



Best Practices in training of judges and prosecutors

Category of practice: **Innovative Curricula or Training Plan in any Given Area**

Type of practice: **Best Practice**

Country: **Poland**

April, 2014

Title of practice	Joint Delivery of Training Programmes with External Research Institute
<i>Key features:</i>	<p>Although the practice of producing training programmes in areas of knowledge other than the purely legal field is well-known across the EU, they are normally organised in partnership with universities or other institutes specialised in the identified topics. In Poland the Polish Judicial Academy provided an example of a comprehensive course on Medical-legal and forensic aspects of the acquisition and use of biological traces of evidence, applied in continuous training and comprising four modules of two days' seminar sessions (64 hours in total).</p> <p>The programme consists of activities that involve experienced prosecutors and forensic specialists, criminology experts from the Institute of Forensic Research in Cracow. The lecturers are very experienced in conducting professional training for the judiciary in the four areas targeted by the modules: forensic biology, forensic toxicology, genetic science in the criminology science and forensic medicine and evidence of biological trace in criminal proceedings.</p> <p>The activity aims to explain and clarify the capacity of new methods of expertise and to discuss the most problematic practical issues of proper communication between the expert and their customers. These issues are discussed with a focus on frequent inquiries and decisions of the admission of an expert's evidence as well as the interpretation of expert application made by all participants of the judicial proceeding.</p>

	<p>The seminar has been designed to enhance future criminal proceedings, aiming to provide judges and public prosecutors with a systematic knowledge of the evidential value of biological traces and to promote the wider use of these methods of expertise in criminal proceedings. Its focus is upon communication of difficult topics in plain language.</p>
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<p><i>Other comments</i></p>	<p>This particular training programme was considered a BEST PRACTICE and its transferability, with the necessary adaptations to each national training environment and its available training schedule, is recommended.</p>

Source: Pilot Project - European Judicial Training: "Lot 1 – Study on best practices in training judges and prosecutors", carried out by the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN)