



EUROPEAN TRAINING MODULES FOR STAFF SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS WITH DUAL DIAGNOSIS: FIRST RESULTS FROM THE TRINNODD PROJECT



PARTNERS

-  **AEECRM** / Spanish Society for the Study of Mental Retardation
-  **APEMH** / Parents' Association of Mentally Handicapped Children
-  **ARFIE** / Association for Research and Training on Integration in Europe
-  **CTE SRL** / Private Institute for Rehabilitation
-  **FENACERCI** / National Federation of Social Solidarity Cooperatives
-  **SIRM** / Italian Society for the Study of Mental Retardation
-  **UCOS** / One Child, One Hope Foundation
-  Royal College of Psychiatrists

INTRODUCTION

The literature indicates that training for support workers can have a positive impact on the intensity and pervasiveness of psychopathological and behavioural disorders in people with Dual Diagnosis (DD: intellectual disability combined with mental health problems). **Despite this, training programmes are still rare or inadequate across most European countries.** A shared body of updated knowledge for daily practice is also lacking.

THE PROJECT

TRINNODD (TRansfer of INNovation on Dual Diagnosis) is a 2-year European project funded by the Leonardo da Vinci Lifelong Learning Programme which aims at updating the previous TRIADD product www.triadd.lu and transferring practice knowledge about problems related to DD to new target groups in Italy, Spain, Portugal and Romania.

ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

FIRST PHASE – Needs assessment

A 17-item questionnaire was completed by 250 experienced staff members supporting people with DD. They were randomly selected in different settings across the 4 European countries participating in the project. They were asked to describe the context of their work, the subjects related to DD that could have been useful to them, the principles or practices their team was following and the specific training they had received. Considerable divergences emerged between Romania and other countries, while minor differences were noticed for Italy, Portugal and Spain. **Four main areas of innovation were identified: emotionality, quality of life, vulnerability and training methodology.**

SECOND PHASE – Development of training modules

Within the four settings above, **the following subjects were identified as a priority for training:** stress prevention, assessment of individual and family quality of life, complexity of individual vulnerability, environment (family and community), different theoretical approaches to intellectual disability.

On the basis of these conclusions, recommendations from former TRIADD training modules and of results drawn from recent research studies, **new training units including these aspects are currently being designed by TRINNODD partners.**

NEXT PHASES

THIRD PHASE - The delivery of training sessions in Italy, Portugal, Spain and Romania - Sessions are scheduled for 2 days but **the training will be an ongoing process**, actively and personally involving trainees both before and after sessions.

FOURTH PHASE - The evaluation process - The impact on both the knowledge and the professional practice of staff will be assessed in three steps: evaluation of the impact of the training directly after the training session, 6 months after the session and final evaluation of the level of

satisfaction of users, families and professionals at the very end of the project lifetime.

FIFTH PHASE - Dissemination of the project results - The project achievements will be published in a newsletter, in a brochure with CD-Rom, and on the project website www.trinnodd.eu. A final dissemination conference will be organised in Romania. Partners will share the project results in their own country and within European and international networks.