



I-TREND project

NPS and Internet

Horizontal Drugs Group

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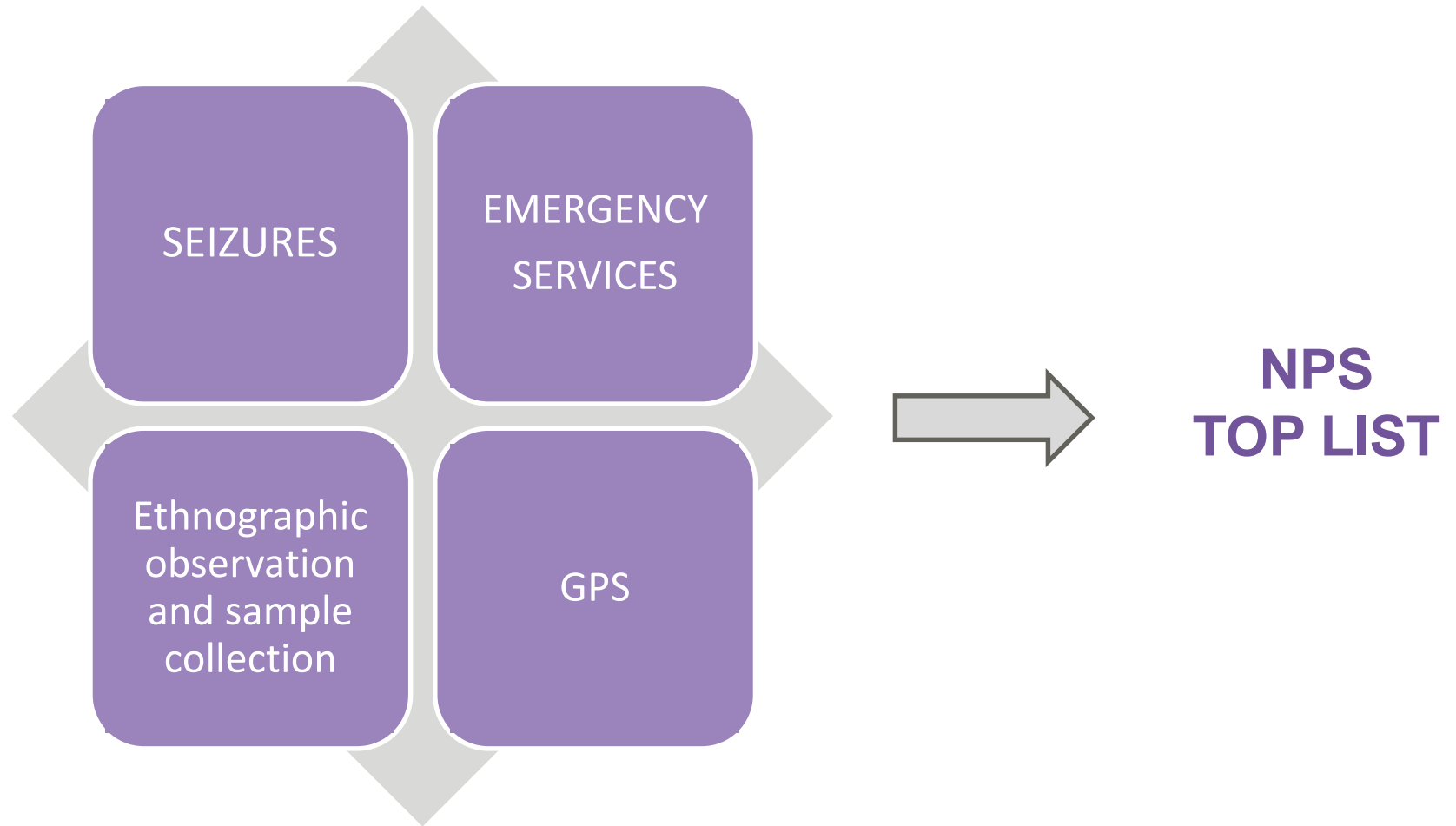


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Formal presentation

- **Granted by the DPIP programme**
- **JUST/2012/DPIP/AG/3641**
- **Started in April 2012 – To be completed by March 2015**
- **Five Member States**
 - **OFDT (coordinator) - France**
 - **TRIMBOS Institut – Netherland**
 - **Center for Public health at Liverpool John Mores University – United-Kingdom**
 - **Department of Addictology, First Faculty of Medicine, Charles University – Czech Republic**
 - **University of Social Sciences and Humanities (SWPS), Warsaw – Poland**

Usual sources of information – before I-TREND



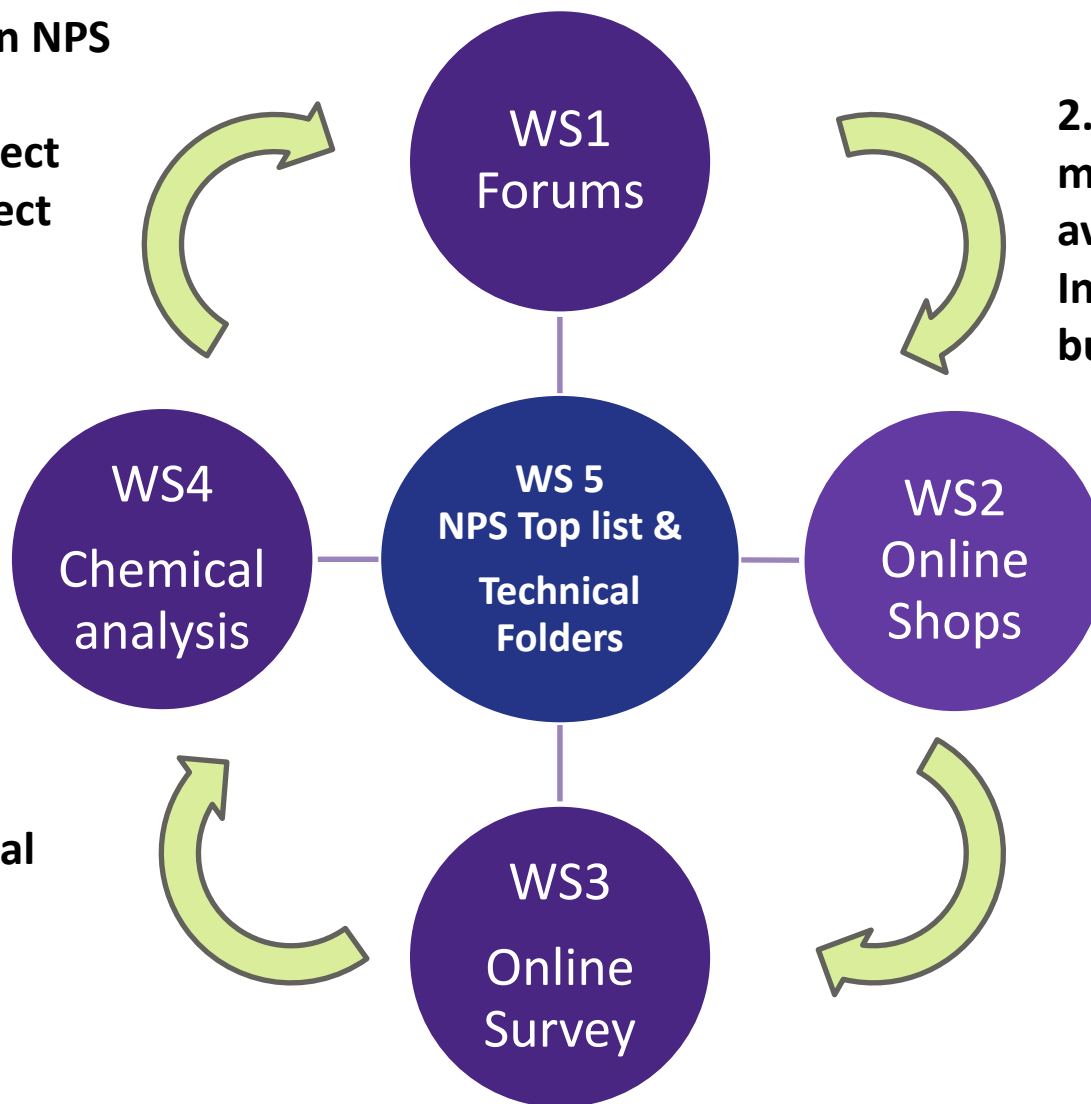
A glance on the I-TREND project

1. Netnography on NPS Forums

Forums

- quantitative aspect
- qualitative aspect

2. Develop tools for monitoring NPS availability on the Internet, and business strategies

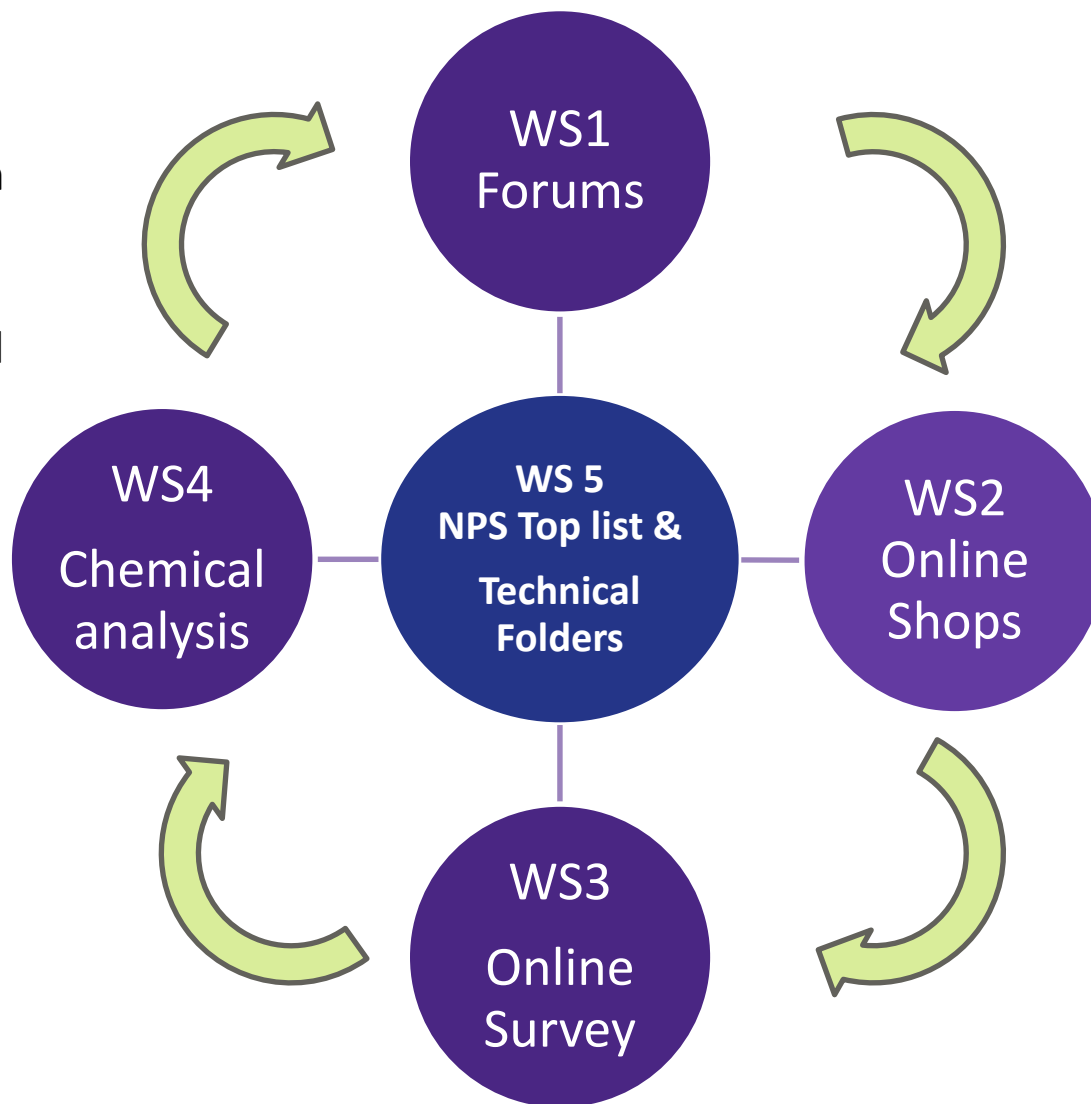


5. Determine the most popular substances and create technical data sheets about them.

3. Attempt to reach “hidden users” and know more about them

A glance on the I-TREND project

4. – Identification and quantification of selected NPS sold on WS2 online shops



Workstream 5 : Technical folders

- **Achieved**
 - Agreement on a common “NPS” definition
 - Elaboration of a selection methodology for Top lists
 - Selection of national Top lists
 - Elaborate a template for the National Technical Folders (NTF)

- **Go ahead**
 - Fulfill NTF
 - Improve the analysis on cross-aspects

Workstream 1 : Forums

- **Achieved - Quantitative aspect**
 - **Method for collecting the number of posts and views for each online conversations on a determined period**
 - **Follow the popularity for each substances**
 - **Disparities observed between countries, forums, depending on group of NPS**

- **Achieved - Qualitative aspect**
 - **Method for selecting the discussions and analysing their content with a common grid of items**
 - **Provide a synthesis of basic information for the WS5 (eg. mode of consumption, dosage, effects...)**

Workstream 1 : Forums

- **Go ahead**
 - **Database management and data analysis to achieve**
 - **Redaction of qualitative synthesis per selected NPS to be continued**
 - **Content analysis should be pursued to carry out a more sociological comparison between national forums (eg. users typology, information on DeepWeb and relationship between users and retailers)**

Workstream 2 : Online shops

- **Achieved**
 - **Improvement of the snapshot methodology used at EU level**
 - **Development of a dedicated software**
 - **Comparison between digital markets for each country (eg. number of unique supplier, kind of suppliers,...)**
 - **Breakdown of NPS offered by online shops (196 NPS)**
 - **Technical report written for the EMCDDA on availability of AH-7921, methoxetamine, MDPV, 25I-NBOME**

Workstream 2 : Online shops

- Go ahead
 - Development of a 2nd dedicated software to extract data from online shops (scrapping method on prices, quantities.....)
 - Gather and analyse data to
 - Model strategies business
 - Describe supply for each selected NPS

Workstream 4 : Chemical analysis

- **Achieved**
 - Define a methodology for purchasing NPS online
 - Samples of selected NPS bought on selected online shops (WS2) and purchase of reference standards by an appointed supplier
 - Creation of a common grid for compiling the chemical results.

- **Go ahead**
 - Launch of the first batch of analysis
 - Purchase of the 2nd round of samples
 - Follow up of the digital market evolution (purity, content versus packaging...)

Workstream 3 : Online Survey

- **Achieved**
 - Analysis of previous experiences
 - Design of questionnaires
 - At minimum, 80% of questions are common from all partners
 - Design of a strategy for the promotion of the online survey
 - Launched the 04/06/14 and completed the 31/10/14

- **Go ahead**
 - National analysis and international comparison on users' profiles, representations/knowledge on NPS, their purchasing habits on the Internet, motivations of use and real uses.

Weak points for sustainability

- Automate time-consuming tasks (Eg. WS1, WS2)
- Basis for software development – Modelized life of a NPS
- Legislative solutions
 - To buy substances online
 - To obtain more quickly import permit from national agencies
- Reaffirm legislative decision for easier cooperation between countries regarding chemical analysis (Eg. Council Decision 2001/419/JHA)

Pre-Findings

- **NPS diffusion among MS seems to stabilise around some NPS groups or specific substances despite their ban**
- **Recent banned NPS are less easy to find but still accessible online (surface and deepweb)**
- **Purity on the referenced market seems to decline**
- **Global phenomenon with national specificities**
- **NPS spread inside well identified NPS users' groups but different depending on countries**
- **Beside the offer on the referenced Internet, the growing of the DeepWEB in national languages could have a long-term impact on the drugs market**

Thanks for your attention

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www.i-trend.eu



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