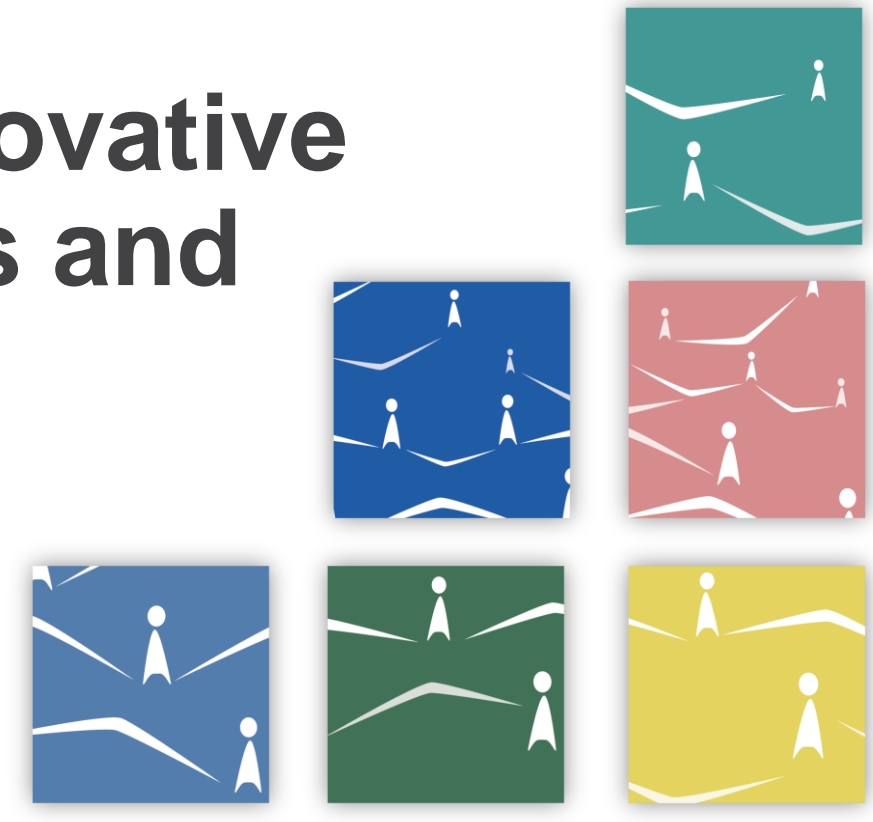


The impact of Social and Community Mediation, an innovative social work model in the field of addictive behaviours and dependencies in Portugal

Helena Almeida¹, Sara Carvalho², Jorge Barbosa³, Merícia Silva³, Emídio Rodrigues⁴, Rui Lino⁴, Celestino Cunha⁵, Cristina Proença⁵, Sofia Martelo⁶, Ana Paula Neto⁷



Qualitative research carried out according to a mixed case study plan (multi-case and multi-perspective), which involved social workers, people with addictive behaviours and dependencies, families, and partner organizations, in a total of 18 cases, 51 interviews and 21 questionnaires.

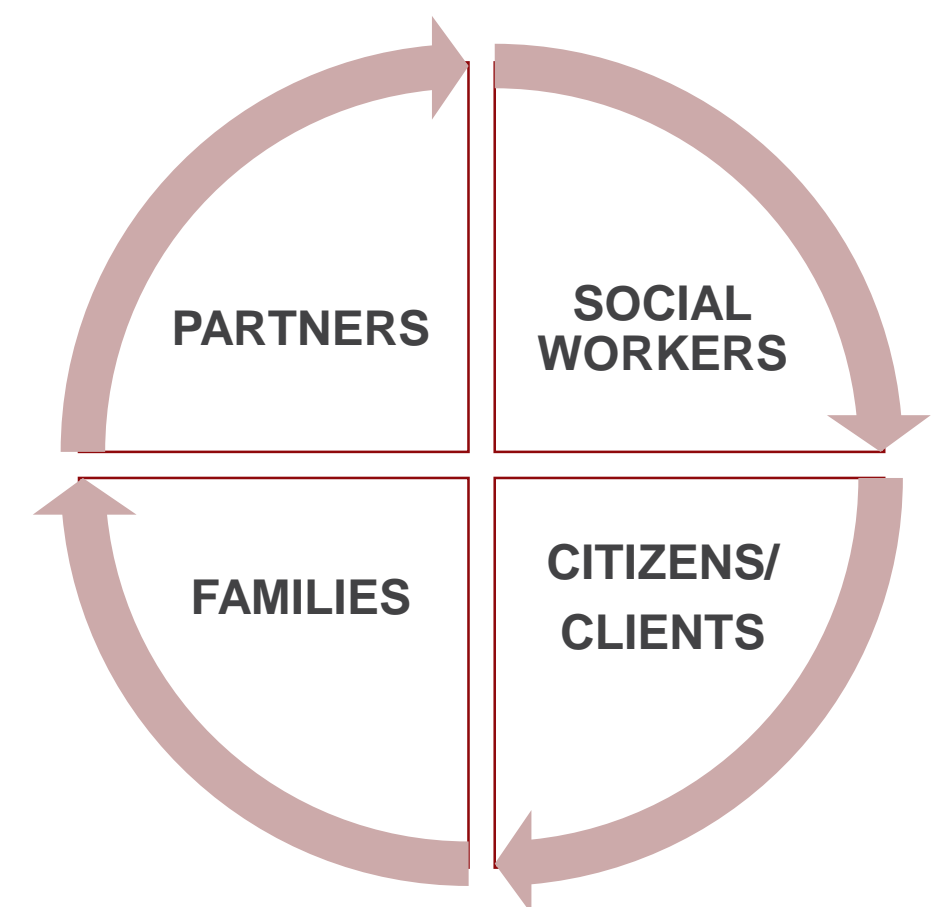
Key concepts: Social and Community Mediation; Social Reintegration



OBJETIVES OF THE RESEARCH:

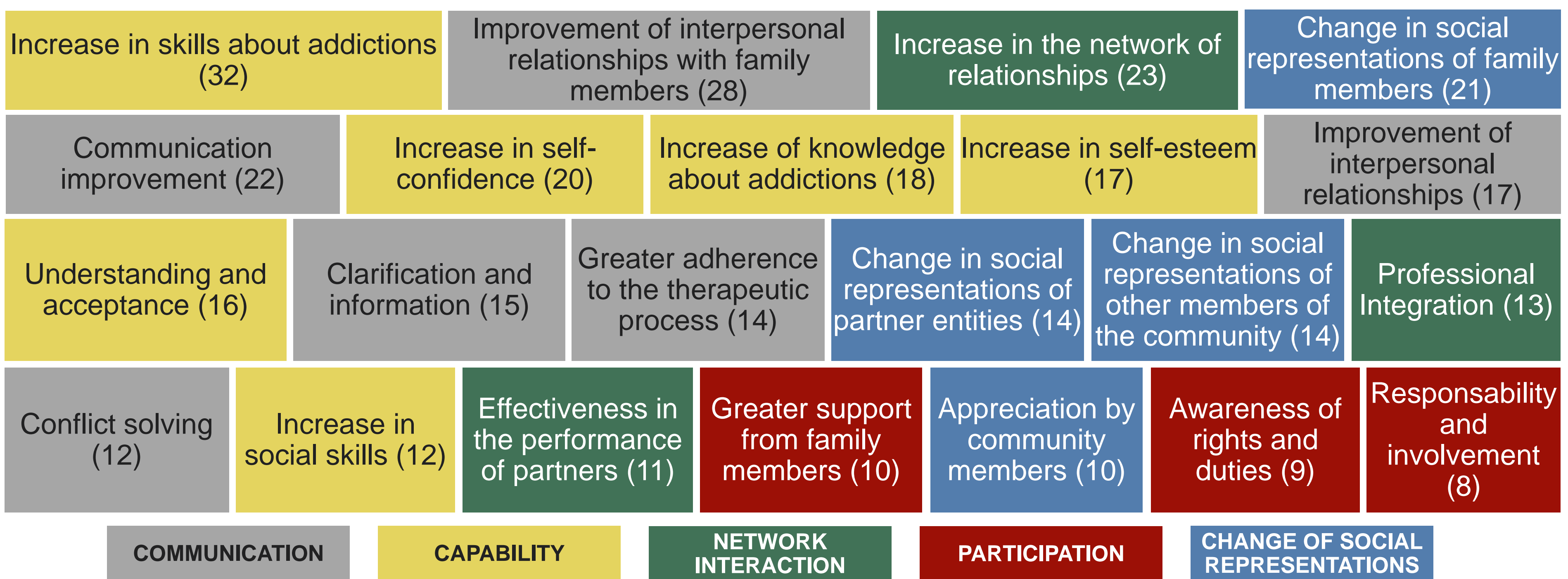
- Identify procedures and results associated with the process of social and community mediation in the reintegration of people with addictive behaviours and dependencies.
- Recognize perceptions of the different actors involved (social workers, citizens with addictive behaviours and dependencies, families, and public/private organizations that were involved as partners).

MULTIPERSPECTIVE APPROACH



Available at:
<https://www.sicad.pt/PT/Intervencao/ReinsercaoMais/SitePages/Documents.aspx>

Figure 1 - Main categories that refer to the impacts of the social workers intervention (organized by pillars of the intervention, n=51 interviews)



CONCLUSIONS:

- The intervention of social workers produced effects, generated changes and modified behaviours, transforming various dimensions of the lives of citizens with addictive behaviours and dependencies (individual, interpersonal, therapeutic, social, family, institutional, professional, etc.).
- These results demonstrate the high effectiveness of the delivered interventions, that allowed to modify the fragile social conditions of the persons with addictive behaviours and dependencies studied within the scope of this investigation.

¹ Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences - University of Coimbra, ² General-Directorate for Intervention on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies, ³ Norte Regional Health Administration, ⁴ Centro Regional Health Administration, ⁵ Lisboa e Vale do Tejo Regional Health Administration, ⁶ Alentejo Regional Health Administration, ⁷ Algarve Regional Health Administration.