

ANTICIPATING FUTURE HARM-REDUCTION LANDSCAPES: A FORESIGHT SCENARIO WORKSHOP

Speakers/Facilitators:

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Background and aims:

Frontline harm-reduction services and communities of people who use drugs face rapidly evolving challenges: emerging substances, shifts in drug markets, structural inequities, service fragmentation, digitalisation of care pathways, and increasingly unstable social and policy environments. These changes demand not only evidence-based responses but also anticipatory thinking. Strategic foresight provides practical tools to explore plausible futures, prepare for emerging risks, and co-design proactive strategies.

This workshop aims to build foresight capacity among the INHSU community. Participants will learn how scenario planning can strengthen co-developing anticipatory policy, practice and advocacy actions. Learning objectives include:

- Applying scenario thinking to anticipate future drug-related harms and service needs;
- examining implications on PWUD, peer-led organisations, health and community services;
- understanding how foresight insights can be used to develop future-oriented strategic actions
- exploring how foresight insights can be translated into compelling narratives to inform policy, advocacy and public understanding.

Description of workshop:

Using the '[The Future\(s\) of drugs and the addiction field in the EU by 2040](#) (EUDA's Foresights Framework Scenarios)' as a foundation, this interactive workshop invites participants to explore multiple plausible futures. Participants will work with contrasting scenarios to identify implications for key stakeholders, policy and practice, and develop possible actions to address future challenges and opportunities.

Alongside scenario analysis, participants will use a structured narrative worksheet to translate their foresight insights into short, fictional stories to facilitate knowledge exchange.

Methods and format:

Following a brief introduction to foresight, participants work in small groups to deeply engage with a chosen scenario. Using guided templates from the '[EUDA Scenarios toolkit: how to run a scenario workshop for the drugs field](#)', groups will analyse impacts on people who use drugs, service delivery pathways, community wellbeing and system-level pressures. A second exercise focuses on practical action design, identifying actions that organisations can begin implementing now. Groups then complete a short narrative capture exercise to translate scenario insights into communicable stories, followed by action design and a plenary discussion highlighting shared insights and potential collaborations

Ideal number and type of delegate, how many people can the workshop accommodate and who is this workshop designed for?

3 small working groups

Minimum: 15 participants (excluding facilitators)

Maximum: 25 participants

This workshop is designed for those seeking new methods to enhance preparedness, resilience and equity in community-based settings.

Disclosure of Interest Statement: no conflict of interest