

## **RAN Collection practice template**

### Name of the practice

Please note that by practice we mean an activity/method/tool that has been used or is in use by professionals and/or community members.

#### **Description**

(max. 300 words)

Short description of the aim and working method of the practice. Please note that in this description, it must be clear that there is an explicit connection to preventing and/or countering radicalisation and/or violent extremism. This means that in the aims and/or the activities/methods/tools of the practice, there is a link to preventing and countering radicalisation and/or violent extremism. Practices without this link cannot be included in the RAN Collection.

# **NeDiC - Network for Deradicalisation in Corrections**

NeDiC is a unit in the Hessian Ministry of Justice that is responsible for the coordination and supervision of CVE practices in the Hessian penal system. NeDiC's responsibilities are organised around four areas:

#### 1) IDENTIFICATION

- **'Structural observers':** Experienced and specially trained correctional officers. Their sole task is to provide prison intelligence by monitoring and gathering information about all extremist prisoners (EPs) as well as members of organised crime groups (OCPs) at their respective prison. They share this information and key insights with the prison management, NeDiC, and the security agencies. They also act as knowledge multipliers within their prison. Currently, 13 of Hesse's 16 prisons deploy structural observers.
- **Staff training:** Raising awareness with regard to the extremist prisoners' motivation, behaviour and indicators of radicalisation. Fostering intercultural competence and cultural mediation. Trainings are tailor-made for different audience groups and given by NeDiC members or by experts from the security agencies/NGOs. Correctional psychologists are trained in the risk assessment instrument VERA-2R.

#### 2) PREVENTION

 Multi-agency cooperation: Enabling a constant flow of information between correctional staff, NGOs, imams, the Hessian Ministry of Justice, the Hessian security agencies.





	<ul> <li>Preventing networking: Increased observation by structural observers and other staff prevents the formation of extremist networks and allows the relocation of EPs/OCPs to different wards or prisons. The security agencies are involved in the regular case conferences concerning EPs/OCPs.</li> <li>Pastoral care for Muslim prisoners: Coordinated by NeDiC, 13 German-speaking, vetted imams provide basic pastoral care for Muslim prisoners. By engaging the prisoners in religious dialogue, they can prevent and correct religious misconceptions.</li> <li>Deradicalisation</li> <li>Coordination and support: Coordination of interventions for EPs. Supporting prisons in applying their existing interventions effectively for EPs.</li> <li>Example interventions: Individual and group-based deradicalisation programmes (e.g. by the NGO Violence Prevention Network), psychotherapy, courses on democratic values.</li> <li>Coordination</li> <li>Focal point: NeDiC acts as a focal point for all gathered knowledge and competences across all the different projects.</li> <li>Tasks: Policymaking and administration, the abovementioned coordination of measures, the facilitation of multi-agency and inter-organisational information exchange, staff training.</li> </ul>
Peer reviewed	No
<b>Key themes</b> Please <u>choose</u> 2 key themes most corresponding with the practice.	Prison and probation  Training
Target audience  Please <u>choose</u> a minimum of one target audience most corresponding with the practice.	Prison / Probation Authorities
Geographical scope  Please indicate where the practice has been/is implemented (countries, regions, cities).	Hesse, Germany





#### Start of the practice

Please indicate when (year) the practice was developed and implemented to indicate the maturity of the practice. In case the practice is no longer active, please indicate when it ended.

#### 2011

#### **Deliverables**

Please indicate if the practice has led to concrete deliverables, such as (links to) handbooks, training modules, videos.

- Face-to-face training
- Workshops
- Advanced training programmes
- Video and audio

#### **Evidence and evaluation**

Short description on <u>performance</u> <u>measures</u> of the practice, including

- qualitative views and quantitative (statistical) data e.g. measure of the success of your project or intervention.
- evaluation and feedback, including surveys and/or anecdotal evidence e.g. have you done either an internal or external evaluation, have you encouraged any feedback from your target group?
- peer review which feedback did the practice receive in the RAN working group and/or study visit where the practice was discussed.

Please elaborate on the outcomes of your monitoring and evaluation efforts.

There has been no formal evaluation of NeDiC as a whole.

However, the following activities are considered successful by practitioners:

- raising awareness of the symbols, codes, terminology and networks of extremists, allowing staff to respond quickly to new developments;
- improving staff's understanding of different extremist ideologies;
- teaching staff how to differentiate between moderate religion and extremism;
- raising awareness of the need to counter grievances perceived by Muslim inmates.

A significant amount of effort and time are required to successfully reach out to the target group and to create further strategies to tackle this phenomenon. Ongoing and regular training, a fruitful exchange of ideas between prison staff, scientists and experts, and greater experience with EPs help to constantly improve the training methods and NeDiC's procedures.

All training courses are evaluated in a standardised manner. Data on participant satisfaction and learning impact are evaluated and documented. The results are reviewed and rated using a balanced scorecard. The results are then published once a year in 'personnel development reports' and 'advanced training reports'.

## Sustainability and transferability

(maximum of 200 words)

Short description on the sustainability and transferability of the practice, including e.g.

Methodologically, NeDiC could be transferred to other sectors beyond corrections, although certain training programmes are only suitable for correctional staff.

NeDiC serves as a best practice example in Germany. One obstacle for adopting some of its methods in other areas of Germany is that corrections are a matter for individual state governments. The various Bundesländer also face very





information on the costs of the practice. <u>Please elaborate on which elements are transferrable and how.</u>	different problems with regard to EPs, as well as different organisational arrangements.  Due to an increase in returning foreign fighters, Salafists and (homegrown) terrorists, it is assumed that NeDiC will remain a permanent fixture in the Hessian penal system for the foreseeable future.
Presented and discussed in RAN meeting  Please note that to be included in the Collection, the practice is preferably nominated through one of the RAN meetings. Add name of the RAN Working Group/event, date, place and subject of meeting.	"Juvenile and young violent extremist offenders"  08/07/2018  Wiesbaden & Frankfurt  Study visit in two prisons
Linked to other EU initiatives or EU funding (maximum of 100 words)  Please indicate how your project was funded, if your practice is linked to other EU initiatives or projects, AND explicitly note if it is (co-) funded by the EU, and if so, by which funds?  Such as Erasmus +, Internal Security Funds (ISF), European Social Fund (ESF), Horizon 2020, etc.	
Organisation (enter maximum of 100 words and select organisation type)  Please briefly describe the organisation behind the practice including the legal status e.g. NGO, governmental, limited company, charity etc.	Hessian Ministry of Justice  Governmental institution
Country of origin  Country in which the practice is based.	Germany
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