



VALORISATION PROJECT

D-Too

Dissemination Tools for Research in Criminal Justice



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FINAL REPORT

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1. SUMMARY

With the Dissemination Tools for Research in Criminal Justice (D-Too) valorisation project, our researchers took the opportunity to explore how they could make an impact and actively worked on sharing their insights and scientific knowledge from two recent research projects.

First, the project aims to valorise the results of two Brain.be projects: the JAM project (Justice and Management: the stakes for the transition to a modernized judicial) and the Be-Gen project (Understanding the operational, strategic and political implications of the National Genetic Database). It explores new valorisation methods and their reproducibility in light of upcoming research by the NICC. Ideally, these new valorisation methods target different publics: actors in the field (staff of the judicial order, members of police administrations and paralegal services), policymakers (political institutions such as the federal parliament, and agencies establishing criminal policy) and the general public.

Not long after this project started, the COVID-19 pandemic hit. This presented our researchers and partners with several challenges in completing the project within the deadline.

The situation also prevented us from rolling out the project as we first envisioned, and we made several adjustments along the way. Nevertheless, we developed two teaser videos to promote the seminar we organised at the end of 2021. We also conceived and realised, with an external partner, two 5 minutes videos presenting results from JAM and BeGen.

Today, we better understand the workload of certain products and the ways we can deploy and schedule them into our future projects and communications.

2. INITIAL OBJECTIVES AND VALORISATION FOCUS

The initial objectives of this valorisation project are twofold. It aims to valorise the results of the two Brain.be projects and explore new valorisation methods and their reproducibility in light of upcoming research by the NICC. The goal is to design new products to valorise the results, evaluate the conditions for their production and explore the method's reproducibility towards other target publics.

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 evaluated the uses of DNA in judicial work and the practical, strategic and policy issues at stake for the national genetic databank.

After a first discussion with our partners, we decided we would organise two seminars and create videos to promote them. We choose stand-alone videos that we can easily share with different stakeholders. They were also used as a first introduction to the subject during the seminars organized at the JTI. In the next phase, we used this first experience with these media products and seminars to fine-tune and adapt the created products for further use.

In the second phase, we created two stand-alone 5-minute videos to disseminate research results from JAM and BeGen. As it was an exploratory process, we decided to follow two different leads. For BeGen, we would realise an animated video aimed at the broad public, with professional off comments in Dutch and French. For JAM, we aimed at a more professional public (Justice managers and administrative staff) and chose a direct presentation of the results by the researcher, illustrated by stock images. This allowed us to experiment with different possibilities and confronted us with different challenges.

3. OVERVIEW OF EXTERNAL COLLABORATION(S)

In the context of this project, we worked together with two established partners: the JTI and MiiL.

The Belgian Judicial Training Institute (JTI) is the independent federal body responsible for the development and training policy for magistrates and employees of the judiciary and has significant expertise in education. Their broad network makes them an extremely suitable partner in helping to valorise our research results. The JTI and the NICC already work together on different training sessions for our magistracy.

Thanks to this research project, the JTI and the criminology department of the NICC got to know each other in-depth to discover together which expertise from the NICC can be shared during training sessions and other activities of the JTI, initially concerning the research results of these first two Brain.be projects but gradually also possible future research projects.

In addition, we chose the MiiL (Media Innovation & Intelligibility Lab) as our partner to guide us in translating our research findings into accessible videos. The MiiL (Media innovation and intelligibility Lab) is the media innovation platform of UCLouvain. The MiiL brings together information and communication experts, linguists, computer engineers, lawyers, and economists. Among other things, its infrastructure and logistics are used for the pedagogical production of videos. It helped us understand the different options when it comes to realising videos about research results and let us experiment with collaboration with different types of professionals: graphic designers, journalists, camera people, etc.

The collaboration with MiiL was very successful regarding the result but also complicated regarding the work process, mainly because MiiL almost always fell behind the set deadlines. For example, the "JAM" video was originally due to be delivered in mid-May 2021. But we only received a finalised version in August 2022.

Similarly, we received the Be-Gen video in a provisional state at the beginning of 2021. It was the subject of explicit feedback several times during 2021 and always in communication with the MiiL. A complete version was received in June 2022 and a corrected version was only available on 26 September 2022.

The collaboration with the MiiL is certainly not to be questioned, considering the added value that this partner can bring. For example, a communication student from UCLouvain joined the D-Too project and did his Master thesis measuring the impact of the Be-Gen video on the targeted audiences. This dissertation project could not be carried out as planned due to the significant delays in the delivery of the final version of the video by MiiL. However, the student produced a very informative brief for the NICC based on the draft version of the video, which was presented to a number of people to gather

their perception of this type of popularised scientific message. This dissertation was defended in January 2022 and was sent to us (Bourlon, Antoine, [*Le storytelling en vulgarisation scientifique : vers une utilisation à bon escient ? Etude de cas portant sur la vulgarisation de l'usage de l'ADN en justice pénale*](#), Master's thesis in information and communication, Prom. Sébastien Nahon, UCLouvain, January 2022, 164 pp.).

It is also clear that the onset of the pandemic did not help the coordination of the teams, even though the schedule of follow-up meetings indicates that efforts were made to maintain contact with the subcontractor.

4. GENERATED PRODUCTS AND IMPLEMENTED APPROACHES

We started by considering this project as a type of experiment, where we could test out various video formats to determine which would be best for disseminating the results of our research and seeing how much time it would require. Following a discussion with our partners, we decided on the following formats. In the first phase, we would develop four videos (including two teasers) and organise some seminars at the JTI. We created the programs for two study days at the JTI in parallel with the videos.

The following topics and formats were selected for the JAM research:

- *A conference @ managers of justice:*
Explaining all and the often invisible work of the administrative actors of justice
- *Round table discussions/conference @ administrative actors of justice:*
We have the same challenges and problems throughout Belgium
- *An animated video @ general public:*
The backstage of justice. We will focus on questions such as why is the justice system slow? Why is it difficult to work for the administrative staff of the justice system?

The following topics and formats were selected for the Be-Gen research:

- *A video and slides with basic concepts @ general public:*
The importance of technical developments and possibilities of DNA (public databases, GRP, family tracing,...) and the policy options adopted in other countries. Outline of the new developments and the policy issues involved.
- *An awareness video @ field actors:*
The value of registering responders' DNA profiles. Raising awareness of contamination issues, explaining the solution offered by a DB INV, but emphasising the responsibility of the field actors in using such a tool.
- *An animated video @ field actors:*
To outline the chain of DNA exploitation (collection, analysis, use of the profile in a case, registration in the DNA DB) and to show the loss of information or interruption of the chain (absence of analysis of the victims' profile, for example), and the effects that this can have. To question the political stakes that the exploitation of DNA presents for the future.

We started by creating two teasers, one in each native tongue. Researcher Caroline Stappers and Bertrand Renard each provided a brief presentation of the subject of the seminars. These two-minute teasers were distributed through the JTI network. They were used to promote the seminar at the JTI, which generated several registrations. You can view the teasers on our Vimeo channel (<https://vimeo.com/536048127> for the video in French and <https://vimeo.com/536316116> for the video in Dutch).

Subsequently, the seminar "Het gebruik van forensisch DNA in een veranderende wereld" – "L'utilisation de l'ADN forensique dans un monde en évolution" was to be organized in two languages (with simultaneous translating) at the JTI.

The seminar was organised for magistrates in criminal cases (investigating magistrates, prosecutors,...) or in cases involving DNA research. The seminar's objective was to provide a better insight into the challenges and possibilities of DNA investigation in criminal cases. Our team discussed the use and evolutions of DNA testing throughout judicial investigations and the different DNA databases (including the DNA database of interveners at a crime scene).

As previously indicated, the covid pandemic caused us to postpone the Be-Gen seminar several times, and it eventually took place on Friday 21 May 2021. Following the decision at the beginning of 2021 that all non-mandatory trainings should be delivered through a webinar in order to comply with the coronavirus regulations, the format of the seminar was changed. The program of the seminar PEN-060-03 can be found in [the appendix](#).

Furthermore, we chose to develop a motion-design video about the Be-gen research discussing why we must remain cautious when using DNA in a legal context and a face-cam video (interview style) for the JAM project on the tensions between the apparently formal, rigid and bureaucratic character of the work of administrative actors and the adaptations and workarounds necessary to carry out the work AND to cope with the diverse and constant changes.

The videos have only been delivered in August and September 2022 and can be viewed on our Vimeo channel. The JAM Capsule can be consulted through this [link](#). The Be-gen video is accessible through this [link](#).

We anticipate the dissemination of our videos starting in the winter of 2022, taking into account the findings of the student's previous evaluations of the Be-Gen video prototype.

5. IMPACT AND ADDED VALUE OF THE VALORISATION ACTION

As previously stated, Covid has greatly influenced our performance. It was also difficult for our partners to complete the work within the agreed timing. Given their expertise, they got challenged by an increased demand for work, support and projects from their side.

However, the Brain.be projects brought us a substantial scientific output. Its research results were disseminated through research reports, scientific publications and several presentations at scientific and or other conferences. This output is also available on [the NICC website](#).

With this action, we addressed the gap between science and stakeholders by creating informative videos and organising seminars with the JTI. Currently, we intend to reach out to the respective target groups through the JTI, police academies, Bar associations and other institutions. A specific newsletter will be sent out to our commissioners, accompanied by a request for feedback. We will share these videos on the NICC's social media page (LinkedIn and VIMEO). The videos will remain online and available on our website and Vimeo channel. People who want to know more about our research projects will be able to access them easily. Furthermore, the communication service of the FPS Justice will be asked to assist in the dissemination of these videos.

Now that we have finally received the final video on the JAM project, we will organize another seminar with the JTI. The video we created with MiiL will be used as an introduction to the seminar. This should be considered as a first follow-up of the D-Too program.

In the future, we will try to develop a short video after each research project and are currently exploring the possibility of incorporating this workload into the work packages of future research projects. We now have a better understanding of the interest and the difficulties of each format. We will try to develop short and simple face-cam videos presenting the research and some results. This can be done easily and for a reasonable sum of money. On the other hand, we will try to regularly produce more ambitious videos, such as the ones we realised in the framework of this program.

Based on this experience, we also wanted to develop knowledge of the processes involved in creating popular science tools (definition of objectives, identification of the target audience, available resources, drafting of key messages and secondary messages, choice of form, scripting work, choice of medium, dissemination policy), and to acquire internally the skills necessary to master popular science tools. One of the promoters of the D-Too project has therefore begun continuing training for this purpose by taking the first edition of the Certificate in Popularisation of Science (September-December 2022) offered by the IHECS Academy (<https://www.ihecs-academy.be/formations/vulgarisation-scientifique>).

6. MEASURES TO MAINTAIN THE COLLABORATION(S)

The action enabled an interesting collaboration with various partners. The JTI is a long-standing partner of the NICC. The collaboration in the framework of this program will result in further collaboration in research projects, first of all through the organisation of a seminar about JAM results. Later on, we intend to organise more seminars on criminological research projects by the NICC.

Furthermore, together with the MiIL, we are currently developing a new video on the UN-MENAMAIS research project. This study aims to understand better the mechanisms, nature, magnitude and impact of sexual violence on female, male and transgender victims, their peers, offspring, professionals and society in Belgium and generate policy recommendations, prevention and response strategies. The video in development focuses specifically on the care of victims of sexual violence.

05/02/2020	Kickoff meeting avec le MIIL
25/3/2020	INCC/MIIL, discussion des options fondamentales autour d'exemples
01/07/2020	réunion INCC/MIIL, discussion du planning
17/7/2020	Feedback teaser Be-Gen @ SN
31/7/2020	Feedback Motion Design @ SN
25/8/2020	Brainstorm Teaser Be-Gen
11/9/2020	Livraison Be-Gen Teaser
30/09/2020	Réunion de suivi INCC/MIIL
SEPT/OKT	Diffusion Be-Gen Teaser
SEPT 2020	Brainstorm Motion Design
SEPT 2020	Feedback Teaser JAM @ SN
SEPT 2020	Brainstorm Teaser JAM
23/09/2020	Diffusion JAM Teaser
30/09/2022	INCC/MIIL réunion de suivi
09/10/2020	Livraison Teaser JAM
14/10/2020	Réunion de suivi INCC/MIIL (conception story vidéo Be-Gen)
30/10/2020	Réunion de suivi INCC/MIIL (projet d'évaluation de l'impact des vidéos)
OKT 2020	Feedback Video JAM @ SN

OKT 2020	Brainstorm Video JAM
27/10/2020	Be-Gen Opleiding IGO (journée reportée - Covid)
OKT/NOV	Preparation Motion Design Be-Gen
DEC 2020	JAM Opleiding IGO
DEC 2020	Back up JAM Opleiding IGO
DEC 2020	Livraison Motion Design Be-Gen
DEC 2020	Preparation Video JAM DONE
02/02/2021	Réunion de suivi INCC/MIIL
Avr/juin 2021	INCC conception vidéo JAM
21/05/2021	Be-Gen Opleiding IGO/ Formation Be-Gen à l'IFJ (en ligne)
03/05/2021	Livraison première version vidéo Be-Gen
31/08/2021	Enregistrement vidéo JAM
09/12/2021	INCC/MIIL réunion de suivi (discussion avec le réalisateur vidéo JAM)
Juin 2022	Livraison provisoire vidéo complète Be-Gen
08/08/2022	Livraison version finale vidéo JAM
26/09/2022	Livraison version finale vidéo Be-Gen

7. APPENDIX

7.1 Program Be-Gen formation JTI



Het gebruik van forensisch DNA in een veranderende wereld - L'utilisation de l'ADN forensique dans un monde en évolution

ref.: PEN-060-03

(Le texte Français suit le texte Néerlandais)

Doelgroep

- Magistraten in strafzaken (onderzoeksrechters, parketmagistraten,...) of in zaken waar DNA-onderzoek aan bod komt.

Doelstellingen

- Een beter inzicht geven over de uitdagingen en mogelijkheden van DNA-onderzoek in strafzaken:
 - Het gebruik tijdens een strafrechtelijk procedure en de evoluties van DNA-onderzoek
 - De verschillende DNA-databanken (waaronder de DNA databank van intervenanten die tussenkomen op een plaats delict)

Data en plaats:

In het Instituut voor Gerechtelijke Opleiding, Louizalaan 54 te 1050 Brussel, Zaal **BONNIE & CLYDE (1^e verdieping)**

Er worden twee groepen voorzien:

- **Groep 1: dinsdag 27 oktober 2020 van 9u30 tot 13uur**
- **Groep 2: woensdag 28 oktober 2020 van 9u30 tot 13uur**

Opmerkingen

- In deze opleiding krijgt het DNA-onderzoek een meer criminologische benadering. Er wordt dieper ingegaan op het gebruik van DNA-technieken in de strafrechtelijke praktijk. De opleiding is daarom bedoeld voor magistraten met een grotere ervaring op het terrein.
- **De opleiding-studiedag is tweetalig met ondersteuning van simultaan vertaling;**
- **Er wordt een "Netwerklunch" met broodjes voorzien.**

Contact: Annick Van Der Gucht (Annick.VanDerGucht@igo-ifj.be)

Programma

Voorzitter: ***Te bepalen***

9.30 Onthaal

9.45 ***DNA- Wetgeving en organisatie***

Spreker:

De heer **Bertrand RENARD**, Nationaal Instituut voor Criminalistiek en Criminologie

10.30 ***DNA in de praktijk (op basis van de resultaten van het Be-Gen onderzoek)***

Spreker:

Mevrouw **Caroline STAPPERS**, Nationaal Instituut voor Criminalistiek en Criminologie

11.30 Koffiepauze

11.45 ***Het beleid betreffende DNA in strafzaken (op basis van de resultaten van het Be-Gen onderzoek)***

Spreker:

Mevrouw **Caroline STAPPERS**, Nationaal Instituut voor Criminalistiek en Criminologie

12.15 ***DNA - Evoluties en perspectieven***

Spreker:

De heer **Bertrand RENARD**, Nationaal Instituut voor Criminalistiek en Criminologie

13.00 Einde studiedag

13.00 Lunch

Public cible

- Magistrats en matière pénale (Juges d’instruction, magistrats des parquet,...) ou traitant des affaires utilisant l’analyse ADN.

Objectifs

- Eclairer le public cible sur les défis et possibilités de l’analyse ADN en matière pénale:
 - L’utilisation durant une enquête judiciaire et les évolutions de l’analyse ADN
 - Les différentes bases de données ADN (entre autres la base de données ADN des intervenants-mêmes se rendant sur le lieu du crime)

Date et lieu:

L’Institut de Formation Judiciaire, Avenue Louise 54 à 1050 Bruxelles, salle **BONNIE & CLYDE (1^{er} étage)**

Nous prévoyons deux groupes:

- **Groupe 1: mardi 27 octobre 2020 de 9h30 à 13h**
- **Groupe 2: mercredi 28 octobre 2020 de 9h30 à 13h**

Remarques

- Pendant cette formation, l’analyse ADN sera abordée davantage sur le plan criminologique. L’accent sera mis sur la pratique du recours à l’analyse ADN et c’est un public de magistrats ayant une grande expérience sur le terrain qui est visé.
- **La formation-journée d’étude est bilingue avec un support de traduction simultanée;**
- **Un “Networklunch” avec des sandwiches est prévu.**

Contact: Thomas Cornada (Thomas.Cornado@igo-ifji.be)

Programme

Président: *à déterminer*

9.30 Accueil

9.45 ***L'ADN - Loi et organisation***

Orateur:

Monsieur **Bertrand RENARD**, Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie

10.30 ***L'ADN sur le plan pratique (sur base des résultats de la recherche Be-Gen)***

Oratrice:

Madame **Caroline STAPPERS**, Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie

11.30 Pause-café

11.45 ***La politique en matière ADN au pénal (sur base des résultats de la recherche Be-Gen)***

Oratrice:

Madame **Caroline STAPPERS**, Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie

12.15 ***L'ADN - Evolution et perspectives***

Orateur:

Monsieur **Bertrand RENARD**, Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie

13.00 Fin de la journée

13.00 Lunch
