

Let it hAPYN



Report on Training for trainers on how to conduct field studies

Deliverable 4a – WP7



Title: Report on Training for trainers on how to conduct field studies

Authors: Fieke Franken and Wim van Dalen, STAP

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I. Introduction

The event »Empowering youth organisations working on the field of alcohol« took place between 8th and 10th September in Amsterdam. The event was organised with the aim of joining the »Training for Project Leaders on how to implement a specific evidence-based alcohol intervention programme« from WP5 (Pilot testing phase and adaptation of the best practices on evidence based alcohol interventions in YO) and the »Training for trainers on how to conduct field studies« from WP7 (Empowerment of YO through law-enforcement). Additionally, it was decided among the project partners to add also »Training on alcohol advocacy and national consultations« covering WP6 (Review of existing alcohol legislation focusing on YP and suggestion for improvements) since in this way all three main areas of the project would be equally covered.

The reason the trainings were joined together was the additional European dimension of an event where many young people from different countries would gather together and discuss the topic of alcohol. From the previous APYN experiences, the international component and bringing many young people from different countries together in order to interact and share opinion, can have a great impact on the motivation of young people to continue with the further work on the topic.

Also for the purpose of promotion and dissemination it was easier to make a common thread as a youth activation story out of the trainings rather than just organise separate trainings at different times and locations.

Preparation and dissemination

The preparation for the meeting started already in February 2014, with more intensive work from April 2014 on. The main partners involved were STAP and APYN. APYN was taking care of promotion, selection and communication with the participants, whereas STAP took care of arranging the accommodation and food and of the other logistical matters. Additionally, both partners collaborated in order to prepare the programme.



The event was promoted among collaborating partners and also among the participants of the Survey for mapping alcohol intervention programs that was disseminated earlier in the project. As the primary audience of the event were young people with already at least some background on the field of alcohol, the event wasn't advertised to general public. Despite this the response was very good.

II. Event

Specific goals of the training program

- Inform the participating members of collaborating youth organizations about the evidence-based national and European alcohol policy measures.
- Inform participants about how to implement evidence-based alcohol intervention programs.
- Train the participants in how to implement field studies and how to assess the results of the field studies.

Overview of the participants

Altogether, there were 42 participants from the following countries: Croatia, Turkey, Belgium, Netherlands, Poland, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Estonia, Slovenia, Portugal, Denmark, Norway, Italy, Romania, Macedonia and the UK. Additionally, 5 APYN board and secretariat members were present (3 of which are employed on the project), as well as 3 representatives of STAP. All present APYN and STAP members acted as trainers, presenters and moderators of the activities.

Out of that:

- 14 participants participated in the Training on evidence-based interventions,
- 10 participated in Training on Youth research and law-enforcement and
- 19 in the Training on alcohol policies and national consultations.

When applying, the participants were able to choose the training of their own preference.

Logistics

Participants were staying at the Shelter City Hostel (<http://www.shelter.nl>) in Amsterdam. They were assigned in 4-6 dorm bedrooms and separated by gender.

The training itself took place at a meeting venue at Groenburgwal 42 in Amsterdam.

Lunches were provided at the training venue, while the dinners were provided in the restaurants outside of city.

Agenda

	7th Sept	8th Sept	9th Sept	10th Sept	11th Sept
9:00	Arrivals/GA	Introduction, get to know each other activities	Workshops	Workshops	Departures
9:30			Workshops	Workshops	
10:00		Coffee break			
10:30		Basics of alcohol	Workshops	Workshops	
11:00			Workshops	Workshops	
11:30		Lunch			
12:00		Introduction to alcohol policy	Workshops	Workshops	
12:30			Workshops	Workshops	
13:00		Coffee break			
13:30		Case study: prevention practices in the Netherlands	Workshops	Presentations and closure	
14:00			Workshops		
14:30		Coffee break			
15:00		Dinner			
15:30					
16:00		Dinner			
16:30					
17:00		Dinner			
17:30					
18:00		Dinner			
18:30					

The sessions in red indicated collective activities among all participants, blue ones indicated plenary frontal presentations, while the green one indicated three parallel workshops.

III. Programme of the training



On the first day, there was a common introduction to the topic and the project. In the other two days, participants were working separately on a specific topic.

Detailed agenda of the 1st day was:

Morning:

- Introduction of the training: goal of the program, goal of the training and round of names, countries and organisations.
- Quiz about alcohol, health and alcohol policy (with green and red cards – agree or disagree about a specific fact).
- Presentation about basic facts of alcohol: health, health costs, statistics, culture, societal aspects, addiction etc.

Afternoon:

- Presentation of the Dutch national and European policies on alcohol, price, enforcement, marketing and education.
- Lecture: Prevention practices in the Netherlands.

Description of Training for Trainers on how to conduct field studies

The topics covered in the training were:

- Presentations about the existing national alcohol laws in the EU member states, especially regarding age limits and alcohol marketing.
- Presentation and discussion about scientific and practical knowledge about mystery shopping and monitoring and assessing the impact of alcohol marketing
- Training on how to assess the compliance of alcohol marketing practices and of existing self-regulation measures from the alcohol industry.
- Translating the presented mystery shopping protocol for their own country and own organisation, given national and local laws and other policy practices.

- Explanation about other types of alcohol policy research young people can contribute to; one specific example was a research on how to monitor of alcohol consumption in bars and restaurants.
- How to make a plan of action (funding, training, protocol, policy-strategy, network, time-planning and communication of results).

Results of the training

1. The trainers received the same basis information as the project leaders but were specifically trained in the practical aspects of fieldwork regarding alcohol age limits and assessing the impact of alcohol marketing.
2. The trainers were informed about existing national laws regarding alcohol age limits, over serving and alcohol marketing; they were also informed about how to enforce these limits.

The project leaders were informed about different types of research they can promote and implement in their own country, and how they can use these data in their own organisation and for their own advocacy role.

Conclusions of the training

The main conclusions of the training were that the participants discovered in theory and in practice that their organization can really contribute to the implementation of effective alcohol policies. Field work seemed to be doable and the results were convincing. Especially regarding the compliance of age limits they were surprised how easy they can collect useful information on the condition that they use the existing proven research protocols in a strict way. They were convinced that their organizations could substantially contribute to the process of changing the alcohol policy in their respective countries.