



EMCDDA REGIONAL REITOX ACADEMY FOR IPA BENEFICIARIES: MONITORING AND EVALUATION AND NATIONAL DRUG STRATEGIES

**Place: Riga, Latvia
09 October 2012**

Background

The Academy is organized in the framework of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) project 'Preparation of IPA Beneficiaries for their participation in the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)'. The project aims to support Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Kosovo*, Serbia, Iceland, Turkey and also Acceding country Croatia in their preparation for participation in the EMCDDA and the Reitox Network. In particular, the Academy will complement project activities aimed to fulfil following specific project objectives:

- To foster scientific cooperation in relation to data collection, analysis and interpretation
- To develop, increase and promote the added value of the cooperation.

Sound data on how different activities implemented at the national level contribute to the reduction of drug use and its related consequences are a significant support for policy makers and staff involved in the formulation of drug strategies. An increasing number of countries in Europe evaluate their drug strategies before the drafting and adoption of new policy documents, and this is becoming a 'gold standard' for evidence based policy planning. In 2012, several IPA beneficiary countries (i.e. Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo* and Turkey) are in the process of evaluating their national drug strategies, and have therefore requested the EMCDDA to provide guidance on how to make best use of the monitoring data for the evaluation of existing strategies and the planning a new ones, as well as on how to best integrate evaluation into the national strategies.

The proposed seminar will provide participants with knowledge and skills on the evaluation of national drug strategies with a particular focus on the planning of the evaluation and the use of data from drug monitoring systems.

Participants

Two representatives from each - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey - will be invited to attend the seminar and their participation will be covered from the IPA4 project budget. It is recommended that participants are involved in evaluation or existing or formulation/drafting of a new drug strategy. In addition to IPA4 beneficiaries, the EMCDDA had extended special invitation to Moldova.

Language

The working language of the training will be English.

Venue

Albert Hotel, Riga, Latvia
Conference room 'Space'

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence



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Preparatory activity

The participating countries will be asked to submit a short paper regarding developments in the area of the evaluation of national drug strategies in their country:

1. what is/are the most recent national drug strategy and/or drug action plan in your country?
2. is there a monitoring, progress review and/or evaluation foreseen for the national drug strategy and/or action plan; if yes – what is the most recent development in that area.
3. what are the specific needs in your country with regards to the evaluation of the national drug strategies and which are the main challenges, if any?
4. do you have specific questions to which you would like to get answers during the training?

Please send your contribution and responses by 28 September 2012 to ilze.jekabsone@emcdda.europa.eu.

Background reading:

EMCDDA trend report for the evaluation of the 2005–12 EU drugs strategy , EMCDDA, Lisbon, April 2012 <http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/html.cfm/index154967EN.html>

The evaluation of national drug strategies and action plans in Europe: an overview. Frank Zobel, EMCDDA, Lisbon

Resource persons:

Frank Zobel, Head of Unit, Policy, evaluation and content coordination

Vincent Caby, former intern to Policy, evaluation and content coordination unit

Eoghan Quigley, drug policy analyst, Policy, evaluation and content coordination unit

Cecile Martel, Head of International cooperation sector, Reitox and international cooperation unit



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Draft agenda

(as of 18 September 2012)

Tuesday, 9th October 2012

9.00 -10.30

(Chair: *Cécile Martel*)

- Welcome by *Cécile Martel*
- *Tour de table* – introduction of participants
- Introduction to evaluation and monitoring: purpose; methods; tools; interpretation etc. (*Frank Zobel*)
 - Interactive discussion

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break and a join photo

11:00– 12.30 Two parallel workshops (Conference rooms 'Space' and 'Light')

(Chair group 1: *Frank Zobel*; Chair group 2: *Vincent Caby and/or Eoghan Quigley*)

- Working in groups:
 - Planning the evaluation of a national drug strategy (60min)
- Feedback from groups

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch

13:30 – 15.30 Two parallel workshops (Conference rooms 'Space' and 'Light')

(Chair group 1: *Frank Zobel*; Chair group 2: *Vincent Caby and/or Eoghan Quigley*)

- Working in small groups:
 - Evaluating the implementation and the impact (90 min)
- Feedback from groups

15.30 - 16.00 Coffee break

16.00-17.00

(Chair: *Frank Zobel*)

- Summary: How to make a good evaluation of a national drug strategy/action plan (*Frank Zobel*)
- Closure of the Academy (*Cécile Martel*)