

OPERATIONALIZING THE NATIONAL POLICY ON HARM REDUCTION IN THAILAND

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ARE WE GETTING THERE?

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Drug Policy Evolution in Thailand

- Thailand has historically criminalization drug use
- Announcement of drugs use as patient if health problems in year 2002
- War on Drugs 2003
- 2003 The Global Funds first support to Thailand on harm reduction, a non-CCM project submitted by Raks Thai Foundation and Thai Drug Users Network (TDN)
- Overcrowded prisons >300,000, 80% drug use related, 14% women inmates with larger proportion due to drug related crimes
- 2018 Order of National Narcotic Control Management Center of Harm Reduction pilot provinces 19 provinces and 36 provinces in 2017 - 2019
- Limited capacity for drugs treatment 50,000 est. per year and high relapse rate >60%
- New Drug Law 2021 that includes “harm reduction”



Current Cycle 2024-2026

Previous Cycle

Total reach 2021-2023 = 34,669

Male = 27,386

Female = 4,700

MSM/TG = 4,740

Reach = Outreach Workers, Drop In Center, Seed, Online, NSP, Naloxone, C-Free HCV/STI, Oral Fluid, Condoms, KPLHS, Community Methadone, Legal

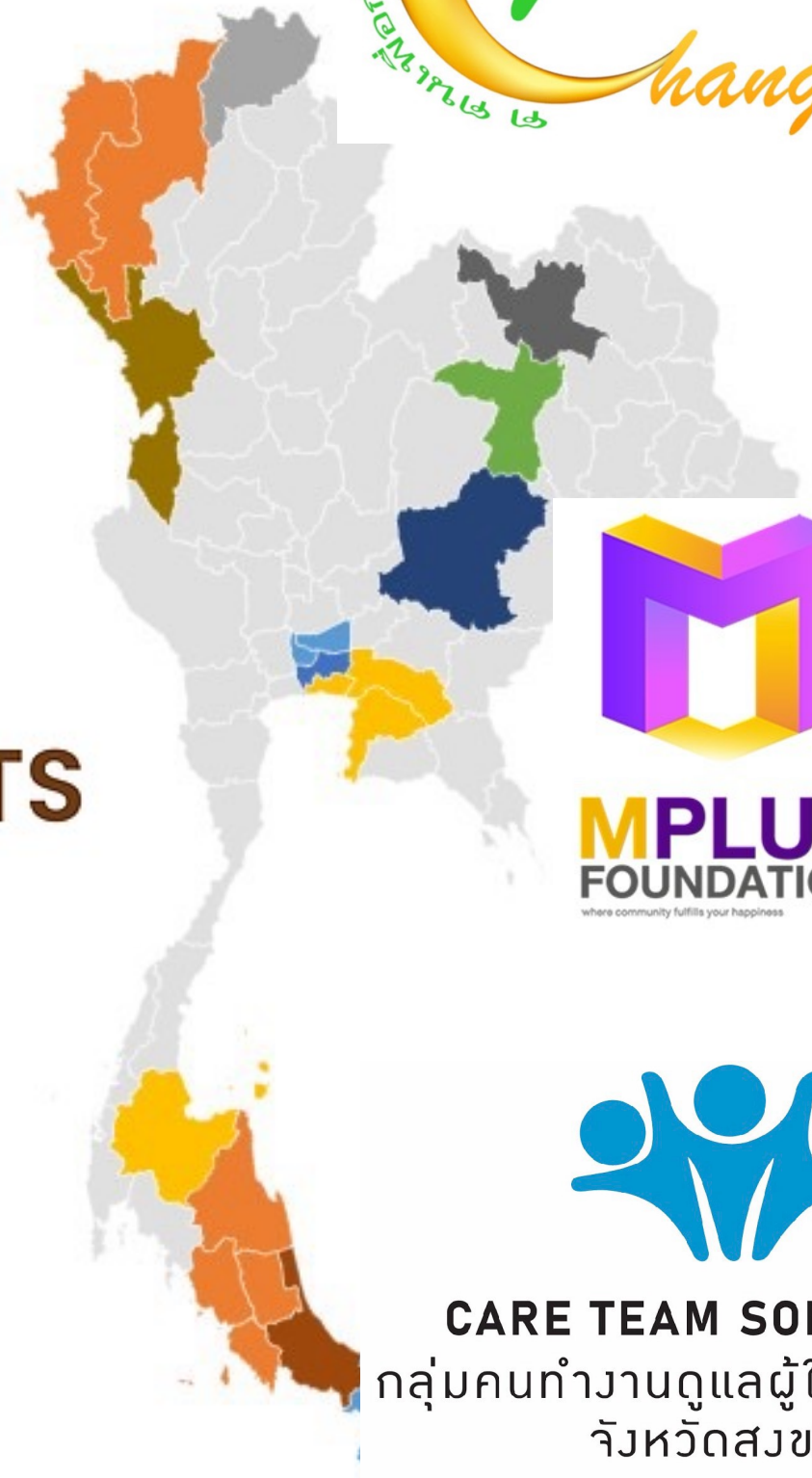
Recruit = Readiness to test/treat, OST

Test = HIV test (hospital, mobile)

Treat = Treat (hospital) HIV, STI, OST

Prevent = Continuous Prevention

Retain = Follow up, treatment adherence, health, social support



■ Raks Thai Foundation
■ ADACC



CARE TEAM SONGKHLA
กลุ่มคนทำงานดูแลผู้ใช้สารเสพติด
จังหวัดสงขลา

New drugs Law 2021

- **Section 108:**

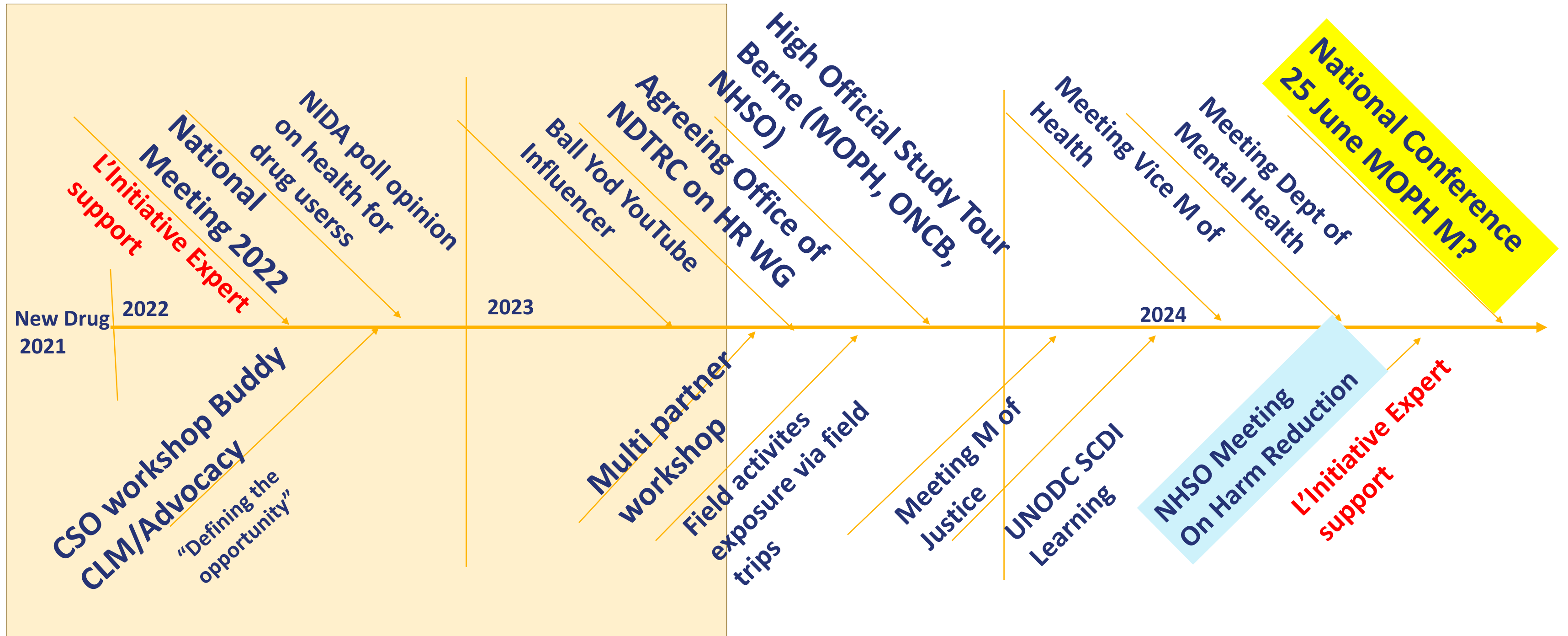
- **"Addicted to drugs"** means the habitual and continuous use of narcotics, resulting in a condition where dependence on such drugs is necessary, which can be identified according to academic principles.

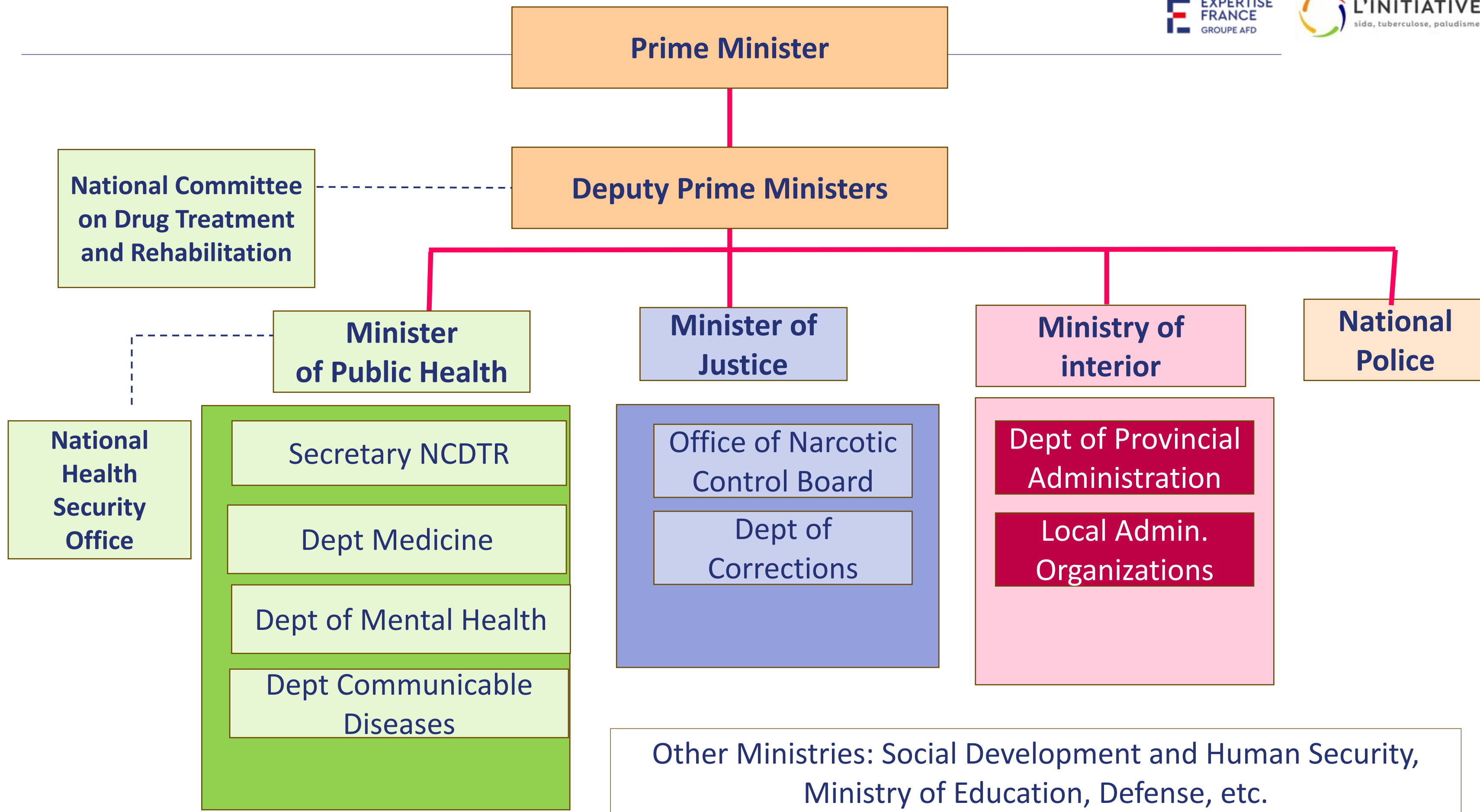
- **"Treatment"** means the treatment of drug addicts, including screening, severity assessment, medicinal treatment, rehabilitation, **harm reduction from drugs**, and post-treatment follow-up.

- **"Rehabilitation"** means any action taken to treat the drug abuse behavior and restore the physical and mental condition of the drug addict to normal.

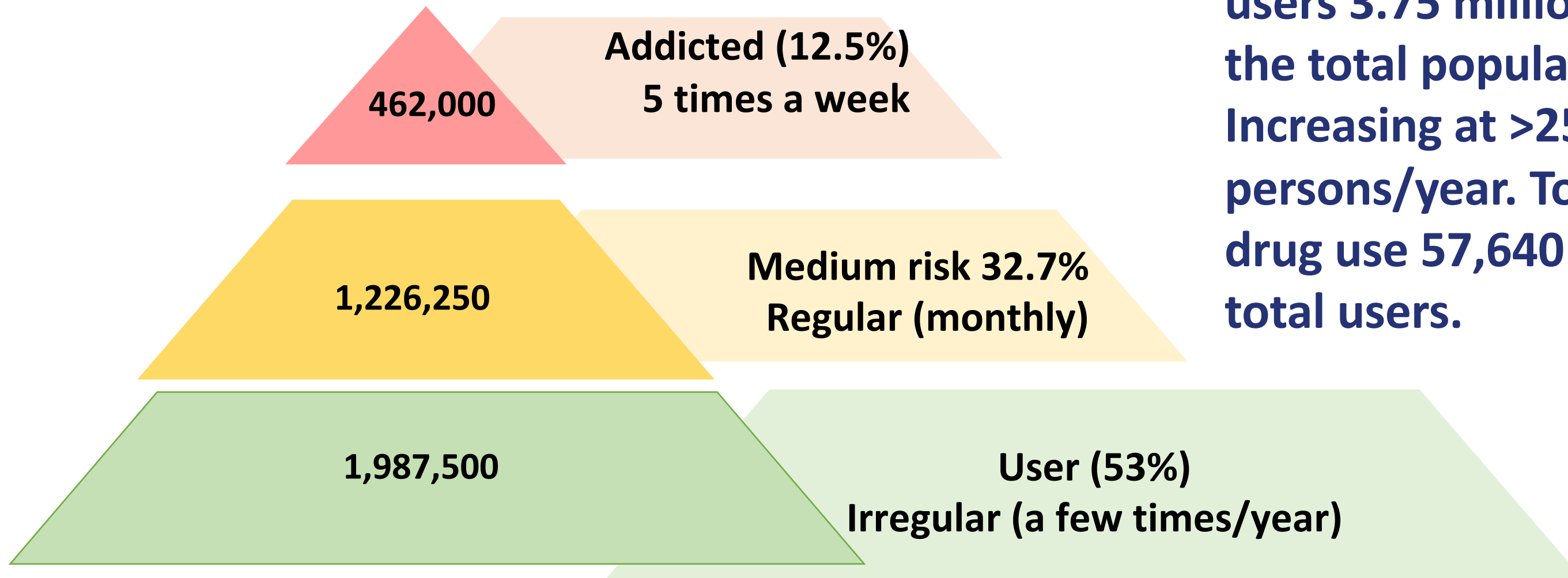
- **"Social rehabilitation"** means any action taken to support and assist drug addicts or those who have undergone treatment in improving their quality of life in terms of housing, education, occupation, and continuous follow-up care until they can return to a normal life in society.

Time Line





Making the case for harm reduction



Estimate total number of users 3.75 million or 7.46% of the total population. Increasing at >250,000 persons/year. Total injecting drug use 57,640 or 1.6% of total users.

Estimate Drug Use in Thailand

Defining the Role of Civil Society

Article 114
Screening

Article 113
Treatment

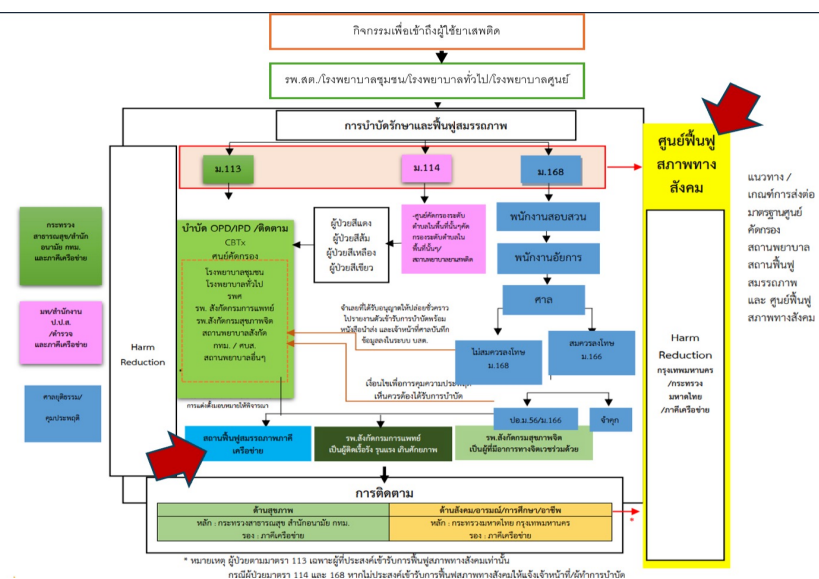
Health &
Social
Rehabilitation

Voluntary

Article 168
Juridicial
Process

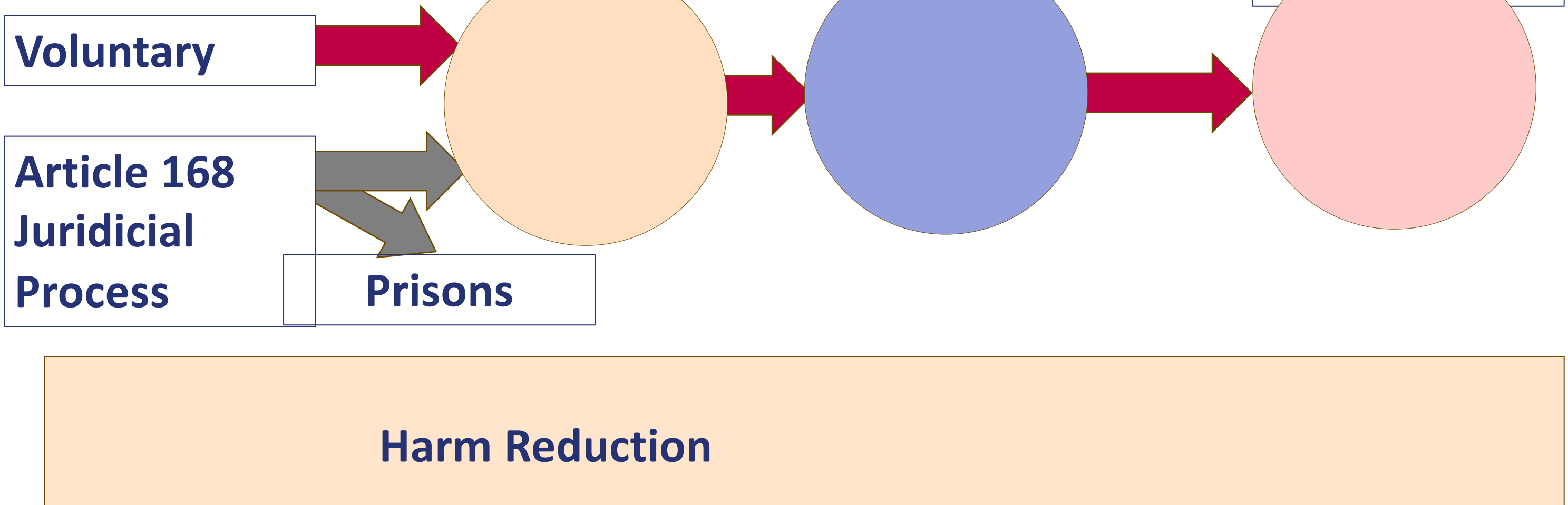
Prisons

Harm Reduction



สถานพยาบาล
ศูนย์ฟื้นฟูสังคม

แนวทาง /
เกณฑ์การส่งต่อ
มาตรฐาน
บริการ
สถานพยาบาล
สถานฟื้นฟู
สมรรถภาพ
และ ศูนย์ฟื้นฟู
สภาพทางสังคม



20 services under harm reduction

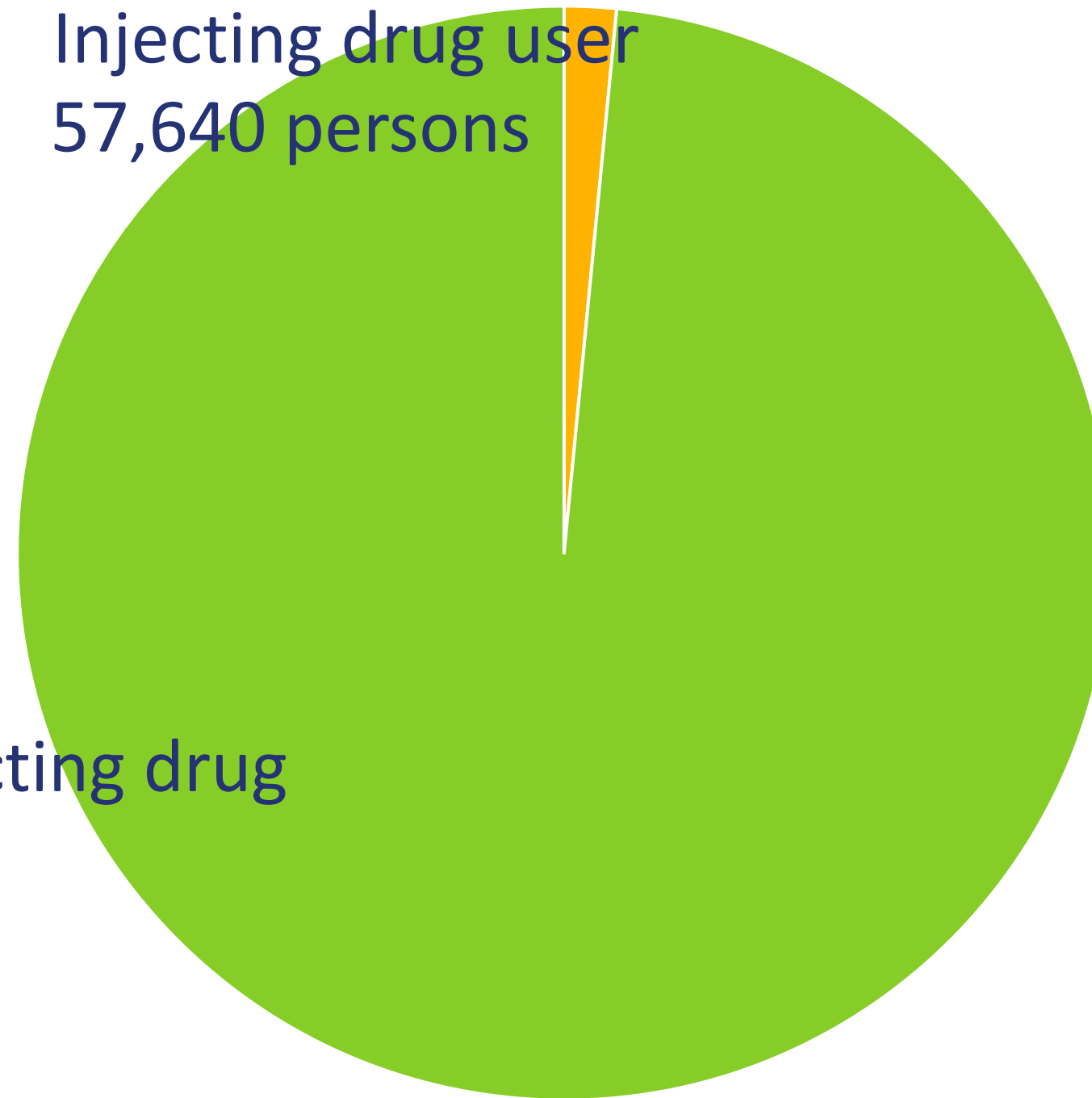
Needle & Syringe	STI testing and treatment	Hepatitis C testing & treatment	Policy Advice & Stigma reduction	Education, occupation, financial
OST methadone, buprenorphine	Condoms	TB prevention, treatment	Psychosocial & Financial Support	Sexual diversity
HIV counseling and testing	Information & knowledge	Overdose and general health	Legal and Justice	Drug checking
HIV treatment	Hepatitis B, testing & treatment	Services in prisons	Youth and children	Social Support, eg housing, employment

Chart Title

Total Estimate
Number of Drug
Users 3.75 million

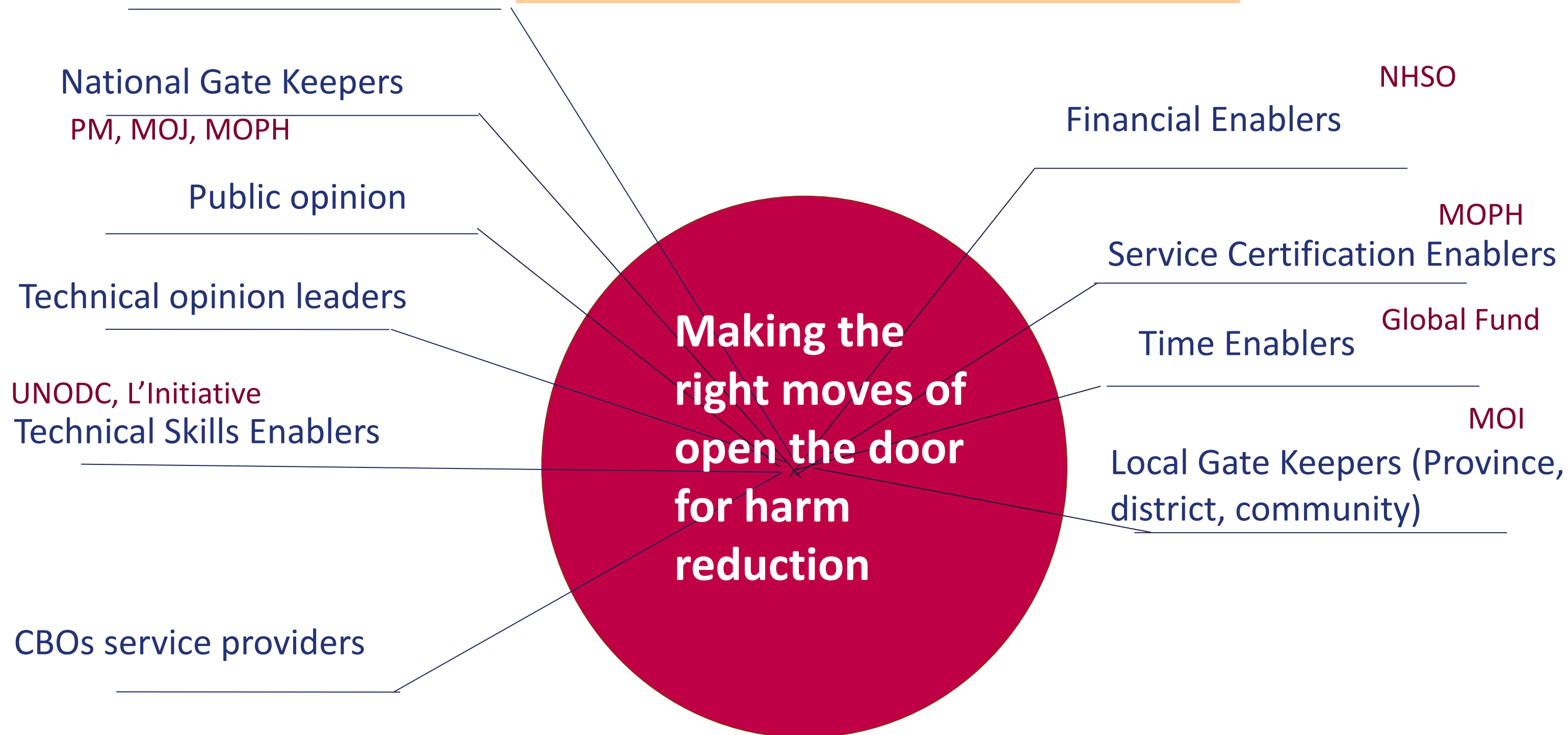
Injecting drug user
57,640 persons

Non-Injecting drug
user

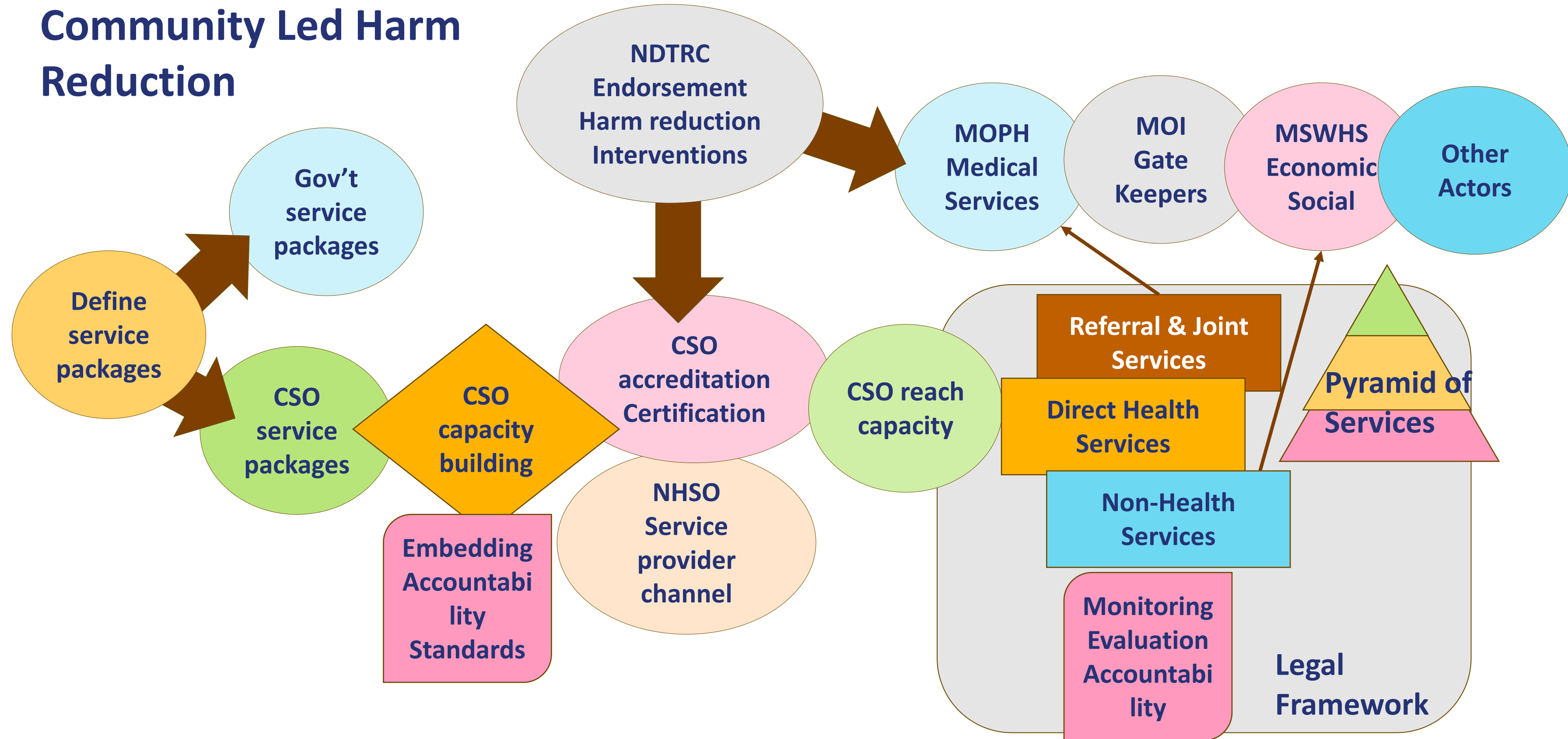


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Juggling Multi factors and Enablers



Operationalizing Community Led Harm Reduction





Signing Ceremony between

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis & Malaria and Raksa Thai Foundation

