A European Project from 15 September 2000 to 14 September 2001

Executive Summary

This is a project of the EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR SMOKING PREVENTION
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Province de Namur, Service Promotion de la Sante (Belgium)
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Each partner project identified and established target groups to work with, during the past year. Each partner city considered that the programme within each of the groups that they worked with delivered the objectives of the European project and achieved the desired outcomes.

The approaches to different elements of the programme have varied from country to country. For example recruitment of trainers and participants has varied depending on the circumstances. Participants were recruited using a variety of methods. Each city chose the method that best worked for itself.

The implementation of elements of the programme also differed from city to city. A very successful initiative that other cities felt that they should absorb into their own programme was motivational interviewing. This particular technique was initially implemented in Northern Ireland where health workers and other professionals were contacted and trained in motivational interviewing. They worked with women on the ground.

The exchange and dissemination of information from city to city allowed each city to integrate other elements of other cities programmes into their own programmes. In this regard the business meetings were particularly important, but ongoing contact with each city was maintained throughout the duration of the project.

The innovative nature of the project was particularly attractive to other voluntary and statutory bodies within each country. Each partner has been able to use their involvement with the project to network and develop links with voluntary and statutory organisations and groups in their region. This has been a valuable project and has helped to not only raise awareness of the issues at hand, but also to create a space for the possible continuation and sustaining of the initiatives in the longer term, although the format might change.

Each city carried out an internal evaluation. This included contributions from both professionals and participants. Both groups within each city felt that the programme had proved itself to be effective, with the result that while this project is now finished, each of the cities has expressed interest in continuing and mainstreaming this work and has set in motion the mechanisms to realise this objective.

The four cities have tested successfully this programme with many different groups in many different cultural and social environments and we consider that this programme can be replicated in other cultural and social environments throughout Europe.
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