting drug users



Prevention of heterosexual transmission

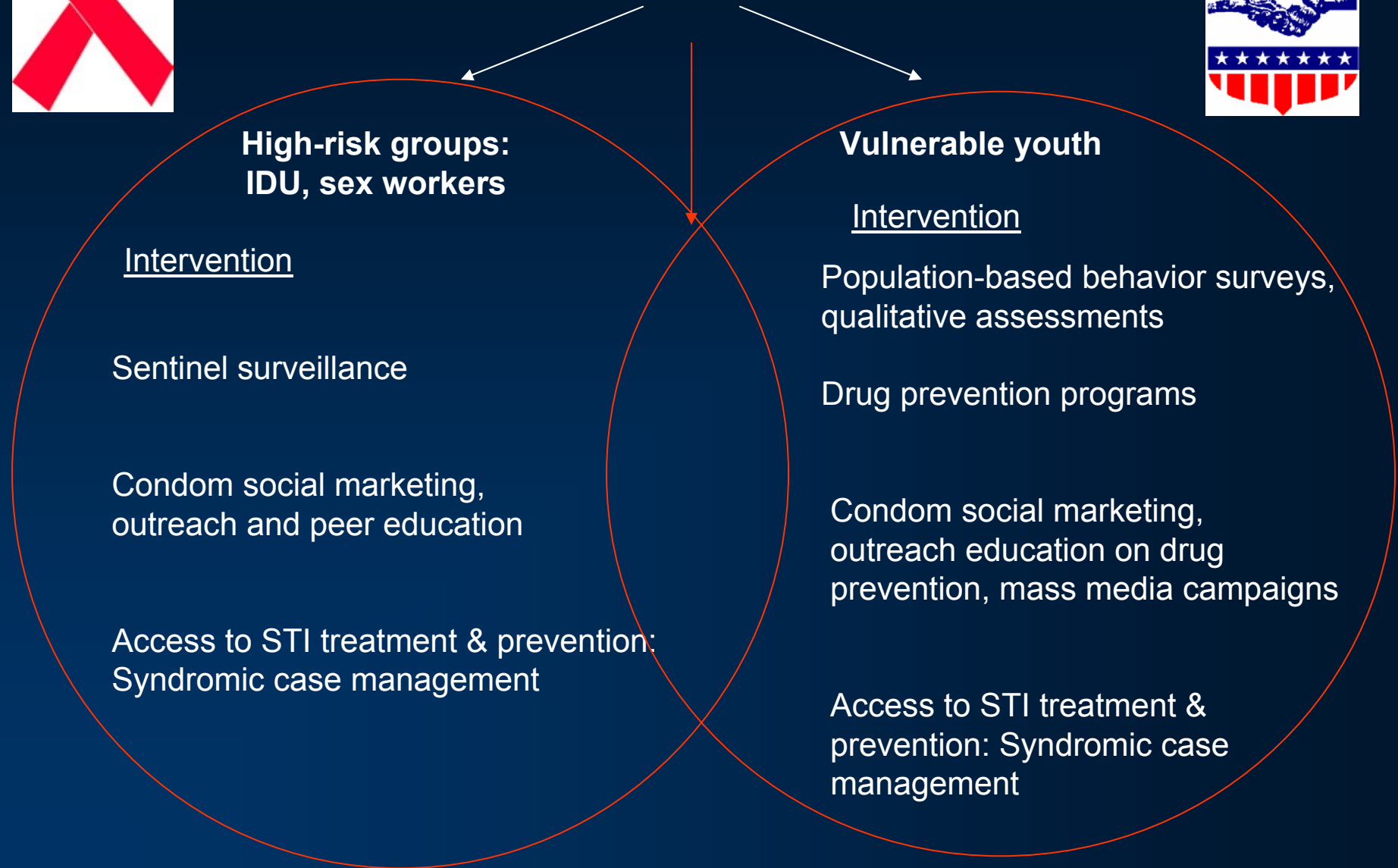
IEC, condom social marketing, STI treatment

Vulnerable youth, IDUs and SW





Management, coordination and policy dialogue:
USAID/CAR



USAID/CAR Strategy: PREMISES

- Different stages of the epidemic in CAR region, but common risks
- A number of so-called 'bridge populations' already exist that could drive a more widespread heterosexual epidemic. These include sexually active IDU, drug injecting sex workers, and bisexual MSM.
- Numerous examples of best practices developed
- Numerous regional projects (UNAIDS UNDCP, UNICEF, UNESCO, Soros network etc.)
- Strategic planning of the national response to HIV/AIDS ongoing in all countries
- Growing political commitment to strategic priorities



USAID partners



CDC/CAR

HIV sentinel surveillance

MEASURE *Evaluation*

PLACE: Mapping and identification of high transmission areas

Open Society Institute (OSI / Soros Network)

IEC, Enhancing and expanding harm reduction programs,
NGO organizational development and capacity building

Population Services International (PSI)

IEC programs, Condom social marketing,