



## Youth in Europe – A Drug Prevention Programme

### *Programme Outline*

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Advisory Board Meeting of European Cities against Drugs (ECAD) held in Rimini, Italy, on February 4, 2005, agreed to propose to ECAD's Annual Mayors' Meeting (AMM) in Oslo in May 2005 that ECAD would initiate, launch and coordinate a European programme, aiming to implement effective measures to prevent the distribution, selling and use of illegal substances. The AMM adopted the proposal on May 25, 2005. It was recorded that the cities of Cork (Ireland), Düsseldorf (Germany), Helsinki (Finland), Oslo (Norway), Stockholm (Sweden), Reykjavik (Iceland) and St. Petersburg (Russia) intend to participate in the programme. Furthermore that the cities of Riga (Latvia) and Gävle (Sweden) have expressed their interest to participate. Mr. Dagur B. Eggertsson from Reykjavík, Iceland and Mr. Tomas Hallberg, from the Office of ECAD, Stockholm, Sweden, were given the task of drafting a detailed Programme Outline to be presented and adopted at the ECAD's Advisory Board in autumn 2005. The patron of the programme is Dr. Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson President of Iceland.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMME**

The name of the programme is: *Youth in Europe – A drug prevention programme.*

*Youth in Europe – A drug prevention programme:*

- (1) Is an international project initiated by ECAD, carried out in cooperation with capitals, cities and states in Europe. It will be based on key results from the five year project "Drug-free Iceland 1997-2002".
- (2) Is a five year programme starting in 2005 with an international dimension and a community focus (global – local). Its operation will be within a strategic framework and will initiate multidisciplinary collaboration within and among the participants.
- (3) Will compare prevention strategies and seek best practices across Europe in order to provide valuable information for all those who are involved in the ongoing task of protecting young people from the injurious effects of drugs.

- (4) Will be an evidence-based programme with a strong element of international comparison. It will emphasize the international dimensions of preventive work. It will compare preventive measures taken by cities and nations within the programme where there is a clear vision and dedication on behalf of respective authorities.
- (5) Will emphasize a holistic approach in drug prevention.

*Youth in Europe – A drug prevention programme* will include the following elements:

**(A) Mobilising society** in order to raise awareness and enhance preventive work on both community level within a country and on an international level by the collaboration of the participating countries. The focus will be on:

- (a) Sending a clear message to societies in order to combat drugs, raise awareness and enhance preventive work among the participating countries and by taking a strong stand with regard to goal setting, policy making and implementation as well as empowering parents and the co-operation of parents, schools, organized youth work and local society.
- (b) Utilizing existing networks in each community in order to reduce tobacco, alcohol and illegal substance use among adolescents by involving the stakeholders within governments and municipal authorities and national NGO's and emphasizing the important role of voluntary associations, open youth work such as sport clubs, parental associations, school authorities and the police.
- (c) Regular evaluation of the field work and regular network meetings including researchers, policy makers, field workers and others in order to compare strategies.
- (d) Increasing the participation and involvement of young people in organized youth activities and sport clubs by encouraging local societies to offer a variety of such youth activities and by activating schools and other public institutions that work with and for young people.
- (e) Promoting a holistic approach by enhancing co-operation between local governments and other stakeholders in adolescents' lives and raising public awareness and sense of responsibility among official bodies e.g. through the media.

**(B) Research and evaluation** to facilitate comparison of prevention strategies and success factors across Europe, and provide valuable information to participants and to ECAD. It will:

- (a) Emphasize coordinated research that allows drawing conclusions for the benefit of local and global preventive work against the use and the distribution of drugs, identifying risk factors and protective factors and evaluating the results of the programme.
- (b) Emphasize systematic use of knowledge and information in areas relevant to preventive work.
- (c) Carry out three comparative studies, in the first phase of the programme 2006-2007, an interim study in 2008 and at the close of the project in 2010. The first survey will be repeated in the spring 2007 to enable new cities to participate. Questionnaires will

be administered in all participating cities at the same time. A population sample, fully representative of the age group 15-16 years olds, will be drawn in each city and surveys conducted. A sample of 2,800 is necessary in each of the surveys. A participating city will have the right to add questions to the questionnaire in a local section following the comparable core-questions. Issues regarding adaptation of the questionnaire to cultural context need be addressed.

- (d) Enabling Reykjavík University and the University of Iceland to administer and coordinate the studies carried out in close cooperation with the participating cities in the programme. Each participating city shall be responsible for the collection of the data and the carrying out of the study in their area.
- (e) Emphasize privacy in the carrying out of each study by following recognized rules in that respect. The data and research material will be accumulated in Reykjavik and made accessible to all partners for research purposes.

### **ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAMME**

**ECAD Advisory Board** is responsible for the implementation of the programme. A Steering Committee chaired by Dagur B. Eggertsson, representative from Reykjavík, vice chair Tomas Hallberg from ECAD, Saulius Chaplinskas from Vilnius, NN from Helsinki, NN from Oslo and NN from Stockholm will be responsible for coordination the execution of the programme and shall report regularly to the ECAD Advisory Board which is responsible for supervising the programme. Other representatives will be summoned to work on specific tasks. The ECAD Office in Stockholm will provide administrative services to the project.

**The Steering Committee** is responsible for organising the following:

- (a) Forming a Research Team that will confer and decide upon the questionnaires and the methods used for administering the studies to be carried out.
- (b) Seeking support and additional funds from the Nordic Council of Ministers, the European Union and others, to be used to support individual partners as well as covering operational costs of the programme.
- (c) Promoting the programme on an international level.
- (d) Evaluation of the programme, organizing cross-national comparison of indicators and data as well as presentation of results to the ECAD Annual Mayors´ Conference.
- (e) Budget and financial plans, and the distribution of additional funds from sponsors according to agreements.
- (f) Extra activities, i.e. conferences/seminars related to the programme as well as creating a web-site for the project where partners can co-operate and communicate in a protected area.
- (g) Supporting the local workgroups regarding local working processes if asked for.

**The ECAD office** is responsible for providing for administrative support to the Steering Committee and carries the main responsibility of covering administrative costs related to the Steering Committee and support work. The ECAD Office in Stockholm is responsible for organising meetings, disseminating information and printing and posting of material.

### **Local coordination groups**

It is anticipated that each participating city will form a local co-ordination group for the programme.

Furthermore, each participating city shall nominate a contact person(s) responsible for disseminating information to and from the Steering Committee. The contact person(s) shall have access to annual policy and evaluation meetings of the programme, held in connection with the annual Mayors' Conferences.

## **COMMITMENT OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROGRAMME**

Each participant in the programme shall sign an agreement submitting to the aims and objectives of the programme as well as committing to strategies and tactics within the programme framework as further described in the attached Research Plan. Each participant shall commit to the primary task of carrying out studies, according to the agreed upon methodology, in the years 2006, 2008 and 2010 where a population sample of 2,800 students, representative of the age group 15-16 years olds, will be studied in each survey. The Steering Committee will be responsible for making formal agreements with the respective cities on their participation.

Each participant in the programme shall cover costs for participation in meetings as well as costs for the collection and preparation of data within their own cities. (For exceptions see Sponsorship).

Each partner in the programme will assure that research is carried out by professional bodies within their organisations or by a University or Research Institution.

A partner is not obliged to provide any other financial resources for the activities of the programme.

## **SPONSORSHIP**

The main sponsor of the programme will be Actavis Group in accordance with a special agreement. Actavis Group allocates a total sum of 365.000 Euro during the five year period.

The Icelandic partner is responsible on behalf of programme and the Steering Committee.

By this agreement Actavis Group commits to contributing the total sum of 365.000 Euro which will be distributed as follows:

1. Actavis Group will allocate a total sum of 200.000 Euro to support the proactive participation of the following five cities in the project: Belgrade (Serbia), Istanbul (Turkey) Sofia (Bulgaria), St. Petersburg (Russia) and Vilnius (Lithuania). By receiving this financial support the respective cities commit to the strategies and tactics of the programme framework. The primary task is to carry out research in the years 2006, 2008 and 2010 where a population sample of 2.800, representative of the age group 15-16 years old, will be surveyed, as further described in the Research Plan. Actavis Group will pay to the Icelandic partner no later than February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006, 2008 and 2010 1/3 of the total sum.

1.1 Each of the above mentioned cities signs an agreement with the Steering Committee and Actavis Group.

1.2 Each city is entitled to a grant, totalling 40.000 Euro in order to cover research costs as well as proactive activities related to the programme. This research will be partly or totally carried out by professional research bodies.

- 1.3 The Steering Committee is responsible for drafting the formal agreements (see 1.1) stating obligations and procedures in accordance with the Programme outline. The Steering Committee reviews budget plans and is responsible for payments of the grant (see 1.2) on behalf of the Icelandic partner.
  - 1.4 Payments will be made to each of the above mentioned cities in three equal instalments in connection with research carried out in 2006, 2008 and 2010.
  - 1.5 If a participating city ceases to be a full voting member of ECAD, the Steering Committee has the right to exclude it from the programme. In that case, the Steering Committee has the right to claim refunds and reallocate grants to other participating cities that qualify and seek support.
2. Actavis Group will allocate a total sum of 165.000 Euro to sponsor the international research and comparative studies administered by the Icelandic Partner, on behalf of Steering Committee, for all the participating cities. Research results carried out in each city will be studied, analyzed, coordinated and compared in three final reports published. This evaluation will provide international comparison to identify risk and preventive factors and draw conclusions for the benefit of local, as well as global preventive work.
- 2.1 Payments will be submitted to the Icelandic partner, the City of Reykjavik, in three equal instalments no later than March 1, 2006, 2008 and 2010. The Icelandic partner in cooperation with the Steering Committee is responsible for drafting the formal agreements with participating cities to define professional standards and procedures regarding research and comparative studies.  
  
Actavis Group will be provided with a progress report before dates of payment February 15 2006, 2008 and 2010.
  - 2.2 The Icelandic partner in cooperation with ECAD and the Steering committee is responsible for revisions and auditing.
  - 2.3 The name and the logo of the main sponsor, Actavis Group, will be printed on all international final reports and all published material related to the introduction and the promotion of the research findings. The main sponsor, Actavis Group, has the right to observe and be informed about the development of the project at all stages.

## **BUDGET AND COSTS**

ECAD Advisory Board will at its annual February Meetings decide annual allocations during the programme's five year period.

The ECAD Advisory Board will carry all main financial responsibilities for the programme, as outlined with the exception of the costs that each participating city carries. The main sponsor has agreed to cover the costs of co-ordinating research and evaluation plans in good co-operation with participating cities.

The Reykjavik University has agreed to provide and pay for expertise during the five year period.

The University of Iceland has agreed to allocate the sum of appr. 28.500 Euro on an annual basis during the five year period.

Reykjavik University and the University of Iceland will provide standardised database for entry of standardised national report.

## **TERMS OF PROGRAMME**

This programme shall have a term of five years. Each participant has the right to terminate its participation in the programme if prerequisites described above change or are not met. ECAD Advisory Board will in such cases decide upon final closure.