



DECLARATION OF INTEREST

(by the Members and Observers of the EMCDDA Xchange Review Board)

First name: Catherine

Last name: **Comiskey**

Position in the EMCDDA Xchange Review Board (Member or Observer): Member

Affiliation (e.g. EUSPR, SC, University): Trinity College Dublin

Hereby declares, at the best of his/her knowledge, that the interests he/she currently has, or has had in the five year preceding the date of this declaration, and which are, or could be perceived as, related to the EMCDDA Xchange registry, are listed below:

- 1) Do you hold, or did you hold in the past five years, positions in public or private organisation or entity (e.g. as employee, member of managing or scientific advisory bodies, member of editorial boards), or do/did you perform professional activities (e.g. provision of services, consulting activities, liberal professions) which are, or could be perceived as, related to the EMCDDA Xchange registry?

No: Yes: *(please complete the table below as required)*

Position/activity	Organisation/entity	Time frame (from/to)	Observations
Chairperson	National Advisory Committee on Drugs and Alcohol, Ireland	2014 to 2018	none
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

- 2) Do you have, or did you have in the past five years, financial interests (e.g. managerial stakes in companies, including ownerships of patents or any other relevant intellectual property rights), or assets (shares and/or securities held in companies), or grants or other funding/financial benefits (e.g. sponsorships or other kind of benefits received in a personal capacity) which are, or could be perceived as, related to the EMCDDA Xchange registry?

No: Yes: *(please complete the table below as required)*

Financial interest/asset/grant/benefit	Organisation/entity	Time frame (from/to)	Observations
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

- 3) Does one of the situations referred to in items 1) and 2) above concern, or it concerned in the past five years, your spouse/partner and/or your dependent family members?

No: Yes: *(please complete the table below as required)*



Position/activity or Financial interest/asset/grant/benefit	Organisation/entity	Time frame (from/to)	Observations
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

4) Do you have, or did you have in the past five years, any other relevant interests, other than the ones mentioned above, which are, or could be perceived as, related to the EMCDDA *Xchange* registry?

No: Yes: (please complete the table below as required)

Other relevant interests	Organisation/entity	Time frame (from/to)	Observations
Click here to enter text.			
Click here to enter text.			

5) Do you have, or did you have in the past five years, interests related to specific entries in the EMCDDA *Xchange* registry, particularly ...

- a. Have you had a role in the **development** of an intervention listed in the *Xchange* registry? No: Yes: If yes, which one(s)? Click here to enter text.
- b. Have you had a role in the **dissemination** (incl. training of trainers) of an intervention listed in the *Xchange* registry? No: Yes: If yes, which one(s)? Click here to enter text.
- c. Have you had a role in the **evaluation** of an intervention listed in the *Xchange* registry? No: Yes: If yes, which one(s)? Incredible Years Evaluation in Ireland
- d. Is there any other aspect of your background or present circumstances not addressed above that might be perceived as affecting your objectivity or independence? No: Yes: If yes, which one(s)? Click here to enter text.

6) Within the past 4 years, have you had employment, received research support or other funding from an entity directly involved in the production, manufacture, distribution or sale of **alcohol, tobacco or related products** or representing the interests of any such entity? No: Yes: (please complete the table below as required)

Other relevant interests	Organisation/entity	Time frame (from/to)	Observations
Click here to enter text.			
Click here to enter text.			

I undersigned declare on my honour that:

- At my best knowledge the present Declaration of interest is true and complete. I am aware that I will be responsible for updating this Declaration whenever the situation changes in respect of the interests



declared and I will have the primary responsibility for spontaneously declaring any conflicts of interest at all times, with special attention to any interest which might be considered prejudicial to my independence in relation to the items on the agenda of a meeting of the EMCDDA *Xchange* Rating Board that I have to attend.

- I have read and I am aware of the content of the Privacy statement on the protection of personal data resulting from this Declaration, as it is provided here below, and I am aware that this Declaration will be made available for public scrutiny on the EMCDDA website, with due respect to EU rules on protection of personal data.
- I have read and I am aware of the EMCDDA Policy for the prevention and management of conflicts of interest as adopted by the EMCDDA Management Board at its meeting of 5 December 2014 (EMCDDA/29/14 as published on the EMCDDA website). In particular I am aware of the following provisions of this Policy:
 - In order to fulfil its tasks, the EMCDDA needs to have access to the highest level of expertise available in the areas of activity covered by its mandate and mission, as defined in its founding regulation. This expertise is often extremely specialised and the possible choice of alternative expertise is not always available. It is therefore essential that the EMCDDA can still be given access to specialised experts, while being made fully aware of all interests involved and possible risks of conflict of interests (or appearance of conflict of interests), in order to act upon these risks.
 - The need to avoid conflicts of interest should not prevent the EMCDDA from collaborating with and seeking input from high-level experts. As the persons concerned are generally experienced and may have interests arising out of their professional background and capacity, appearance of conflict of interest, cannot always be entirely avoided. The risks of actual or perceived conflicts of interest should be identified, evaluated and managed. This is particularly relevant in areas where available expertise is limited. A fair, proportionate and timely handling of each case should therefore be ensured pursuant to a policy on prevention and management of conflicts of interest which reflects the perceived exposure of the agency to the relevant risks, taking into account the tasks entrusted to it.
 - A conflict of interest generally refers to a situation where it can be reasonably considered that the impartiality and objectivity of an assessment, opinion, recommendation or decision of the agency is or might be perceived as being influenced, compromised or biased by a personal interest held or entrusted to a given individual. Relevant personal interest may be of financial or non-financial nature and it may concern a personal or family relationship or professional affiliations and other relevant outside activities.
 - Not only actual independence but also perception of independence is important, since this issue can impact on the agency's reputation by raising doubts about the conclusions reached. The appearance of conflict of interest can constitute a reputational risk to the agency, even if it turns out to be unsubstantiated.
 - Pursuant to the relevant provisions of the EMCDDA founding regulation, the Members of the EMCDDA *Xchange* Rating Board shall be appointed in a personal capacity and in view of their scientific excellence and their independence, and shall give their opinions completely independently of the EU Member State and EU institutions.
 - In this context the members of the EMCDDA *Xchange* Rating Board and the observers who regularly attend the meetings of these bodies shall act in the best possible interests of the EMCDDA and its mission, independently from any academic, institutional, industrial, political or other specific interests they might have.



- The EMCDDA recognises that the expertise of the aforementioned actors is crucial for the fulfilment of its tasks and that the quality of such expertise is inherently based upon prior and current academic and professional experience. These actors should therefore be able in principle to combine their participation in the activities of the EMCDDA *Xchange* Rating Board with other positions or activities, public or private, unless it can be reasonably considered that the impartiality and objectivity of their assessments, opinions, recommendations or decisions is or might be perceived as being influenced, compromised or biased by a personal interest linked to these positions/activities.
- This declaration of interest shall not imply by itself the existence of any conflict of interest. Declaring an interest shall not necessarily mean having an actual or potential conflict of interest, nor shall it automatically disqualify a person from participating in the activities of the EMCDDA *Xchange* Rating Board.

Done at Trinity College Dublin on 24th May 2018

Signature

Cath Conkey