



Erasmus+ Project

Prevention of violent Radicalisation and
Of Violent Actions in intergroup relations



REPORT WP 7.3

Final report of best practices



This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.
This report reflects the views only of the authors, and the European Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

WP 7.3. FINAL REPORT OF BEST PRACTICES ABOUT EVALUATION

The process implemented in WP7 is aimed to evaluate the implemented activities of the PROVA project and the process of engaging target groups, stakeholders and key informants. Results of the implemented activities are discussed in each specific report, while reports for WP7 will summarise the evaluation processes emerging from the project. The partnership can exploit these elements at national and European level in order to implement best practices in the management of preventive strategies about violent radicalisation.

General framework of the evaluation strategy

As a general framework, partnership chose to reduce the use of pre-standardized and quantitative instruments, opting for a grounded approach through participatory evaluation. This method allowed a simpler selection of indicators, appropriate to each context. Open questions and participatory methodologies were selected, in collaboration with the Coordinator of the project, because they better highlight the specificities of each country, and because each partner implemented activities starting from its specific competences. Partners also proposed the use of additional tools and indicators that better fits to their context and model of intervention, so a qualitative approach to evaluation was useful in order to compare results and findings, and also to appreciate the specificities of results coming from each partner. The core of the evaluation strategy was the bottom-up approach, stimulated and monitored by LabCom, together with Coordinator and Project Manager, and driven by three sources of knowledge:

- **Specific competences and contributions from each partner of the Project**
- **Contributions coming from stakeholders and target groups of the activities**
- **Contributions coming from national panel of experts in drawing up the Guidelines**

Outcomes coming from each source described above have been compared with results of the other sources so that the whole evaluation process represented a way to implement findings acquired during the activities of the PROVA project.

Source	Product	Target/Beneficiaries	Strategies
Partners of the PROVA project	Activities and methodologies planned in the Project (e.g. trainings with visual techniques, theatre workshops, narrative approach...)	Beneficiaries of the Project (minors, professionals, stakeholders, Policymakers)	Direct involvement; Collective results about the evaluation at the European level; Drawing up of European Guidelines; Platform (WP9)
Stakeholders and target groups	Results from the self-evaluation (ad hoc instruments, diaries, focus groups...);	Partnership (for the final report)	Systematic observation; Data collection
	Guidelines	Local communities, Policymakers, NGOs, EU	Consensus Conference; Panel of experts
Experts (i.e. selected professionals and key informants)	Results of the panel of experts	Local communities, Policymakers, NGOs, EU	Participatory meetings; Consensus Conference; Panel of experts
	Results from the observational grid		Systematic observation Data collection

Indications emerging from the evaluation process

a) Costs and benefits

The partnership produced a large body of findings which was compared in reports about the specific activities both at local and European level. At the end of the evaluation process it is possible to identify some indications in order to underline the benefits and costs of the implemented strategy:

- The use of a mix of shared tools among the partners and specific participatory evaluation instruments in each country has proven to fit the project: this process complied with the need to remain coherent with the activities, the diversity of contexts and the different approaches adopted by partners.
- Reducing the number of standardised tools provided an evaluation process more adherent to local specificities, more exploitable for policy makers, producing an adequate mix between comparability of data and specificity of the local actions. For example, the use of a scale such as the Community Empowerment Scale (Laverack, 2005) with both qualitative and semi-standardised features, allowed to obtain comparable outputs on a European level and, at the same time, a flexible tool in order to understand the specificity of each context.

b) Foreseen policies and their impact on local and European community

- The direct involvement of stakeholders during the most significant phases of the project had a substantial impact on the development of high-quality procedures and contents. Thanks to the participatory approach, carried out during the evaluation process, it has been possible

to obtain valuable data, useful to promote suitable policies in order to prevent violent radicalisation, with a strong link to the specificity of each context, and also allowing the possibility of an upscaling on a European level.

- The participatory process also enabled a process of both research and intervention, producing findings coming from collective reflections, networking, comparisons between different bodies and subjects. The adoption of a participatory process generated shared knowledge in the involved social actors and, moreover, activated a virtuous circle in which new partnerships and collaboration may contribute to the further enrichment of findings of the PROVA project. On the other hand, the participatory process increased the awareness of partners in order to stimulate and give value to the whole process regularly.