ACCOUNTABILITY AND MONITORING IN HEALTH INITIATIVE
AND
INTERNATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE INITIATIVE
PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS
OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION

Costing for Change
Enforcing States’ Obligations Regarding Palliative Care Through Applied Budget Work

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**Lyudmyla-Oksand Andriyishin** is the head of the trainers’ team of Ivano-Frankivsk palliative care training center and the chief doctor of the Ivano-Frankivsk Hospice. She is a specialist in healthcare organization and management, and a non-staff specialist on palliative and hospice care in the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast’ healthcare department. Dr. Andriyishin is the associate professor of the Chair of Therapy and Family Medicine of the National Ivano-Frankivsk Medical University and is also a physician-anesthesiologist and physician-healthcare psychologist. She has more than 15 years of work experience in palliative care.

**Mary Callaway, MME** is the Director of the International Palliative Care Initiative (IPCI) of the Public Health Program at the Open Society Foundations. The goal of the Initiative is to enhance palliative care development internationally with a specific focus on Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, Southeast Asia, Southern Africa, and East Africa. From 1994 to 2003 she served as the Associate Director for the Project on Death in America of the Open Society Foundations, a 45 million dollar initiative to improve end-of-life care in the United States. Prior to joining OSI, she was the administrator for the Pain and Palliative Care Service at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City for 16 years. In that position she served the Executive Director for the World Health Organization’s (WHO) Collaborating Center for Cancer Pain Research and Education. She also developed educational programs for healthcare professionals and managed over 4 million dollars a year in research grants and philanthropic support. She organized and managed the working group for the development and dissemination of the WHO 1996 monograph “Cancer Pain Relief and Palliative Care in Children”.

Mary Callaway is a founding member of the United States Cancer Pain Relief Committee. She is a member of the Steering Group for the Worldwide Palliative Care Alliance and serves on both the advocacy and policy working groups. She is on the Steering Group of the International Children’s Palliative Care Network and a member of the African Palliative Care Association pain management working group which has planned and implemented three regional drug advocacy workshops to increase opioid availability.

She serves on the grants committee of the Virginia Gildersleeve Foundation and has served as a technical advisor to national and international foundations interested in advancing palliative care.

With Dr. Frank Ferris, she edited the JPSM May 2008 volume on International Palliative Care.
**Victoria Condrat** is the Program Coordinator of the Public Health Program at the Soros Foundation - Moldova. She has a legal background; however, her work is closely linked to public health. Victoria graduated the Moldova State University with a license in International Law. Starting in 2003, Victoria was the Head of the Public Relations Department at the National Center of Health Management in Chisinau, Moldova. She graduated from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem with a Masters in Public Health International Course. She was then invited to work at the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Moldova as a public health specialist. The experience at the Ministry of Health, and further in a private pharmaceutical company and at an NGO gave her a broader view of the public health sector in Moldova.

Victoria’s public health experience spreads over more than five years and shows a diverse background, both from the point of view of education and expertise.

**Stephen R. Connor, Ph.D.** is Senior Executive of the London based Worldwide Palliative Care Alliance (WPCA), an alliance of national and regional hospice and palliative care organizations globally. Dr. Connor has worked continuously in the hospice/palliative care movement since 1976, as the CEO of four different US hospice programs, Vice President for Research and Development at the US National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) for 10 years, and has been a consultant surveyor for the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations. In addition to being a hospice and association executive, Connor is a researcher and psychotherapist, licensed as a clinical psychologist in two US states. Dr. Connor is focused on palliative care development internationally as a consultant to the Open Society Foundation's International Palliative Care Initiative in New York and to Altarum Institute in Washington DC. He also serves as contract research director for Capital Caring (Hospice) in the Washington DC area. He has published over 60 peer reviewed journal articles, reviews, and book chapters on issues related to palliative care for patients and their families and is the author of *Hospice: Practice, Pitfalls, and Promise* (1998), and *Hospice and Palliative Care: The Essential Guide* (2009).
Andriy Danyliv is a trained economist and manager of healthcare organizations. Currently Andriy Danyliv is a researcher and teacher at the School of Public Health in the National University Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. He teaches Health Economics and Financial Management in Healthcare. Simultaneously Andriy works on research projects with a focus on modeling patients’ preference and demand for healthcare services. In the sphere of palliative care, Andriy, in cooperation with the International Renaissance Foundation, conducted preliminary studies in Ukraine with the purpose of testing the application of economic evaluation methodology in palliative settings in Ukraine.

Mariam Djankorozova is the Medicines Transparency Alliance (MeTA) Coordinator at the National Secretariat MeTA in Kyrgyzstan. MeTA aims to increase the public and key decision-makers’ awareness of the medical issues and to improve access to essential medicines, especially for vulnerable populations. She graduated from the First Moscow Medical Institute, in Russia, in 1986 and started her career as a Manager of a Pharmacy, as Deputy Director Drug Department under the MoH of the Kyrgyz Republic. She advanced to be a Head of the Department of Drug Provision in the Mandatory Health Insurance Fund under the MoH of the Kyrgyz Republic. Mariam Djankorozova is a Pharmacist and a Procurement Specialist with over 20 years of experience. She has been working in the palliative care and access to essential medicines areas within the State Guarantee Benefits Program (SGBP) and the Additional Drug Program (ADP) since 1999.

Csaba Dozsa obtained his degree in economics in 1994 at the Budapest University of Economic Sciences on the Faculty of Social Sciences with speciality on Social Policy and Planning. During his university studies he was a member of the István Széchenyi Professional College. From 1997 to 1999 he did his postgraduate studies through a World Bank scholarship (Universidad de Barcelona y Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona) in the field of health economics and obtained a master degree in health economics (Máster en Economía de la Salud). He is an honorary associate professor at the Corvinus University of Budapest and is currently taking part in the Doctoral Program of the Faculty of Economics.

From 1994 to May 2005 he worked for the National Health Insurance Fund Administration, where he was the Deputy Director General for Health Policy and Health Care from June 2002. He then worked for the Ministry of Health as the Deputy Secretary of State for Economic and Strategic Affairs and led the planning of the healthcare and health industry programs of the National Development Plan.

On several occasions he has taken part in official tours and scholarships
for healthcare financing and health policy. He has presented at national and international scientific and professional conferences on financial issues of healthcare providers including patient classification systems, incentive systems, methodology and adaptation of health technology assessment in healthcare, managed care including risk-based refining capitation based reimbursement system (risk-adjustment), and strategic management of public administration.

Since June 2006 he had been the Executive Director of the Med-Econ Ltd., which main profiles are: project management, organization development strategic planning of health care organizations consulting, and planning and management of EU projects and programs. Since September 2010 he has been working at University of Miskolc (Hungary) as an associate professor, his main subjects are health policy, health care financing, and social health insurance systems.

Malina Dumitrescu is currently the PR and Programmes Director at HOSPICE Casa Sperantei in Brasov. In 1978 she graduated the Cluj “Babes-Bolyai” University specializing in foreign languages. Between 1981 and 1994 she worked with the Brasov Public Health Authority and the Brasov Branch of the Romanian College of Physicians, coordinating the scientific department of the organization, organizing courses and conferences, translating various scientific materials. In 1992 she was joined the initiative of Graham Perolls of setting up Romania’s first home based palliative care service in Brasov and was one of the founding members of Hospice Casa Sperantei. Since then she has been working with the Brasov Hospice in various positions: from volunteer assistant and translator for Sylvia Jarrett (the first British nurse providing training and palliative home care in Brasov), to member of the Board of Trustees (1992-1995), executive director (1995-2004), fundraiser, spokesperson, PR and program director, lecturer on various training courses. She attended a management course at FPIMM in Brasov (1994-1995); several training courses in the UK and USA improved her capacity to understand and contribute to the development of palliative care beyond the Brasov hospice. She was involved in the construction project of the Hospice Casa Sperantei teaching hospice (2000-2002) and has ever since been one of the members of the team constantly involved in sharing the Brasov experience and know-how to most new initiatives of palliative care development in Romania and the East-European region.
Kathleen M. Foley, MD (Course Director), is an Attending Neurologist in the Pain & Palliative Care Service at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City and is also Professor of Neurology, Neuroscience, and Clinical Pharmacology at Weill Medical College of Cornell University, and previous Director of the WHO Collaborating Center for Cancer Pain Research and Education at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. She holds the Chair of the Society of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in Pain Research. She was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences for her national and international efforts in the treatment of patients with cancer pain. She is the past Director of the Project on Death in America of the Open Society Foundations whose goal was to transform the culture of dying in the United States through initiatives in research, scholarship and clinical care. Dr. Foley is currently the Medical Director of the International Palliative Care Initiative of the Public Health Program of the Open Society Foundations working to advance palliative care globally.

Dr. Foley has focused her career on the assessment and treatment of patients with cancer pain. With her colleagues, she has developed scientific guidelines for the use of analgesic drug therapy through clinic pharmacologic studies of opioid drugs.

Dr. Foley has received numerous awards and honors for her work. She received the Distinguished Service Award and the Humanitarian Award from the American Cancer Society, the David Karnovsky Award from American Society of Clinical Oncology, and the Frank Netter Award from the American Academy of Neurology. She is a previous Rita Allen Scholar.

Dr. Foley chaired three expert committees that resulted in the publication of the three WHO monographs on Cancer Pain and Palliative Care; “Cancer Pain Relief” (1996), “Cancer Pain Relief and Palliative Care” (1990), and “Cancer Pain and Palliative Care in Children” (1996).

Liliana Gherman, MD, PG Dip in PH, is the Director of the Public Health Program (PHP) of the Soros Foundation-Moldova (SFM). Dr. Gherman graduated Moldova State Medical and Pharmaceutical University “N.Testemitanu”, Faculty of General Medicine, in 1996. From 1996 until 1999 she continued her post-graduated education in cardiology. In 2010 she was awarded a postgraduate diploma in Public Health by the University of London/London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She has worked in the field of public health since 2001. She started with assisting in the implementation of the “Task Force on Health Reforms” project, a joint initiative of the Ministry of Health and Soros Foundation-Moldova. She organized and managed a stakeholders working group for the development and implementation of compulsory health insurance
system in the country. The compulsory health insurance system was introduced in 2004.

She joined the Soros Foundation-Moldova in January 2003 and served as a harm reduction program coordinator till January 2005. During that time the SFM’s Harm Reduction Program became sub-recipient of the Global Fund to Fight TB, AIDS and Malaria, Round 1, and World Bank grants to scale up HIV preventive activities among vulnerable groups and develop home and provision of home and community based care for people living with HIV/AIDS.

From January 2005 to present she acts as Public Health Program director at the Soros Foundation-Moldova. She is managing over 3 million dollars a year in grants and operational projects in HIV and TB fields, media and health, mental health, palliative care, law and health initiatives. Palliative Care Initiative is one of the main initiatives implemented through the SFM’s PHP with the goal to develop palliative care in the country and to integrate it into national health policy.

She is coordinating the activity of the Technical Working Group on Vulnerable Populations of the National TB/HIV Coordination Council. For a few years she has been the Soros Foundation-Moldova’s representative and member of the European Commission’s Civil Society Forum on HIV/AIDS.

Xavier Gómez-Batiste, MD, PhD is a doctor in medicine and specialist in Medical Oncology and expert in Palliative Care. He is currently the Director of the ‘Qualy’ Observatory - WHO Collaborating Centre for Public Health Palliative Care Programmes at the Catalan Institute of Oncology (Barcelona – Spain). Furthermore, he is the Director of the Program for the comprehensive care to patients with advanced diseases and their families of the ‘Obra Social La Caixa’. He was Head of the Palliative Care Service at the Catalan Institute of Oncology from 1991 to 2008. His main areas of interest are: planning and organization, the quality evaluation and improvement and the multi-centered studies of research, always from the public health point of view. He is the Director of the Palliative Care Master at the University of Barcelona since 1998.
Kathy Henning has 40 years of experience in the accounting field and 5 years in program management. After qualifying as a Chartered Accountant in 1995, she became a partner in an audit firm. Kathy's introduction to the world of hospice and palliative care began in 1997 when she joined Stellenbosch Hospice in South Africa as a voluntary Board Member and Treasurer. During her time in the accounting practice, the Hospice Palliative Care Association of South Africa (HPCA) became her client and she acted as financial consultant to the organization until being appointed as the HPCA Financial Manager and PEPFAR Program Manager in March 2006. Kathy is currently the Chief Operating Officer of HPCA. Kathy is widowed and is the mother of two sons. Her interests are conservation, gardening, hiking, reading and yoga.

Kiera Hepford is the Program Officer of the International Palliative Care Initiative (IPCI) of the Public Health Program at the Open Society Foundations. She assists with the development of the initiative's strategy and program development, collaborates with Soros National Foundations, grantees and donors, and is responsible for coordinating the program's grant making activities that provide funding to individuals, associations, and organizations working to develop palliative care capacity and services within countries in Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, Southeast Asia, South Africa, Southern Africa, and East Africa.

Irma Khabazi MD, PhD is the manager of the Public Health Unit at the Open Society Georgia Foundation, which includes: palliative care, access to essential medicines, mental health, law and health, media and health and harm reduction. Irma has significant experience in the field of public health and health care management. Working in different areas - such as clinical setting (as a doctor), research, health care quality assurance system (as a educational and human resource manager, practice guideline developer), education system (as a lecturer), non-governmental system (as author or participant of different projects on child mental health problems, gender issues and est.) - gave her the opportunity to closely interact with people of different generations, specialties, values, and nationalities. She has worked on a diversity of issues that have provided her with a greater understanding of local problems and needs. Since 1997 she has been involved in teaching graduate, postgraduate and continuing professional development fields. In 2006-2008 she worked with WB, Global Fund both from principal recipient and national program perspective. She has experience in human recourse monument, gender related issues and is the founder of the NGO “Contemporary Women and Family”.
Nino Kiknadze is the Director of the project "Law, Media and Health" (HRGGP and PHP) and coordinator of the International Palliative Care Initiative (IPCI) at the Open Society Georgia Foundation.

Nino Kiknadze's background spans such areas of Law as Civil Law, Corporation and Business Law, Labor Law and Health Care Law in the context of public sector activities. Nina enrolled in Tbilisi State University (department of Jurisprudence) in 1995, which she graduated with honors in 2000 and acquired an LLM degree. She also holds an MPA degree from the Georgian Institute of Public Affairs. In 2004, she completed her studies at the Leiden University and passed the BAR exam with success.

In 1999 Nina worked for the Georgian State Chancellery as a lawyer, where her obligation was legal assessment of Georgian President’s radio speeches. From 1999 to 2006, Nina Kiknadze worked for Children Central Hospital as a lawyer. She also worked for the Commercial Bank as a Head of the Legal Department. Since 2003 Nino Kiknadze works on European Union, USAID and World Bank projects as a legal expert. Since 2006, Nina has been working for the Open Society Georgian Foundation as a Law, Media and Health Initiative Director and since 2009 as the International Palliative Care Initiative Coordinator. During this period she has done research and has given lectures in "Labor Law", "Contract Law" and "Health law" for different institutes.

Liubov Komareevskaya is the project manager at Avanco Consulting Company in Kyrgyzstan. There, she develops technical documents for ongoing projects, monitors and evaluates projects, and conducts needs assessments of health resources. She has wide experience in organizing and managing activities in the health area. During 1999-2009, she worked as head of Strategic Development of the Fund of obligatory medical insurance under the Government of Kyrgyz Republic. She was directly involved in the development and implementation of laws, national and institutional healthcare programs in particular on the development of palliative care strategy in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2011 - 2016 years.
Dimitri Kordzaia, MD, PhD, ScD, graduated from the Curative faculty of Tbilisi State Medical University in 1981. Since 2006 he has been the coordinator of the National Palliative Care Program. He is also a professor at Tbilisi State University. Dr. Kordzaia is the founder and vice-president of the Georgian National Association for Palliative Care and is a member of the International College of Surgeons and the Academy of Bio-Medical Sciences of Georgia. He is the author and co-author of more than 120 publications in Georgian, Russian and English and is one of the pioneers and initiators of palliative care development in Georgia and the editor of the Georgian National Program for Palliative Care.

Sofia Lebanidze has extensive 10 years experience of working in different fields of Health Care System. During 2002 – 2004 she was working at the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia (MoLHSA), as leading specialist for healthcare program analyzes. In 2005 she was appointed as a Senior Health Economist Expert at the Healthcare Policy Unit at the National Health Institute. In the spring of 2006 she was appointed as the head of the working group, established by the Ministerial decree for Health Financing Policy. In 2007 she was appointed as the head of the Health Care Department at the MoLHSA. Currently she is a Deputy General Director of IC Group Insurance Company.

Marta Ximena León, MD is a Colombian physician, anesthesiologist and at the National Cancer Institute of Colombia and is an International Pain and Policy Fellow at the University of Wisconsin. She is also the Director of the Pain and Palliative Care group of the Universidad de La Sabana Bogotá- Colombia and is the Director of the Pain and Palliative Care research group approved by the National Center of Science, Technology and Innovation (COLCIENCIAS).
Victoria Macovei started her career in healthcare at the Ministry of Health as a consultant in the International Relations Department, where her primary responsible were to coordinate the donor supported activities in the healthcare system. As a consultant in the Health Component at the Moldova Governance Threshold Country Program, she managed the teams of medical professionals responsible for the development of the National Clinical Protocols and Institutional Protocols. Ms. Macovei continued this activity at the Soros Foundation Moldova by working with the palliative care specialists on the development of Clinical Protocols in Palliative Care where she got familiarized with the structure and operation of the palliative care sector in Moldova. She is now working, together with other national and international experts, on the evaluation of costs in palliative care in Moldova within the Palliative Care Initiative of Soros Foundation Moldova. In addition, she successfully administers the TEMPUS Project “Masters Programs in Public Health and Social Services” and other education projects at the State University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Nicolae Testemitanu. Ms. Macovei completed her undergraduate studies at the Moldova State University, Faculty of Chemistry. Several years later she received an MA Degree in International Relations from the Academy of Public Administration.

Nazira Mambetkulova is the Public Health Program Administrator/Assistant, at the Soros Foundation Kyrgyzstan. The Public Health Program aims to increase awareness by the public and key decision-makers of the health issues of concern to the PHP, especially stigmatized health issues involving marginalized populations. One of the main areas the SFK PHP works is in Palliative Care.

She graduated from Kyrgyz-Russian Slovak University in 2009 and started her career as an Administrative Assistant for University of Central Asia/Aga Khan Foundation and Soros Foundation Kyrgyzstan. She joined the SFK Public Health Program in 2010 and works on operational and grant activities in palliative care, mental health, harm reduction, sexual health and rights, health budget monitoring and advocacy, access to essential medicines, law and health and health media areas of the program.
Heather McLeod qualified as an actuary and has worked in healthcare financing since 1993. Since 1998 she has worked with the Department of Health, the Department of Social Development, National Treasury, the health insurance regulator and the financial services industry regulator in South Africa. The major focus of her work in the last decade has been the reform of healthcare financing and the introduction of National Health Insurance to provide universal coverage. She has done modelling of the disease burden and modelling of the long-term need for healthcare facilities. She has extensive experience leading teams doing pricing, costing and risk equalization of healthcare benefit packages.

In 2010 Heather married a New Zealand citizen and now lives in New Zealand. She is collaborating with ENZCAM, the New Zealand Centre for Evidence-based Research into Complementary and Alternative Medicine at the University of Canterbury. She is working with the Hospice Palliative Care Association in South Africa on unit costing and modelling the need for palliative care.

Daniela Mosoiu is the director of Hospice Casa Sperantei in Brasov, Romania. Graduated in 1991 from the Medical University in Cluj, Romania. She completed her training in Medical Oncology and in 1995 she joined Hospice Casa Sperantei, the first Romanian hospice. In 1997 with the opening of the Resource and Training Centre for Palliative Care in Brasov she became responsible for the training program for health care professionals in palliative care in Romania and in the region (with over 10000 people trained till the present). Since 2001 she is appointed as National Coordinator for the subspecialty training of Romanian Physicians. She is founder and president of the Romanian National Association for Palliative Care, and Board member in the Worldwide Palliative Care Alliance. She is recognized as a key person to promote and develop palliative care in Romania at national level. She was involved in the process of drafting the new opioid legislation and in the one regarding the structure and requirements for palliative care services in Romania. She has successfully completed her PhD under joint supervision of Prof. David Clark and Prof L Petrov and is at present Director of Education and National Development at Hospice Casa Sperantei and Associate Professor at University Transylvania Brasov where she is coordinating the first Romanian Master program in Palliative Care.
Aibek Mukambetov joined the Soros Foundation – Kyrgyzstan in January 2009 as the Public Health Program Director. He graduated from the State Medical Academy with specialization in psychotherapy; and also has an education background in management. Currently, he is finishing his dissertation work in ethno-cultural peculiarities of adaptation modes of illness among patients with anxiety and depression disorders. He has been involved as a consultant, trainer, and project manager in the implementation of projects and programs on harm reduction and HIV/AIDS prevention among vulnerable populations since 1998 (PSI, CARHAP, CAAP, GFATM, and SFKg projects). He also worked as a psychotherapist for several years in the Republican Center for mental health.

Gabriel Mumjiev is a Program Officer with the Health Media Initiative of the Public Health Program at Open Society Foundations in New York. Gabriel studied journalism at Bucharest State University in Romania, and also has training in organizational and management development. His very first job was with the Soros Foundation in Moldova, from 1994-1995. He then worked for the International Foundation for Elections Systems as a program manager for mass media. More recently, Gabriel spent eight years working as a program coordinator for the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative in Moldova. His areas of work included the Traveling Lawyer Program, which provided pro-bono legal assistance and civil rights education to underserved and poor communities.

Hristina Petkova holds a post as a health economics training fellow at the Department of Palliative Care, Policy and Rehabilitation at King's College London, UK. Her role involves analysis of end-of-life care costs and modelling cost projections for the future. Prior posts included conducting a substantive systematic literature review of the preferences for place of care and place of death of patients with non-cancer conditions; co-editor of the World Health Organization (WHO) guide "Palliative care for older people: Better practices"; contributor to a Cochrane review of Interventions for improving palliative care for older people living in nursing care homes; contributor to the WHO project "Medical Devices: Managing the Mismatch". She has a background in economics, an MA in European Studies, and a PhD in health policy and innovation. Ms. Petkova's PhD thesis studies how genetic tests are adopted within the British and the German healthcare system. Her current research interests lie in economic evaluations in healthcare, with a particular focus on the complexities of estimating costs in palliative care and rehabilitation.
Jorge Romero León is Senior Program Officer of the Accountability and Monitoring in Health Initiative (AMHI) in the Public Health Program, at Open Society Foundations, New York. He holds an MA in political science from the New School for Social Research, where he is also a PhD Candidate. His areas of specialization include democratic theory, sovereignty, separation of powers and accountability. His professional expertise extends to the areas of public policy, applied budget work, social accountability mechanisms and strategic advocacy for transforming public policy. Before joining the Public Health Program, he led a team of thirty-three researchers on a diversity of projects related to accountability, public policy and institutional development, as Executive Director of Fundar, Centre for Analysis and Research, in Mexico. He has extensively monitored the legislative branch of government and developed methodologies and training materials for carrying out applied budget work and legislative advocacy. He has been an advisor to the International Budget Partnership and several international organizations; mentor to a broad range of CSO's working on applied budget and advocacy strategies in Latin America, and advisor to several government agencies in Mexico, including the Senate minority party in 1998. He has published several articles and working papers on budget and policy analysis in México and Latin America.

Dr. Tamari Rukhadze is Medical Oncologist, Leading the Palliative Care Service at the National Cancer Centre. Recently she is occupied the position of Vice-dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University and supervising Palliative Care education courses at the level of undergraduate and postgraduate medical education.
Dr. Tamari Rukhadze graduated as a medical doctor Tbilisi State Medical University, Georgia in 2000 and then completed post-graduate fellowship in clinical oncology at the National Cancer Centre in Tbilisi, Georgia. In 2002 – 2003 she was the Scholarship holder from Swedish Institute in Clinical Oncology (Karolinska Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden). In 2004 Georgian Board of Oncology certified her as a Medical Oncologist. In 2005 she was Fellowship holder in Cancer Prevention and Cancer Biology Curriculum at the National Cancer Institute (NCI, NIH, Washington, US). In 2006 she has been certified Degree of a Candidate of Medical Sciences of Georgian Academy of Science. In 2007-2010 she was International Fellow at San Diego Hospice and Palliative Care (CA, US). Dr. Rukhadze is a scientific director of She participates different international educational workshops and courses in Palliative Medicine.
Dr. Tamari Rukhadze is the representative of European Association of Preventive, Predictive and Personalizing Medicine (EPMA) in South Caucasian Region. She is the full member of European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO), representative of Georgia and Member of Palliative Care Working Group of European Society for Medical Oncology.
Dr. Tamari Rukhadze has co-authored books and chapters in Palliative Care in Georgian Language (Handbooks and guides for doctors and for nurses). She participates in Palliative Care projects and is actively involved Palliative Care Implementation in Georgia.

Taalaigul Sabyrbekova, chairman of the Public Foundation “Ergene”, has 14 years of successful experience in organization and project management. From 1997-2007 Taalaigul worked as a Director at CitiHope International on Operation Provide Hope – Humanitarian Program, Pharmaceutical Benefit Initiative Program USAID program – Central Asia, Pharmaceutical Care Program ZdravPlus II Project – Central Asia. In 2007 Taalaigul established the local Public Foundation “Ergene”. Since 2007, the organization has implemented many successful projects, including: UICC Project “Tobacco Free Kyrgyzstan against Cancer” to increase public awareness on harmful effect on tobacco and secondhand smoke on health; UICC Project “Information Treatment” to raise awareness in the community on different diseases; and USAID Project “Food for Peace” to increase humanitarian and emergency aid to vulnerable population. Taalaigul graduated from Kyrgyz State Medical Institute, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan in 1991 with the diploma in the Physician department. Taalaigul did her residency training on Clinical Tuberculosis at Kyrgyz State Medical Institute in the period of 09/1991-06/1993, and then she completed three years Clinical Postgraduate Tuberculosis Study at the same institute. She earned a PhD degree in Clinical and Immunological Characteristics of Tuberculosis in Case of Aged Patients (including research and analysis of tuberculosis mycobacterium, resistance to chemotherapy) at Kyrgyz State Institute in 1996.

Dr. Taalaigul Sabyrbekova has a certificate in participation in the International Visitor Leadership Program on “Crisis management: Preventing or Responding to Disasters”, July 26 August 13, 2010 from the United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.
Gabriel Lara Salazar was the Capacity Building Coordinator at Fundar, Center for Analysis and Research, in Mexico. In this position he worked to “translate” Fundar’s experience and knowledge in budget analysis, budget advocacy, access to information and human rights into capacity building materials and processes. He has facilitated Budget Analysis and Advocacy Trainings in 14 countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America, together with the Training Program of the International Budget Partnership. He also worked doing budget analysis during a key National Health Law reform in Mexico. Lara Salazar worked for Fundar for 10 years. Prior to that he was part of the advisors staff to the Director of the Mexican Social Security Institute for 5 years. Lara Salazar studied Political Science at the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México, (ITAM). He is currently working as a consultant for budget analysis, advocacy and capacity building around the world.

Ntombizodwa Margaret Sithole has gained a wealth of experience in various Health Institutions comprising private, government and community sectors. She has worked in environments with limited resources, illiteracy, abject poverty and general deprivation, which has given her a diverse experience working in first and third world care. Formally, she trained in various areas of Primary Health Care, Nursing Administration and Education, Community Health Care, Midwifery, General Nursing and Palliative Care.

In later practice, Ms. Sithole developed a passion for care of the frail and the terminally ill, hence her interest in palliative care. She has participated in a number of national and international conferences, flying the hospice flag in the specific area of palliative care. Lately, she has been involved in team investigating and making recommendations for nurses to prescribe morphine to terminally ill patients. She is presently employed as the national Advocacy Coordinator at HPCA and serves on the board of the African Palliative Care Association.

Kseniya Shapoval has been the Palliative Care Coordinator of the Public Health Program at the International Renaissance foundation (Ukraine, Kyiv) since 2009. The goal of the Palliative Care Initiative in Ukraine is to develop a palliative care system around the country, support the educational programs for health care professionals according to the international standards, and improve access to pain relief treatment in Ukraine.

From 2003 to 2005 Ms Shapoval served as executive director of the National Harm Reduction Association. From 1998 to 2003 she studied sociology at the National Shevchenko University, Kyiv. She is interested in the development of the volunteers’ movement and social work for palliative care patients in Ukraine.
**Cristina Soltan** is the Human resource manager at the Charity Foundation for Public Health “Angelus Moldova”. She graduated from the Moldova State Pedagogical University “Ion Creanga” with a license in Philology. Following special courses in accountability and human resources legislation, Cristina started to give her input in development of Hospice “Angelus Moldova” and the palliative care activities.

**Lela Tsotsoria** has been working for the Ministry of Health of Georgia since 2004, where she manages the state health care programs for cancer patients, including palliative care programs for cancer and other incurable patients. She is in charge of designing the content of the programs in coordination with the local country experts and public budgeting for the same programs. She hopes that during this meeting she will have a chance to learn more about international experience in the field and meet experts and colleagues from other countries.

**Viktoriia Tymoshevska, MD, MPH**, is the Director of the Public Health Program at the International Renaissance Foundations. PHP’s mission is to promote human rights in public health by supporting and developing the capacity of the vulnerable populations and activist organizations, to support the development and implementation of policies and practices in public health that meet the international standards and are grounded in the principles of evidence medicine. Dr. Tymoshevska previously spent more than 3 years at J. Snow Research and Training Institute where she was a program manager working on monitoring and evaluation, and research for the USAID-funded project on improving family planning and reproductive health in Ukraine. Prior to her work on this project, she served as a clinician and researcher at the obstetrics and gynaecology, in-vitro fertilization University clinic in Odessa. Her professional interests range from program design and evaluation, reproductive health and family planning to access to medicines, palliative care and human rights in the public health context. Dr. Tymoshevska received her medical degree from Odessa State Medical University and her Masters in population and family health from Columbia University.
Roza Zhyrgalbekova is the coordinator of programs for palliative care under the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic, curator of the department of rehabilitation and palliative care of the National Center of Oncology of Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic, associate professor of oncology at the department of Kyrgyz State Medical Academy, a member of the Working Group of Ministry of Health for development of palliative treatment, and vice-president of the Society for the development of palliative assistance in Kyrgyzstan. She actively promotes and facilitates the development of Palliative Care in the Kyrgyz Republic. She graduated Kyrgyz State Medical Institute in 1978 and started her career as a junior researcher at National Centre of Oncology. From 1979 to 1984 she completed her residency at the Center of Oncology research institute of Russia. In 1996-1997 she received training in oncology in Italy. In August 2011, Dr. Zhyrgalbekova participated in a training on the development model of palliative care in Georgia. She had previously studied palliative care in Switzerland and Hungary. She is now involved in medical work in Kyrgyzstan, and also holds sessions with students and lectures on palliative care.