



**"Society and responses
to drug use"**

ERANID

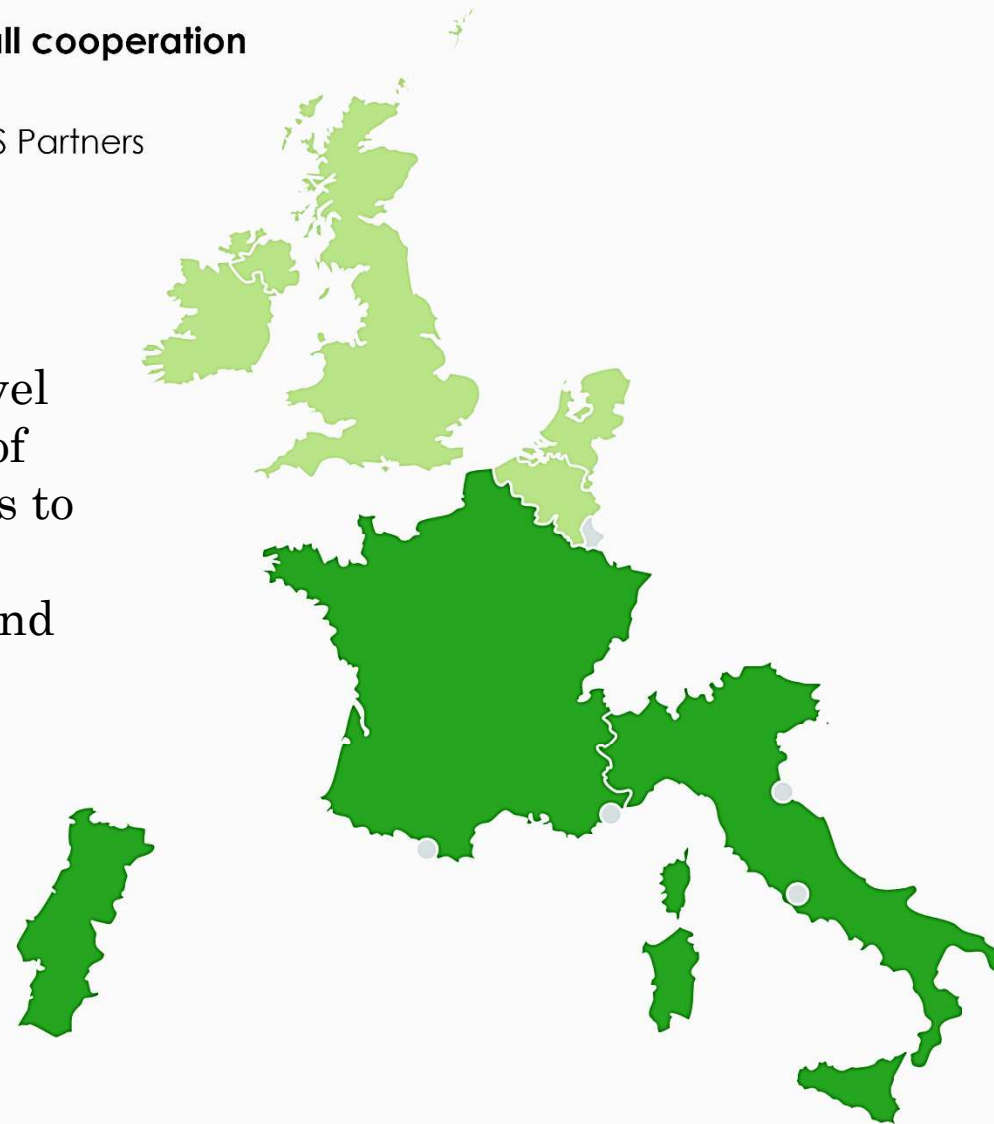


**DRUG
USE
RECOVERY
ENVIRONMENT
AND
SOCIAL
SUBJECTIVITY**

ERANID 2nd call cooperation

 DURESS Partners

The project plans to build a core, and a country-level characterization, of the role of social environment in pathways to recovery and socioeconomic reintegration, using original and mostly unexplored sources.



POSITION IN THE STATE OF ART

(current illicit drugs research across Europe)

Substance misuse is invariably considered across Europe to be a problem with severe social and physical consequences that, despite some differences, have common characteristics.

Quantitative approach

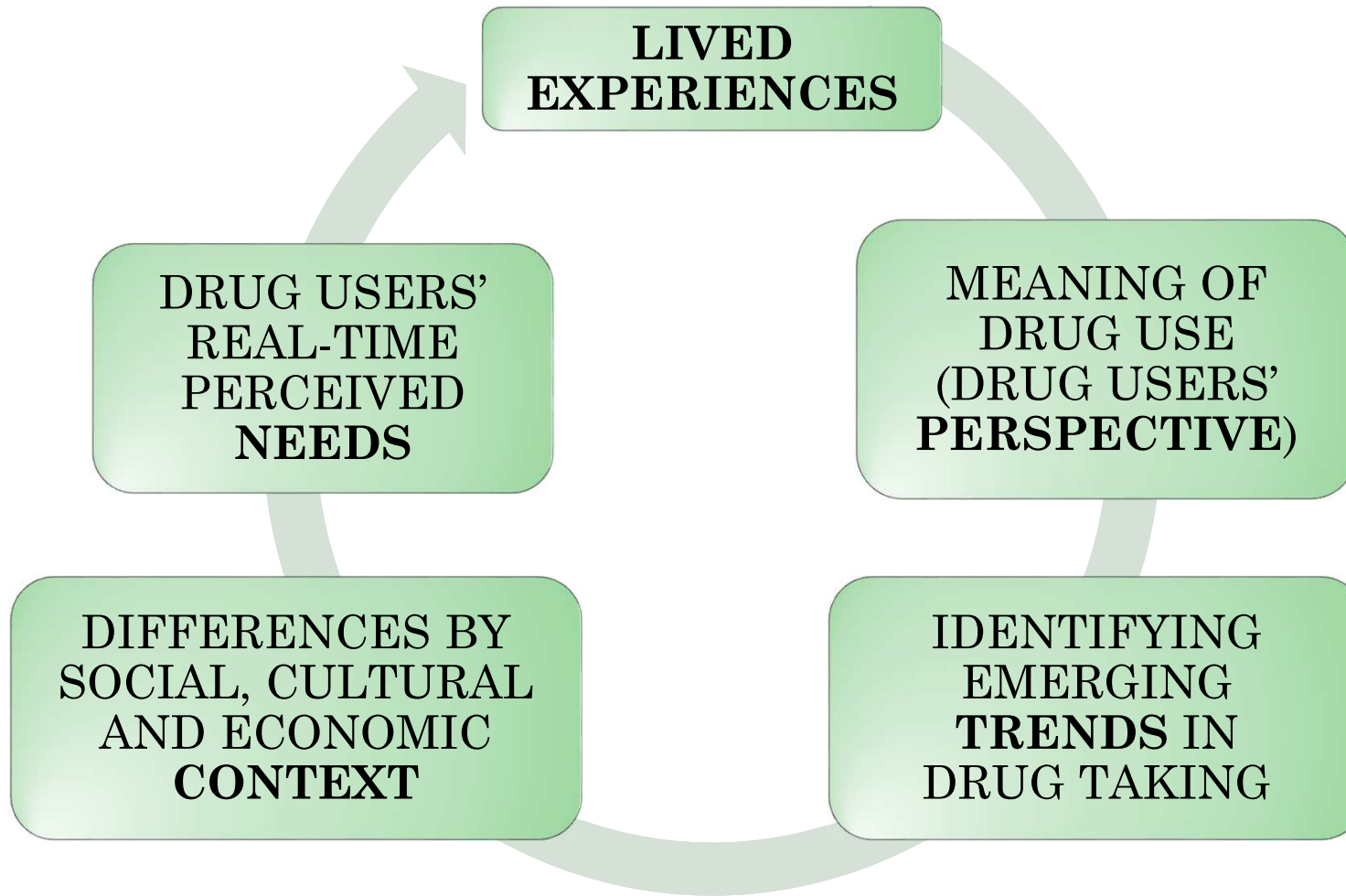
- data from monitoring systems
- clinical samples / administrative databases
- rough picture of incidence and prevalence of drug use problems and individual- and contextual-level characteristics



QUALITATIVE RESEARCH: **the added value**

*Understanding the natural interplay between
SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, CULTURAL, and BEHAVIOURAL
factors combining medical, psychological and social sciences
using mostly unexplored sources.*

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH: the added value



QUALITATIVE RESEARCH: the added value

Reaching and researching hidden populations

Illicit drug use is a hidden activity and, in most countries, the majority of drug users remain far from treatment.

Inductive design and iterative approach

Data driven and hypothesis generating: interpretations on the basis of data as they emerge from participant descriptions and observations

→ ideally suited to identifying and describing the social environment from participants' perspectives

Developing effective intervention and policy responses

1. target interventions in accord with local drug use norms and practices
2. understanding of the social processes shaping everyday drug use as a prerequisite for developing interventions

STUDY AIMS

- To build a country-level characterization of the role of social environment in pathways to recovery and socioeconomic reintegration, using original and mostly unexplored sources.
- To address key gaps in the extant research knowledge exploring by CONTENT / THEMATIC ANALYSES the role of social environment among people who misuse drugs.



1. SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

on the role of social environment in pathways to recovery and socioeconomic reintegration for drug users

2. HYPOTHESIS-GENERATING APPROACH

Qualitative experiments

-involving clinical samples

-engaging societal actors

Data triangulation (validity check)

relative weight of medical, individual and social factors

3. COMPARATIVE VIEWS

across cultures, national environments and policies

4. DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

after the research process at local and cross-national level, to ensure the widest transfer of the produced knowledge.

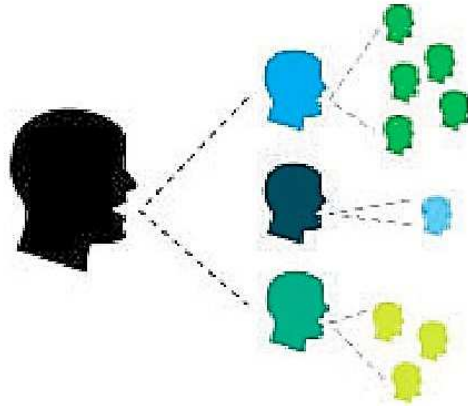


Setting and Definition of samples -WP2-

Drug and Alcohol Clinical Services (I, F, PT)

a. contact and agreement

b. Snowballing sampling strategy through users' social networks in order to find "hidden populations"



→ Participants at different stages of their recovery process: categorization in terms of course and severity of their substance related disorders, using the Addiction Severity Index.



METHODS

Data collection

A. Individual Qualitative Health Diaries (drug users) -WP3-

- intensive and repeated self-reports
- subjective experiences: events, reflections, moods, pains, interactions
- daily basis (low risk of recall bias)



Six-month diary
keeping period



interview asking detailed questions
about the diary entries

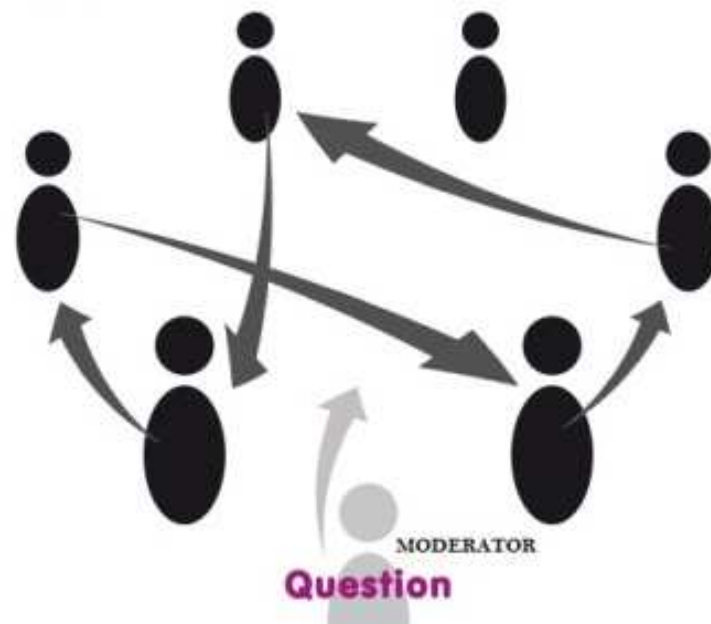
METHODS – Data collection

B. Focus groups (drug users) -WP4-

IMPACT OF GROUP MIX before the focus group proceeds
(e.g., how the group may interact with each other)



- **8/9 participants per group** (sufficient opportunities to contribute)
- trained and experienced research *MODERATOR*
- *venue*: accessible, comfortable, private, quiet and free from distractions
- *RECORDING* and identification of speakers to follow contributions (ensured confidentiality, possibility to withdraw)
- notes to take account of the *GROUP DYNAMICS AND INTERACTIONS*



METHODS – Data collection



C. Societal actors individual interviews

- Relatives, services staff, NGO volunteers
 - in-depth individual interviews
 - engaged during the entire project lifespan
- ➔ active and structured role developing shared outreach and dissemination activities to ensure the widest transfer of the produced knowledge

Interdisciplinary approach (scientists with expertise in qualitative addiction research, clinical and mental health researchers).

evaluating the impact of

- subjective experiences (meaningful stressors and personal views)
- socio-economic factors (links with social variables)

across different domains

- How the integration of socio-environmental aspects in therapeutic processes can improve recovery outcomes and reintegration
- Measurements of recovery and wellbeing and the relative weight of medical, individual and social factors
- Social capital
- Importance of work and housing
- Role of self-regulation
- Peers stigmatization and self-stigma
- Peer-related interventions
- Role of family, community and informal care
- How public responses use these to improve recovery outcomes

CONTENT ANALYSIS

coding
the large amount of
textual information



- ✓ Trends and patterns of words
- ✓ Frequency
- ✓ Relationships
- ✓ Structures of communication

Creating categories, grouping codes under higher order heading
WHO say **WHAT**, **TO WHOM**, **WITH WHAT EFFECT**



Formulating general descriptions of the topic

THEMATIC ANALYSIS

“identifying, analysing and reporting patterns (themes) within data”

- Initial codes searching for themes, then reviewed, defined and named.
- Extract examples, models, conceptual systems and maps

TRIANGULATION OF DATA

- multiple data sources and methods (A, B, C)
- integrated and evidence-based approach
- testing validity through the convergence of information

COMPARATIVE VIEWS from EU Partners National scenarios understanding how different cultures, national environments and countries' specific policy settings can shape the inclusion of social aspects in recovery. → Development of coherent messaging and EU strategies.



DISSEMINATION

activities after the research process at local and cross-national level, to ensure the widest transfer of the produced knowledge.

QUALITATIVE
RESEARCH

DRUG USE ONSET,
COURSE, RECOVERY,
REINTEGRATION AND
OUTCOMES

SOCIO-
ENVIRONMENTAL
FACTORS

DRUG
USERS

USERS'
SOCIAL
CAPITAL

MEDICAL,
INDIVIDUAL
AND SOCIAL FACTORS
CONTRIBUTIONS

CROSS-NATIONAL
ASSESSMENT

CO-PI-France
Tim Greacen

Établissement Public de
Santé Maison Blanche

The partnership

PI- Italy
Giuseppe Carrà

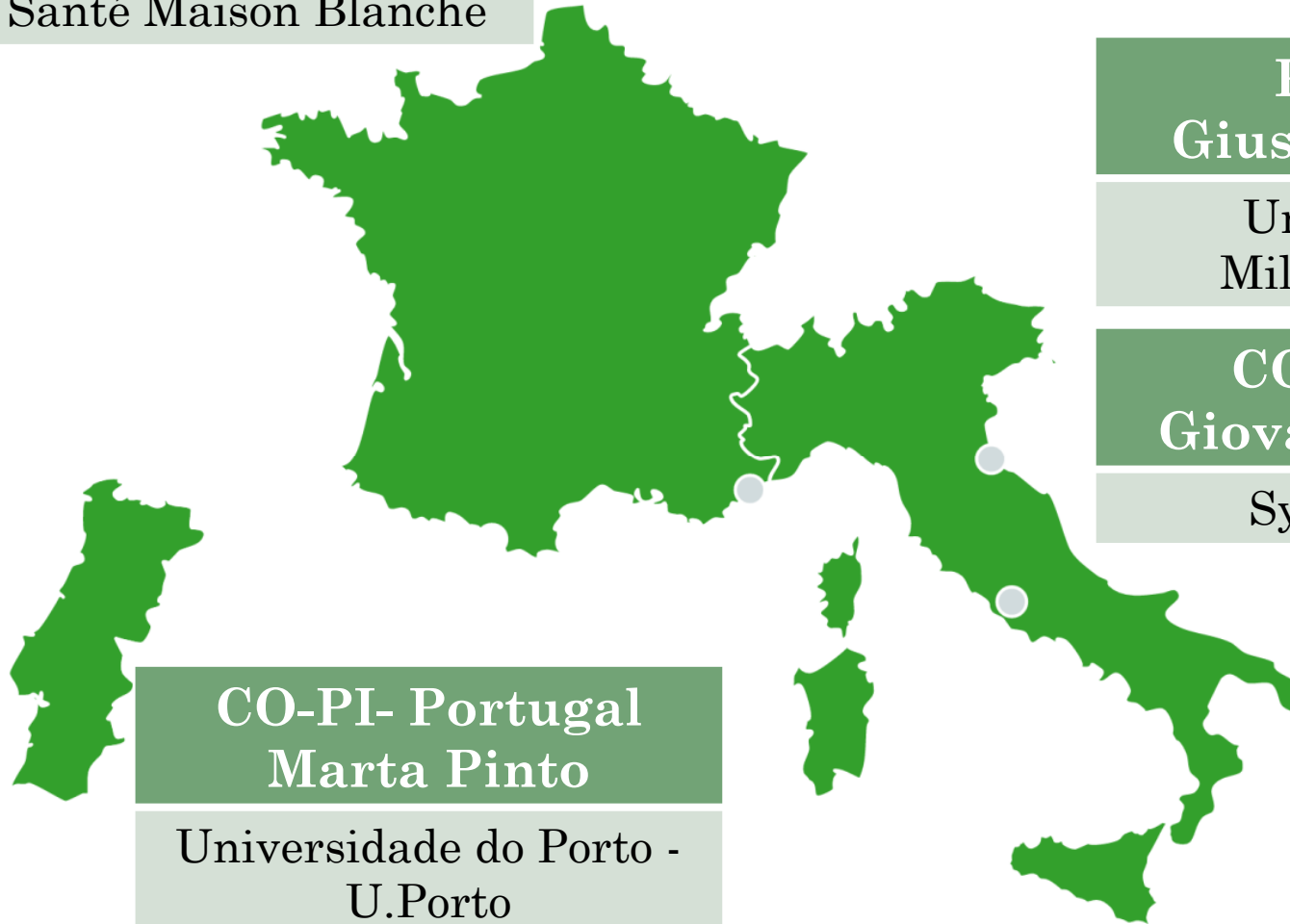
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Thank you