



## **Bridging the Gap between Professionals Working with Problematic Substance Use and Intimate Partner Violence: The MARISSA Project**

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### **Abstract**

The MARISSA project is a two-year (2020-2022) transnational project, funded by the EU. The project brings together six partners from three European countries (Estonia, Greece and Iceland) and aims to address the phenomenon of co-occurring Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) victimisation and Problematic Substance Use (PSU). The Project aims to develop ways that would encourage better collaboration between different service providers and enhance their understanding and capacity of co-occurring IPV and PSU.

A focus group methodology was employed (8 focus groups, including 75 IPV and PSU professionals from the three participating countries) in order to assess the needs on collaboration and capacity building among them. In this presentation we present the main themes emerged from the focus groups as well as the modules of a training manual for professionals resulting from this process. Additional training tools are also presented and discussed in the context of increasing the capacity of professionals working in IPV and PSU services.

**Keywords:** intimate partner violence, problematic substance use, focus groups, capacity building.