



European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction



**Memorandum of Understanding
between the
European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)
and the
General-Directorate for Intervention on
Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies (SICAD), Portugal**

Whereas the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) and the General-Directorate for Intervention on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies (SICAD), Portugal, have jointly created the European Conference on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies — 'Lisbon Addictions' — as a scientific conference, based on a scientific programme which is conceptualised by an independent Programme Committee and developed on the basis of abstracts submitted via a public call and reviewed by an autonomous Scientific Committee,

Considering that the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction and the General-Directorate for Intervention on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies, Portugal, have already organised four editions of the European Conference on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies — 'Lisbon Addictions' — in 2015, 2017, 2019 and 2022, and are already planning the organisation of future conferences,

The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, located at Praça Europa 1, Cais do Sodré, 1249-289 Lisboa, Portugal, hereinafter referred to as 'the EMCDDA', represented by its Director, Alexis Goosdeel,

and

The General-Directorate for Intervention on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies, located at Parque de Saúde Pulido Valente, Alameda das Linhas de Torres, n.º 117. Edifício SICAD, 1750-147, Lisboa, Portugal, hereinafter referred to as SICAD, represented by its Director-General, João Goulão,

Have agreed on the following Memorandum of Understanding, hereinafter referred to as the MoU:

Article 1

The objective of this MoU is to promote effective cooperation in the organisation of the European Conference on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies, hereinafter referred to as 'Lisbon Addictions'. The MoU is built on, and relies upon, the principles of mutual understanding and recognition, complementarity, relevance and appropriateness of resources.

Article 2

Cooperation between the two Parties may relate to the following activities:

1. Providing support for the conceptualisation, organisation, implementation and assessment of Lisbon Addictions, fully respecting its scientific independence (based on a scientific programme which is developed on the basis of abstracts submitted via a public call and reviewed by an autonomous Scientific Committee) and in accordance with the specificities of the conference and the roles of the different stakeholders laid out in the annex to this MoU.
2. The co-chairing of the Lisbon Addictions Programme and Organising Committees.
3. Any other activity mutually agreed during the period covered by this MoU, pursuant to the objective and content of the latter.

Article 3

1. The form, conditions and terms of the cooperation activities, identified in accordance with the provisions of Articles 1 and 2 above, shall be negotiated and agreed upon by the Parties by means of specific written arrangements.
2. Each Party shall designate a person who will be responsible for the maintenance of close, direct and continuing contacts with the counterpart, in order to ensure the smooth implementation of this MoU and the effective execution of the cooperation activities agreed on this basis.

Article 4

1. The present MoU shall remain in force from the date of its signature by both Parties for the organisation of two Lisbon Addictions conferences (2024 and 2026).
2. This MoU will be renewed automatically for the organisation of future Lisbon Addictions conferences after 2026, unless terminated by any Party in accordance with Article 4 (4) of this MoU.
3. Any amendment to this MoU shall require the agreement in writing of the Parties.
4. Each Party may terminate the MoU by means of a previous written notice at least six months before the date of the announcement of the following conference. If termination occurs, the cooperation activities already agreed, and in progress, will continue until completed.

For the EMCDDA

Alexis Goosdeel
Director, EMCDDA

For SICAD

João Goulão
Director-General, SICAD

Date: [to be inserted]

Annex: Description, objectives and roles of conference stakeholders



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ANNEX TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN THE EMCDDA AND SICAD

on the European Conference on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies — ‘Lisbon Addictions’

The European Conference on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies (Lisbon Addictions) is a multidisciplinary biennial scientific event that: provides a regular, sustainable and internationally acknowledged platform to advance and support scientific work across the addictions field; stimulates high-quality scientific debate; and offers a unique opportunity for addressing challenges and new trends, both in the domains of demand and of supply.

Lisbon Addictions was organised for the first time in 2015, repeated in 2017, 2019 and 2022, and has become the main addictions scientific event in Europe and one of the biggest addiction scientific events globally. It therefore provides a unique opportunity for organisers and participants to network, showcase their work and engage with the scientific community, practitioners and decision-makers from across the world.

Main target audiences: researchers, scientists, practitioners and decision-makers working in the addictions field worldwide.

Location: Lisbon.

Planned dates for future Lisbon Addictions conferences: 23–25 October 2024 (already announced) and October 2026 (to be announced in 2024).

Organisation: SICAD and the EMCDDA are the main organisers of the conference and take responsibility for institutional aspects and for overseeing the event.

Programme Committee: The Programme Committee is responsible for: the overall concept of each conference; ensuring the scientific independence of the conference and the quality of the programme (developed on the basis of abstracts submitted via a public call and reviewed by an autonomous Scientific Committee); overseeing the work of the Scientific Committee; and assuring that conference-related ethical and conflict of interest standards are appropriately observed. The Programme Committee is co-chaired by SICAD and the EMCDDA and composed of appointed representatives from SICAD (3), EMCDDA (3), the Society for the Study of Addictions (SSA)/Journal Addiction (2) and the International Society of Addiction Journal Editors (ISAJE) (2). The Programme Committee may decide to invite additional members to join, based on the conference needs.

Organising Committee: The Organising Committee is also co-chaired by SICAD and the EMCDDA and is composed of SICAD and EMCDDA staff. It is responsible for implementing the decisions of the main organisers and the Programme Committee. The Organising Committee may decide to invite additional members to join, based on the conference needs.

Scientific Committee: The Scientific Committee is responsible for reviewing and ranking submitted abstracts, according to their scientific quality, to provide guidance on the scientific programme to the Organising and Programme Committees.

Co-producing partners: A limited number of co-producers may be invited by the Programme Committee to be involved in the organisation of the conference programme in order for the programme to benefit from engaging with key experts and organisations from different addiction fields. The co-production approach, used for the first time in Lisbon Addictions 2019, further allowed the organisers to explore new mechanisms for collaboration with reference scientific groups. This approach increases the diversity and quality of the scientific programme of the conference.

International organisations: International organisations in the addictions field which support the conference by organising sessions, side events, inviting experts, etc.

Collaborative partners: Institutions and European projects in the addictions field may be associated as collaborating partners, for example by proposing and sponsoring a specific panel or symposium. Their inclusion, and the type of collaboration involved, will be decided by the organising partners.

Supporting organisations: Industry or other private sector organisations which sponsor the conference. Supporting organisations will not, in any circumstance, be allowed to have a direct or indirect influence on the programme or abstract selection. Sponsorship from tobacco or alcohol companies shall not be accepted. Sponsors will be selected by the Organising Committee. This will be according to the conference priorities and ethical considerations and without prejudice to the application of the EU and national rules that govern possible corporate sponsorship to EU and national institutions and bodies such as, respectively, the EMCDDA and SICAD.