

Genderworks - PROGRESS: a new partnership with OXFAM GB: Dec. 2007- Dec. 2009

In 2008-09 three European partner organizations Oxfam GB (UK), Lamoro (Italy) and WAVE (Austria) will together carry out a PROGRESS project funded by the European commission: „GenderWorks: Mainstreaming and Communicating Gender Equality in Anti Poverty and Inclusion Strategies“. The official start of this project was Dec. 15th 2007.

The general aim of the project is to strengthen a gender mainstreaming and women's perspective in the discussion of poverty and social inclusion within the European Union as well as on national level in Austria, Italy and the UK. Concerning this, one goal is also to include a gender perspective into the NAPs 2008-09 on social inclusion and an aim of WAVE/AÖF is especially to highlight the situation of women affected by violence and poverty.

Domestic violence is a matter of social inclusion and social protection, but it is not mentioned in most NAPs. At the same time domestic violence and poverty are often overlapped in various ways: Women deciding to leave her home are often at risk of poverty, homelessness, situations for single parent women are especially difficult and access to the job market often is difficult. Especially women experiencing multiple forms of discrimination and violence as migrant or elder women for instance are seriously affected by poverty.

Domestic violence should therefore be mentioned in the NAPs. Social protection for women are to be ensured preventive, in situation of crisis (e.g. through legislation as banning order, support of women's shelters that services can be provided for free during crisis) as well as afterwards (housing, transition apartments, social welfare access, as well as supported access to health system and to the labour market, etc.). This support should be given to every women affected by violence. The topic of DV should be connected to budget lines within the NAPs.

Therefore the aims of AÖF/WAVE to highlight the situation of women affected by violence and poverty in Austria are

- to collect expertise to the topic of VAW and poverty by facilitation of six national expert meetings in order to collect and share good practice examples and lessons learned regarding violence against women and poverty as well as
- to publish a report on VAW and poverty
- the expert meetings also aim to influence the NAP and its implementation in Austria regarding gender mainstreaming, women's issues and VAW, this will be done by writing policy papers concerning the NAP and getting involved in the drafting and implementation of the NAP on social inclusion
- WAVE will share knowledge and lessons learnt in the project at the stakeholder learning Seminar in May 2009

The core aim of the project will focus on influencing the NAPs process on social inclusion with this message and learning, firstly in three countries UK, Austria and Italy, and more widely across the EU through the WAVE network.

Austrian Development Agency ADA Microproject Turkey: Nov. 2007 - July 2008

Improvement of quality standards in women's shelters in Turkey. WAVE applied successfully for an ADA "Microproject" together with the WAVE Focal Point in Turkey, Mor Cati. In the course of this project, the WAVE Manual "Away from Violence. Guidelines and standards for setting up and running a women's refuge" were translated into Turkish as well as train the trainer seminars with Turkish professionals dealing with domestic violence were organized. This project has started in November 2007 and was extended to November 2008.

Bilateral Project Macedonia – Prevention and Elimination of Domestic Violence in Macedonia Dec. 2007 - Dec. 2009

Macedonia as non-EU-member state has ratified the CEDAW Convention and its additional protocol. Despite the fact that there is a legislation on DV in place, the grave economic and social situation of the citizens, the presently high rate of unemployment, the deeply embedded patriarchal values and the incomplete functional system for protection of DV victims still pose an increased risk of its existence to a great extent.

WAVE was approached by the Austrian Ministry of Social Affairs and asked to manage a two-year-project with the title "End domestic violence in Macedonia" with a special focus on the prevention of domestic violence and evaluation of the current situation of women's shelters in Macedonia as well as improving the interministerial cooperation and implementation of the national action plan on domestic violence. The official start of the project is Dec. 1st 2007, with a Kick Off meeting including all stakeholders of the project in January 2008. The official implementing partners of the project are the Association for Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality of the Republic of Macedonia, ESE and the WAVE network. Further project steps include three training seminars for relevant professional groups, one training seminar for shelter staff, the evaluation of existing shelters, preparation of a joint protocol within the interministerial workgroup and a support programme for victims that can't stay in shelters.

WAVE sent experts to contribute with best practise knowledge in the interministerial workgroups in May 2008 and is further working on implementing the envisaged project steps.

ProTrain - Improving Multi-Professional and Health Care Training in Europe – Building on Good Practice in Violence Prevention

The project started in 2007 and continues until 2009. It aims at strengthening violence prevention by developing a framework multi-sectoral training programme based on promising practice and designed for key professionals involved in domestic violence prevention and/or services. The programme will offer a specific training module for health care professionals. Tasks:

- (1) develop good practice criteria for multi professional training
- (2) map training materials for health care providers, primarily train-the-trainer and multi-professional programmes
- (3) review and analyze material, identify promising and verified good practice
- (4) develop new directions for multi-professional training, emphasizing modules for health care sector
- (5) pilot test the programme in existing community level networks in 7 EU countries and evaluate it
- (6) revise, peer review and disseminate the programme for adaption especially in countries where training concepts and material are unavailable.

The project's expected results are:

- a) good practice criteria catalogue of European training programmes on DV, b) an inventory of existing training materials/programmes of health care professionals/train-the-trainer and multi-professional programmes, c) a framework for a multi-professional training programme, including a specific module for health care professionals and a peer reviewed model for future adaptation and replication in EU-countries, d) final programme presentation in English and translation of its essential framework in 6 languages for download on website and on CD-Rom.

Daphne III: Operational Grant 2008

WAVE has been accepted for the Daphne - Operating Grant by the European Commission. The operating grant supports the basic activities of WAVE. The following activities can be carried out more efficiently thanks to Daphne's Operating Grant:

Activity 1 - IVAS - Improve Victim's Access to Service

WAVE's website is an extremely important tool for victims of violence, NGOs, researchers, and all people interested in the subject of violence against women. It offers contact addresses, a vast variety of documents, an overview of support organisations in all of Europe, numbers of helplines, law excerpts and much more. The information WAVE's database offers is highly requested: 50.000 - 90.000 unique visits per months are recorded. Easy access and continuous updates are the main priorities concerning the website. Moreover the WAVE Website is considered as showcase project within the expert field of domestic violence against women. For this reason WAVE was invited as partner of the EU-Daphne Project: "JoinTheNet (IV) All Over Europe - Dissemination of material for education and training on health symptoms caused by violence (PTSD)" carried out by the Therapeutische Frauenberatung e.V. Göttingen. The project is financed through Program Daphne III 2007 - 2013.

With the help of the DAPHNE Operating Grant the WAVE-Website was completely re-designed and re-programmed concerning both, content and graphics. The information was reorganized, new content was created and updated. The navigation was further improved and people with limitations concerning eyesight or a lack of experience in working with the internet were especially paid attention to. During the process, a new Logo and a new WAVE-folder were created to further develop the organisation's corporate identity. The whole branding of WAVE was renewed, modernized and professionalized. This process will be continued in 2009. The new website was launched in December 2008.

Activity 2 - EMPOWERMENT of women's NGOs

Quality in service providing includes the transfer of know-how through capacity building seminars, trainings, support of women's NGOs networks and international conferences. Those goals will be achieved:

(a) by holding 4 tailor made **capacity building seminars** in 4 of the WAVE/EU partner-countries e.g. on providing quality services for women and children victims of violence, on multi agency cooperation, on training professionals.

The **1st seminar** took place in Prague, Czech Republic and was organised in cooperation with the WAVE partner organisation ROSA from the 10.- 11. November 2008. The two-days training was held in "The American Centre" and the "Österreichische Kulturforum" in Prague. A total of 14 people joined the training on both days. Participants were staff members from shelters for victims of domestic violence from Czech Republic as well as representatives of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, who are responsible for standards for social services. The main topic of this training was the importance of quality and quantity standards for safe women's shelters and methods of work with women, victims of domestic violence.

The goal of the training was to inform shelter staff and representatives of Ministry of Labour and Social affairs about standards of services provided to women victims of domestic violence, to address the gender based perspective of the issue of domestic violence against women, which is undermined in the Czech society in general and among the professionals as well.

The **2nd seminar** was a two-days-seminar which took place in Sofia, Bulgaria. It was organised in cooperation with the WAVE partner organisation NADJA Centre Foundation from 3rd to 5th of December 2008. On the 3rd and 4th of December the training was held by Rosa Logar (WAVE project manager) while on the last day Rossanka Venelinova (NADJA Centre Foundation) continued the training.

The **3rd seminar** in Greece was organised at the same time as the Capacity Building Seminar in Bulgaria. It was set under the auspices of the Municipality of Athens, Municipal Committee of Education of the Department of School Welfare. The WAVE partner organisation European Anti-Violence Network was strongly involved in developing and implementation of the seminar which took place in Athens from 1st to 3rd of December 2008. The training was held by Mrs. Ute Rösemann (German WAVE expert on VAW).

The seminar was specifically focused on the target group of psycho-social professionals working in the field of domestic violence. The group of trainees consisted of psychologists, social workers and social scientists.

The **4th seminar** took place in Bucharest, Rumania. It was organised in cooperation with the WAVE partner organisation, CPE – Center for Partnership and Equality Romania from 11th -13rd of December 2008.

The training was held by Mrs. Elke Griemens (Frauenhaus Initiative Erftkreis e.V.) and the translation was done by Mrs. Livia-Oana Aninosanu. In total 21 persons participated at the training, 17 of the participants were high school teachers and school counsellors from Bucharest.

The target issue was to bring teachers and school counselors to an in-depth understanding of domestic violence as a wide spread phenomenon in Romania, especially in the context of their work, as educators. The training showed the profound impact domestic violence has on behaviours displayed by children in schools.

(b) in providing support to existing women's NGOs, regional and European networks through the annual WAVE-NETWORK conference for all WAVE members and NGOs combating DV. It is organised by WAVE in different European country. Following the WAVE conference there will be a 3-day exchange seminar in Belgium, giving the participants the chance to work on a specific topic of their needs. Please read more about this topic on page 6.

Activity 3 – MONITOR

For the first time WAVE produced the WAVE Country Report "**Reality Check on European Services for Women and Children Victims of Violence. A Right for Protection and Support?**" on the situation of services for victims of violence against women and children in all 47 member countries. The report was published on 30th of December 2008. This report which is purely based on information received by NGOs specialized on the issue of violence against women and provides an important tool for securing quality standards concerning services for victims of VAW in Europe. During the Council of Europe Campaign "Stop domestic violence against women", several studies were done on the situation of services for victims, yet only state information was used. As WAVE realized, the situation of services for victims of violence often looks different from the specialized perspective of NGOs working in the field, and so WAVE felt compelled to collect data and research for this independent monitoring report, which can now be used for further improving the situation for victims of domestic violence.

The WAVE Country Report is going to be published annually. A digital version is distributed through the WAVE-Network and available free of charge for download at the WAVE-Website for all interested. Printed versions will be sent to all WAVE Focal Points per mail. Please see page 15 for further information on this publication.

Bridging Gaps – From Good Intention to Good Cooperation

Manual for effective multi-agency cooperation in tackling domestic violence

The aim of the project was to develop guidelines and standards for good cooperation between state agencies and women's NGOs. The manual is based on the contributions of "bridging gaps" project partners from 11 European countries and draws upon the work and experiences of many committed experts and academics in the field. The contents of this manual evolved during the DAPHNE project BRIDGING GAPS, implemented by WAVE from April 2005 to March 2006. It is the final result of the project.



More than a roof over your head

A survey of quality standards in European women's shelters



The present study concerns itself with eleven minimum standards for women's shelters that were defined at a conference of experts in Cologne, in March 1999. The principle concern of the study was to ascertain to what extent these standards exist in the EU- and EU-Candidate Countries.

In addition to the presentation of results, a further goal of the study was to stress what an important role women's shelters play in the prevention of violence against women, what principles exist in women's shelters work and why they are more important to offer more than a roof over your head.

Train-the-Trainer Seminar

The first Train-the-Trainer Seminar was held as part of a Daphne-Project in September 2000, whereby the adjoining handbook was developed. With this handbook, experts from women's help establishments were trained as trainers and multipliers, so that they could themselves initiate and conduct similar seminars in their own country.

Prerequisite for the conducting of the Train-the-Trainer Seminars:

- Personal (preferably at least two years) experience in work with violence-affected women within a women's help establishment.
- A feminist attitude
- Experience in work with groups and training experience
- Participation in a WAVE Train-the-Trainer Seminar

The complete handbook, „WAVE Training Programme“ is since 2008 now free for download at the WAVE website (previously it was only given to multipliers of WAVE training seminars)

Due to the support through Daphne's operating grant, WAVE Trainings could be held in four countries in 2008 (see page 12 & 13).

If you are interested in a Train-the-Trainer Seminar, please contact

office@wave-network.org

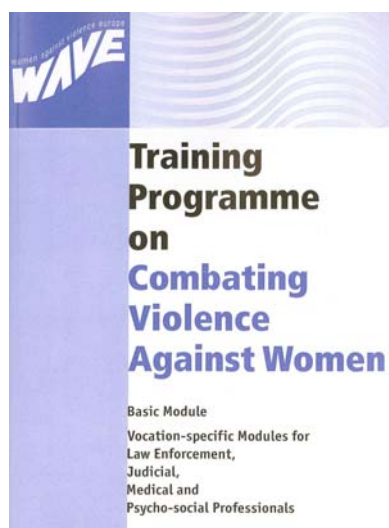
WAVE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Sensitizing and Training of Occupational Groups/Experts against Violence toward Women (2000)

The Training Handbook contains basic information and also training material in regard to the subject of violence against women. In addition, the handbook contains information and training material that is geared to the needs and specifics of the following occupational groups and can be used for the conducting of training for these occupational groups:

- Police
- Justice
- Experts in the area of health
- Experts in the psycho-social area
- Special attention is placed by training on the awareness-building of experts in the contact with victims of violence against women and children, as the manner in which they react can be decisive for the assistance and further development of the operative support of the victim. Effective means for prevention of violence for the victims are professionalism, trust and the providing of quick, efficient support.

The **Handbook** is available as a download version at the WAVE website. If you are interested in such a seminar or training, please contact the WAVE Office: office@wave-network.org



WAVE Country Reports 2008

Accurate data concerning violence against women and especially domestic violence is chronically missing but necessary for successful prevention and protection. During the CoE Campaign "Stop domestic violence against women", several studies were being conducted researching the cost of domestic violence and the situation of services in the European Countries, using official data of the governments.

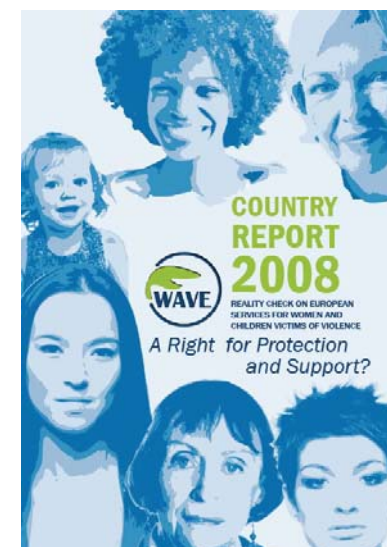
As WAVE realized, the situation of services for victims of violence often looks different from the specialized perspective of NGOs working in the field, and so WAVE felt compelled to collect data and research for this independent monitoring report, which can now be used for further improving the situation for victims of domestic violence.

In spring 2008, a questionnaire was made and sent out to all focal points. In addition phone-interviews were made during summer. To really allocate the necessary time for collecting all this information, for writing and publishing was made possible by the Daphne Operating Grant.

By publishing the WAVE Country Reports for each of the EU-member states/project partners and recommendations on the development of services and measures taken in the area of violence against women shall be published. Monitoring mechanisms based on indicators for service providers, mapping also recent legal developments and the specific situation in each country will be published in those annual reports (objective f).

These activities will help to better understand the recent situation and by showing the relevance of the issue of VAW in each country to efficiently provide more services. As a result WAVE will disseminate the outcomes to all relevant bodies in the EU, within its network and associated NGOs/networks.

The country report was published in Dec. 2008. The WAVE Country Report is going to be published annually. A digital version is distributed through the WAVE-Network and available free of charge for download at the WAVE-Website for all interested. Printed versions will be sent to all WAVE Focal Points per mail.

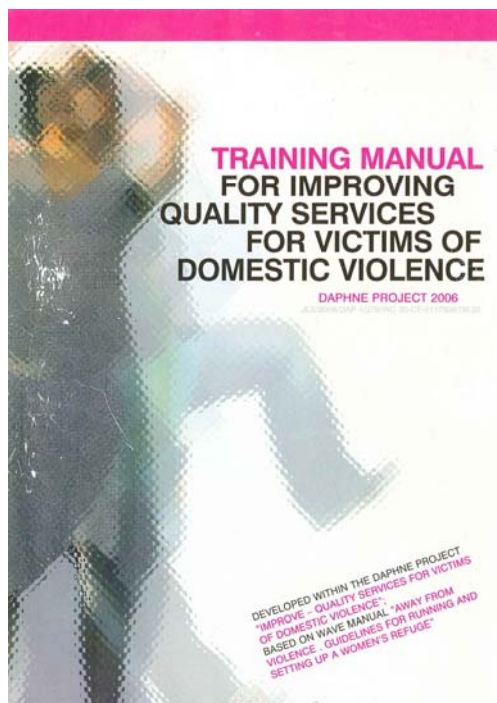


WAVE TRAINING MANUAL for Improving Quality Services for Victims of Domestic Violence

"IMPROVE - quality services for victims' safety" was a one year Daphne project from February 2007 till February 2008. 12 partner organizations - experts of women's shelters from 11 European Countries - and 3 Associate Partners took part in the project. Project coordinator was the WAVE office in Vienna.

The training manual is based on the WAVE publication "Away from violence - Guidelines for Setting up and Running a Women's Refuge" and contains training modules and methods in all areas covered by the manual. Thus the IMPROVE training manual is meant to be used together with the manual "Away from violence" which provides the content of the training.

The Manual was translated into several languages. If you are interested in such a seminar or training or if you would like to obtain the manual, please contact the WAVE Office: office@wave-network.org



FEMPOWER – The WAVE magazine

The WAVE team co-ordinates the publication of Fempower which is the network's information periodical. Written by and for experts of VAW in a variety of different countries it is a comprehensive communication and information channel within the network. Each issue includes articles relating to a special topic and current information on new organisations and projects, laws and draft legislation, conferences and international topics. Launched at the beginning of 2001 as part of a DAPHNE project it is now published twice a year in English and French.

In 2008, WAVE published two issues, number 13 being concerned with the CEDAW Convention, a lobbying tool for women's rights. Number 14 dealt with the First International Conference on Women's Shelters in Canada, Alberta, in fall 2008.

All issues can be obtained via WAVE's database at <http://www.wave-network.org/start.asp?ID=16>



SAVE – Sisters Against Violence Europe

Solidarity Account for Women's Shelters Initiatives in Eastern Europe

At the specialist symposium, „30 Years Womens Shelters Movement in Europe“, on 9 December 2002, financial support for the colleagues in the Eastern European neighboring states was initiated by staff members of Austrian women's shelters.

The Goal of SAVE

SAVE supports service and counselling centres that help women and children affected by violence. SAVE tries to offer support until public authorities in these states assume their responsibility and guarantee financial support themselves for these establishments.

We help because:

- Violence against women and children is a human rights violation
- Violence represents a severe threat to physical and psychological health
- Violence against women and children affect everyone
- Women's organisations, above all in Eastern- and South Eastern Europe, still do not receive any governmental financial support, although they efficiently and professionally combat violence against women and children.

The Association of Autonomous Austrian Women's Shelters, in concern to this, has established an account for financial support:

SAVE – Sisters Against Violence Europe

Bank Austria/CA

BLZ (Bank Code Number): 12000

Account No.: 00610782047

In the name of Association Autonomous Austrian Women's Shelters/SAVE

Contact and monitoring of the Account: Tel. +43/1/548 27 20 or Tel. +43/1/5440820

WAVE-office staff 2008

Rosa Logar
Founding Member and WAVE
Chairwoman

Maria Rösslhumer
Executive Director

Alina Zachar
WAVE-Office Coordinator

Regina Webhofer
Project Officer

Miriam Freudenberg
Public Relations and Database

Julia Girardi
Liason and Advocacy Officer
(currently on maternity leave)

WAVE Presentations / Delegations January – December 2008

- WAVE presentation in Macedonia, local NGOs and delegations of the government, January 29th
- United Nations: Commission on the Status of Women. New York February 27th – March 13th
- UNIFEM Central and Eastern Europe, Vienna, February 22nd
- Council of Europe Campaign – Strasbourg April 21th - 22nd
- Council of Europe Campaign – Vienna Parliament April 28th – 29th
- Study Visit of the Slovakian Focal Points and representatives of the municipality of Kosice in Vienna May 13th – 14th
- Study Visit to Vienna of a delegation of Kosovo on 27th February
- Study Visit to Vienna of a delegation from Croatia on May 14th
- WAVE lecture for a delegation from Cameroun in Vienna, Ministry of Social Affairs, May 26th
- Training Seminar Turkey – July 2008
- Opening Speech in Berlin at the annual conference of the Autonomous women’s shelters (September 8th)
- Participation in the First International Conference on Women’s Shelters (8-11 September)
- WAVE conference 2008 Kosice 25-27 October
- International Practice Exchange I within the GenderWorks Project (April 23rd) Oxford/ U.K
- 7. March 2008: Speech at the Slovenian Parliament on the Austrian Protection Law
- International Practice Exchange Vienna – 27/28th October 2008, in the framework of the project GenderWorks
- Macedonia – Bilateral project. 4 meetings in Skopje:
 - 1st JP-meeting: 14-16th of May 2008
 - 2nd JP-meeting: 18-19th of July 2008
 - 3rd JP-meeting: 30th-31st of October 2008
 - 4th JP-meeting + visiting Macedonian women’s shelters: 19th-21st of November 2008.
- 12. November 2008: Turkish Delegation at the AÖF and the WAVE office
- 4 Training seminars within the framework of the Daphne Operating Grant
- 10th Annual EU-NGOs Forum on Human Rights. Equality in Action: Ending Discrimination Against Women. Paris, 10-11 December International conference in the framework of EU presidency in France.