



Systemic support for the development of addictology services within the framework of the Integrated Drug Policy (RAS)

The RAS is the first independent project on drug policy and problem-solving related to addictions and addictive behaviour funded by the European Social Fund and implemented by the Drug Policy Department and coordinated by the Governmental Council for Drug Policy Coordination (GCDPC).

At the inaugural session on January 31, 2017, the **RAS project Controlling Committee** (the main body of the RAS project), has set up the **RAS Working Group**, consisting of the representatives of the following professional societies:

- The Society for Addictive Diseases of the ČLS J. E. Purkyně (SNN)
- The Czech Association of Addictologists (CAA)
- The Association of Social Service Providers in the Czech Republic (APSS)
- The Association of Non-Governmental Organizations Concerned with the Prevention and Treatment of Addictions (A.N.O.)

Objectives of the RAS project

The systemization and the conceptual development of services, programs and other tools to fulfil the drug policy of the Czech Republic with regard to reducing the impact of substance abuse and gambling on the society.

Main goal

The new structural framework for addictology services and the new integrated system of high-quality, available and affordable services, built upon a clear embeddedness of competencies in the system of public services and the stable system of funding.

Partial goals

- to conduct two analyses assessing the impacts of the legal and strategic framework on drug policy and its system tools in relation to addictology services (KA 1)
- to create/modify the tools for needs assessment, monitoring, quality assurance and funding; to standardize and stabilize addictology services (KA 2)
- to develop the education system for the regional and local drug coordinators and other involved actors to improve their activities in the field of addictions (KA 3)
- to increase the quality of services through the new methods of social work and networking and the development of the education system for the workers in addictology services and public administration workers (KA 3)
- to create the conditions for the efficient provision of services targeting all types of addictions through comprehensive changes to the structural framework and the revision of coordination mechanisms (KA 4)
- to increase the effectiveness of working with the outputs of the project in practice (KA 5)

Key activities

KA 1 - Analysis of the current systemic framework of addictological services and its influence on the formation of practice (September 2016 to August 2018)

The review of the current systemic framework, including a set of legal norms and concepts at the international level, laws, strategies and action plans at the national level, and the impact of the strategic documents of the local governments, so to create the conditions for the implementation of the following key activities.

KA 2 - Stabilization, Standardization and Development of Addictology Services (September 2016 to August 2021)

The revision of the system tools and the availability of addictology services with regard to their multi-source financing, means of planning the networks of services, the system of quality evaluation and quality assurance. The identification and minimization of potential shortcomings, taking into account the current state of knowledge in the involved fields. The harmonization of the system tools with the equivalent tools used in the healthcare and social services. The innovation of the current system tools and the introduction of the new ones.

KA 3 - Increasing the Competencies of the Staff in Addictological Services and Selected Public Administration Workers (September 2016 to August 2021)

The support for the development of the quality and sustainability of methodological guidance and educating the relevant staff on the basis of an integrated drug policy, taking into account the experience of public administration and local institutions that often come in direct contact with people at risk of addiction and validation of modern methods of social work and the development of competencies of workers in selected professions.

KA 4 - Design of a complex change in the structural framework of addictological services and evaluation (September 2018 to August 2021)

Devising the new integrated structural framework and the new institutional arrangement of coordination mechanisms focusing not only on illicit drugs but also on legal drugs and non-substance addictions and proposing complex changes in the structural framework of the addictology services and, last but not least, evaluating the project and its outcomes.

KA 5 - Dissemination of Outputs (January 2018 - August 2021)

The effective promotion of the main analytical and methodological outputs, individual analyses, proposals and methodological recommendations, communicating them to both professional and general public and disseminating them to the relevant target groups for the practical use in the services.

Target groups

- The Providers and the commissioners of social services, family and child services and other services promoting social inclusion
- Public administration employees dealing with social, family and health issues
- Social workers
- Workers in social services
- Socially excluded and persons at risk of social exclusion

Indicators

- 1 supportive, functional IT system for tracking services
- 19 published analytical and strategic documents, including evaluation documents
- 180 participants in education

Expected impacts on target groups

Assistance in the development of competencies of social workers and workers in social services, state administration and regional officials in charge of drug policy, regional and local drug coordinators, members of regional drug committees, including working and advisory bodies and municipal and public administration staff.

The proposal of specific system tools which may be used by providers and commissioners of social services, family and child services and other services to promote social inclusion. Strengthening the coordination and cooperation of public administration institutions within the framework of the Integrated Drug Policy.

Outputs of the RAS project

Main Outputs

Analysis of the System and Structure of Integrated Drug Policy
 A comprehensive proposal for a change in the systemic measures of the structural framework of the Integrated Drug Policy
 Proposal of the institutional arrangement of coordination mechanisms

Other Outputs

Initial analyses focused on

- International and national legislative framework on drug policy strategic documents
- Assuring the availability of addictology services
- Comparing foreign and domestic models of quality assurance of services
- Information systems monitoring outcomes and evaluating addictology services
- A comparative analysis of the tools for funding addictology services

Methodological documents providing guidance in

- Practical applications supporting the quality of services
- Ensuring the availability of services
- Using a shared information system
- Application of the tools for funding addictology services
- Modern methods of social work and networking
- Good drug policy practice and curricula for the education of drug coordinators
- Supporting the development of competencies of selected public administration employees
- Standards for the certification of professional competence of services

Organizational structure of the RAS project

