European Crime Prevention Award (ECPA)

Annex I

Approved by the EUCPN Management Board in 2018

Please complete the template in English in compliance with the ECPA criteria contained in the Rules and procedures for awarding and presenting the European Crime Prevention Award (Par.2 §3).

General information

1. Please specify your country.

Lithuania

2. Is this your country's ECPA entry or an additional project?

Yes it is the Lithuanian ECPA entry

3. What is the title of the project?

Šiauliai District Discovers a Security Formula

4. Who is responsible for the project? Contact details.

Šiauliai City and District Police Unit of Šiauliai County Police Headquarters, Community Police Group Chief Investigator Danutė Jakubkienė,

phone +370 41 397846, e-mail danute.jakubkiene@policija.lt

5. Start date of the project (dd/mm/yyyy)? Is the project still running (Yes/No)? If not, please provide the end date of the project.

The start date of the project was 01/01/2017 and the end date was 31/12/2017. The project was being implemented during the 2017.

After the final evaluation the project was declared a huge success, the implementation of the activities has therefore continued in 2018.

6. Where can we find more information about the project? Please provide links to the project's website or online reports or publications (preferably in English).

During the implementation of the project, the information about different activities were announced by Šiauliai County Police Headquarters, Šiauliai District Municipality, Open Šiauliai District Youth Center. A substantive part of information was disseminated through social networks. Also leaflets were distributed in communities which were involved in the project. Online reports and publications

are available in Šiauliai County Police Headquarters website:

http://siauliai.policija.lrv.lt/lt/naujienos/vidaus-reikalu-ministerija-geriausiu-pripazino-siauliu-avpk-prevencijos-projekta

and Šiauliai Community Police Facebook account:

https://www.facebook.com/siauliubp/

It is worth mentioning that project was recognized as the best crime prevention project of the national Crime Prevention Projects and Community Initiatives Awards 2018 organized by the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania (MoI):

https://vrm.lrv.lt/lt/naujienos/ivertinti-geriausi-prevenciniai-projektai-ir-bendruomeniu-pastangos-prisidedant-prie-viesojo-saugumo

The information about the project is also available on the official internet website of the MoI:

https://vrm.lrv.lt/uploads/vrm/documents/files/LT_versija/Viesasis_saugumas/Konkursas/%C5%A0iauli%C5%B3%20AVPK_%C5%A0iauli%C5%B3%20rajonas%20kuria%20saugumo%20formul%C4%99.pdf

All sources are in Lithuanian only.

7. Please give a **one page** description of the project (**Max. 600 words)**

The objective of *Šiauliai District Discovers a Security Formula (hereinafter "the project")* was to improve the security situation in Šiauliai by reducing the number of committed criminal offences and other violations of law by creating a safer living environment through active involvement of the residents in this process. Thus building more trust in the community including with the police.

The main idea of the project was to emphasize that crime prevention is a matter of all citizens and actors. The project's activities were designed to include various age groups and various actors would be involved (local authorities, police, non-governmental organizations, media and local communities). It's objective was to encourage inclusion of all parties and create a togetherness that would enhance the community spirit. Prevention activities covered criminal offenses most relevant to Šiauliai county – violent crime, property crime, offenses in public places, children and youth offenses. Additional measures were taken to improve road traffic safety.

The structure of the project consists of:

- Šiauliai county Police Headquarters and Šiauliai District Municipality Administration as public authorities leading the project;

- residents of Šiauliai district as a target group of the project;

- implementation of preventative measures through various activities,

which affect the target group in order to establish the intolerance of social groups and individuals for crimes and violations of law;

- factors that impact the project promoters and participants and need to be assessed in the implementation of the project (economic, social, psychological, etc.).

It was striven to show people the safety level of their environment and to encourage them to think about what they can do to increase the safety together with police and to use their initiative by taking further steps which would stimulate a more law abiding and cohesive society.

The project contains a variety of crime prevention activities:

- **Preventing property crime** – meetings with residents were organized in order to promote safe neighborhood ideas and to provide information on relevant security issues promptly. Residents were advised how to solve them and encouraged to establish safe neighborhood groups. Also prevention activities were carried out in safe neighborhood groups which had been established earlier.

- **Preventing of domestic violence** - educational events for the communities were held motivating to develop healthy relationships to be intolerant to domestic violence. Preventative work in families at social risk as well as in cases of domestic violence was being done in cooperation with stakeholders (Open youth center, Children's Rights Protection Division, Women's Innovation Center, Probation Service).

- **Unruly behavior on the streets** - prevention events organized in the educational institutions of the district, in Šiauliai County Police Headquarters Safe Traffic Room, in local communities. 1500 reflectors were distributed during the above mentioned events. Traffic Police officers educated and controlled pedestrians, bicycle riders and drivers on road traffic offenses.

While working on the project, we realized that despite providing necessary prevention knowledge and forming self-defence skills we had to create something new and attractive for people, something that they have never heard or seen before in police activities and would determine the success of the project.

Therefore, Šiauliai Community Police introduced to the public a new "Quest Room on Wheels".

In addition, the *Action Bound App* was developed for teenagers' smart orienteering competitions in Šiauliai district and is planned to be used for future prevention projects.

I. **The project shall focus on prevention and/or reduction of everyday crime and fear of crime within the theme.**

8. How does the project contribute to crime prevention and/or the reduction of crime or the fear of crime? Does it focus on raising citizens' awareness or does it apply other mechanisms? (**Max. 200 words**)

The main idea of the project was to emphasize that crime prevention is a matter of all citizens and actors. The activities in the project were designed to include various age groups and various actors were involved (local authorities, police, non-governmental organizations, media and communities). Prevention activities covered criminal offenses most relevant to the Šiauliai county – violent crime, property crime, offenses in public places, children and youth offenses. In addition, some measures were to improve road traffic safety.

The project focused on raising citizens' awareness through preventative educational events, lectures, seminars were organized as well as meetings with the communities for the identification of problems and solutions).

Other mechanisms of crime prevention were used as well:

- establishing and maintaining normative barriers (preventative campaigns were organized);
- reducing recruitment to criminal social environments and activities (summer camp for children and young people with behavioral problems, preventative work and social support for disadvantaged families);
- disrupting criminal acts by stopping them before they are carried out (inspections, public patrols with young police supporters and police supporters, activities for promotion of safe neighborhoods)
- protecting vulnerable target (3 surveillance cameras are to be installed in 2018).

II. **The project shall have been evaluated and have achieved most or all of its objectives.[1]**

9. What were the reasons for setting up the project? Was this context analysed before the project was initiated and in what way (How, and by whom? Which data were used?)? In what way did this analysis inform the set-up of the project? (**Max. 150 words**)

Crime statistics analysis is being done by Criminal Police Information Analysis Unit of Šiauliai County Police Headquarters regularly. Official crime statistics data is taken from Information Technology and Communications Department under the MoI. The crime statistics of 2016 was the basis to plan some project activities.

---

[1]	For more information on evaluation, see Guidelines on the evaluation of crime prevention initiatives (EUCPN Toolbox No.3): http://www.eucpn.org/library/results.asp?category=32&pubdate

The number of criminal offences registered in the territory of Šiauliai City and District Police Unit in January, March and June 2016 exceeded the average number of criminal offences in 2015. The increase in relative proportions of all registered criminal offenses was noticeable in the following crimes: causation of physical pain or negligible health impairment (Article 140 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Lithuania), theft (Article 178) and non-severe health impairment (Article 138).

The areas with the largest number of criminal offenses were identified.

Got acquainted with different crime prevention theories, we tried to use the theoretical background to reach the main project's objectives (e. g. CPTED: Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design; Defensible Space; Situational Crime Prevention; Routine Activities Theory; Broken Windows; Pockets of Crime (https://www.criminalbehavior.com/Spring2010/CABE/Section%203% 20Crime%20Prevention%20Theories.pdf)

10. What were the objective(s) of the project? Please, if applicable, distinguish between main and secondary objectives. (**Max. 150 words**)

The main objective was to improve the security situation in Šiauliai district, to reduce the number of committed criminal offenses and other violations of law, to create a safer living environment involving residents in this process.

The secondary objectives were:

- to increase the number of community members involved in the process of creating a secure environment, deepening the knowledge and practical skills on crime prevention;

- to carry out children's legal education, to foster citizenship, to develop skills of proper behavior and social responsibilities, to engage children in positive activities and to improve their employment.

- to form negative attitudes towards domestic violence, to provide knowledge about the development of healthy relationships;

- to promote the voluntary activities of police supporters and young police supporters

11. Has there been a process evaluation? Who conducted the evaluation (internally or externally?) and what where the main results? Which indicators were used to measure the process? Did you make changes accordingly? (**max. 300 words) -** *for more information on process evaluation, see EUCPN Toolbox No.3, p.9-10 & part 2 - section 2A*

The process evaluation was carried out both internally (by the project promoters) and externally (by partners) during the project activities and after the project was

completed.

Before the start of the project activities several meetings with promoters, partners and local communities were held. Relevant process indicators were discussed. All stakeholders approved the consistent list of project activities (24 items) and their implementation deadlines and agreed on multiple process indicators.

One of the process evaluation indicators was compliance with the deadlines. This indicator was fulfilled by 100 percent.

Another indicator of the process evaluation was the participation of a certain number of community members. It was planned to involve about 2,000 children (i. e. 40 percent of the total number of children living in Šiauliai district) and 5,000 adult community members. After evaluating all actions and measures carried out during the project, it was concluded that the indicator had been implemented and even exceeded as there were more children and adults involved in various activities than expected. For instance, just Šiauliai county Police HQ Safe traffic room was visited by 31 class groups alone, i. e. 429 children of Šiauliai district.

Third indicator was a proper dissemination of information about the project objectives and activities. 1,000 leaflets were distributed to local communities. A huge amount of information was given during meetings and discussions with communities. There were lessons in schools, lectures in other educational institutions, mass events, etc. Also advantages of Internet social networks were used – approx. 100 posts on project activities in Šiauliai Community Police Facebook account were made.

Fourth indicator – feedback from stakeholders and local communities during the activities, flexibility for the changes if necessary. The feedback from local communities was received – 8 messages about committed offenses were received, 3 of them confirmed, pre-trial investigations were initiated.

12. Has there been an outcome or impact evaluation? Who conducted the evaluation (internally or externally?), which data and evaluation method where used and what were the main results? Which indicators were used to measure the impact? (**Max. 300 words**) - *for more information on outcome or impact evaluation, see EUCPN Toolbox No.3, p.7-9 & part 2 - section 2A*

The evaluation of the outcome was carried out both internally (project promoters) and externally (partners) after the completion of the project. At the end of each project activity, its results were summarized. The general evaluation of the results was done by systematic analysis.

Same as for process evaluation, extensive outcome evaluation was chosen,

multiple process indicators were agreed.

First indicator – at least 30 different institutions (pre-school and school education, Open youth center, Children's Rights Protection Division, Women's Innovation Center, Probation Service, etc.) were involved in activities (approx. 8 institutions each quarter). Within the framework of the project 38 educational institutions of Šiauliai District were visited, cooperation with above mentioned stakeholders was implemented to achieve our objectives.

Second indicator – community fear / perception of crime. At least 2 new safe neighborhood groups were established by the communities in 2017. Meetings with the communities helped to identify security problems, residents were advised how to solve them and encouraged to establish more groups. During 2018 3 new safe neighborhood groups were established and tripartite agreements between Šiauliai district municipality, Šiauliai county Police Headquarters and the communities were signed. Also 83 preventative measures were carried out in Šiauliai district, communities, safe neighborhood groups. Information on the most common offenses published and possible ways of protection were explained.

Third indicator – increased social skills. Knowledge and self-defense skills obtained during the various activities and lectures will enable the participants ti use them in the future. The assets used for violence and property crime prevention (information boards, leaflets, locks) have the residual material value (relevant information on the boards is constantly updated according to the changes in situation).

Increased reporting is also one of the outcome indicators. There were 8 reports received from the communities about the committed offenses, 3 of them confirmed, pre-trial investigations were initiated.

III. The project shall, as far as possible, be innovative, involving new methods or new approaches.

13. How is the project innovative in its methods and/or approaches? (**Max. 150 words**)

There are at least three reasons why the project is innovative, since these approaches have never been used in Lithuanian police before.

1. Quest Room on Wheels: Šiauliai Community Police converted a prison bus which now operates as an interactive Quest Room for all ages. There are over 100 secret lockers with hidden hints and tips for players to solve a crime. This is an unique and inspiring way to engage the residents and educate them.

2. The Action Bound App: Developed for teenagers to participate in smart orienteering competitions, is now planned to be used for future prevention projects at orienteering camps for juveniles and vulnerable children.

3. In May 2017 a project **"Be Cool"** #bukkietas was launched on social media.

It's aim to present coolness as playing sports, using time wisely and dispelling the myth that coolness was about smoking and drinking. Lithuanian General Police Commissioner Linas Pernavas took on the challenge and encouraged others to do likewise.

IV. **The project shall be based on cooperation between partners, where possible.**

14. Which partners or stakeholders were involved in the project and what was their involvement? (**Max. 200 words**)

The main partners of the project were:

- Šiauliai District Municipality Administration, Vilniaus str. 263, LT-76337 Šiauliai, Phone +370 41 596642, which had allocated EUR 10,000 for the implementation of the project.

- Open Šiauliai District Youth Center, Sodo str. 4, Kuršėnai, Phone +370 673 53555.

The project partners organized a children's camp in Dengtiltis, Šiauliai district, where 56 children participated, including 28 children with severe behavior issues. 25 young police supporters contributed in camp activities. On 15th of August 2017, Open Šiauliai District Youth Center organized the Youth Day in Kuršėnai Park, where approx. 300 young visitors took part. Also some other summer pastime events were organized.

Other stakeholders (pre-school and school education institutions, Children's Rights Protection Division, Women's Innovation Center, Probation Service, etc.) were involved in the project according to their specific functions.

V. **The project shall be capable of replication in other Member States.**

15. How and by whom is the project funded? (**Max. 150 words**)

Šiauliai District Municipality allocated EUR 10,000 for the implementation of the project.

16. What were the costs of the project in terms of finances, material and human resources? (**Max. 150 words**)

Šiauliai District Municipality allocated EUR 10,000 for the implementation of the project.

EUR 4,000 were used for competitions, discussions, lectures, campaigns, camps, tournaments, the legal training for minors, the prevention of their offenses, the formation of self-defence skills, the organization of employment in summertime.

EUR 3,000 were used to prevent offenses being committed in public places. These

funds were mainly used by police supporters and young police supporters (for signs, vests, other necessary tools), for the police and police supporters' cooperation, for police supporters' training.

EUR 3,000 were foreseen for the prevention of property crime and violent crime, for establishment and work with safe neighborhood groups. These funds have been used for the production of safe neighborhood boards, information stands, brochures and leaflets.

Šiauliai County Police Headquarters, partners, stakeholders and local communities also have contributed with human resources and organizational decision making.

17. Has a cost-benefit analysis been carried out? If so, describe the analysis, including how and by whom it was carried out and list the main findings of the analysis. (**Max. 150 words**)

Cost and benefit analysis was carried out internally by project promoters and externally by partners. All project budget had been used.

Comparing the expenses used for the implementation of this project with its outcomes it's clear that good, long-lasting results were achieved with comparatively low costs.

The intellectual and material value of the project, which will undoubtedly used in the future, is important:

- the Action Bound App developed for smart orienteering to be used for future prevention projects;

- "Quest Room on Wheels" received a huge interest from Šiauliai county people. It is that popular that other communities and forces would like to adopt it too for smart education activities;

- the knowledge and self-defence skills as well as

- assets for violence and property crime prevention will continue to benefit the community for many years to come.

Due to successful organization and implementation of the project Šiauliai District Municipality allocated Eur 6,000 for its continuation in 2018. These funds let to install three new surveillance cameras in Kuršėnai.

18. Are there adjustments to be made to the project to ensure a successful replication in another Member State?

The project activities are universal and would not be difficult to replicate elsewhere. Therefore, only slight adjustments might be needed taking into consideration the peculiarities of a certain area.

19. How is the project relevant for other Member States? Please explain the European dimension of your project.

Different crimes are being committed all over the world – we cannot deny this fact, unfortunately. This involves majority of us, especially affecting the younger and elder members of the society. Not only in Lithuania the number of violent and property crime is increasing, a great damage is done to persons and their property. The victims feel disappointed with their legitimate expectations for the safe environment ensured by the state.

Lately more and more attention is given to the preventative side of tackling the serious and organized crime:

 - The Council Conclusions on the continuation of the EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime for the period 2018-2021 (7704/17) states (Art. 1, ii) that for each of the priorities a Multi-Annual Strategic Plan (MASP) needs to be developed in order to achieve a multidisciplinary, integrated and integral (covering *preventive* as well repressive measures) approach to effectively address the prioritised threats.

 - Council conclusions on setting the EU's priorities for the fight against organised and serious international crime between 2018 and 2021 (9450/17) includes reiteration that a balance should be struck between *prevention* and tackling the consequences of threats to EU internal security posed by organised and serious international crime.

Taking this into account the Member States decided to join prevention and capacity building into one horizontal priority when drafting common horizontal minimum strategic goals for Implementation 2018-2021 EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime with the objective to increase prevention against threats relating to EU crime priorities, including through disruptive measures and awareness-raising amongst relevant public and private actors, and build the law enforcement capacity to tackle crime by improving knowledge, skills and expertise based on training and the sharing of best practices.
Considering the above mentioned aspects and the importance of the exchange of good practices we believe that this project is highly relevant for other Member States as it sets a clear platform how we can tackle crime through education and mass participation.

Please provide a short general description of the project (abstract for inclusion in the conference booklet – **max. 150 words**).

Šiauliai District Discovers a Security Formula

Awarded Best Crime Prevention Project at the National Prevention Projects and Community Initiatives Awards 2018 (MoI, Republic of Lithuania)

Each community all over the world would prefer to live in a safe environment. The main idea of the project is to emphasize that efforts in crime prevention must be done from all participants – government, local authorities, police, non-governmental organizations, media, and communities as well.

The main objective was to improve the security situation in Šiauliai district, to reduce the number of committed criminal offenses and other violations of law, to create a safer living environment involving residents in this process.

Except the traditional prevention principle "forewarned is forearmed", we were seeking to do something innovative, truly inspiring, helping to change attitudes and mindsets, what would grab the attention of the community and engage all parties in the common goal – crime prevention.