Project Progress Report
Betsy Thom and Karen Duke
Middlesex University
11-12 January 2018
Warsaw, Poland
www.eppic-project.eu
twitter: @eppic_project

Co-funded by the Health Programme of the European Union
• **Funded by:** Third EU Health Programme (2014-2020): Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (CHAFEA)

• **Duration:** January 1\textsuperscript{st} 2017 – December 31\textsuperscript{st} 2019
Partner institutions

Co-ordinator: Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, Middlesex University (UK)

– Change Grow Live (UK)
– Aarhus University (Denmark)
– Eclectica (Italy)
– European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research (Austria)
– Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences (Germany)
– Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology (Poland)
General objectives of the project

To gather knowledge, exchange best practice & identify transferable innovations & principles of good practice on interventions to prevent illicit drug use, the development of polydrug use and use of NPS among young people in the criminal justice system (CJS)

To develop a set of guidelines adapted to the development of initiatives aimed at the target group based on European Drug Prevention Quality Standards

To initiate a European knowledge exchange network for practitioners and stakeholders working with young people in the CJS
Methods and means

• Qualitative approach – enables understanding of substance use and experiences of prevention interventions from the young person’s perspective and from those who work with young people

• Use of common ’core’ questions, coding and analysis frameworks will facilitate comparative analyses

• Range of theoretical perspectives – youth transitions, drug use transitions/trajectories (eg. normalisation), & desistance from crime theories
Overview of Work Packages

WP4
Knowledge exchange on current evidence & practice
April-July 17

WP5
Drug using trajectories, innovative interventions & experiential evidence
June 17-Dec 18

WP1 Coordination
WP2 Dissemination
WP3 Evaluation

WP6
Guidelines for good practice & quality standards in the CJS
Jan 19-Nov 19

WP7
Cultural appropriateness & transferability
April 19-Dec 19
WP1 Progress: Coordination (DARC, Middlesex University, UK)

Completed:

Advisory group established

MS1: Kick-off meeting (Luxembourg, 13-14 Mar 17)

D1: Consortium Agreement

To be completed:

**MS10** - 1st Thematic meeting Warsaw (M13)

**D6** - 1st technical & financial report (M18)

**MS17** - 2nd Thematic meeting Aarhus (M25)

**MS28** - 3rd Thematic meeting/international conference/webinar

**D12** – 2nd technical & financial report (M36)
WP2 Progress: Dissemination (ECSWPR, Austria)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Completed:</th>
<th>To be completed:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS2: Draft dissemination strategy</td>
<td><strong>MS11</strong>: Interim impact monitoring report (M13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS4: Evaluation tools &amp; protocol measures</td>
<td><strong>MS29</strong>: 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; impact monitoring report (M25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D2: Leaflet to promote project</td>
<td><strong>MS23</strong>: Final impact monitoring report (M34)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D2.4: Dissemination strategy</td>
<td><strong>D13</strong>: Layperson version of final report (M36)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D3: Website and twitter account</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WP3 Progress: Evaluation (Ghent University)

Completed:

- MS3: Draft evaluation strategy
- D3.3: Evaluation strategy

Evaluator has been copied into all communication re: milestones, deliverables

To be completed:

- **MS12** 1\textsuperscript{st} process evaluation report (M13)
- **MS15** Data collection for interim evaluation report (M16)
- **D7** Interim evaluation report (M18)
- **MS24** 2\textsuperscript{nd} process evaluation data (M34)
- **MS27** Survey & telephone data collected for evaluation (M35)
- **D15** Final evaluation report (M36)
WP4 Progress: Knowledge exchange on current evidence & practice
(Institute of Psychiatry & Neurology, Poland)

Completed:

MS6: Literature review, scoping survey, workshops, country reports

D4.1 Draft cross national report

D4.1 Final cross national report (M12)

Work package now completed
WP5 Progress: Drug use trajectories, innovative interventions & experiential evidence (Eclectica)

**Completed:**

*Identification & description of innovative interventions*

*Ethical approval obtained depending on local requirements*

*Interview schedules for young people and professionals*

**To be completed:**

**MS13** Phase 1 country reports (M13)

**MS14** Quality standards country reports (M13)

**D5** 1st Cross national report (M15)

**MS16** Phase 2 country reports (M21)

**D8** 2nd Cross national report (M24)

**D14** Edited book (M36)
WP6 Progress: Guidelines for good practice & quality standards in the CJS
(Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Completed:</th>
<th>To be completed:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Review and collation of various sets of quality standards/guidelines</td>
<td><strong>MS18</strong> Test quality standards/Guidelines (M29)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>MS21</strong> Set of principles/guidelines adapted on website (M31)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>MS25</strong> Amended principles/guidelines after feedback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>D9</strong> Set of principles/guidelines on good practice (M34)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>D10</strong> Cross national report on good practice guidelines &amp; minimum quality standards (M35)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WP7 Progress: Cultural appropriateness and transferability (Middlesex University)

**Completed:**

*Preliminary literature reviews*

**To be completed:**

- **MS19** Conceptual framework for policy transfer (M29)
- **MS20** Workshops country project group (M30)
- **MS22** Country reports (M32)
- **MS26** Cross national analyses (M26)
- **D11** Cross national report on transferability (M36)
Key findings emerging from initial literature review, scoping surveys (WP4)

- There are few drug prevention initiatives aimed directly at young people in the CJS
- Polydrug use (ie. alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs) is common among these young people & responses need to reflect this pattern of substance use
- For the target group, problem substance use is not a single problem of health or criminality, but the complex interaction of multiple problems (ie. health, crime, family & social difficulties, education problems & economic and social structural factors).
  - Responses that focus only on drug use or on crime are unlikely to be successful in reintegrating young people. Collaborative working by different stakeholder groups is required to address the needs of this target group.

- Paucity of data on drug use among young people in contact with criminal justice systems. Lack of information on prevention/intervention initiatives specific to target group & little evaluation.
  - Therefore → important opportunity for the EPPIC project to make a substantial contribution to the field
Dissemination activities so far...

- The EPPIC website and twitter account are active
  - www.eppic-project.eu
  - twitter: @eppic_project
- Partner countries have established links between their institution’s websites & EPPIC website
- Mailing lists have been established at national levels
- A wide range of stakeholders in partner countries have been informed of EPPIC through distribution of project leaflets, scoping surveys, interviews, & national advisory groups
- Members of COPOLAND & WHO Health in Prisons projects have been informed about EPPIC
- ISFF participated in international conference on prison health in Vienna
- Ecletica (Italy) participated in a national meeting in Padoa on addiction in prisons
- Middlesex University, UK participated in a national prison drugs policy symposium organised by Volteface
- IPiN presented an EPPIC poster at the EUSPR conference in Vienna
Expected outcomes

1. Improvement of knowledge & understanding of prevention & intervention in young people’s drug using trajectories with particular reference to the CJS and use of NPS among policy makers and relevant stakeholders.

2. Increased knowledge exchange activity between researchers & practitioners and greater exchange among all stakeholders at national & European levels of experiences of ‘good practice’ approaches re: intervention for young people in touch with CJS.
Expected outcomes (continued)

3. Initiation of a new knowledge network & mechanism for continuing discussion & knowledge exchange between relevant practitioners and other stakeholders

4. Awareness & access to a set of quality standard guidelines for the design & development of interventions in drug use among young people in CJ settings.