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**TÍTULO DA TESE: SOCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REINTEGRATION POLICIES OF RECOVERY
DRUG USERS**

ABSTRAT

The abuse of illegal drugs is one of the greatest challenges that society is facing today, particularly by negative impacts in terms of health, of economic and social development, security and social peace. In order to reduce drug use, abuse and dependence and minimize these problems, there has been a challenge on the part of Governments on drug policies. Under these policies, programmes and measures, social and professional reintegration is considered crucial in the process of recovery from substance abuse and also combating social and professional exclusion.

In the current economic and social context, in which several countries, among which includes Portugal, are restructuring their social policies, including drugs policies, it is essential to know to what extent these policies contribute to the effective social and professional reintegration of people with drug problems. With this aim, we proposed to study the Programa Vida-Emprego, which aims at the social and professional reintegration of recovery drug users. Aiming to describe and evaluate the effects of the programme on the social and professional reintegration of individuals covered by it - direct beneficiaries of the programme, we have chosen to analyze their pathways in the Algarve, due to its unique and singular conditions to the completion of the study.

We conclude that recovery drug users, framed by the Programa Vida-Emprego, with support and specialized monitoring can build sustainable and stable pathways. We note further that the contributions of the Programme go beyond their scope, since a significant proportion of beneficiaries, after finishing the Programme, remain or get a job in the labour market.

KEYWORDS: Social Policies, Active Labor Market Programme, Social and Professional Reintegration, Social Reintegration Policies, Programa Vida-Emprego, Drug Dependence.