



# Improving Access and Quality of Treatment Services

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Pompidou Group 2024 Thematic Training



**Registration deadline: 20 December 2023**

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# Dates and Locations

## What?

Improving access to and the quality of treatment services is a crucial step in addressing the complex issue of substance use disorders and related mental health challenges. This training programme aims to equip participants with the knowledge and tools required to make a positive impact in their communities, offering hope and support to those in need of effective treatment.

Module I  
12-15 March 2024  
Bologna  
Italy

Module II  
14-17 May 2024  
Rabat  
Morocco

The primary objectives of this training program are as follows:

- *Enhance Knowledge:* Provide participants with up-to-date information on treatment approaches, formats, modalities, and medication-assisted treatments for various substance use disorders.
- *Promote Access:* Explore strategies to improve the accessibility of treatment services while addressing barriers such as stigma and financial constraints.
- *Ensure Quality:* Focus on maintaining and enhancing the quality of treatment services through case management, integrated treatment concepts, and evaluation methodologies.

## How?

The training programme consists of two modules, each addressing crucial aspects of improving access to and the quality of treatment services. A combination of instructional methods will ensure effective learning:

- *Lectures and Presentations:* Expert speakers and practitioners will deliver informative lectures and presentations on the various topics.
- *Case Studies and Workshops:* Participants will engage in hands-on workshops, analysing case studies to apply their knowledge in practical scenarios.
- *Group Discussions and Debates:* Facilitated group discussions and debates will encourage critical thinking and idea exchange among participants.
- *Study visits:* These visits will provide real-world exposure to the concepts discussed during the training modules. Participants will witness how different treatment centres operate. Study visits will inspire with practical insights and experiences that can be directly applied.
- *Assessment and Evaluation:* Continuous assessment and evaluation will provide feedback to participants and assess their progress throughout the programme.

# State of the Art in Treatment

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This module will delve into the latest insights from practice and research, exploring various treatment approaches, formats, and modalities. It will also emphasize the importance of availability, access, and quality (3 AQ) in treatment services. The module will span across the following key topics:

- *Examples from Practice:*  
Insights into real-world examples of effective treatment strategies, showcasing successful case studies and best practices.
- *Therapeutic Communities:*  
An exploration of therapeutic communities as a treatment approach, its principles, and its effectiveness in addressing substance use disorders.
- *Treatment as an Alternative to Imprisonment:*  
Discussion how treatment can serve as a viable alternative to incarceration for individuals with substance use disorders, reducing relapse rates and promoting rehabilitation.
- *Self-Help Concepts:*  
An examination of self-help concepts and support groups as an integral part of the treatment process, highlighting their role in long-term recovery.
- *Medication-Assisted Treatment:*  
A comprehensive overview of medication-assisted treatments for different substance use disorders, including opioid use disorder, alcohol use disorder, and more.
- *Availability, Access, Acceptability & Quality (3 AQ framework):*  
Understanding the interconnectedness of availability, accessibility, and quality in treatment services and their impact on outcomes.
- *Effectiveness of Different Treatment Approaches:*  
A critical assessment of the effectiveness of various treatment approaches, enabling participants to make informed decisions in their practice.

## Module II

# Enhancing Treatment Services

Module II will focus on strategies to improve the continuity of care, integrate treatment services, combat stigma and discrimination, and manage treatment services under challenging financial circumstances. Key topics within this module include:

- *Through Care / Continuity of Care:*  
Participants will learn about the importance of through care, which includes providing seamless services to individuals transitioning from one phase of treatment to another.
- *Integrated Treatment Concepts and Services:*  
An exploration of integrated treatment models, emphasizing the holistic approach to addressing substance use and co-occurring mental health disorders.
- *Avoiding Stigmatization and Discrimination*  
Strategies and techniques to create a stigma-free and inclusive treatment environment, ensuring that individuals seeking help are not deterred by fear of discrimination.
- *Treatment Offers Under Austerity Budgets/Financial Crisis:* Creative approaches to delivering effective treatment services even when faced with financial constraints, ensuring that quality care remains accessible.
- *Evaluating Treatment Services:* An overview of evaluation methods and tools to assess the quality, effectiveness, and impact of treatment services, enabling continuous improvement.

**Applications**

**Registration deadline: 20 December 2023**

To apply for the Training, please contact the Permanent Correspondent of your country or the Secretariat of the Pompidou Group and ask for the participation form. [Click here](#) to see the list of Permanent Correspondents. **The deadline to register applications is 20 December 2023.**

## For whom?

This training programme is designed for professionals working in the field of substance use treatment, including, but not limited to, addiction counsellors, therapists, case managers, social workers, and healthcare providers. It is also relevant for policymakers and administrators seeking to enhance the quality and accessibility of treatment services.

To ensure a highly participatory learning process the training is limited to a maximum of 30 participants (preference will be given to Pompidou Group and Council of Europe member States in case this number is exceeded).

Participants are required to commit themselves to prepare for and participate in both seminars. It is not possible to participate only in one module.

To allow direct communication between all participants coming from different countries and several continents the working language will be English.

Want to know more about the Pompidou Group's Trainings? Please watch this [video](#).

## Contact

**For further information please contact:**

E-mail: [pompidou.training@coe.int](mailto:pompidou.training@coe.int)

Website: [www.coe.int/pompidou](http://www.coe.int/pompidou)

### **The Pompidou Group International Drug Policy Academy**

The Thematic Trainings are organised by the Pompidou Group's International Drug Policy Academy (IDPA). The Academy was created with the academic support of the University of Malta and Syracuse University, USA.

The IDPA serves the diverse interests and needs of professionals working with the planning, implementation and evaluation of drug policies. The IDPA validates knowledge gained and competences attained in Pompidou Group capacity building activities. In doing so professionals working in drug policy related areas may obtain a formal recognition of their further education. The International Drug Policy Academy is conceptualised around linking policy, research and practice in support of drug policy management.



The Academy offers two course programmes: the annual **Thematic Training in Drug Policy** which is organised on a specific topic with two 4-day in-residence seminars, and a further comprehensive **Drug Policy Executive Course** leading to the 'Certificate in Advanced Drug Policy Management'.