



European Commission Directorates-General: Home Affairs

Programme Security and safeguarding liberties Sub Programme: PREVENTION OF AND FIGHT AGAINST CRIME ISEC 2011

Project ID: HOME/2011/ISEC/AG/4000002514 **“Community Prevention and Early Prevention”**

TITOLO: “Early and community prevention: the mentoring model” nuove prospettive di sviluppo a livello locale di pratiche orientate alla prevenzione

THE LOCAL TRAINING / AWARENESS PATHWAY

..... 2014

Spain

1) Training aims reached

total of hours, objective....

Training	Objectives	Total hours:
Students from the Faculty of Law. Degree in Law and Criminology of the University Abad Oliba-CEU San Pablo, in Barcelona	a) presentation of the mentoring model b) discussion about the topic of primary prevention, and community risk factors. c) create a first glossary of terms shared on the theme of “Early and community prevention”	6 hours x 1 session
Students from the Faculty of Law. Degree in Law and Criminology of the University Abad Oliba-CEU San Pablo, in Barcelona	a) presentation of the mentoring model b) discussion about the topic of primary prevention, and community risk factors. c) create a first glossary of terms shared on the theme of “Early and community prevention”	6 hours x 1 session
Autonomic police, local police and social workers.	a) presentation of the mentoring model b) discussion about the topic of primary prevention, and community risk factors. c) create a first glossary of terms shared on the theme of “Early and community prevention” d) local recommendations able to upgrade of the local politics of intervention. Personal experiences.	6 hours x 1 meetings

Training:

2) Structuring of the course

Phase and data 2014

15th May 2014 – 16th May 2014 – 16th June 2014

3) The involved operators

Final year students specializing in criminology, University Abat Oliba-CEU, Barcelona.

Mossos d'Esquadra de la Generalitat de Catalunya. (Autonomic police of Catalonia): Police

Local Police. (city of Barcelona police): Police

Local Police of El Vendrell. (city of El Vendrell police): Police

El Vendrell City Council: social workers and street workers

Departament de Benestar Social i Família de la Generalitat de Catalunya (Department of social welfare and family of the Generalitat de Catalunya) social and street workers, head of social services.

4) The contents

- a) presentation of the mentoring model
- b) discussion about the topic of primary prevention, and community risk factors.
- c) create a first glossary of terms shared on the theme of “Early and community prevention”
- d) local recommendations able to upgrade of the local politics intervention. Personal experiences.

4.1 - What has been the content of these meetings and how can it be linked to national policy if possible or how does it reflect on national policy?

The seminars have been held in two main areas: academic (University Abat Oliba-CEU San Pablo, in Barcelona, with students from the Faculty of Law degree in Law and Criminology) and professional (police). In the first seminar were discussed the criminological and legal framework in which the actions are developed. On the second, the point of view of public health officials and local politicians (local and regional police, local councillors responsible for public security) was expressed. All contributions were obtained through different points of views expressed in relation to the five experiences in prevention crime. Their connection with national policies and their implementation is based on the following assumptions:

- a.) The police welcome the prevention experiences beyond police and judicial response.
- b.) The involvement of social institutions on the experiences helps to create a preventive criminal policy based on social participation and community vision (Proyecto POLICIA 2000 and Public Safety Act) reinforcing the democratic principle of citizen contribution in public policy.
- c.) May possibly been transmitted a local level the rehabilitation models on juvenile justice developed by the relevant public institutions (Department of Justice, Government of Catalonia).
- d.) The community prevention model complements the classic preventive model of repression of crime (action/reaction)

Youth Mentoring is:
 A way of transferring knowledge and practical skills through activities, guidance, advice and encouraging young people themselves or third parties working with them in mediation and social education to achieve the objectives of social rehabilitation and integration in the local community, respecting the law and making a positive contribution to society (safe leisure, volunteering, employment, training, education, culture and sports). In our case it is intended to prevent crime or antisocial behaviours which can lead to have a criminal career.

4.2 - Comparison between the mentoring model developed by the project and local practices mentoring (methods, approaches, tools, results)

comparison between the proposed mentoring model from the project and the local operating model		
mentoring model proposed by the Project	mentoring model developed at the local level	mentoring model to be increased locally (such as additions / improvements to be adopted)
Risk-focused prevention paradigm: the goal of prevention activities should be to reduce risk factors by strengthening protective factors	The different actions performed, reduce criminogenic factors (social uprooting, school failure, drug addiction, alcoholism, antisocial behaviour) through educational activities and cultural integration, against the lack of public respect and promoting useful leisure. Have been improved as protective factors the involvement of social organizations, the school and the local authorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote sports and cultural activities as factors of integration and cohesion. • Improve spaces for community participation in crime prevention (definition of security policies). • Involve social and neighbourhood organizations in crime prevention tasks (organization of sports and cultural events, involvement in volunteerism)
Crime prevention issues, community prevention issues and early prevention issues	This is to prevent crime and anti-social or antisocial behaviour (experience 1 and 2); and the social uprooting and the failure of integration of youth in the community (Review 3.4 and 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create opportunities for interdisciplinary work to detect target population. Enable advice to technicians and responsible to design better public policies Gather information on existing needs (needs map) Enhance conflict mediation

		Raise the need for a workforce of civic/street educators agents Improve the perception of public safety
multidimensional approach		
Multilevel (target group: <i>teenagers at risk of becoming involved in crime -or involved-</i>) Calls into question how active part in the interventions also the family, school, and community network		- Adolescents and conflictive young with age range 14-18 years
Multidisciplinary: involves various professions: teacher, social worker, psychologist, social worker / street / community of public and private social services, local police officers		- Social educators, social workers, local police officers
Utilizes the responsibility and the empowerment of the person, the development of social skill, the network (that means also the community engagement)		- The involvement of civil society to prevent conflicts and the capacity of integration of the individual.
The interventions are planned and implemented at the Micro / local		- At local level (experiences 1, 3 and 4) and micro (neighbourhood level) experiences 2 and 5

The aspect more innovative is..... ..

- 1) Involving young people from different national origins and cultures through sports, school tutoring and mediation to do safe leisure and get civic responsibility as a factor of cohesion and positive empathy with the community environment and the city.
- 2) The involvement and co-responsibility of cultural and local entities is an improvement that has been perceived positively.

4.3 - Risk factors and protection risks of young people...

The definition,

Criminogenic risk factors are any individual, social or environmental influence that can facilitate or increase the possibility of committing, worsen or maintain antisocial behaviour (disorders, antisocial acts or offenses) and they could be exogenous (for external influence) or endogenous (by personality traits of the individual himself). Among the exogenous factors favouring youth crime is the school failure, friend's offenders, family criminal modelling, lack of parental control, or social uprooting. Other factors include mental health (such as antisocial personality disorder, extreme lack of self-control, hyper- aggressively), also the negative socioeconomic conditions can favour a feeling of lack of future and the environment or relational system that may result hostile or in rejection. Not often act alone but in a stable group, to a greater and broader exposure to these factors, the greater the probability of a deficient child/youth development.

Regarding protective factors against crime, these balance the last ones and would be in the existence of a family or a positive social environment (a network of support and referent), favouring integration through formal education (avoiding school failure), the sport (stimulates group cohesion and values of coexistence), culture (involvement in local civic life, local events) and involvement in local community life (volunteer). They also are relevant the personal skills of children and young people to adapt positively to the environment despite the difficulties and the negative influences and the risk factors.

In particular, the comparison was performed on recognized risk factors

The references in the literature, considered in the group work

 LIPSEY, M.W. y DERZON, J,H (1997): “*Predictors of violent or serious delinquency in adolescence and early adulthood: A synthesis of longitudinal research.*”

 REDONDO ILLESCAS, S. (1998) “*Desviación, delincuencia y control social*”. Colección Justicia y Sociedad. Publicaciones del Centro de Estudios Jurídicos y Formación Especializada (CEJFE) del Departamento de Justicia. Generalitat de Catalunya, Barcelona.

 REDONDO S., STAGELAND P. y GARRIDO V. (2005) “Principios de Criminología” Editorial Tirant lo Blanch, Valencia.

 BLASCO ROMERA, C. (2011) “*Descripción y análisis de los factores protectores de adolescentes en la prevención del delito: el perfil del adolescente desistente y las competencias emocionales asociadas*”, Colección Ámbito Social y Criminológico. Publicaciones del Centro de Estudios Jurídicos y Formación Especializada (CEJFE) del Departamento de Justicia. Generalitat de Catalunya. Barcelona.

4.3.1) From the literature to the 'face' of young people of...

- Criminal friends
- Criminal environment in the neighbourhood
- Dependency to toxic substances (alcohol and drugs)
- Aggression and inadequate management of emotions (antisocial personality disorder and others)
- Performance and/or school dropout
- Low self-esteem
- Family breakdown and lack of control elements
- Family criminal records (not moral or ethical values)
- Belonging to social minorities (ethnic, national)
- Stressors in the minor that influence in his development or have a negative impact on health, academic performance or adaptation to society.

4.3.2) Risk factors for young people in the

Risk Factors of young people in Ealing - Responsiveness to "Risk and Protective Factors" identified by ...

Community Risk Factors

- Very high rate of youth unemployment (above 50%)
- High number of immigrant population
- A population increase far beyond the capacity of public social services
- Lack of local belonging
- Lack of youth leisure equipment's in the municipality.
- Clearly sociocultural deficient level.

Family Risk Factors

- High levels of household debt and need the social services intervention.
- High unemployment rate within the family.
- Criminal records within the family
- Uprooting and social rejection (immigrant)
- Breakdown and domestic conflict

School Risk Factors

- Concentration of immigrant population in some schools and specific neighbourhoods
- Concentration of school failure on two secondary schools
- High dropout

Peer/Individual Risk Factors

- Problems of drug and alcohol consumption
- Young people with behavioural disorders
- Low cultural and educational level
- Lack of perspectives
- No respect for public space
- Difficulties to return to the educational circuit once abandoned

Results of the comparison

There are a number of common risk factors among the ones exposed by the literature on the subject and specifically detected in experiences carried out in the municipality of El Vendrell. So stand within common or existing risks identified in previous studies:

- The risks of problems arising from alcohol or narcotics abuse.
- Aggressive attitude (antisocial personality disorder and others)
- Poor school performance and/or dropout
- Dysfunctional family-background
- Belonging to social minorities (ethnic, national)

other **RF unrepresented and instead the ones relevant** to the youth of the territory

Risk Factors of young people and mentoring

- Criminal friends
- Criminal environment in the neighbourhood
- Lack of control elements
- Family criminal background

4.3.3) The protection Factors of young people...

In general terms, the resignation of crime as criminological literature is based (LAUB and SAMPSON, 2001 "Understanding the desistance from crime") in three key reasons: Personal growth processes (physical and mental changes) unlikely among teenagers as they experience an evolutionary and growth period; the experiences of the life cycle or inclining points that modulate the process of abandonment of crime (marriage, parenthood, getting into the labour market) and it is therefore necessary to establish daily routines that structure the lives of young people (strengthening the emotional link and social support through family and community); Finally, the theory of rational or own choice as the individual values the personal costs and benefits of an antisocial life (concepts come into play as social disrespect, personal shame and regret).

Regarding the protective factors against crime that would act in the different experiences of mentoring in El Vendrell, would be found:

- Well-structured family and/or with capacity for adequate parental control.
- Positive social environment and many cultural and sports facilities in the municipality in which the youth can participate (football club, music school, castellers del Vendrell, etc.)
- Involvement of the parents association in the school.
- Highly professionalized and efficient social care assistance despite limited resources and high demand.

4.3.4) Conclusions to improve the mentoring intervention with young people of...

The experiences carried out in El Vendrell have a temporal scope of application. In this sense, it is early to quantify conclusions, particularly why the scope of the different experiences not end until the end of December, except the experience 4, which lasts until June 2015.

The city council has provided objective data that has meant the construction of a new Youth Centre, close to the town centre, this space is considered appropriate for implementing Experiences 1, 2, 3 and 4. This new equipment has been widely used by more of the 50 per cent of the youth in the city since its opening (from an average of 40 users per day to 65).

4.4) How to improve preventive practices and mentoring from a construction / operation of the risk factors ... to testing at the local level

From a local action plan framework designed by the social services of the municipality and with the participation of social entities involved (associations, cultural and sports institutions).

It would also be recommended an adaptation to local regulations to provide a flexible application of mentoring, simplifying procedures and adequate a reasonable budget and with a reasonable periodic application.

It would be important to promote and create a specialized training team of professionals who could give continuity to the mentoring experiences (street educators or civic agents and/or conflict mediators).

5) The results of the pathway and recommendations

5.1) The point of view of participants (... on the model of mentoring; ... about the risk factors relevant at local level and that does not emerge from the comparison with RF considered in the literature; ... on testing at local level ..)

Most of the participants in the seminars considered that the implementation of mentoring could be positive but they were very cautious of its practical effect. Generally, considered that the municipalities would not provide the program with a budgetary on-going basis and it would be difficult to get the professionalization of the different agents. Also, considered highly unrealistic in a crisis context with collapsed social services and police services with insufficient resources would not use the new funds to prevention tasks with not proven results or long-term results.

It should be added that most participants (both at academic level or police officers) considered very positive the involvement of the social organizations in crime prevention duties, as police/judicial response may not be enough. Regarding risk factors present in the literature compared to the relevant ones that have been detected locally, and in which intervenes through mentoring model, the participants underlined that while recognizing the

existence of these risk factors, those could not mitigate individual responsibility in committing antisocial or criminal acts. In addition, the fact of spend resources in prevention if there were priorities needs viewed as main concern like the fight against unemployment or caring for the vulnerable, especially because of age reasons.

5.2) Local operational recommendations and recommendations to be shared at European level

-It is recommended **to continue the mentoring or similar actions** that allow preventive intervention. Especially in individuals at risk who are in the **age of adolescence** because the influence of protective factors decrease as teens get older.

- It is suggested raising **programs and actions that aim to reduce some risk factors** (which always exist) strengthening protective factors for the young looking for a balance or progressive improvement. There is a tendency to accumulate risks to commit crime in adolescence (and pre-adolescence), if not being balance with pro-social elements will be difficult to solve, resilience must be worked out since childhood.

- Insist in **programs and intervention plans in schools and community integration**, there are two key elements to work on : avoid high frustration (not visualize a future) and get a positive attitude towards school rules and norms in civic society. The primary agents of socialization (family, school, pro-social friends) should be reinforced.

- **The intercultural factor** mismanaged in a severe economic crisis, help the appearance of criminogenic risk factors and social conflicts that require specific **crime and conflict prevention programs in the community in a context of social crisis**.

- Finally from the city council of El Vendrell, explained that one of the most innovative and interesting aspects in implementing the *mentoring* is the **networking**, combining the synergy of different administrations and civil society.