

D-Too

# Dissemination Tools for Research in Criminal Justice

<b>DURATION</b> 15/06/2019 – 15/06/2021	<b>BUDGET</b> 20 000 €
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Valorisation of the BRAIN-be project  <a href="#">JAM</a> - <a href="#">Be-Gen</a>
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**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The action focuses both on diffusion of the results of two Brain-be research projects and development of an innovative method to valorise the research results on criminal justice policies and the functioning of the law enforcement branch. The experience of the NICC shows that it is hard for the results produced to reach the publics directly concerned: actors in justice and the police, policymakers and the general public.

The action proposed is based on the results of two Brain-be projects (Axis 4: Federal Public Strategies) completed at the time of the action discussed herein: the JAM project (Justice and Management: the stakes for the transition to a modernized judicial) and the Be-Ben project (Understanding the operational, strategic, and political implications of the National Genetic Database). These two projects were intentionally quite different in their objectives:

- The JAM project studied the situation of the actors 'in the shadow' of the justice and police – the administrative staff (clerks, secretaries, etc.) of these institutions (prosecutors offices, courts, police stations) – and how they were impacted by the managerial upheavals experienced by the organisations that employed them;
- The Be-Gen project was an evaluation of the uses of DNA in judicial work and the practical, strategic and policy issues at stake for the national genetic databank.

The action has a twofold objective. It obviously aims to valorise the results of the above two projects by making them available to the publics for whom they would be of use. Then, the other objective is to test new valorisation methods and products, which can be defined in the light of upcoming research by the NICC, in particular the three ongoing Brain-be programmes ([UN-MENAMAIS](#), [IPV-PRO&POL](#), [AFFECT](#)). Thus, starting from the results of these two projects, the aim is to design new products to valorise the results, evaluate the conditions for their production and explore the reproducibility of the method towards other target publics.

Ideally the valorisation methods must target different publics. A) Actors in the field who daily must manage and use the mechanisms and services studied (staff of the judicial order, members of police administrations and members of paralegal services), B) policymakers who must evaluate, draw up and enforce these measures (political institutions such as the federal parliament as well as agencies establishing criminal policy) and C) the general public, for whom the issues at stake in justice are crucial.

The actors in the field are more easily reached by existing institutions that have the specific mission to train them (Judicial Training Institute, Police academies, Bar associations or others to be identified). These latter institutions will thus be privileged partners in the results valorisation project in the sections addressing professionals in the justice and the police. The action is thus based on collaboration between two partners that are perfectly complementary: on the one hand the NICC, a federal scientific establishment that produces scientific knowledge – hereafter [Part.1]. On the other hand the Belgian Judicial Training Institute (JTI) whose mission is to train the 16,000 members of the Judiciary (judges – both judges and members of the prosecutors office-, clerks, secretaries in the prosecutors offices, and so on) and members of paralegal services – hereafter [Part.2].

Implementation plan

The steps (WPs) and successive tasks of the action proposed are as follows:

**WP 1:** Developing valorisation products for the members of the judiciary – tasks undertaken in partnership with the Belgian Judicial Training Institute (JTI).

At present, through rare instances of collaboration some NICC researchers were able to contribute to JTI training. These one-off occasions never aimed to exploit research results systematically, and even less to produce new educational tools. This WP1 will serve to reach a large number of members of the judiciary and also inform (and perhaps influence) the policies and practices of actors in these federal institutions. The research produced under the BRAIN-be programme would henceforth have a completely new form of visibility for many actors in the field (giving something back to the actors studied – through a bottom-up approach).



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**Task 1.1:** Analysis of the reports of the two projects (JAM and Be-Gen) in light of training presently available at the JTI in order to identify original and complementary ways the research can contribute (NICC & JTI). This analysis is intended to lay the bases for the first level of valorisation (organising conferences – task 1.2) as well as for the second valorisation level (building new tools – task 1.3) and also for the product diffusion policy (task 1.4).

**Task 1.2:** Based on the results of the analysis (Task1.1), designing (part.1) and organising (Part.2) at least two lectures at the JTI on subjects identified in the two research projects (at least one per project). Depending on the analysis made under Task 1.1, the number of lectures could be multiplied, for example by decentralising the lecture sites to bring them closer to the target public. Part.1 will give the lectures in the framework organised by Part.2. Each lecture will be videotaped using Part.2's recording equipment.

**Task 1.3:** Evaluation by Part.2 of the impact of the Task 1.2 lectures using SURVEY MONKEY. The content could then be adapted if the evaluation shows a need.

**Task 1.4:** On the basis of the analysis results (Task1.1), design of new tools (e-books, e-learning modules or both) based on the material available (research reports, any publications on the research, video, etc.). Part.1 will design the storyboard, consulting with Part.2. Part.1 will produce the product(s) identified with the help of a sub-contractor specialised in construction of multimedia training products. Part.2 has the material and knowledge to use and integrate the video material, as well as a tried-and-true list of quality ST1. The new tools will be translated into the other national language by another sub-contractor.

**Task 1.5:** Diffusion of the various products to valorise the research through the means available to Part.2:

- The primary products of the research (research reports, publications already prepared on the two research projects, etc.) will be uploaded on the JTI's digital library (DIGIBIB).
- New valorisation products (e-book, e-learning modules) will be uploaded on the JTI's Moodle.

**Task 1.6:** Evaluation by Part.2 of the tools made available under Task 1.5 using SURVEY MONKEY. The contents may be adapted if the evaluation shows a need.

**WP 2:** Evaluation of the reproducibility of the valorisation method to other actors in the field.

Other partnerships could be envisaged, such as the training section of the federal police, the standing committee of the local police, police academies – both federal and provincial – responsible for training police officers, other categories of actors in the field concerned by the research results, as well as other specific categories (such as the bar associations).

**Task 2.1:** Exploratory steps by Part.1 (contacts, meetings, individual or collective presentations) to explain to these police academies the experience in collaboration with the JTI and ascertain their interest in:

- Using the products developed in their current form;
- Adapting the products developed;
- Creating specific products based on the research projects.

**Task 2.2:** Report prepared by Part.1 on the reproducibility of the valorisation method with the police academies.

**WP 3:** Possibility to make use of the valorisation products for policymakers and the general public.

**Task 3.1:** The analysis undertaken in WP1 should serve as a basis to design specific products for a target public that is essential for the research under the BRAIN-be programme – policymakers.

Although most of the action does consist in analysing, designing and then producing the new valorisation tools for actors in the field (WP1 and WP2), the broad lines of the results of the two research projects can be summarised in new products (on the model of the Policy Briefs recently developed by BELSPO), specially designed for policymakers (Parliament, Federal Ministers, High Council of Justice, etc.).

**Task 3.2:** Part.1 will also analyse ways to reach agencies that can potentially relay such results more broadly towards the general public (media, associative sector, etc.) Part.1 plans to compile educational files that can be uploaded directly on its own site.

**Task 3.3:** This WP is handled by Part.1 alone. It will prepare a report (contacts made, products adapted, evaluation of obstacles and identifying the specificities compared to the products developed in WP 1 & 2).

The fact that the Action is spread over a two-year period fosters the integration of a continuous evaluation of tasks, allowing for adaptations to improve the impact and the added value of the products compared to the current situation.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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