

Project Partners

Association of Women Members Associations of Heraklion Prefecture

The Association is an NGO, established in the year 2000 and belongs to the Voluntary Non Governmental Organizations, and is based in the city of Heraklion, Crete. It is an organization for women's and children rights which also promotes culture and civilization.

The association is active in the following areas:

1. Provision of shelter assistance and social service to violated and abused women and children
2. Dissemination awareness raising and education actions for the women abused either at private level or social level (work etc).
3. Scientific service provision (psychological support, legal advice, return of abused women to the labour market etc).
4. Counseling and coaching for women to return to normal life and support

SOS hotline for reporting domestic violence incidents and support (24 hours/ 7 days). The association is dedicated to end violence against women through the following main projects which include: The shelter for abused women and children; Hot Line-Against Domestic Violence (Hot line 800-II-16000); the counselling centre; the children centre and the foster family project.

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Cyprus University of Technology

The Cyprus University of Technology aspires to develop itself into a modern, pioneering University able to offer education and conduct high level research in leading branches of science and technology which have high impact on the economic, technical, and scientific sectors.

With its orientation towards applied research, the University aspires to establish for itself a role in support of the state and society in their efforts to confront problems, which cover all areas of science and technology. The programmes of the CUT to a large extent complement scientific areas, which are not currently covered at Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels by the University of Cyprus or any other institution of higher education in the country. The Cyprus University of Technology is based in the city of Limassol, where all six faculties are located.

Contact Details: 30 Archbishop Kyprianou Str. 3036 Lemesos, Tel: 357 25 00 2500, Fax: +357 25 00 2750. Web: <http://www.cut.ac.cy/?languageId=1> Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies

Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies, Cyprus

MIGS is a non-profit organisation affiliated to the University of Nicosia. The Institute aims to act as main contributor to the intellectual political, and socio-political life of the region as this relates to issues of gender and to do so using a multidisciplinary approach and in collaboration with other institutions. The Institute recognises the multilayered levels of discrimination against women and accepts that this discrimination takes different forms. It is committed to the elimination of this discrimination using a combination of research, advocacy and lobbying, as well as training, conferences and other activities.

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ŠKUC, Slovenia

ŠKUC was established in 1972 and is one of the leading non-governmental organizations which also promotes cultural and artistic activities in Slovenia. In the past few years the activities of ŠKUC have expanded in many areas such as providing information and counseling for young people, education, a library, archives, social affairs, health prevention and advocacy, sociology, humanism as well as research activities. It has also acquired the status of an association working in the public interest in the area of health care.

ŠKUC is funded by different ministries, the European Commission, the municipality and different other sponsors.

SKUC activities are organized in 8 sections which are independent in coordinating different projects. An example is the Section for equal opportunities which is involved in this project.

Contact details: Društvo ŠKUC, p.p. 572, SI - 1000 Ljubljana p/f: +386 1 430 35 30, e-mail: Info@skuc.org, Web: www.skuc.org

The Institute of Conflict Research, Austria

The Institute of Conflict Research [Institut für Konfliktforschung – IKF] was set up in 1976 as a non-university research institute with the legal status of a non-profit association. The purpose of the Institute is to conduct research into political and social conflicts at an interdisciplinary level and to generate possible solutions designed to provide advice for political decision-making. These activities are underpinned by basic research. The Institute's main research topics include: research on democracy, cleavages in politics and society, research on security and historical social research. The IKF cooperates with research institutions in related areas, both at home and abroad. Its research work is documented in written annual reports. Brief accounts of projects and full texts of individual reports can be accessed at the Institute's homepage (www.ikf.ac.at). Konfliktforschung (published by Braumüller) is an interdisciplinary publication series issued at irregular intervals by the Institute of Conflict Research.

Contact Details: Lisztstraße 3, (Am Heumarkt 33), A-1030 Vienna. Tel.: ++ 43 1 713 16 40, Fax: ++ 43 1 713 99 30, e-mail: institute@ikf.ac.at

Stockholm University, Sweden

Since 1878 Stockholm University has been characterised by openness and innovation, a modern university with a multicultural environment. Stockholm University is one of the world's top 100 higher education institutes. Here more than 60,000 students and 5,000 staff are active within science, the humanities, and the social sciences. The Stockholm University's Faculty of Law commenced its activities in 1907. Today the Law Faculty is the largest faculty in the country. The Department of Law has between 2500 and 4000 students every year, who study law either following the undergraduate law programme or in the form of independent law courses for non-degree purposes. The Department employs over a hundred full-time teachers for the purposes of teaching and research. The Faculty of Law has about 30 professors specialising in traditional legal scientific subjects, such as Jurisprudence, Private Law, Fiscal Law, International Law, Public Law, Procedural Law, Legal History, and Criminal Law.

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Rutgers WPF, Netherlands

Rutgers WPF is a renowned centre of expertise on sexual and reproductive health and rights. Its activities are mainly carried out in the Netherlands, Africa, Asia and South America. Its aim is to improve sexual and reproductive health and rights throughout the world. Rutgers WPF supports partner organisations and professionals in their work, increasing their expertise on sexuality.

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Department of Social Work, Technological Education Institute of Crete, Greece (TEI of Crete)



Laboratory of Health and Road Safety (LaHeRS)

Commun-AID

Increasing the capacity of domestic workers of different origins to respond to sexual violence through community-based interventions.



With the support of the European Commission, Daphne III programme



Background and information about the project

Migrant domestic workers are more vulnerable than local people and lack the capacity to protect themselves against abusive situations due to lack of local language skills, low awareness of local laws and customs, inadequate access to appropriate jobs and limited knowledge of their rights. Many domestic workers feel that they have no choice but to stay and suffer abuse because fleeing their employer would mean lapsing into irregular status, admitting to the authorities if they are in an irregular situation and/ or losing their right to work. Several international organizations have placed this issue high on their agendas proposing the development of protective mechanisms for migrant domestic workers as well as capacity-building among civil society to address and monitor the conditions of migrant domestic workers. The Technological Educational Institute of Crete has received funding from the European Commission Daphne III programme to implement a project entitled “Increasing the capacity of domestic workers of different origins to respond to sexual violence through community-based interventions (Commun-AID)”. Eight entities from six EU Member States are part of the consortium which includes Institutes of Higher Education (IHE) and Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs). These countries were selected for comparative purposes, because of the presence of high numbers of migrants and migrant domestic workers and are geographically spread along South, Central and Northern Europe. Specifically, these entities include: The Institute of Conflict Research (Austria); Cyprus University of Technology, the Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (Cyprus); TEI Crete, Association of Women Members Associations of Heraklion Prefecture (Shelter for Abused Women) (Greece); Rutgers WPF, Netherlands (Netherlands); SKUC (health prevention) (Slovenia); and Stockholm University (Sweden).

Aim

The project's main aim is to increase the capacity of migrant domestic workers to respond to sexual violence through developing and testing community-based interventions. Additional aims include the promotion of awareness among beneficiaries and target groups; and the development of a training manual that incorporates consultative, educational and community development modules on issues of sexual violence towards migrant domestic workers.

Objectives

The project will address a number of objectives in order to achieve its main aim. These objectives include:

- A description of the problem of sexual violence in migrant domestic workers and assess the victim's needs;
- The mapping of community resources, allies, interventions and policies addressing sexual violence against migrants;

- The design of culturally and linguistically appropriate tools and interventions to address sexual violence against migrant domestic workers;
- The development of a pool of accredited workers and community members who could facilitate community education and long term community development programmes;
- Raising awareness among migrant domestic workers about their rights and improve their competence in responding to sexual violence during domestic work.

Activities

Activities involve actions in which the consortium members will engage in, in order to achieve the specific objectives. These activities aim to:

- Review the existing evidence on the experience of sexual victimization by migrant worker and assessment of the victims' needs. Here the extent and the characteristics of the sexual victimization of migrant domestic workers in all partner countries will be described, and the national and international literature in relation to this issue will be systematically reviewed;
- Map community resources, interventions and policies in all partner countries in order to identify policies and/ or other interventions specifically designed to address sexual violence against migrant domestic workers;
- Develop a culturally and linguistically appropriate crisis intervention web tool which aims in providing information and referrals, safety planning, emotional support and advocacy to migrant domestic workers. The web tool will be specifically designed based on the specific needs of migrant domestic workers;
- Develop and implement of a train-the-trainer intervention. A competency-based training involving consultative, educational and community development modules on issues of sexual violence at domestic work will be developed and delivered to bicultural community educators in all partner countries;
- Disseminate the project outcomes widely.

Description of the Coordinating Institution

Technological Educational Institute of Crete, Greece

The Laboratory of Health and Road Safety– LaHeRS (<http://lahers.seyp.teicrete.gr/>) is affiliated to the Department of Social Work at the Technological Educational Institute of Crete, Greece (TEI of Crete- www.teicrete.gr). LaHeRS aims at promoting research and intervention in social and public health problems. Main fields of interest are family and interpersonal violence, health needs assessment in vulnerable population groups, social determinants of health and driving performance. LaHeRS is active in conducting basic research in various areas of interest, developing research proposals under national and European funding schemes, seeking research and academic collaboration with educational and research institutions in Greece and abroad, designing and implementing community interventions on various topics relevant to its interests, developing scientific tools and material for use by academic and public organizations, etc. LaHeRS is dedicated to exploring high risk behaviours and has a special focus on the impact of a wide range of lifestyle factors on human performance and risk behaviours. LaHeRS has a long experience and involvement in research projects under state funding such as Archimedes_I (www.teicrete.gr/archimedes) and Archimedes_III as well as in collaborative research projects under European funding from the European Agency for Health and Consumers (EAHC) under the “Health Programme” (YSAV 2009-I2-22 / <http://ysav.rutgerswpf.org/y-sav>), Leonardo Da Vinci/Partnerships (LdV “LLP-LdV-TOI-2007-TR-008”), Directorate General for Transport and Mobility / DG-MOVE (MOVE/C4/SUB/2011-294/SI2.628846/REHABIL-AID), the Directorate General for Justice and the “DAPHNE III programme” such as the COMMUN-AID (JUST/2011-2012/DAP/AG/3272) and the WOMPOWER (JUST/2011-2012/DAP/AG/3008). The Laboratory participates in ERASMUS Lifelong Learning Programme (Intensive Programmes 2012 (IP) / “International education for training traffic accident reconstruction specialists) and is also member of large European networks funded under the COST programme such as COST “357 PROHELMET” (<http://archives.cost.eu/action357/>), COST “TUII01” (http://www.cost.eu/domains_actions/tud/Actions/TUII01). Most of the work produced in the laboratory is published in well-established international scientific journals (Social Sciences Citation, Scopus, Medline).

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