



Paths to reintegration: understanding victimisation

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- o Umbrella network for national victim support organisations in Europe
- o 60 Members from 30 countries - 21 EU Member States
- o Members: approx 3000 staff, 20000 volunteers, assist 2 million victims each year
- o Promotes, advocates for and facilitates establishment and development of victims rights and services in Europe
- o Helps victim support organisations to develop capacities, learn from each other, share best practice and cooperate.

How does understanding victims help?

- Support the work of practitioners
- Helping offenders to reintegrate

Factors relevant to victim centred responses and offender reintegration are very similar

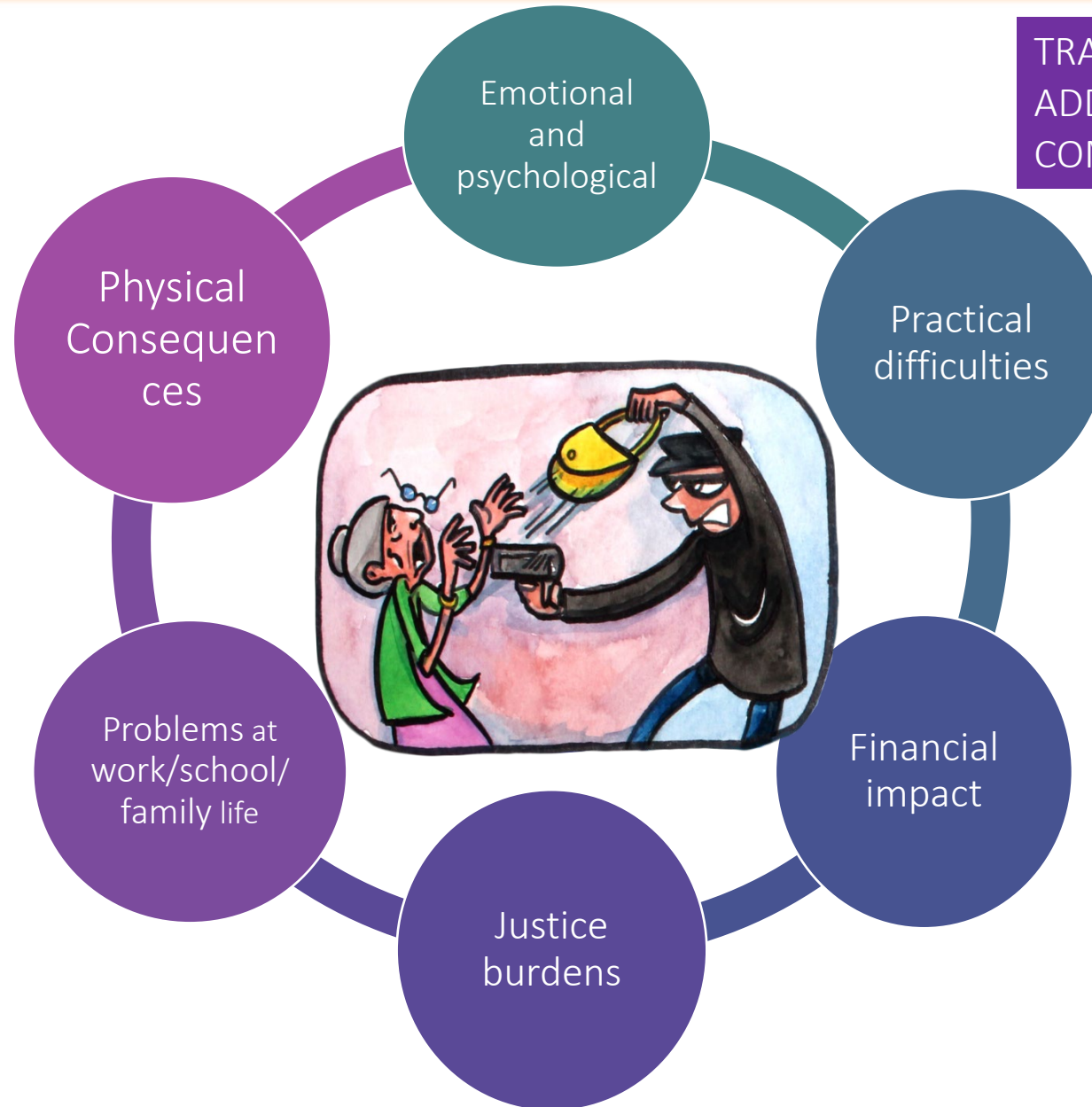
Mechanisms to support victims and offender reintegration are similar

Overview: Addressing Victimisation



Impact of crime on victims

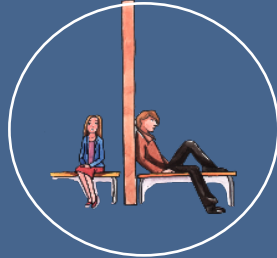
Understand
impact to
determine
responses



Needs of Victims



Respect and
Recognition



Protection



Support and
information



Access to
Justice



Compensation



Needs of Victims of Crime

Individual
needs

Personal Characteristics
Personal Situation

Needs of victims of specific
groups

e.g. Older/ younger people, people with disabilities
Disabilities, LGBTI, Ethnic/religious minorities
Crime groups – terrorism, sexual violence, domestic violence

Needs of all victims



Respect and recognition, Protection
Support including information
Access to justice, Compensation and restoration

Overview of EU Victims Directive

Objectives

- Respect
- Recognition
- Equality/ non-discrimination

Information and Support

- Information – simple, accessible
- Support
- Making a complaint
- Interpretation and translation

Participation in criminal proceedings

- Right to be heard
- Decision to not prosecute
- Restorative justice
- Legal aid
- Reimbursement
- Return of property
- Offender Compensation
- Foreign victims – assistance/ reporting in home country

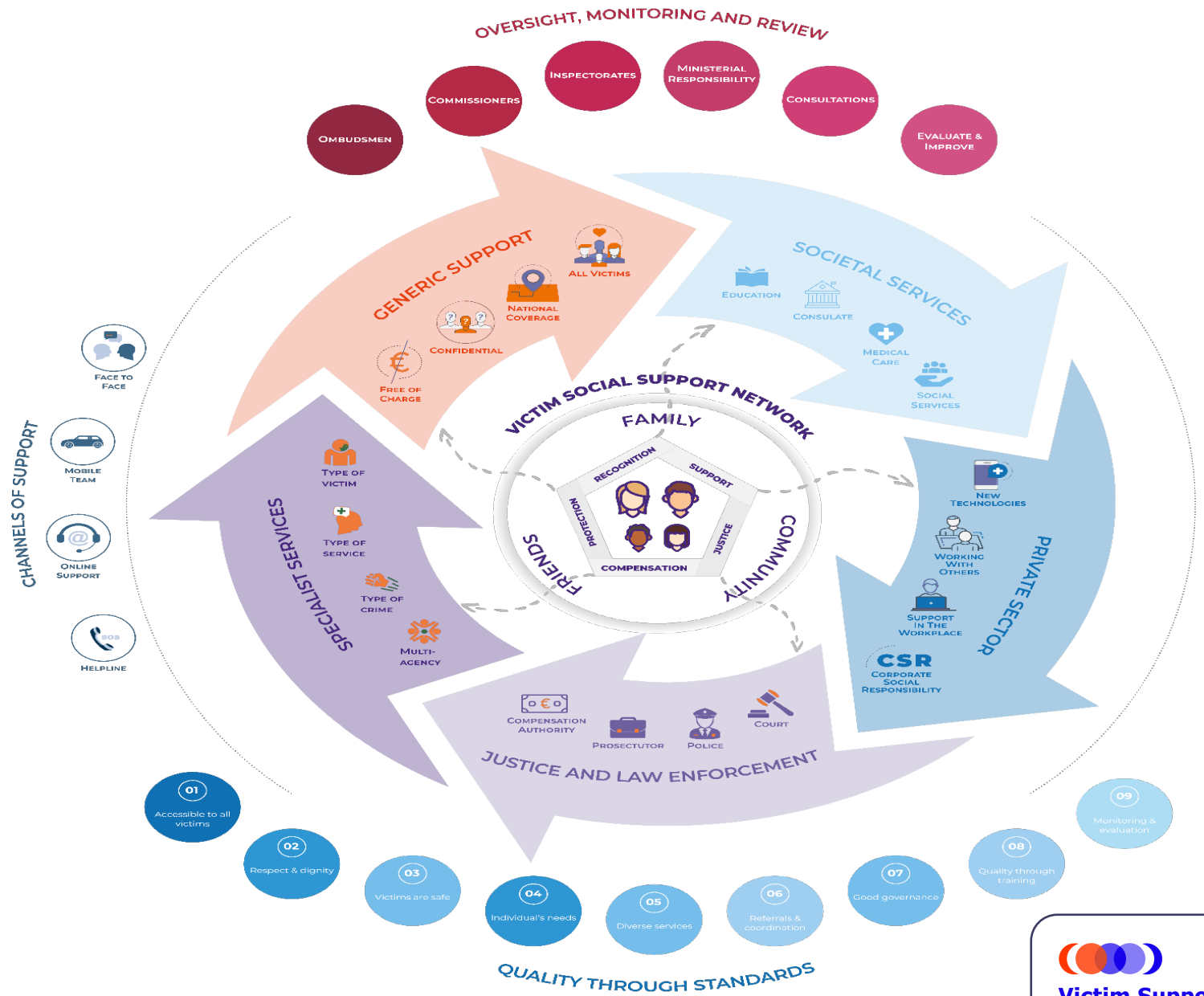
Protection and victims with specific needs

- Protection
- Avoidance of contact
- Protection in investigations
- Privacy
- Individual assessment
- Special measures for vulnerable

Other Provisions

- Training
- Co-operation and co-ordination

National framework for comprehensive victim support

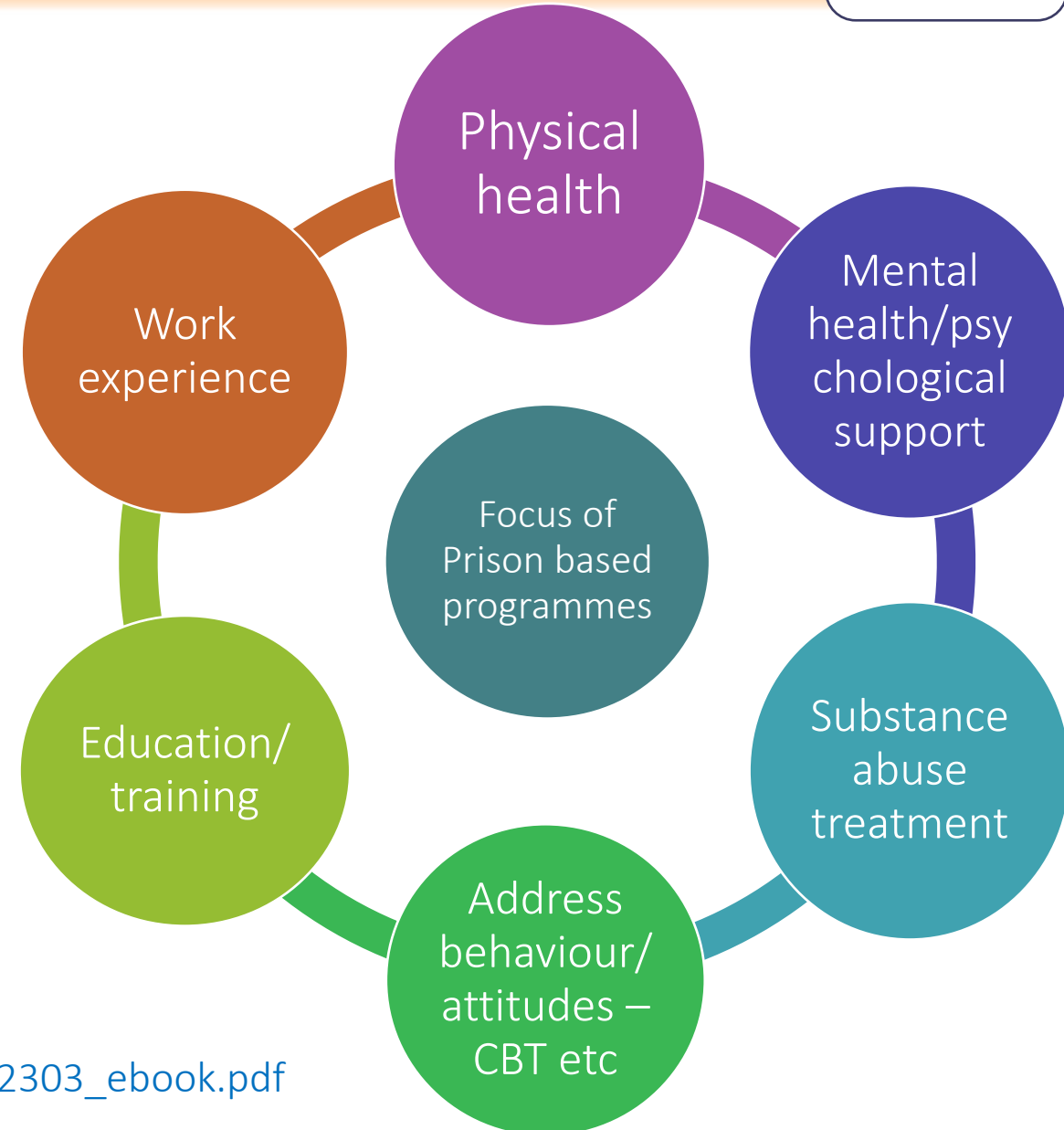
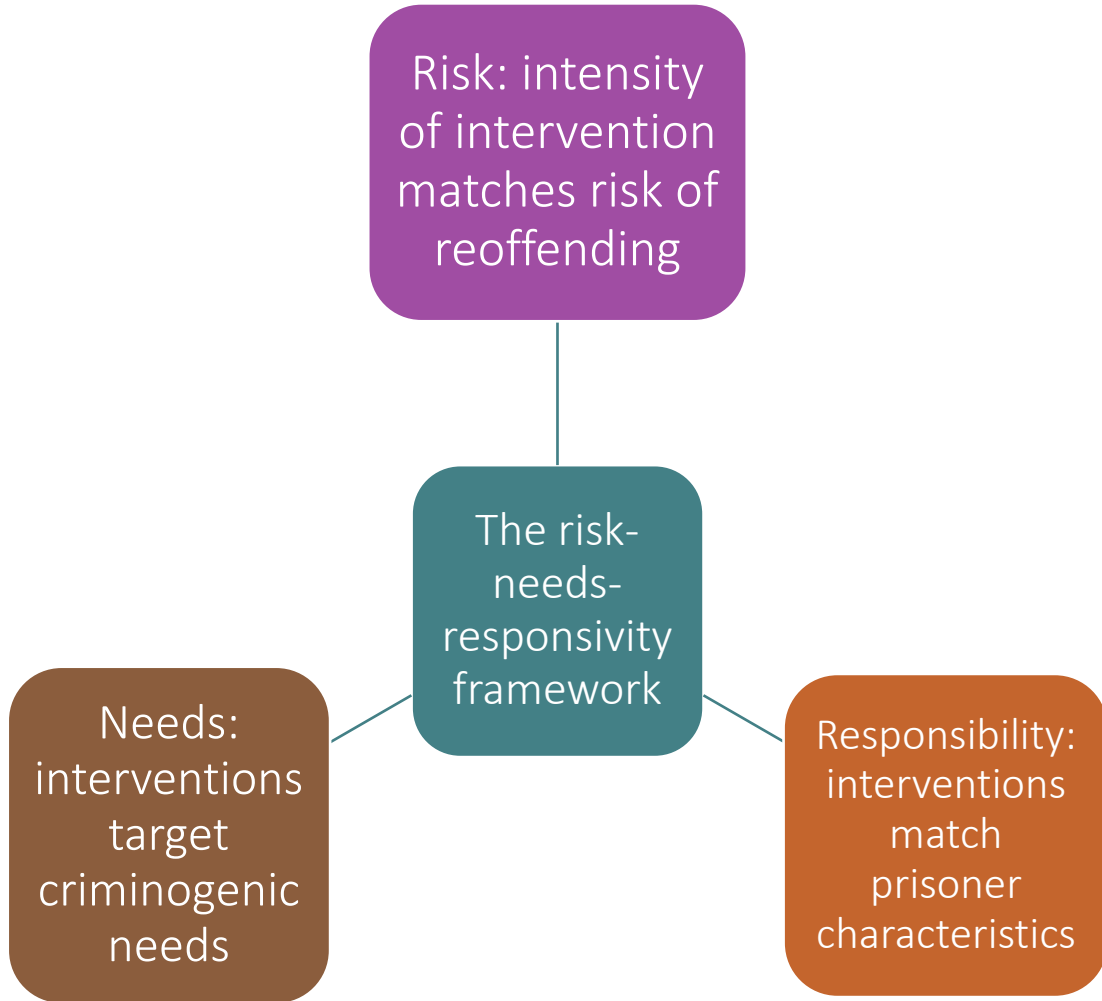


Understanding victim
responses
to enhance
offender reintegration
policy

Similarities in approach/situation

- o Comprehensive assessment – needs/risks
 - o Understand offender
 - o Take account of history, personal characteristics – including trauma, victimisation, discrimination
 - o Needs, drivers of behaviour, expectations
- o Address practical, social, health, cognitive/psychological issues
- o Support to start, progress, maintain and change
 - o As long as needed
 - o Multiple forms/ routes

Approaches to Prisoner Reintegration



Approaches to Prisoner Reintegration

- o Cognitive behaviour programmes
- o Relapse prevention therapy
- o Basic life and relationship skills
- o Motivation
- o Active citizenship/ responsibility

CBT – Behaviour change for victims and offenders



CBT Approach to recovery/ fulfilment

What's driving you can be health or unhealthy	To achieve these must mastery
Growth	Money
Variety/uncertainty	Spirituality
Certainty	Career
Need to contribute	Relationships
To be loved	Body/Health
Significance	Emotions
	Time

Joint learning

- o From a policy and organisation perspective
- o Approaches and drivers to solutions are similar
- o Learning from each other can enhance success
- o Offenders often experienced victimisation/ trauma

Changing offender behaviour

Understanding victims to change behaviour

- o Understanding victims can help offenders to understand themselves
- o Understanding victims helps
 - o Understand impact
 - o Develop empathy
 - o Change beliefs
 - o Change behaviour
- o The relevance of victim solutions to offenders

Conclusion

- o Solutions and inhibitors to victim recovery and offender reintegration are often similar
- o Solutions must address:
 - external and internal factors
 - risk multipliers and protective factors
- o Where offenders/practitioners understand concepts of victimisation, trauma and solutions – it can help
 - to change behaviours
 - to find help offender-victims

Thank you!

Victim Support Europe

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