



1. Project title

Party Safe

2. Main theme

Prevention/harm reduction programme for healthy nightlife

3. Project purpose and outcome (in two sentences)

- Implementation of prevention and harm reduction interventions in nightlife settings and festivals
- To reduce the risks and harms related to the use of licit and illicit substances of partygoers in festivals and nightlife settings.

4. Project submitter (Member State), project leader(s) and project partner(s)

- CYPRUS- Cyprus National Addictions Authority – Funding Authority
- KENTHEA- Information and Treatment Centre for Dependent Individuals- Project Leader
- European University of Cyprus (EUC)- Project Partner

5. Links to the project's website or online reports/publications (preferably in English)

[www.naac.org.cy](http://www.naac.org.cy)

6. Short summary of the project (**max. 100 words**)

The Party Safe programme aims to mobilise local authorities, festival organisers and owners of nightlife settings to actively contribute towards the health and safety of partygoers. Therefore, with the active involvement of trained peer volunteers harm reduction interventions will be carried out in identified settings, and responsible

alcohol sales and service training will be delivered to people who sell alcohol. To facilitate and better disseminate all the above measures for a safer nightlife an online platform will provide harm reduction information as well as a list of settings, festivals and bars/clubs which apply the recommended harm reduction practices in place.

## 7. Project description

The project aims to reduce harm among party goers in nightlife settings through the use of several preventive measures. Party goers are the main target group of this project, and they will receive interventions at several nightlife settings.

In order to be able though to offer those interventions as a project, we first need to raise awareness among: local authorities, event and festival organizers, owners of recreational settings and organizations that fund festivals and events, in regards to the implementation of prevention and harm reduction practices in nightlife settings. The nightlife environment, including the stakeholders, plays a major role in the exacerbation or reduction of alcohol- and drug-related problems (Green & Plant, 2007), i.e. environments permitting underage alcohol consumption, bartenders serving to intoxicated patrons, a tolerant climate toward drug use. In addition, circumstances in the physical environment such as poor ventilation, no availability of free water, lack of adequate emergency services, and bad bar design contribute greatly to unsafe and unhealthy environments for nightlife visitors (Bellis, Hughes, & Lowey, 2002). For this reason, one of the aims of this project is to raise awareness among relevant stakeholders in regards to environmental and political interventions which increase the opportunities for safer nightlife and motivate them to implement these measures. This action will be realized through personal meetings with relevant stakeholders, printed material and dissemination to the press.

Alcohol server interventions is another action of this project, which is found effective by several studies, without interfering in any other influencing component such as the law or community (Buka & Birdthistle, 1999; Gliksmann et al., 1993; Holder & Wagenaar, 1994; Howard-Pitney et al., 1991; Lang et al., 1998; McKnight, 1991). The ultimate goal of alcohol server training programs is responsible beverage service (RBS) in the club or bar. RBS training aims to prevent serious intoxication and service of alcohol to minors or to already intoxicated patrons. The length of the training programs in this project is 3 hours. Participants will be taught about the effects and risks of alcohol, the prevailing laws, and intervention techniques on how to serve alcohol in a responsible way. The target groups of this intervention will be owners of recreational settings as well as their staff and people that sell and serve alcohol in general. This action will be realized with the assistance of local authorities and the organised groups of bartenders and owners of recreational settings, as well as schools which offer banking classes.

Festivals, events and nightlife settings which will ultimately apply to the guidelines in regards to safe nightlife will be listed in the platform which will be developed through the project. An online platform will be developed for dissemination of harm reduction information as well as party safe interventions implemented in specific festivals and night life settings.

The final component of the project will be the interventions at the festivals and nightlife settings. This will be achieved by setting relaxation corners / chill out tents in festivals and events where party goers can have a rest away from noise and people. At this settings, trained peer volunteers will offer assistance when needed, information, water, snacks or first aid.

*Abstinence is considered an unrealistic message to communicate to people in nightlife who choose to take drugs and drink. It is assumed though, that they are interested in information concerning the reduction of the negative consequences they might experience from substance use.* This information will be provided by trained (through the project) peers, as well as leaflets and pamphlets which will be also developed by the project. This information will also be linked to the online platform developed by the project. The training of the peers as well as the method of interventions at the festivals will be developed accordingly from the *manual Peer Education in Nightlife Settings-Good Practice Standards (NEWIP STANDARDS)*.

## 8. Project objectives

The main objective of the project is harm reduction among party goers in nightlife settings

through the use of several preventive measures. The aim of the preventive and harm reduction measures is to minimise the risks and dangers of: excessive alcohol or illicit substances use, arguments, accidents, risky sexual behaviors and driving under the influence.

Specific objectives of the project are:

- a. Awareness raising among local authorities, festival and event organizers in regards to the implementation of prevention and harm reduction practices in nightlife settings
- b. Provision of responsible alcohol sales and service training
- c. Locating and training peer volunteers to carry out interventions in nightlife settings
- d. Setting relaxation corners / chill out tents in festivals and events where party goers can have a rest away from noise and people and where peer volunteers can offer assistance, information, water, snacks or first aid
- e. Online platform for dissemination of harm reduction information as well as party safe interventions implemented in specific festivals and night life settings

#### 9. Project outcome

Project still running

#### 10. Start and end project, timescales and key milestone dates

Jan-Dec 2020

#### 11. Funding (total budget and type of funding (e.g. ISEC, EUCPN Fund,...))

Government funding 40.000 euros

#### 12. Evaluation

Project still running

#### 13. Contact details project