EMCDDA, Reitox Heads of Focal Points Lisbon, 29 May – 1 June 2011

46th meeting

Document: REITOX/46

Implementation of the new TDI Protocol

Key Idea

The EMCDDA has finalised the TDI revision process and the NFPs have adopted the TDI Protocol ver 3.0. during the RTX meeting in November 2011. The finalisation of the TDI protocol has followed a 3 years process, coordinated by the EMCDDA and involving the national TDI experts and the NFPs. The TDI protocol will be soon available in the web site, after its media launch in 2012.

Background

According to an agreed time schedule, the countries have started in 2012 the preparatory work for the TDI implementation at national level. To this end the EMCDDA has carried out a consultation survey to assess the feasibility and impact of the TDI implementation at national level.

A pilot exercise was also launched to test the revised reporting form with 9 volunteer countries (CZ, EE, ES, IE, FR, NL, PL, PT, UK). On the 28 of May the 9 countries met to discuss the survey results and the future steps for the pilot exercise.

The results of the survey and the outcomes from the working group meeting are presented below. In Annex the detailed results of the survey are presented.

Results from the survey and the working group meeting

According to the survey most countries will be able to provide data according to the new Protocol and the time schedule agreed with the Focal Points (which will be September 2014). The main challenges will concern the involvement, acceptance and motivation of the TDI Protocol ver 3.0 by the national data providers (treatment centres and professionals from the treatment sector). To this end most countries have already foreseen training and information activities with treatment centres and professionals from the drug field. Some issues were raised concerning political acceptance of the TDI Protocol, which sometimes may involve the adoption of a new regulation or legislation at national level. In many countries the implementation of the TDI, including the revised reporting form, will be linked to technical IT developments in data collection and extraction. Finally most countries will be able to provide data on the new items and to implement the overall changes without substantial difficulties (See Annex for details on the results from the survey).

During the working group meeting on 28 of May the results of the survey were discussed and some issues on TDI implementation were raised. In particular the need to compare data collected through the TDI ver 2.0 and those collected through the TDI ver 3.0 was highlighted; this may especially affect trends and their interpretation.

Double counting represents an important issue and should be further investigated. To this end the meeting participants suggested the EMCDDA to send one page question on the issue of double counting to all countries in the next weeks. Existing information on double counting will be put together and presented to countries.

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Finally the template for reporting data according to TDI was discussed during the meeting and some changes were made to improve it. During the pilot exercise countries volunteering filedl in the revised form and sent their data back to the EMCDDA.

Next steps

1. TDI meeting 2012: presentation and discussion of the results from the feasibility

survey:

presentation on work carried out on double counting

feedback from the pilot exercise on data reporting form with

volunteer countries

2. REITOIX meeting November 2012: presentation of the template for data reporting

3 - 2013: actual data collection according to TDI ver 3.0

4 - 2014 (September): data submission to EMCDDA

All documents produced during the auditing and revision process of TDI are available on the TDI restricted area (http://projects.emcdda.europa.eu/alias.cfm/area7.cfm).