

Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters Good Practice Standards



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www.safernightlife.org

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Foreword

The mission of the Nightlife Empowerment & Well-Being Implementation Project (NEWIP) is to promote a safer nightlife, in collaboration with all safer nightlife stakeholders (nightlife professionals, peers, harm-reduction NGOs, public institutions, etc.) by implementing a variety of health promotion, community empowerment and harm/risk reduction strategies.

Some of these strategies were already being implemented in parts of Europe in the 1990s. These early strategies involved peer education interventions and Drug Checking services in nightlife settings (Charlois, 2009). Since then we've seen the development of Safer Nightlife Labels in a number of cities throughout Europe. We are currently seeing the development of very promising and innovative interventions related to emerging media and interactive technologies.

It seems that some of these intervention strategies have gained their own implementation momentum. Many of the early projects found themselves working in isolation. Many of them lacked the appropriate research that could measure their effectiveness. In their infancy, these projects – even when they were well designed – often faced significant challenges in the implementation and evaluation processes.

To ensure and improve the quality of the field work interventions an objective of the NEWIP project was defined as improving and standardizing existing interventions reducing synthetic drugs related harm, facilitating their transferability and implementation.

In the course of developing and implementing the Good Practice Standards, the various partners and participants working on the Standards frequently raised the issue of how best to standardise these interventions. In the course of numerous discussions, standardisation emerged as an essential – but also difficult to implement – aspect of any intervention service. A chief concern is that standardisation will limit local creativity, especially in the area of field interventions in the ever-changing nightlife world. Any standardisation effort should involve the key stakeholders in ensuring flexibility and the ability to adapt to local or specific realities regarding context, culture and environment. This means maintaining a sensitivity to, and respect for, nightlife culture.

NEWIP's Good Practice Standards are the result of developing the already existing European Drug Prevention Quality Standards further by consulting harm reduction experts and using real-life experiences. This document will be useful for anyone interested in establishing or improving Peer Education interventions, Safer Nightlife Labels or Charters, Drug Checking or Emerging Media programs, because it presents a helpful overview of practical and useful interventions.

To ensure their implementation, the Standards should be widely distributed to program staff, peer educators, and partners. Everyone participating in the planning, implementing, and evaluating of the program must be familiar with, and ultimately support, the Standards. Publicising the Standards will show how the program adheres to a set of mutually accepted standards. We believe in being pro-active instead of reacting to a situation where standards are demanded and then developed at the last minute and in a top-down manner. Moreover, having clear and accepted standards will make funding efforts easier in the long run.

Acknowledgements

The original European Drug Prevention Quality Standards (EDPQS) were developed by the Prevention Standards Partnership, led by Harry Sumnall and Angelina Brotherhood at the Centre for Public Health, Liverpool John Moores University, UK (www.prevention-standards.eu). The Good Practice Standards presented in this handbook were developed independently by the NEWIP project based on the EDPQS, without any involvement of the Prevention Standards Partnership.

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Table of contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Foreword | 3 |
| Acknowledgements | 5 |
| 1. Introduction | 8 |
| > Responding to drug use and related problems in nightlife settings in Europe | 9 |
| > What has been accomplished in Europe thus far | 9 |
| > European Networks Involved in a Safer Nightlife | 10 |
| > Mix of interventions | 12 |
| > Development of guidelines | 12 |
| 2. Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters | 14 |
| > What are quality Labels and Charters? | 15 |
| > Examples of services | 16 |
| > Why develop a Label or Charter? | 17 |
| 3. Standards | 18 |
| > Lack of scientific evidence | 19 |
| > European Drug Prevention Quality Standards | 20 |
| > The NEWIP Good Practice Standards | 21 |
| > How to use the Good Practice Standards | 22 |
| 4. Cross-cutting considerations | 26 |
| > Project stage 1: Needs assessment | 32 |
| > Project stage 2: Resource assessment | 38 |
| > Project stage 3: Program formulation | 42 |
| > Project stage 4: Intervention design | 50 |
| > Project stage 5: Management and mobilisation of resource | 56 |
| > Project stage 6: Delivery and monitoring | 64 |
| > Project stage 7: Final evaluations | 68 |
| > Project stage 8: Dissemination and improvement | 72 |
| 5. References | 76 |

1. Introduction

Responding to drug use and related problems in nightlife settings in Europe

In 2013, we celebrated the 25th anniversary of “dance” music in Europe. This fast-growing youth music culture is characterised by its preference for electronic music and dancing. Nightlife is an essential part of personal growth and social development for many people in Europe as well as globally. Nightlife is commonly associated with celebration, festivals and a sense of community. It is a creative outlet for talented people in the music, arts and entertainment fields. Nightlife can also offer opportunities for some to demonstrate their business, management and organisational skills (DC&D, 2007).

This cultural development came with its own set of problems, clubs, festivals and underground raves, which provide the setting for risk taking and experimentation especially regarding the consumption of alcohol and so-called party drugs. The term “party drugs” refers to a variety of substances that are frequently used at raves and dance parties. Surveys confirm that drug use is more prevalent in nightlife settings than in the general population (EMCDDA, 2006).

Drug and alcohol use in nightlife settings are linked to a range of health and social problems. These include: acute health problems (e.g., unconsciousness and unintentional injury); aggressive behaviour and violence; unsafe and unwanted sex; and driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs. There are also long-term risks such as brain damage and addiction. According to the EMCDDA: “The increased mobility of young people and the globalisation of the entertainment industry make it necessary to address these problems in Europe, especially in popular tourist destinations in southern Europe” (EMCDDA, 2012).

The European Union has addressed drug and alcohol use in recreational settings through its 2009–12 EU drugs action plan and, more recently, through the adoption of the Council Conclusions (Council of the European Union, 2010). The conclusions herein refer in part to an EMCDDA report and mentioned the “acute drug-related health harms and mortality in recreational settings”. The Council, in an effort to address these problems, recommends enhancing the safety of recreational settings by employing a health promotion approach with the participation of the various nightlife stakeholders.

What has been accomplished in Europe thus far

Recreational drug use in nightlife settings has become a common feature in European cities. There have been many interesting responses to this new set of circumstances, problems and needs of the potential consumers of evolving synthetic drugs, especially for those involved in the rave scene.

These responses were initiated in the 1990s by various grassroots peer projects that were emerging in the party scenes. The initial aim of these projects was harm reduction. These organisations served as key figures in defining the needs and problems of the rave scene as they developed strategies to deal with these problems, which often involved providing pleasant and healthy spaces at techno events, clubs and festivals, and by formulating essential risk-reduction messages in an intelligible and straightforward manner. The dialectical exchange between self-organised and state-sponsored projects helped generate an extensive database of knowledge, experience, and goal-directed methods. These self-organised or state-sponsored organisations can be reduced to several common denominators: They all pursue harm or risk reduction strategies and gather valuable data on the needs, problems, and consumption patterns of consumers of new synthetic drugs (Kriener, 2001).

A range of tools are employed to increase the partygoers' awareness of the risks involved in drug use and to promote a safer environment via drug information leaflets, chill out spaces, drug checking, websites, safer dance guidelines, charters and labels ([Charlois, 2009](#)). For an historical overview, check the [SaferNightlife in Europe](#) document.

European Networks Involved in a Safer Nightlife

NEW Net

www.safernightlife.org

The Nightlife Empowerment & Well-being Network (NEW Net) is a European network of community-based NGOs operating in the fields of health promotion and nightlife, as well as nightlife professionals, local and regional authorities and agencies, treatment professionals and scientific researchers.

NEW Net emanates from the Nightlife Empowerment & Well-being Implementation Project (2011-2013) and is based on the alliance of the Basics Network with the Democracy, Cities & Drugs Safer Nightlife Platform and proposes specific responses to the new challenges in the fields of harm reduction and health promotion, using recreational settings as initial outreach locations.

T.E.D.I.

www.tediproject.org

T.E.D.I. (Trans European Drug Information) is a European database system that collects, monitors and analyses the evolution of the various European drug scenes and reports on them on a regular basis. Drug Checking organisations share their data on the T.E.D.I. database, which was originally established in conjunction with projects that worked directly with drug users (first-line projects).

This monitoring and information system aims to help improve public health and intervention programs. It serves as an early warning system and a tool for monitor-

ing the evolution of drug markets in Europe. Moreover, it has become an essential knowledge base in the area of recreational drug use.

The TEDI project also focuses on: 1) standardising the various processes related to Drug Checking; 2) making recommendations to help improve first-line project field interventions; and 3) monitoring the evolution of new substances and new trends throughout Europe.

PARTY +

www.partyplus.eu

PARTY +, the European network for safer party labels, aims to improve nightlife settings and promote health in Europe's cities and regions by implementing and enhancing quality Labels and Charters for nightlife venues.

Club Health Project

www.club-health.eu

The Club Health – Healthy and Safer Nightlife of Youth – project, supports the European Commission in its public health and other related strategies to reduce the social costs and harm associated with risky nightlife youth behaviour. The project gathers experts from around the world to exchange information on the latest research, policy and evidence concerning the protection and promotion of health in nightlife settings.

The Club Health project has published interesting standards, guidelines and reports that support professionals in the implementation of interventions for a safer nightlife. References to these publications and the project itself have been added to the reference section of these Good Practice Standards.

IREFREA

www.irefrea.org

The IREFREA network was founded in 1988 with experts from several European countries and it is one of the oldest professional drug networks. The Spanish group has had the scientific leadership of the different research projects since the group's initiation. The areas covered by IREFREA include alcohol and drug prevention (research, evaluation and programme implementation) covering issues such as risk factors, risky behaviours, related violence and the programs' efficiency, among others. IREFREA has since 1996 been dedicated to the study of recreational nightlife and specifically its relation to alcohol and drug use.

Mix of interventions

The EMCDDA recently published a thematic paper – *Responding to drug use and related problems in recreational settings* (2012) – that was based on the EU Council Conclusions and included details of how to prevent and reduce the health and social risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and alcohol in recreational settings.

The report highlights the need for a balanced mix of prevention, harm reduction and law enforcement interventions to tackle the issue. It also describes how environmental strategies, targeting the economic and physical context of substance use, can be effective (e.g., safe venues, crowd management, chill-out rooms).

The report notes that establishing partnerships between stakeholders (e.g., municipalities, police and health authorities) can aid in the implementation of successful nightlife interventions. Research shows that community-based programs that deliver coordinated measures through multi-agency collaboration are more effective than single interventions.

Development of Guidelines

At the European level, with the support of EU funding programs, city and NGO networks have carried out practice-sharing projects on safer nightlife issues and useful guidelines are currently available to support local initiatives. These guidelines aim to promote a safer environment that deal with issues such as overheating, overcrowding, water availability, etc. (Club Health, 2011) and training the club and party staffs (mainly the bouncers) (Mendes & Mendes, 2011).

Various practical guidelines on how to implement the interventions have been developed within the NEWIP project. They are complementary to the Standards and all references to developed guidelines will be mentioned within the relevant sections and can be found at www.safernightlife.org.

2. Safer Nightlife Labels & Charters

When partying, young people could take or be exposed to a multitude of risks linked to consumption of legal and illegal substances but also unprotected and/or unwanted sexual relations, hearing damages, violence, road safety, etc. These risks can lead to health problems, crisis situations, road accidents and possible HIV and HCV contaminations. The experiences in the past have shown that establishing quality Label or Charter for clubs and events help to reduce these risks, by improving nightlife settings and implementing health services in a sustainable way: accessibility to health promotion material and information, to free fresh water, to condoms and earplugs, training of the club's staff, etc.

“In order to protect young people’s health, a variety of harm reduction interventions have been implemented, often focusing on the direct effects of substance use. However, the risk to health posed by substances is also related to the nightlife environmental in which they are used. A healthy settings approach to nightclubs allows environmental issues and substance use to be tackled together.”

Licences’ laws exist and have increased the quality of events and clubs during the last decade in most European countries. However, even for countries with a comprehensive licence law, a label is a complementary and sustainable solution adapted to the local realities. Because these labels and charters are developing participative and integrated approaches with all the nightlife stakeholders, promoting community empowerment and setting up actions for a responsible party’s culture, Labels and charters give a framework:

- > To improve nightlife settings “in a healthiest way”;
- > To raise awareness of partygoers on risk behaviours and how to reduce risks;
- > To promote a positive and responsible party culture;
- > To work together with nightlife scenes, partygoers, health NGO’s and administrations in a way of cooperation;
- > To empower the nightlife community;
- > To strengthen mediation and reduce public nuisance and violence around clubs.

What are quality Labels and Charters?

Safer nightlife Labels and Charters are global health promotion tools ensuring a high quality standard within the nightlife scene:

- > A safer nightlife **Label** is developed to reward a club complying with official standards of quality and to indicate to consumers the quality of the service provided. A Label is a formal engagement to ensure the permanent availability of services in venues with strict criteria.

A safer nightlife **Charter** is an official document signed by clubs, party organizers, cities and NGOs recognizing common objectives and specifying commitments to improve health and security in clubs and parties. A Charter is an approach defining more orientations instead of criteria. It may be imperfectly applied due to reasons beyond the signatory's control.

Specificities can appear all along the process of Label & Charter development and implementation to be adapted to local needs:

- > There are different options in defining **who will manage** and “own” the Label & Charter: an association of clubs, a health NGO or an administration.
- > The **identification of needs** (and the possibilities of improvement) can lead to the development of different inclusion criteria and/or services.
- > A balance must be found between a participative and top-down logic: a participative process is more sustainable but it can only be effective if commercial and health aims find a common ground of understanding, and take both advantages of investing in the Label & Charter.
- > The development and evolution of Label & Charter means an adaptation to the new trends, legislations and needs of the partygoers and nightlife professionals.

Examples of services

- > Health information: information stand display with leaflets about health topics.
- > Staff training: training and awareness of club nightlife staff about harm reduction, prevention, conflict management, first aid.
- > Info alcohol: resources aimed at preventing drunk driving.
- > Water: free access to drinking water.
- > Info transport: detailed and up-to-date information about the nearest public transport station/system, sign showing transport information specific to the venue.
- > Condoms: a condom vending machine can be provided or condoms can be sold by the staff.
- > Earplugs: for staff and public, or a noise limiter.
- > Menu of non-alcoholic cocktails: detailed in a visible physical menu.
- > Chill Out: a ventilated, quieter place where people can sit.
- > Food: provision of (ideally) healthy food at the bar or vending machines.
- > Cloakroom: a safe space to store clothes and other personal belongings.
- > Safe transport: venues subsidise the cost of public transport or provide their own.
- > Medical assistance: emergency medical assistance available in the setting.

Why develop a Label or Charter?

Safer labels are grounded in the need for sustainable actions on nightlife settings in response to issues related to the health of partygoers and nightlife professionals.

Safer nightlife labels and charters are based on strong cooperation between policy makers and administrations at city or regional level, club owners and party organizers, health NGO's, partygoers, police, etc. In each community, there will be variations in the nightlife regulation, the settings of the venues and the risks taken by the partygoers, but labels and charters can reduce these risks by implementing standards such as:

- > Accessibility to health promotion **material and information** (such as leaflets, condoms, ear plugs);
- > Improvement in the **infrastructure** to reduce risks such as dehydration (such as access to free fresh water);
- > The **training** of the parties 'professionals (examples: first-aid, information about drugs or law, non-violent communication, noise pollution, etc.).
- > Compare to outreach interventions, labels and charters give a framework:
- > To ensure the permanent availability of the health services (condoms, earplugs, health information...) in a sustainable way;
- > It allows participation of the club staff which are a crucial relay to communicate health messages to partygoers and ensure efficiency of the services;
- > It avoids having to negotiate with club owner or the event organizer for each intervention;
- > It enables a homogenisation and a strong communication on the health services available in the clubs.

Since many different stakeholders could be involved in safer nightlife Labels and Charters, there can be different interests to participate:

- > For a **club owner** or a party organizer, a Label is the recognition of the attention he pays to the well-being and health of his public. It gives them a positive image and can support them in case of crisis situation to reduce juridical risks;
- > For a **partygoer**, it's the guarantee of a quality venue to party in a safer way;
- > For an **administration** or a **health NGO**, it's a participative and sustainable methodology to reduce risks related to nightlife.

3. Standards

Despite the proliferation of harm-reduction interventions in nightlife settings, many academics have questioned the efficacy of the current models and suggest that projects frequently fail because they fail to properly define in their literature what constitutes “good practice” (Walker and Avis, 1999). For example, Shiner (1999, p. 565) states that “Good practice in relation to peer education involves careful consideration of the extent to which the approach used fits the location and the needs and circumstances of the people involved”.

Standards can provide an important quality-management tool for improving the effectiveness and efficiency of harm-reduction programs and services. The EMCDDA has defined quality standards as “generally accepted principles or sets of rules for the best/most appropriate way to implement an intervention. Frequently they refer to structural (formal) aspects of quality assurance, such as environment and staff composition. However they may also refer to process aspects, such as adequacy of content, process of the intervention or evaluation processes” (<http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/themes/best-practice/standards>). The Best Practice Portal of the EMCDDA is an important resource for professionals, policymakers and researchers in the drugs field. This portal also provides an overview of the available quality standards and guidelines in EU Member States.

Lack of scientific evidence

Harm-reduction programs and services that operate in nightlife settings can often not be evaluated in a controlled research setting or through randomised controlled trials. Calafat et al. (2003) reviewed a sample of 40 prevention programs addressing the recreational context and activities in 10 European countries and found that none of the initiatives were evidence-based. This means they are frequently developed in practice and based on expert opinion.

If harm-reduction programs are developed, implemented and evaluated according to best practice principles, they can result in effective health promotion strategies. To do so, they need clearly defined aims, objectives, interventions, strategies and process and outcome indicators to demonstrate their value.

“Popular types of interventions [such] as providing information or pill testing are not evidence-based. Other interventions [such] as responsible beverage services or designated driver programs, backed by the industry, are not exactly the most effective, especially if they are not enforced. Others, like community approaches, can be effective but it can be a problem [regarding] how to achieve their continuity. From the present review, what emerges as the best strategy is the combination of training, cooperation and enforcement. ‘Classical’ measures (taxation, reduced BAC limits, minimum legal purchasing age...) are also evidence-based and effective” (Calafat et al., 2009).

The gaps in science should make us cautious, but should also not deter us from taking action.

A proven prevention approach in one area of the world is probably a better candidate for success than one created locally and based only on good will and guesswork. This is certainly the case for interventions and policies that address risks and risky behaviour that are comparable across cultures (e.g., adulterated substances, environmental risks or lack of knowledge).

Prevention practitioners, policymakers and community members involved in Harm reduction and substance-abuse prevention have a responsibility to incorporate the lessons they have learned into their interventions.

What we must rely on to some extent is indications that tell us the right way to proceed. By using this knowledge and building on it with more evaluations and research, we will be able to provide professionals with the information they need to develop interventions that are based on best practice and, if available, scientific research that supports nightlife professionals in different settings and European countries to create positive, healthy and safe bars, clubs and festivals.

The European Drug Prevention Quality Standards

In the development of Good Practice Standards for Peer education, Drug Checking, Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters and Serious Games in Nightlife Settings, we at NEWIP have chosen to work with the standards created by another European project on quality standards that was co-funded by the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers (EAHC), and researched at the Centre for Public Health, John Moores University Liverpool, UK.

The European Drug Prevention Quality Standards were developed between 2009 and 2011 and published by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA). These Standards provide the first European framework for the delivery of high-quality drug prevention. The EDPQ Standards were developed by the Prevention Standards Partnership during Phase I of the Prevention Standards project. Available national and international drug prevention standards and guidelines were collated, and documents suitable for review were identified. The different items were rated, focus groups with experts organised and their practical applicability was explored.

This feedback enabled the partnership to produce a final version of the Standards, consisting of basic and expert Standards and detailed guidance on how to use them.

The Standards are available for free to download from the EMCDDA website.

Phase II

This project is currently in so-called Phase II, the objective of which is to develop practical tools and training that will facilitate the integration and implementation of the European Drug Prevention Quality Standards, and also to strengthen a consensus within Europe on what “high-quality drug prevention” actually is. A report is expected in May 2015. Check <http://prevention-standards.eu/phase-2/and> <http://prevention-standards.eu/category/news/> for updates.

The NEWIP Good Practice Standards

The ED PQS Standards, , formed the basis for the development of quality standards within the NEWIP project. Prior to the ED PQS Standards, quality standards for Peer Education in Nightlife settings, Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters, Drug Checking and the use of Serious Games in nightlife settings did not exist.

The development of the NEWIP Standards required the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders from the different interventions to ensure that the four NEWIP Good Practice Standards are practice-based and gain increased support and acceptability.

Quality standards and guidelines should be seen within the context in which they were developed. The Good Practice Standards within the NEWIP project are Standards at the intervention level based on harm (risk) reduction. To supplement the ED PQS Standards with guidance concerning the specific contexts of the safer nightlife interventions, the NEWIP workpackage on 'Standards', that emerged out of a group of nine stakeholders from six different European countries, started by identifying specific questions, searching for, retrieving and assessing available guidelines, and preparing a working draft of the guidelines. The most relevant items regarding a safer nightlife in Europe are provided in the Standards and in the Safer Nightlife digital library.

After a full review of the literature and guidelines, a draft of the NEWIP Good Practice Standards was written and distributed to the Party + workpackage manager.

The workpackage manager distributed the draft version to the members of their Steering Committee and discussed the different topics during meetings and workshops organised with partners on this theme.

The participants participated in brainstorm sessions and steering Committee meetings where they managed to come up with a consensus on recommendations for the final NEWIP Good Practice Standards.

The next step was to send the basic standards to the partners and ask them to complete an online survey about implementation and feasibility. The responses to this survey are described in an implementation report and provides relevant information as a background document on how the European programs work, what interventions they implemented, how feasible they believe the items are and if they experienced any problems during the implementation of the standards.

The final step was to add all the notes and references, taking into account the literature, the results from the survey, the needs of practitioners and policy makers, and the expert meetings and workshops. The re-write was monitored and approved by experts and partners from each group.

In summary, a number of processes were gathered that informed the development of the NEWIP Good Practice Standards including:

- > A review of academic literature on the different approaches and on Nightlife Settings
- > A search for and the retrieval and assessment of available guidelines
- > Meetings with experts working on safer nightlife interventions
- > Meetings with experts on developing standards
- > Workshops and brainstorm sessions with project partners involved in (setting up) the interventions
- > A Survey of existing interventions on implementation and feasibility of a draft version of the standards.

The result was that the existing European Drug Prevention Quality Standards were complemented by notes to consider and relevant references to practical guidelines, manuals and background documents, for each program, to improve the practice of existing programs, and to improve the efficiency of seeking funding. All of these notes were based on a consensus of expert thinking and experience. The NEWIP Good Practice Standards are practice based and were developed by a broad spectrum of experts working in the field of harm reduction in Nightlife Settings.

The additional information is mainly drawn from real examples and the experiences of practitioners and thus describes the potential benefits and details how established projects have dealt with challenges in the past. The aim was to create an easily accessible, relevant and practical framework for those working in nightlife settings. The NEWIP Good Practice Standards don't prescribe one fixed, inflexible model but aim to share core principles and a framework of relevant references that can be applied to developing good practices.

How to use the Good Practice Standards

The NEWIP Good Practice Standards are based on the EDPQS self-reflection checklist that was developed by the Prevention Standards Partnership, together with drug professionals (Brotherhood & Sumnall, 2013). The checklist offers insight into how to support implementation of the European drug prevention quality standards. The NEWIP Standards offer the summary of the basic standards for each component as provided in the original EDPQS checklist. They then provide component notes for the practice of each harm-reduction intervention in a nightlife setting that were developed by the NEWIP project.

How the Standards are used depends on the stage of a particular program – they can be used to design a new program or offer guidance about assessment and quality improvement of an already-existing program. The Standards serve as a useful reference guide to harm-reduction interventions in nightlife settings as they progress

through their various stages. It can be read from cover to cover or alternatively referred to when necessary. The standards should be applied with flexibility in mind and be readily adapted to the realities of a program's context.

The tables in the NEWIP Standards consist of three rows:

Basic Standards (summary)

This section contains the titles of the components and summarises the basic standards in each of these components, as provided in the original EDPQS checklist (Brotherhood & Sumnall, 2013). While considering each component, users should consult the full version of the EDPQS Standards to compare the basic and expert standards in greater detail (Brotherhood & Sumnall, 2011).

Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels

Additional information useful in the development or implementation phase of an intervention in Nightlife Settings which according to the findings from the nEWIP project suggested would support achievement of the EDPQS Standards. It also presents challenges, lessons learned, issues to consider, and examples of how the various European programs have addressed these issues.

References

Provides references to specific manuals, guidelines and checklists developed within the NEWIP project and other relevant documents that supports practitioners in the implementation of the Standards. This is not exhaustive reference section but it does attempt to include the most important publications in the field.

References are divided into categories: guidelines, reports, online toolkits, relevant websites and scientific articles. They have been added to the digital library at www.safernightlife.org, which provides a short abstract and a link to the original document. (All links were last accessed on 19.09.2013 unless otherwise noted.)

Additional Guidance

Please note that the original European Drug Prevention Quality Standards provide additional guidance that can be very useful in implementing the Standards: <http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/publications/manuals/prevention-standards>. A list that includes a selection of general resources and links to drug-related policy and legislation on both EU and international levels.

Glossary for Use with the EDPQS

Provides brief explanations of key terms used in the EDPQS Standards.

Quick guide to the EDPQS

Contains an abbreviated version of the Standards; can be used to determine the current achievement level of the EDPQS and to identify areas for future improvement.

Implementation Considerations

Outlines considerations to be taken into account during implementation of the EDPQ Standards in practice. Examples are from countries participating in the Prevention Standards Partnership (Italy, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Spain and UK).

EDPQS Translations

Hungarian: http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/attachements.cfm/att_196135_EN_konyv_vegleges.pdf

Polish: http://www.cinn.gov.pl/portal?id=15&res_id=454227

For additional translations and other materials on the EDPQS, please check www.prevention-standards.eu.

Brotherhood A, Sumnall HR (2013) *European drug prevention quality standards: a quick guide*. Ad hoc publication by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA). Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union. Available from: <http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/publications/adhoc/prevention-standard>

Brotherhood A, Sumnall HR (2011) *European drug prevention quality standards: A manual for prevention professionals*. EMCDDA Manuals No 7. Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union. Available from: <http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/publications/manuals/prevention-standard>

4. Cross-cutting considerations

EDPQS Standard A: Sustainability and funding: “The program promotes a long-term view on drug prevention and is not a fragmented short-term initiative. The program is coherent in its logic and practical approach. The program seeks funding from different sources”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ Define and share a long term view with all involved stakeholders in a participative process.
- ➔ Try to have the label captured into the written drug policy of a city or a region. Often this makes it possible to apply for additional fundings on this level.
- ➔ Even for countries with a comprehensive licence law, a label is a complementary and sustainable solution adapted to the local realities because these labels are developing participative and integrated approaches with all the nightlife stakeholders, promoting community empowerment and setting up actions for a responsible party’s culture.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

💡 [Guidelines](#)

EDPQS Standard B: Communication and stakeholder involvement: “The multi-service nature of drug prevention is considered. All stakeholders relevant to the program (e.g. target population, other agencies) are identified, and they are involved as required for a successful program implementation. The organisation cooperates with other agencies and institutions”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ To be successful to develop a label or charter should be part of a broader approach. Any specific health promotion intervention strategy for young people should preferably be implemented in the context of wider strategies which target not only individual levels of change but also social, community, organisational, cultural and economic levels of change (Harden et al, 1999)
- ➔ Stimulate the participation of club staff and managers, clubbers, youth and partygoers within Safer Nightlife projects.
- ➔ Raise awareness and develop participation of local politicians, nightlife organisers, health, justice and law enforcement services and civic community leaders, in promoting health and safer nightlife.
- ➔ Consider to become a partner in the PARTY + network.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

💡 [Guidelines](#)

EDPQS Standard C: Staff development: “It is ensured prior to the implementation that staff members have the competencies which are required for a successful program implementation. If necessary, high quality training based on a training needs analysis is provided. During implementation, staff members are supported in their work as appropriate”.

By Staff members the members of the project team for the implementation of the label are meant.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

No notes added to the EDPQS by NEWIP.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

 [Guidelines](#)

EDPQS Standard D: Ethical drug prevention: “A code of ethics is defined. Participants’ rights are protected. The program has clear benefits for participants, and will not cause them any harm. Participant data is treated confidentially. The physical safety of participants and staff members is protected”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

The Party+ Network has defined the following ethical values:

→ PARTNERSHIPS

We aim to foster collaborations between partygoers and other youth, club owners and party organisers, community organisations, health NGOs, administrations, policymakers and founders, to increase participation and develop partnerships.

→ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE

Nightlife is a creative outlet for talented people in the fields of music, art and entertainment. It can also be a place for people to demonstrate their business, management and organisational skills. These skills, talents and qualities should be fostered by providing a safely and positive environment.

→ PROMOTE A POSITIVE NIGHTLIFE

Nightlife provides many young Europeans with a sense of belonging and identity, and an opportunity to integrate. A full and varied nightlife helps contribute to a city’s allure. A quality nightlife can stimulate the local economy, tourism and urban development as well as enhance the image of a particular city or region.

→ BE REALISTIC ABOUT THE CONTEXT

We realise that many choose to enhance their nightlife experience through the use of legal and illegal drugs and sometimes taking risks. Our aim is to enhance their enjoyment and their experiences by providing social setting in which participants can make safe and healthy choices.

→ PROMOTE HEALTH

We are guided by the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion in the promotion of health as a process of enabling people to make healthier choices and to improve their overall health.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

💡 [Guidelines](#)

💡 [Websites](#)

**Project
stage 1:
Needs
assessment**

EDPQS Standard 1.1 Knowing drug-related policy and legislation: “The knowledge of drug-related policy and legislation is sufficient for the implementation of the program. The program supports the objectives of local, regional, national, and/or international priorities, strategies, and policies”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- Showing awareness of, and correspondence with, the objectives of relevant strategies and policies will maximise the chances for increased support. This is a chief criterion for the obtaining of government funding in some countries. They serve as the legal framework for a Safer Nightlife Label.
- Special attention should be paid to current policies and legislation that cover harm-reduction and nightlife. Nightlife venues and festivals must abide by current laws and regulations. Licensing systems that regulate the sale of alcohol, opening hours, security staffs and their training vary.
- Intervention includes informing partygoers, which, in turn, means legislation amendments that cover the material, training sessions, and the current legal status of various substances.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)
- 💡 [Reports](#)
- 💡 [Online Toolkits](#)
- 💡 [Websites](#)

EDPQS Standard 1.2 Assessing drug use and community needs: “The needs of the community (or environment in which the program will be delivered) are assessed. Detailed and diverse information on drug use is gathered. The study utilises existing epidemiological knowledge as possible, and adheres to principles of ethical research”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ In each community further variations occur in types of venues, the risks partygoers take, and types of nightlife. In order to develop their own Safer Nightlife Label, organisations should apply a participative method to assess existing regulations, partnerships and the local characteristics of the nightlife in terms of health and settings issues, before coming up with appropriate responses to local situations.
- ➔ Assess knowledge about the local situation in terms of numbers, types and locations of venues as well as specific health issues associated with nightlife settings including legal and illegal drug consumption, the risks associated with sex, noise levels, violence, road safety, transportation, etc.
- ➔ Besides the incidence and prevalence, the frequency of use, situations and circumstances of use, frequency and extent of occasional, regular, and/or heavy use, hazardous practices, populations at greater risk should all be assessed.
- ➔ Examples of indicators to consider: rate of drug-related accidents, unprotected and/or unwanted sexual relations, hearing damage, violence rates, problems related to road safety. Both quantitative as qualitative information can and should be gathered.
- ➔ Information on drug use and community needs within different subcultures, music scenes, nightlife areas, indoor/outdoor parties, home parties, etc. should be gathered.
- ➔ Have the proper information of the setting, club, or festival available on-site. Important aspects include: organisational structure at the location, government legislation, availability of condoms and earplugs, and noise (decibel) levels.
- ➔ Note that drug use can be both pleasurable and risky. There is no one-size-fits-all

solution regarding health and safety issues. Being healthy means different things to different people and different types of drug-users or partygoers. What is important here is recognising and valuing the choices people regarding their lives, including decisions about the use of legal or illegal mind-altering substances.

- ➔ The circumstances of people's lives, their emotional state at any given time, their previous experiences and their views of their own families, friends and peers, also affects their point of view and how people approach the issue of risk.
- ➔ The description of needs or problems should always include the real-life perspectives of those who have experienced a particular dilemma or situation (Suarez-Balcazar, 1992).
- ➔ The anonymity of all respondents should be ensured and one should not stigmatise or denigrate the various subcultures, music scenes, venues, etc.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)
- 💡 [Reports](#)
- 💡 [Online Toolkits](#)
- 💡 [Scientific articles](#)

EDPQS Standard 1.3 Describing the need – Justifying the intervention: “The need for an intervention is justified. The main needs are described based on the needs assessment, and the potential future development of the situation without an intervention is indicated. Gaps in current service provision are identified”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

→ Identify gaps in current service provision:

- > Be aware of any existing or recent programs that contribute to harm reduction services in nightlife settings and identify them in order to identify gaps in service provision.
- > Examples of programs include peer education programs, existing quality labels or charters, Drug Checking services, staff training, etc.
- > Take into account the views on the identified drug related needs, of club owners or party organizers, partygoers and for administration or health NGOs.

→ The limits of outreach interventions:

- > The aims of outreach interventions are somewhat limited in their ability to reducing health problems related o nightlife activities:
 - This is due to a lack of human resources; it’s almost impossible to intervene at every party;
 - This implies a possible inconsistency in the health services offered (condoms, earplugs, health information, etc.);
 - These types of activities limit staff participation, which is a crucial aspect of the effective communication of health issues to partygoers;
 - The sustainability of these projects is limited by their dependence on successful negotiations with club owners or event organisers for each new intervention;
 - The diversity of agencies offering interventions leads to a lack of coordination and clarity about what health services are actually available during any particular intervention.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)
- 💡 [Reports](#)
- 💡 [Scientific articles](#)

EDPQS Standard 1.4 Understanding the target population: “A potential target population is chosen in line with the needs assessment. The needs assessment considers the target population’s culture and its perspectives on drug use”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ We cannot fully understand the target population without also involving them in the process.
- ➔ Perspectives to consider when assessing the target population include: self-perception, cultural aspects (habits, beliefs, social rules and values), the rituals and rules involved in illegal drug use, attitudes and the “language” of the target population as well as the risks and safety issues involved in drug use.
- ➔ Consider that usually ravers or partygoers who use recreational drugs do not define themselves as “drug users”.
- ➔ Differences between various subgroups within the nightlife scene should be taken into account.
- ➔ When it comes to a label, the perspectives of the target populations regarding unwanted sexual relations, unsafe sexual behaviour, driving under the influence, specific risks related to drug use, drug mixing and the unknown contents of purchased substances, hearing damage and violence/aggression should all be assessed in some detail.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)

**Project
stage 2:
Resource
assessment**

EDPQS Standard 2.1 Assessing target population and community resources: “Sources of opposition to, and support of, the program are considered, as well as ways of increasing the level of support. The ability of the target population and other relevant stakeholders to participate in the program is assessed”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- Once information and data have been gathered, most service providers find that plans to develop programs to promote a safer nightlife will be much more effective especially if they can secure the support of local partners in the health, youth services, police and judicial sectors, as well as among local authorities, and nightlife organisers.
- Among the various partners and the broader community, there may be varying degrees of readiness to address the issues and the need for a program that promotes a safer nightlife (DC&D, 2007).
- Try to cooperate with already existing networks of partners (social workers) in different regions and cities that can help with the implementation of the label, since this is often the most labour intensive part.
- This includes stakeholders such as: partygoers, club owners and nightlife organisers, Health NGOs, municipalities, local authorities, policy makers and administrations, emergency services and police.
- A clear understanding of the roles and aspirations of different stakeholders in different settings is essential.
- For a club owner or a party organiser, a label means recognition for the attention s/he pays to the well-being and health of the target audience (partygoers). A label also implies validation and this can help them during crises or legal cases.
- For a partygoer, a label guarantees that the venue has attained a certain level of quality on basic safety issues. For a government agency or a health care NGO, it implies a participative and sustainable methodology that will help reduce risks related to nightlife activities.



- It should be emphasised that nightlife is an important income source for many municipalities and venues. This explains why these stakeholders are sometimes reluctant to implement preventive interventions. Most club owners and organisers are against (more) regulations, fearing it will lead to more paperwork and increased costs. They believe more requirements and enforcement are unnecessary (see club health standards).
- All of the partners should seek to stimulate the participation of clubbers, youth and partygoers.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

💡 [Guidelines](#)

💡 [Reports](#)

EDPQS Standard 2.2 Assessing internal capacities:
“Internal resources and capacities are assessed (e.g. human, technological, financial resources). The assessment takes into account their current availability as well as their likely future availability for the program”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- If your organization is not yet involved in a Safer Nightlife Label or in harm reduction within nightlife settings, it is important to create internal support for your ideas.
- At the human resources level, project managers and staff – especially those trained in first aid, conflict management, risk reduction and hearing damage – should train club or festival staff. Other staff members should focus on the assessment of criteria and services offered.

For an overview of needed resources (Allart, et al, 2011).

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

💡 [Guidelines](#)

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**Project
stage 3:
Programme
formulation**

EDPQS Standard 3.1 Defining the target population:
“The target population(s) of the program is (are) described. The chosen target population(s) can be reached”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ The ultimate target group are partygoers. An intermediate target group are the nightlife professionals and other stakeholders involved in recreational activities:
- > Club Owners, managers and party or festival organisers
- > Staff members:
 - Waiters and bartenders
 - Security and access control personnel
 - Promoters
- > NGOs active in nightlife settings
- > Local or regional unions of bars, clubs and other nightlife venues

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)

EDPQS Standard 3.2 Using a theoretical model: “The program is based on an evidence-based theoretical model that allows an understanding of the specific drug-related needs and shows how the behaviour of the target population can be changed”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

Use the available theories the healthy settings approach (see references).

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)
- 💡 [Scientific article](#)

EDPQS Standard 3.3 Defining aims, goals, and objectives: “It is clear what is being ‘prevented’ (e.g. what types of drug use?). The program’s aims, goals, and objectives are clear, logically linked, and informed by the identified needs. They are ethical and ‘useful’ for the target population. Goals and objectives are specific and realistic”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ Ensure that all involved have a clear understanding of the aims of the program. Think of a common aim for all the stakeholders.
- ➔ Safer nightlife labels were established to improve the health and safety of nightlife settings and to reduce the risks partygoers are exposed to.
- ➔ If the implemented services are targeting drug use, the targeted drug(s) should be specified. If the services target a particular range of (risky) behaviours, the types of behaviour should also be defined.
- ➔ Close consultation with members of the target population, especially club staff and managers may increase their sense of ownership and more accurately identify their needs and interests, thereby enhancing the likelihood of success.
- ➔ The aim of harm reduction or prevention measures in a nightlife setting should always be to offer the optimal personal health option within a chosen lifestyle. Thus the main goals are:
 - > Increasing individual knowledge
 - > Promoting individual risk behaviour changes
 - > Promoting an environment where one is able to develop appropriate behavior
 - > Early detection of problematic behaviour patterns involving consumption
 - > Early intervention, if necessary, and if the client is willing.
- ➔ This includes overdose prevention, reduction of the unconscious use of unwanted substances, the raising of awareness regarding high dosages of substances and/or cutting agents used in the making of psychoactive drugs.



- One should remain realistic: behavioural changes may not be achievable in the course of a short-term intervention!
- Any behavioural change should be socially desirable and one should consider whether harm reduction is acceptable in the particular society one is targeting.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

💡 [Guidelines](#)

EDPQS Standard 3.4 Defining the setting: “The setting(s) for the activities is (are) described. It matches the aims, goals, and objectives, available resources, and is likely to produce the desired change. Necessary collaborations for implementation of the program in this setting are identified”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- The setting is defined as the social and/or physical environment in which the intervention takes place, such as a festival or club. The label or charter itself may have to be adapted depending on the setting. Take into account any practical considerations when deciding where the activities will take place.
- If one is working on-site, be aware of the broad variety of nightlife settings, which includes their own sets of rules and regulations. Also note that the actual location of an event may not be suitable for all types of interventions or services (think of noise levels, the ability to have a conversation, etc.).
- A Safer Nightlife Labels’ main collaborations will be with club owners and event/festival organisers. Cooperation might be established with the company in charge of safety and security, as well as with first aid and emergency medical services and police officers assigned to a particular festival or event site.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)
- 💡 [Reports](#)



EDPQS Standard 3.5 Referring to evidence of effectiveness: “Scientific literature reviews and/or essential publications on the issues relating to the program are consulted. The reviewed information is of high quality and relevant to the program. The main findings are used to inform the program”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- Use the latest literature available but do not let a lack of substantiated evidence prevent you from taking action.
- When planning a Safer Nightlife label or charter it is important to be aware and make use of existing knowledge on ‘what works’:
- Extensive literature research including “Health and Safety European Standards for Nightlife Venues” (Calafat et al., 2012) identified a number of strategies used to ensure adequate health and safety in recreational settings and the current best (or most promising) practices. This led to the creation of a set of health and safety standards for nightlife venues (Duch et al., 2012).
- Evidence is often specific to particular target populations and environments. Use the evidence but do not let it replace the professional experience of practitioners. Where scientific evidence of effectiveness is unavailable, professional experiences and stakeholder expertise may be employed instead to make educated judgements regarding the effectiveness of any particular intervention
- The reviewing and incorporation of new evidence requires certain investments of time and funds.
- It is recommended to conduct an outcome evaluation as part of the aim of contributing to the existing database.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

💡 [Scientific articles](#)

EDPQS Standard 3.6 Determining the timeline: “The timeline of the program is realistic, and it is illustrated clearly and coherently. Timing, duration, and frequency of activities are adequate for the program”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- Do not underestimate the time necessary to establish contact with club owners and organisers that will lead to a sustainable and participatory partnership.
- Consider as well the administrative and political time of the local authorities carrying out the label. Inter-agency partnerships work slow in most of the times.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

💡 [Guidelines](#)

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**Project
stage 4:
Intervention
design**

EDPQS Standard 4.1 Designing for quality and effectiveness: “The intervention follows evidence-based good practice recommendations; the scientific approach is outlined. The program builds on positive relationships with participants by acknowledging their experiences and respecting diversity. Program completion is defined”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ Before creating an intervention, one should consult a variety of sources, such as systematic reviews on the effectiveness of interventions and, if available, evaluations of the results and procedures of other Safer Nightlife Labels or Charters. This will ensure that interventions follow (evidence-based) good practice recommendations.
- ➔ A Safer Nightlife label is based on a participative process that promotes health. It involves:
 - > Partygoers at least at the consultation level
 - > Nightlife professionals at least at the operational participation level
 - > Health partners (NGOs, institutions) at the validation level of the health promotion aspects of the project.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)
- 💡 [Reports](#)
- 💡 [Scientific articles](#)



EDPQS Standard 4.2 If selecting an existing intervention: “Benefits and disadvantages of existing interventions are considered, as well as the balance between adaptation, fidelity, and feasibility. The interventions’ fit to local circumstances is assessed. The chosen intervention is adapted carefully, and changes are made explicit. Authors of the intervention are acknowledged”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ A Safer Nightlife Label or Charter should be part of a broader set of interventions in nightlife settings.
- ➔ Consider policy and legislation differences between various countries, regions and settings.
- ➔ There are as many ways to develop and implement a label as there are different projects reflecting actual field experiences. However, safer nightlife label members who are part of the Party+ Network share common values and methodologies:
 - > 1. A participative process that promotes health that must be effective at the levels of conception, realisation and evaluation levels.
 - > 2. Access to health promotion material and information In party venues, based on the target group’s needs (pamphlets, condoms, ear plugs, etc.).
 - > 3. Improvement of party venue infrastructure and accommodations to reduce risks of dehydration, for example, by providing access to free drinking water.
 - > 4. Training party professionals to fulfil the needs of both the projects and venues. This includes adequate first-aid, drug and legal information, non-violent communication, noise pollution, etc.
- ➔ “Management and staff should be empowered with the skills and abilities to intervene effectively in any problematic situation that might arise. Training should be provided to managers, owners/promoters, serving staff (including servers, glass collectors, and toilet and cloakroom personnel), door supervisors and security staff.

- DJs and entertainment personnel (such as models and animators). Comprehensive training for all staff within a nightlife venue will help to ensure that they are well coordinated and ready to comply with a clear plan to create a ‘lower-risk environment’” (Duch et al, 2011)).
- For an overview of possible services to implement (Allart et al, 2011).
- Seek information from others who have been involved in Safer Nightlife labels or other initiatives within recreational settings and, while starting your project, set up a collection system information to be able to adapt quickly.
- Beware of the danger of implementing a Safer Nightlife Label, based solely on existing guidelines and manuals without taking into account needs assessment findings and the details involved in formulating a particular program.
- There are existing materials of all types that can be obtained and adapted effectively and affordably. Consider reviewing materials that are available on the Party + website before creating new ones.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)
- 💡 [Reports](#)
- 💡 [Online Toolkits](#)
- 💡 [Scientific articles](#)

EDPQS Standard 4.3 Tailoring the intervention to the target population: “The program is adequate for the specific circumstances of the program (e.g. target population characteristics), and tailored to those if required. Elements to tailor include: language; activities; messages; timing; number of participants”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ Tailoring to a target population is done with the active participation of relevant representatives of the target group.
- ➔ The content should be tailored as well. It needs to be credible, relevant and appropriate to the experience of the target population.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

💡 [Guidelines](#)

EDPQS Standard 4.4 If planning final evaluations: “Evaluation is seen as an integral and important element to ensuring program quality. It is determined what kind of evaluation is most appropriate for the intervention, and a feasible and useful evaluation is planned. Relevant evaluation indicators are specified, and the data collection process is described”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

➔ To plan and conduct evaluation one needs a scientific background to describe “what one is doing” in terms of a scientific system of definitions. Applying the expertise of, for instance, a university with an academic interest in the program is invaluable in developing a valid evaluation methodology is essential for the implementation of effective monitoring and evaluation functions. This expertise may be provided on a voluntary basis by a partner in exchange for benefits such as field experience. However, the total evaluation process may be costly, time-consuming and complex.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)
- 💡 [Reports](#)
- 💡 [Online Toolkits](#)



**Project
stage 5:
Management
and mobilisation
of resources**

EDPQS Standard 5.1 Planning the program - Illustrating the project plan: “Time is set aside for systematic program planning. A written project plan outlines the main program elements and procedures. Contingency plans are developed”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

➔ Setting up a Safer Nightlife Label or Charter is in most cases considered an ongoing process.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

💡 [Guidelines](#)

💡 [Reports](#)

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EDPQS Standard 5.2 Planning financial requirements: “A clear and realistic cost estimate for the program is given. The available budget is specified and adequate for the program. Costs and available budget are linked. Financial management corresponds to legal requirements”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- Safer nightlife Labels and Charters have found different ways to develop approaches, using different levels of resources for implementing their project and improving nightlife settings. Consider the contribution of partners, party organisers who are willing to donate or exchange services. Examples are, trainers from the city, health material from other NOGs, etc.
- The program assets and resources for each section of the work plan including training, supervision, materials, etc.).

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

 [Guidelines](#)

EDPQS Standard 5.3 Setting up the team: “The staff required for successful implementation is defined and (likely to be) available (e.g. type of roles, number of staff). The set-up of the team is appropriate for the program. Staff selection and management procedures are defined”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

→ Steering committee

- > A successful project team recognises its limitations and involves other relevant stakeholders and experts when necessary. A Steering committee could offer objective advice and identify key areas or ideas of interest that may be overlooked by the team. The members of the Steering committee might also have contacts that may be beneficial to the project, especially in the area of promoting it.
- > Local circumstances may change rapidly or new trends may emerge, requiring adjustment of the approach. Meeting (round table) at regular intervals for review and forward planning, with all partners, helps to ensure achievement of objectives and that target will still be relevant and challenging.
- > Having a project team or steering committee member with drug policy and legislation expertise is a definite plus because staying up to date on legal issues is a complicated and time-consuming affair.
- > To plan and conduct evaluation one needs a scientific background to describe “what one is doing” in terms of a scientific system of definitions. Having a partnership with a university or adding a researcher to the project team or steering committee should be considered.
- > Having a specific contact person who deals with stakeholders such as party organisers can be a big plus.
- > Define the decision process by determining who is responsible for what and who decides whether a partner can join the label.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

💡 [Guidelines](#)



EDPQS Standard 5.4 Recruiting and retaining participants: “It is clear how participants are drawn from the target population, and what mechanisms are used for recruitment. Specific measures are taken to maximise recruitment and retention of participants”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- To recruit participants a program working in nightlife settings needs to recruit parties and festivals. Relationships should be established and maintained with key stakeholders in the music and dance industry.
- In the case of setting up a Label or Charter, participants are the clubs and venues but also the partygoers using the health services. Other participants are all the stakeholders (police, city, etc.) taking part to a safer nightlife project
- Safer nightlife is achieved through effective co-operation between policy makers, administrations, health NGO’s and nightlife organisers operating effectively to engage with their communities and with young people in local nightlife. In each area, the range of partners involved in effective collaboration should be decided according to local needs and circumstances. A clear understanding of the roles and aspirations of different stakeholders in different settings is essential to maximise recruitment and retention of participants.
- Ways to promote the service on site:
- Project flyers, rave or event flyers, posters, festivals map, signposts, banners, posters, setting up attractive desks for distributing the information.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

💡 [Guidelines](#)

EDPQS Standard 5.5 Preparing program materials: “Materials necessary for implementation of the program are specified. If intervention materials (e.g. manuals) are used, the information provided therein is factual and of high quality”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ Materials that need to be developed include basic communication tools for each label, each of which needs a logo (visual identity), a website (that supplies more detailed information) and a communication strategy for venues to learn which health services they provide.
- ➔ Each charter/label has to be proactive in its communication as it is very often the first motivation or at minima the cherry on the cake put forward by the participating venues. Different tools can be used to get the label/charter known to the public, to the different stakeholders and to the press. Most important is to spread a positive image about nightlife. Don't communicate about drugs uses and night-related troubles. Promote fun, pleasure, music, dynamic culture, positive impact for the reputation of the cities, and the interest of club owners about their public's health.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

💡 [Guidelines](#)



EDPQS Standard 5.6 Providing a program description:
“A written, clear program description exists and is (at least partly) accessible by relevant groups (e.g. participants). It outlines major elements of the program, particularly its possible impact on participants”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

➔ Used terminology must be well defined in the program description.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

💡 [Guidelines](#)

💡 [Reports](#)

**Project
stage 6:
Delivery and
monitoring**

EDPQS Standard 6.1 If conducting a pilot intervention:
“A pilot intervention is conducted if necessary. It should be considered, for example, when implementing new or strongly adapted interventions, or if programs are intended for wide dissemination. The findings from the pilot evaluation are used to inform and improve the proper implementation of the intervention”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ Labels often start with a few clubs and party organisers. It is easier to expand to other venues once the project has received some positive evaluations and has met the expectations of stakeholders.
- ➔ Example of strategies :
 - > To implement labels only with a pilot group of clubs, well-known and mobilized, in order to create strong standards and good practices
 - > Or to implement a label “light” in all venues of a city.

EDPQS Standard 6.2 Implementing the program: “The program is implemented according to the written project plan. The implementation is adequately documented, including details on failures and deviations from the original plan”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ Inform partners about the implementation process through e-mails, newsletters, website, regular meeting, etc.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)
- 💡 [Reports](#)

EDPQS Standard 6.3 Monitoring the implementation: “Monitoring is seen as an integral part of the implementation phase. Outcome and process data are collected during implementation and reviewed systematically. The project plan, resources, etc. are also reviewed. The purpose of monitoring is to determine if the program will be successful and to identify any necessary adjustments”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- For monitoring the implementation of the Safer Nightlife Label the project team could set up a focus group, do informal interviews, or hand out questionnaires to get feedback to better monitor the implementation process with party organisers, club owners and municipalities.
- Establish practical ways for target audiences and stakeholders to share their views about the Safer Nightlife Label and make suggestions for improvement.
- Drugs trends and the risks partygoers take are continuously changing as new markets develop and are exploited. Colleagues must accept the fact that the scene will always be mutating, which requires dynamic and innovative responses.
- A strategy for guaranteeing consistency with regard to components and procedures at venues should be developed. Experiences in regulated countries has shown that to ensure high quality standards, venues must provide evidence (i.e., records) of training and implemented strategies to gain certification from the licensing authority (Duch et al., 2011).

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)
- 💡 [Reports](#)



**Project
stage 7:
Final
evaluations**

EDPQS Standard 7.1 If conducting an outcome evaluation: “The sample size on which the outcome evaluation is based is given, and it is appropriate for the data analysis. An appropriate data analysis is conducted, including all participants. All findings are reported in measurable terms. Possible sources of bias and alternative explanations for findings are considered. The success of the program is assessed”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- Evaluation is necessary at many levels: to prove efficiency, to re-orientate programs and to justify funding. Evaluation will also allow Label’s Manager to communicate about their project.
- The evaluation of results is an extremely complicated process in this field. Measuring behavioural changes in nightlife settings is complicated but remains an important function. In some cases, this research will entail employing an independent researcher, which may lead to budgetary issues.
- Self-evaluations often serve as the only available indicators for outcome evaluation. One should question the findings but they may be the only evidence of an intervention’s success.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)
- 💡 [Reports](#)



EDPQS Standard 7.2 If conducting a process evaluation:
“The implementation of the program is documented and explained. The following aspects are evaluated: target population involvement; activities; program delivery; use of financial, human, and material resources”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ Establish functional, relevant indicators. Select only those that reflect what the program intends to change and believes it can. Inform yourself on what evaluation measures are asked for (for funding)
- ➔ Be aware that some indicators are sensitive (drug use).
- ➔ Decide on how to record information contacts, leaflets handed out, unintended effects etc.
- ➔ Establish practical ways for the target population and stakeholders to share views about the program and make suggestions for improvement. Feedback should not be considered an evaluation of the results. But this information is important because the program’s effectiveness depends on stakeholder participation.
- ➔ Questionnaires, focus groups and periodic interviews with stakeholders, peer educators and target group members can help gather opinion data and measure stakeholder satisfaction.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)
- 💡 [Reports](#)
- 💡 [Online Toolkits](#)
- 💡 [Scientific articles](#)

- DI
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- DM
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- ID
- PF
- RA
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**Project
stage 8:
Dissemination
& improvement**

EDPQS Standard 8.1 Determining whether the program should be sustained: “It is determined whether the program should be continued based on the evidence provided by monitoring and/or final evaluations. If it is to be continued, opportunities for continuation are outlined. The lessons learnt from the implementation are used to inform future activities”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ A label or charter provides health services for partygoers by ensuring the improvement of nightlife settings. These services are available every night and not just when a health agency is present. This is how health issues become integrated into the venue’s daily operations. Venue staff is trained to effectively deal with the public, which they must learn to inform about health and safety risks and how they can reduce them.

Detailed information on how to sustain a label (Allart et al., 2011)

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)



EDPQS Standard 8.2 Disseminating information about the program: “Information on the program is disseminated to relevant target audiences in an appropriate format. To assist replication, details on implementation experiences and unintended outcomes are included. Legal aspects of reporting on the program are considered (e.g. copyright)”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- Throughout the term of the project, you will need to maintain the interest of funders and stakeholders by providing regular updates, by polling them, holding regular meetings, engaging in negotiations, and maintaining close personal contact. This same strategy should also be applied to sponsors and policymakers.
- It is important to present a positive nightlife image, which means not solely focusing on negative issues like drug abuse or nightlife-related problems. Promote the fun, pleasure, music, dynamic culture, positive impact on a city’s the reputation, and the club owners’ focus on the health of their public.
- Ensure that the label is regularly referred to in nightlife-related media including: banners on venues’ websites and cultural agendas and articles in special-interest media. Manage and update a website, My Space and social media outlets such as Facebook.
- Organise press conferences and prepare press kits to be distributed to the media.
- Create and organise a promotional event at a participating venues.

References

Do you need more information? Check it here:

- 💡 [Guidelines](#)
- 💡 [Reports](#)

EDPQS Standard 8.3 If producing a final Reports: “The final report documents all major elements of program planning, implementation, and (where possible) evaluation in a clear, logical, and easy-to-read way”.

NEWIP Good Practice Standards - Notes on Safer Nightlife Labels and Charters

- ➔ Keep the report short and to the point. Think about who will read this report and what they want to know about the project. Possibly translate the most important knowledge into a short factsheet for partners (eg. Club owners, event promoters, stakeholders, ...) in the label.

NA

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FE

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Project stage 6: Delivery and monitoring

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