

**Saldanha, Vinay Patrick**

Regional Support Team for Eastern Europe and Central Asia



Vinay Saldanha has more than two decades of experience in the leadership and implementation of AIDS programmes, including more than 15 years working in eastern Europe and central Asia.

In 1993, Mr Saldanha led one of the first initiatives to provide care and support for people living with HIV in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation. He was later a political analyst for the Group of Eight (G8) Research Group of the University of Toronto, focusing on the issue of HIV and the role of the Russian Federation during the G8 summit held in the United Kingdom in 1998.

From 1998 to 2004, Mr Saldanha served as the Canadian project coordinator for the Canada AIDS Russia Project (CARP), an innovative interdisciplinary effort to unite leading Russian and Canadian HIV experts at the federal and regional levels in training, research and mobilizing civil society.

Starting in 2009, he served as Senior Executive Officer and later as Deputy Chief of Staff at UNAIDS headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Part of his duties included planning and participating in visits of the UNAIDS Executive Director to eastern Europe and central Asia.

Mr. Saldanha graduated with honours from the University of Toronto, majoring in political science and English literature. He took postgraduate courses at the University of Toronto and the Institute of World Politics in Washington, DC. He has also completed advanced training in HIV monitoring and evaluation and global health. Mr Saldanha is fluent in English and Russian.

(last updated 28.09.2018)