



OPSIC OPERATIONALISING
PSYCHOSOCIAL
SUPPORT IN CRISIS



OPSIC – a webbased application for psychosocial support Reflecting with end-users and victims



DANISH
RED
CROSS



TNO innovation
for life



CSSC
Centre for Science, Society and Citizenship



CRISMART
Crisis Management Research and Training

This project has received research funding from the European Union

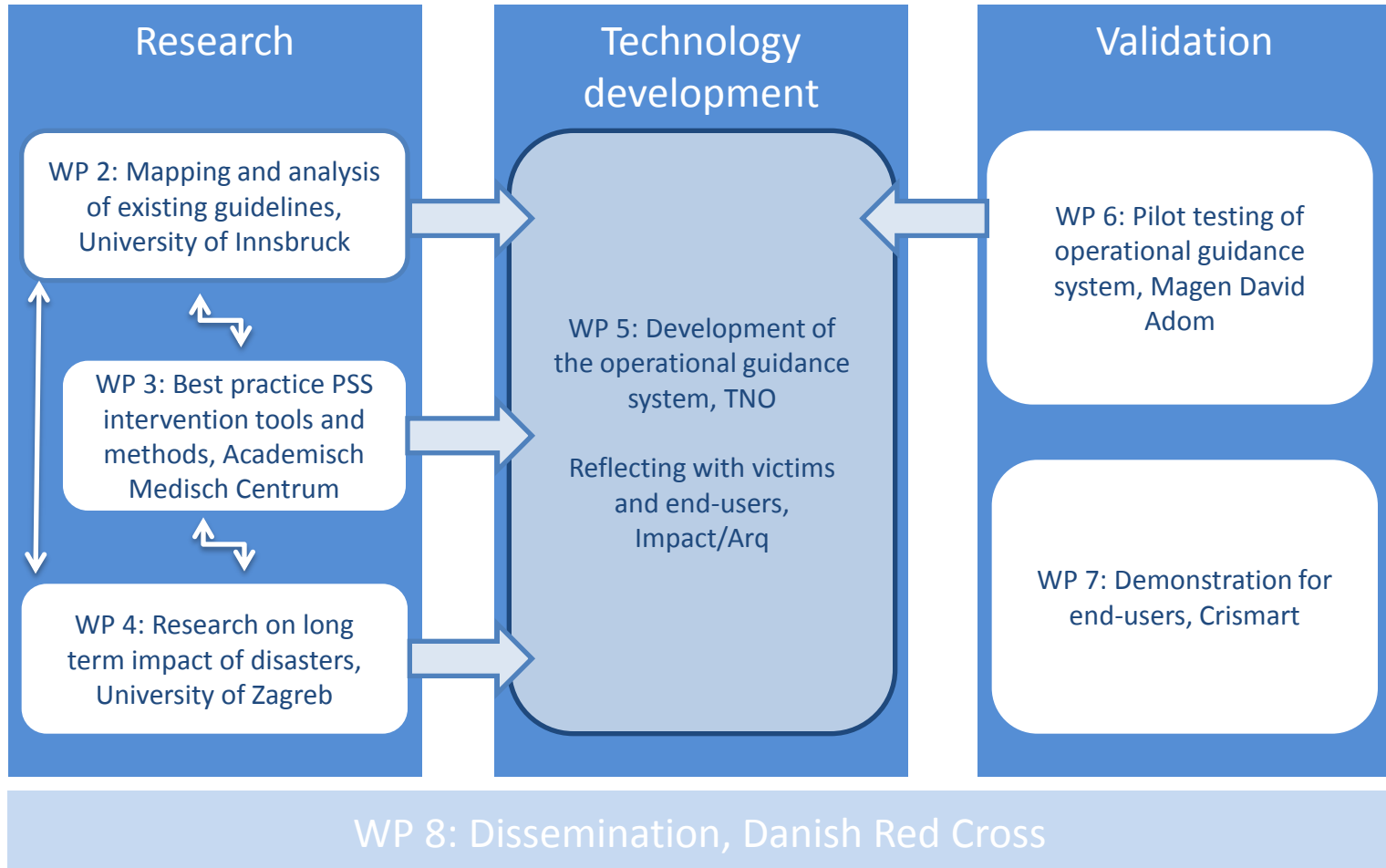
What is OPSIC

- Developing an operational guidance system for crisismanagers, professionals and victims, survivors and the affected community (2012-2015)

Ambition

- The OGS should guide us to deliver high quality psychosocial support, based on best available evidence and good practice

WP 1: Project management, Danish Red Cross



End-users

- Victims, survivors, bereaved, affected people and the larger community
- Professional care takers, trained volunteers and first responders
- Crisismanagers

Content

- Practical information
- Information on psychosocial consequences of crisis and disasters
- Self-assessment instruments
- A registered personalised webpage to monitor well-being
- A forum to exchange information and experiences
- Information where to find help
- A forum to connect with professionals

Consultation proces

3 sessions: Tel Aviv, Amsterdam and Zagreb

- Total of 50 representatives of the end-users
- 15 countries represented: Israel, The Netherlands, Norway, Romania, United Kingdom, Turkey, Czech Republic, Serbia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, Italy, Denmark, Austria, Slovenia, France

Main issues from the consultation

- There is a need for a simple message in which one can recognise a site that offers comfort and help
- Give 'stories like mine' and work with not only text but pictures, videos, images, icons
- People in survival mode have a short concentration span and are not able to adapt to new information

Main issues

- Provide information for family and friends how to help
- Make access easy: many channels, serve all languages, simple content, open access
- Be clear about the target group, be known beforehand
- Be part of mainstream organisations and training

Main issues

- Information that can be trusted, the source should be validated, it should be clear who is behind the information: professional organisation, the government
- Best practices should also be made available to guide the psychosocial response

Main issues

- In the acute phase information should be available 24/7 from the start
- Professionals need to know ‘in minutes’ what to do, information should be short, easily available and easy to take in (broadcasted on your smartphone)
- It should address the first needs of the affected

Main issues

- OGS should also have a function in preparedness
- A platform of professionals could be useful so you can ask questions and form a network on a European basis

Main issues

- Be very clear and specific about where people can find help, people not easily recognise what is 'for them'
- Role and functions of professionals differ between the European countries be clear about it

Main issues

- Think about specific groups: people with disabilities, migrants, asylum seekers, elderly and children
- A special section should be addressing to how to communicate with these groups and what their specific needs are

From the guidelines

Alexander/Sagramola

- All beneficiaries with special needs during an emergency should be identified, quantified and registered with the civil protection authorities
- Preventive emergency planning for people with disabilities
- Integrate people with disabilities into planning and decision making

Please give me your ideas and feedback

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