INVITATION TO TENDER

EPPIC (Exchanging Prevention practices on Polydrug use among youth In Criminal justice systems)

You are invited to tender for the evaluation of the EPPIC project.

Project details

Funded by: Third EU Health Programme (2014-2020): Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (Chafea)

Partners: Coordinator: Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, Middlesex University (UK), Change Grow Live (UK), Aarhus University (Denmark), Eclectica (Italy), European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research (Austria), Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences (Germany), Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology (Poland).

Duration: January 1st 2017 – December 31st. 2019

The project: Young offenders are considered one of the most vulnerable or at risk groups of developing drug problems and they are likely to be affected by a myriad of health and social inequalities. This project focuses on young people aged between 15 and 24 who have been in contact with the criminal justice system. A range of qualitative approaches will be used to identify innovative prevention approaches and projects; to collect new information: on the drug using trajectories of young people in the criminal justice system and on their perceptions and experiences of interventions; and to examine the views of service providers on prevention approaches for this target group.

This project has the following objectives:

- Collect and disseminate existing knowledge and new data/ knowledge on evidence for effective approaches and interventions to address illicit drug use, in particular polydrug use and use of NPS by young people in touch with the criminal justice systems in partner countries.
- Based on the perspectives of young people and relevant stakeholders, analyse the potential for interventions to influence drug using trajectories among young people in touch with the criminal justice system.
- Examine the appropriateness of the existing European drug prevention quality standards to the criminal justice context and develop a set of guidelines adapted to initiatives aimed at drug using young people in touch with criminal justice agencies.
- Assess a) the extent to which identified intervention models, and b) the set of guidelines on good practice, are transferable across countries and cultures.
- To facilitate collaboration and knowledge exchange between relevant stakeholder groups within partner countries and within Europe.

The project consists of the following work packages:

- 1. Coordination of the project
- 2. Dissemination and communication
- 3. Evaluation of the project
- 4. Knowledge exchange on current evidence and practice
- 5. Drug using trajectories, innovative interventions and experiential evidence
- 6. Guidelines for good practice and quality standards in the CJS
- 7. Cultural appropriateness and transferability.

The project will employ a range of sources and qualitative approaches (interviews, focus groups, expert group discussions, virtual discussion group material) and will establish systems to secure the participation of relevant stakeholders within and beyond partner countries.

Monitoring and evaluation requirements

Over the course of the three years, monitoring data will be collected by the Middlesex team every 6 months. This will consist of information regarding achievement of milestones and deliverables, activities and outputs, any changes to the planned work and reasons, any difficulties encountered and how these were addressed. This information will feed into the project evaluation reports.

Two project evaluation reports are required: the first at month 18 (around June 2018) and the second at month 36 (around December 2019). These reports will be expected to cover process, outcome and impact evaluation. They will entail collection by the evaluator of new data by survey and qualitative telephone interviews with project partners.

Budget

There is up to 10,000 euros available for the evaluation.

APPLICATIONS

Applicants should submit a brief outline indicating:

- the theoretical and practical frameworks for the evaluation
- proposed methods
- detailed budget

As well as a short CV, applicants should include a statement documenting their areas of expertise. They will be expected to have:

Essential Knowledge

- experience of conducting evaluations of cross national projects
- knowledge of the alcohol and drugs field
- excellent written and spoken English

Desirable Knowledge -knowledge of drugs prevention interventions and development of quality standards -knowledge of issues concerning young people in contact with the criminal justice system

Bids should be submitted by email by 13th. February 2017 to:

Professor Betsy Thom Middlesex University, The Burroughs London NW4 4BT <u>b.thom@mdx.ac.uk</u>