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.

Czech Republic

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

ECPA entry

3. What is the title of the project?

Safe Region – Safe City

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

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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.

Start date of the project: 01/01/2014. The project is still running.

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).

The Safe Central Bohemian Region: www.bezpecnystredoceskykraj.cz

The website further refers to websites of individual "safe cities", for example: Safe Kolín www.bezpecnykolin.cz, Safe Příbram www.bezpecnapribram.cz, Safe Benešov www.bezpecnybenesov.cz.

The Project "Safe Region – Safe City" responds to security threats on the local level and the need to increase citizens' feeling of safety. For the purpose of increasing feeling of safety and decreasing criminality and other unfavorable phenomena, the project promotes coordinated information sharing, current situation analysis, shared responsibility, thinking ahead and planning and realization of specific activities. The project has been applied in more than 35 communities in the Central Bohemian Region, Czech Republic.

The two most important pillars of the project are:

- **Work with the community**
- **Coordinated cooperation including all relevant actors**

Work with the community

The activities targeted at the community aim at ensuring, as much as possible, objective perception of security by the citizens, involving the citizens to the process of building safe communities and increasing feelings of safety.

The websites of individual cities as well as the regional website serve as the main tool in communication with the community. The main task is to inform objectively the citizens about security situation in their cities and neighbourhoods and also about other issues that might be connected to the overall security situation. Crime maps, road traffic accidents maps, statistics, information on planned car speed measurements or profiles of patrol officers are to be found on the websites.

Furthermore, the websites serve as a platform for citizens to express their suggestions and opinions on security, the police or the city authorities. Citizens can point out risk locations that might not seem risky from the point of view of the police. Citizens of some cities can take part in a survey on perception of security and police work.

Information about security situation can also be found in a printed magazine, smartphone app or on Facebook. An effective way how to inform citizens are videos containing news about criminality presented by children from local schools.

Other forms of cooperation with the community include field work with the youth, Roma mentors program, crime prevention assistants, police-led self-defence courses for women, doorkeeper program in high risk neighbourhoods, employment programs or transformation of problematic dormitories in higher quality social housing.

Coordinated cooperation including all relevant actors

Systematic cooperation between the police and other local actors makes preventive measures more effective. The project sets up institutional cooperation of all relevant actors in a way that cooperation is no more based on informal relations, it is coordinated and effective. The actors involved normally are representatives of: Police of the Czech Republic, municipal police, city councils, social workers, labour office, probation and mediation services, schools, non-profit organisations etc. These actors meet regularly.

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 project contributes to crime prevention, the reduction of crime and the fear of crime by following activities:

1. **Coordinated information sharing**

   Based on information sharing together with the crime maps data, the police in cooperation with other actors take effective measures to prevent crime. Moreover, suggestions by the citizens are taken into account.

2. **Educational activities**

   All actors working on the project should be informed about new forms and methods in crime prevention. Expert conferences and workshops took place to share good practices and experiences from the individual Safe City projects.

3. **Informing citizens, raising citizens' awareness**

   The project seeks to engage citizens in the process of crime reduction, in particular by informing them extensively about the state of security in their city and neighbourhood and giving them the opportunity to express their opinions and suggestions. Information to the public is delivered in the form of news, crime maps, statistics etc.

4. **Communication and work with the public**

   The police and other actors communicate with the public with the help of modern technologies (websites, Facebook, smartphone app) and individual community policing projects (field work with various social groups, crime prevention assistants, self-defence courses, doorkeeper program, special employment agencies etc.).

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**)

The project was set up to cover individual city projects in the Central Bohemia Region. These projects build up on long-term experiences suggesting that in order to make the police work in crime prevention really effective, close

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[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

cooperation among all the actors involved in a specific location must be ensured.

Namely in the city of Kolín, the project was set up to solve the very unpleasant security situation. The unbearable security situation was caused by many factors including a sudden increase of inhabitants (as a result of industrial zone establishment), large number of dormitories, proximity to the capital and the city being historically a transport node. In 2013, the city asked the Directory of Czech Police of the Central Bohemian Region to engage in city's security policy. That led to the establishment of a working group called the "Safe Kolín" and from there the project "Safe Region – Safe City" developed.

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

Main objectives:

- Reduction of crime
- Reduction of local communities' fear of crime

Secondary objectives:

- Raising citizens' awareness on the project realisation and engagement of citizens in the process of reduction of crime.
- Involvement of other cities.
- Establishment of clear rules for cooperation of actors involved in individual crime prevention and other community projects.
- Improvement of already established cooperation in cities where the project is running.
- Create websites for all "safe cities" and continue to improve them.
- Publish a methodology on "safe cities" and a website template.

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*

Process evaluation is conducted internally. The project is evaluated continually on each coordination meeting. According to the local circumstances, the project keeps evolving and the coordination system is being improved.

12. Has there been an <u>outcome or impact evaluation</u>? 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*

Outcome evaluation is conducted internally. The project has been evaluated continually on the basis of tracking security situation and trends in crime. Furthermore, number of cities joining the project is another evaluation criterion.

Between the years 2013 and 2017 crime was reduced significantly in the region and respective cities. In the Central Bohemian Region, the crime decreased by 46,32 %. Normally, crime decreases rapidly just after the project starts and afterwards the decrease is slower but constant.

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

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

The project uses crime prediction tools – crime maps and hot spots indicating areas, days and times most affected by crime. The crime maps data together with information from coordination meetings provide knowledge base for planning patrols in cities and neighbourhoods.

Patrols focus on areas of around 200 m^2 where crime is concentrated. These spots are identified by a geographic system developed by the Police, which indicates hot spots and illustrate them on a map. Local police unit, traffic inspectorate and municipal police subsequently cover these areas in a manner that patrols do not overlap and the critical spots are covered.

The data about crime and security situation is also available to the public in the form of crime maps on the internet, feelings of safety maps or road traffic accidents maps. The project uses modern communication technologies to access the public such as websites, Facebook, smartphone app or youtube channels.

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

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

Cooperation between partners is one of the cornerstones of the project. The regional Directory of Czech Police is the responsible body and the main coordinator while the partners include:

- Police of the Czech Republic

- Municipal Police
- Fire Rescue Service
- Regional authority
- Local authority
- Labour office
- Probation and Mediation Service
- Department of social affairs
- Non-profit organisations
- Schools and other educational establishments
- Other entities and institutions operating in the area of crime prevention, assistance to victims and work with vulnerable social groups.

Whoever can be invited to cooperate and whoever can become a member. All the partners meet regularly to discuss and solve security problems. Coordination meetings in individual cities usually take place once a month; minimum frequency should be once in two months.

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

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

The project takes advantage of already existing structures and personnel without any secondary financial demands as it seeks to improve coordination of all actors involved and the effectiveness of ordinary activities, for example in terms of standard police service performance.

The information and educational part of the project is funded by the Ministry of the Interior subsidy (453 000 CZK in 2016 and 2017 - approx. 17 700 EUR) and by the Central Bohemian Region (190 000 CZK - approx. 7 400 EUR). These funds covered the regional website www.bezpecnystredoceskykraj.cz, website templates for cities, educational workshops and conferences and the methodological manual called "How to create a safe city".

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

So far the cost of the project in terms of finances is 643 000 CZK (approx. 25 100 EUR). The project uses already existing material and human resources. Some material resources were modernized as part of the project.

21. 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**)

A cost-benefit analysis has not been carried out.

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

The project is fully transferable to other regions and Member States while respecting local legislative differences in the area of security and crime prevention. Rules for cooperation are applicable everywhere as well as the crime maps (here the legal classification and availability of GPS coordinates of committed crimes must be considered). The project defines basic rules of systematic coordination while local different conditions must be taken into account in order to create the best possible conditions for effective coordination.

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

The project is relevant for other Member States as the costs are low and crime has been reduced in participating cities. The project's objective is to use existing resources more effectively and to set up coordinated cooperation on local level. The project started in 2014 in Kolín, in one year 6 more cities joined. In 2016 the project run in 21 cities, in 2017 in 32 cities and today 35 cities in the Central Bohemian Region participate.

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

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The two most important pillars of the project are work with the community and coordinated cooperation of all relevant actors. The activities targeted at the community aim at ensuring objective perception of security by the citizens, involving the citizens to the process of building safe communities and increasing feelings of safety. The project sets up institutional cooperation of all relevant actors in a way that cooperation is no more based on informal relations, it is coordinated and effective.