



ECPA/BPC 2006

Please answer the following questions in English.

1. Is this your country's ECPA entry or is it an additional project? (Only one ECPA entry per country plus up to two other projects.)

This is a Best Practice project, no ECPA entry !!!

2. What is the title of the project?

Liège's Observatory on Drug Prevention and Consultation

3. Please give a short general description of the project.

The Observatory is based on the reactive observation concept in terms of public health and crime. Indeed, a global and integrated risk-reducing policy cannot be implemented if it does not take these two action pillars simultaneously into consideration.

On the territory of the City of Liège, the aim is to become acquainted, as soon as possible, with each significant change in drug abuse and drug-related nuisance, in order to be able, in such case, to activate an alert system towards three sectors :

- the health sector (hospitals, emergency services, ...);
- the socio-preventive sector (prevention services, street workers, ...);
- the police and judiciary sector (policemen, Public Prosecutor, ...).

4. Please describe the objective(s) of the project?

General objectives

Activating a consultation platform with the authorities and organizations active in the field of drug-addiction, in order to have an impact on the fight against drug-related crime and to improve the quality of life.

Strategic objectives

With a view to reducing the risks, guaranteeing the operational prevention relating to different sectors for the benefit of professionals and the population.

Operational objectives

Taking note, as soon as possible, of each significant change in drug abuse and drug-related nuisance, in order to be able, in such case, to activate an alert system towards three sectors: the health sector, the socio-preventive sector, the police and judiciary sector.

5. How was the project implemented?

In the context of his contract of security and prevention, the city of Liege has developed an integral and integrated policy to fight against the insecurity feeling of the citizen and all the other criminal problems connected related to drug's problematic.

The creation of the Drug Observatory could be consider as an achievement of this integral and integrated security policy.

6. Were partners involved in planning and/or development and/or implementation of the project? If so, who were they, and what were their roles?

This project aims at promoting an integrated global policy in terms of drug abuse by bringing representatives of different sectors together in a consultation platform (Provincial Medical Commission, Public Prosecutor, Order of Physicians and Pharmacists, the police services, the emergency services of hospitals, the M.A.S.S. of Liège (medical and social reception centre), the psycho-medical and social network, the University of Liège, the Province of Liège, the Inspection of Pharmacy and Penitentiary of Lantin, ...).

It is worth mentioning the joint action of a street worker and the police services with a view to collecting information on products in circulation.

7. How did you build in plans to measure the performance of the project?

The evaluation of the project is base on indicators work out by the person in charge of the project. The mean target of this evaluation is to set out the effectiveness of the project.

8. Has the project been evaluated? How, and by whom?

The people responsible of the project have used two instruments in their evaluation program.

First of all, they work out each year an activity report which take in account all the relevant actions made by the observatory in the context of the drug's prevention

policy. This report has to be adopted unanimously by the responsible authorities.

Secondly, their evaluation program is also part of a larger assessment program called “*public noise related to drug and prostitution’s diagnostic*” managed by the International Center for Crime Prevention (ICCP).

9. What were the results? How far were the objectives of the project achieved?

There is no objective available result.

10. Are there reports or documents available on the project? In print or on the Web? Please, give references to the most relevant ones.

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Please, write here a one-page description of the project

The description of the project

At the local level, the aim is to coordinate a study and crisis group relating to the problem of drug abuse. This coordination team is among others in charge of collecting and analysing the information, and forwarding it as soon as possible to the services concerned, in order to allow them to adapt the actions most efficiently.

A real platform has been created with most of the authorities and organisations active in the field of drug-addiction.

The objectives

The Liège’s Observatory on Drug Prevention and Consultation is based on the reactive observation concept in terms of public health and crime. Indeed, a global and integrated risk-reducing policy cannot be implemented if it does not take these two action pillars simultaneously into consideration.

On the territory of the City of Liège, the aim is to become acquainted, as soon as possible, with each significant change in drug abuse and drug-related nuisance, in order to be able, in such case, to activate an alert system towards three sectors :

- the health sector (hospitals, emergency services, ...);
- the socio-preventive sector (prevention services, street workers, ...);
- the police and judiciary sector (policemen, Public Prosecutor, ...).

The problem of drug abuse and the risks, to which the drug users as well as the population are exposed, depend largely on the nature of the products available on the territory. This nature, which is far from being constant, not only depends on the identity of the basis product, its purity and concentration, but also on the pharmacologically active products associated in the mixture, the solvents and even contagion products of each kind.

Therefore, the joint action of a street worker and the police services aiming at collecting information on the products in circulation, contributes to a better understanding of their impact on the risk behaviours and uses thanks to the analyses carried out by the reference laboratory.

Moreover, the street worker is responsible for providing the target group with the useful information.

The role of the Observatory consists in mentioning changes in some behaviours related to drug use or trafficking, some pathologies that are emerging or not related to the product itself or the way of consuming it, new or unexpected social phenomena (new forms of crime, definition of risk zones, development of a mortal designer drug,...).

Thanks to this instrument, it is possible to quickly carry out a preventive action not only in terms of public health but also regarding crime, which will lead to a decrease in the negative consequences of the drug phenomenon for society.

In co-operation with the local authorities, the professionals and the citizens, the Observatory's mission is also to better define the nuisance related to drug and to try and anticipate them. The different forms of nuisance involve behaviours that are considered by the non-users as troubles of the public order or security.

The Observatory studies the method of collecting data relating to the actions carried out by the institutions concerned by the alert and their impact on the target group. At this level, the role of the Observatory' street worker is particularly expedient.

The Liège's Observatory on Drug Prevention and Consultation is aimed at being a local and supralocal instrument for the operational prevention in different sectors, for the benefit of professionals and the population. As a consequence, the purpose of the project is to have among others an impact on the fight against drug-related crime and on the improvement of the quality of life. This project aims first of all at promoting an integrated global policy in terms of drug abuse by bringing representatives of different sectors together in a consultation platform : the Provincial Medical Commission, the Public Prosecutor, the Order of Physicians and Pharmacists, the police services, the emergency services of hospitals, the M.A.S.S. of Liège (medical and social reception centre), the psycho-medical and social network, the University of Liège, the Province of Liège, the Inspection of Pharmacy and Penitentiary of Lantin.

General objectives

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field of drug-addiction, in order to have an impact on the fight against drug-related crime and to improve the quality of life.

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