

**DAPHNE****ICEBERG Project****General features**

Duration of the project
January 2011 - January 2013

Budget:

Total Budget: 748.624,13 €

ERDF Co-financing:

80%

National Co-financing:

20%

Partners:

Coordinator: Regional Ministry for Governance— Generalitat Valenciana (ES), Coventry University (UK), City of Mulhouse (FR), National Association of Municipal Clerks (BG), Fundación Comunidad Valenciana – Región Europea (ES), Valencia Local Police-Valencia City Council (ES).

Contact

**Valncian Regional Ministry
for Governance**

Mónica Estañ Capell

Email: estany_moncap@gva.es
Chabàs, 2- 46003 Valencia, España
Phone: +34 96 398 68 05
Fax: +34 96 398 68 95

**Fundación Comunidad Valenciana -
Región Europea
Gemma Silvestre**

E-mail: silvestre_gemsae@gva.es
C/Juristas 10 E-46001 Valencia (España)
Phone: +34 963 18 43 79
Website: www.uegva.info
E-mail: info@uegva.info

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SECOND TRANSNATIONAL MEETING (Sofia, Bulgaria 2nd to 4th November)

During the second transnational meeting of the ICEBERG project, that was hold from the 2nd to the 4th of November, partners met in Sofia (Bulgaria) to discuss the development and progresses of the project.

The meeting was organized in three main areas:

- 1. The exchange of the Local coalitions from Sofia and Mulhouse (2nd November)**
- 2. The working meeting of the project partners (3rd November)**
- 3. A symposium focussing on different aspects of gender-based violence (4th November)**

On November the 2nd, there was an exchange between coalitions of Mulhouse and Sofia, which brought the opportunity to exchange experiences and best practices and discuss legal frameworks against gender-based violence in France and Bulgaria. Members of the Local Coalition from Mulhouse and the project coordinators visited two different organizations, the Centre for Prevention for Victims of Gender-based Violence and later the Centre for rehabilitation, counselling and psychotherapy of the Animus Association, both situated in Sofia. Different members of the Local coalition of Sofia assisted at the meeting and explained to the other members how they work. The programme of the local coalitions of Mulhouse and Sofia was as follows: presentation of



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the members from Mulhouse coalition to Sofia coalition, legal framework for gender-based violence in France and Bulgaria, exchange on training programme of the local coalition, exchange of experiences, practical cases. Finally, an animated discussion was held.

On November the 3rd, the progresses and the activities done by each partner during the first ten months have been discussed and the results have been compared (creation of local coalitions, members forming part of such coalitions, training, experiences and victimization surveys). The dissemination partner presented the website of the project and the latest activities which had been developed. Finally, other technical and organizational aspects, and future activities to be done were discussed.



It's important to highlight that on November the 4th, a Symposium on Prevention of Gender-based Violence was held, which included the participation of experts of the field such as lawyers and psychologists, who covered topics such as: legal protection for victims of domestic violence, the work that is being done with the victims as well as all of the positive work being done by local coalitions. It started with a welcome speech addressed by Mr. Valentin Lazarov, Bulgarian partner, and was addressed to a symposium with three key speakers who spoke about the following topics:

1. “Legal protection of victims of gender-based violence” – Ms. Daniela Gorbunova, Lawyer, Bulgarian Gender Research Centre. A practicing lawyer dealing with domestic violence cases in court and involved in the development of the Bulgarian legislation in the field gave an overview of the Bulgaria Law against Domestic Violence and a procedural framework available to defend victims of domestic violence.

2. “The work with victims of gender-based violence” – Ms. Gergana Popgeorgieva, Psychologist, member of Sofia’s local coalition. She gave an overview how domestic violence happens in the Bulgarian context and gave real examples of her practice.

3. “The activity of the local coalition with regard to victims of gender-based violence” – Ms. Julieta Petrova – Sofia’s Centre for Prevention for Victims of Gender Violence – member of the local coalition. The Coordinator of the Centre for Prevention of Low-braking summarized the methods used by the Bulgarian police to deal with the problem and depicted particular cases that are monitored by the Sofia Coalition members.

The project coordinator, Ms. Mónica Estañ, closed the conference. She highlighted the very positive results and progresses of the project to date in all of the four partner countries. She summarized that the problem of gender-based violence exists in all the countries, that it is a human problem existing everywhere, and that through the Iceberg Project all the involved partners, associations and institutions will help to reduce the violence against women. As a conclusion, Ms. Estañ added that even if in the four partner countries of the project the legislations and policies on gender-based violence are very different, through the Iceberg project all the partners can adapt their work and try to achieve the common goal: Stop the violence against women.

The symposium was well attended by the Iceberg Project partners, representatives from Sofia City Municipality, and a number of non-governmental organizations dealing with the problem of domestic violence in Sofia and in the country.

Evaluation of the project progress:

Valencian Regional Ministry for Governance – Generalitat Valenciana (ES): Ms. Mónica Estañ from the Conselleria de Governación (Valencia) started her presentation with some basic data about the actual situation of gender-based violence in Spain, the legal framework and the special police units for gender-based violence. Then, she presented the main activities of the Iceberg project, starting with the creation of three Local coalitions in three towns next to Valencia (Cullera, Sueca, Tavernes). She explained that during the months 4-10 the Local coalitions had been trained by multidisciplinary specialists such as psychologists, police officers, advocates, social workers and other specialists on gender-based violence. The main training contents have been the reality of gender-based violence, social support of women and role of the local associations, the Spanish law, judicial assistance, gender-based violence as a crime, protection orders and reports (denouncements), problems and questions related to the denouncement. After this 35 hours training, each of the members got a Diploma for the training course. Furthermore, Ms. Estañ presented the first results of the baseline-survey: 409 people had been interviewed in 14 municipalities of the Valencian Region about their perceptions of gender-based violence. The results show that a very big number of the surveyed persons think that gender-based violence is a private problem that should be resolved by the couple. A big number of the surveyed people knows about cases of gender –based violence or has suffered violent situations at home.

Concerning the awareness campaigns, the first proposals (Posters, flyers, bags) were presented to the partners. The image spreads the message: "You are not alone" and shows a woman surrounded by people representing the close environment of the women. The bags with the information flyer will be distributed during the market day in the 3 municipalities where the local coalitions are situated. At the end of the presentation, a video with presentations of the local coalitions of Cullera, Sueca, Tavernes was shown.

Coventry University (UK): This partner presented the activities done in Coventry during the first ten months. They explained that a reference group (local coalition) had been established with professionals such as police officers, doctors, etc. and that common awareness campaigns had been done with Coventry Domestic violence & Abuse Partnership (multi-agency partnership which coordinates Coventry's response to domestic violence). They added that 20% of the students from Coventry University had been surveyed through the Iceberg project about perceptions and myths of domestic violence. They insisted on the importance to provide, together with the surveys, an information sheet about organizations and institutions which provide support in cases of domestic violence, and as well informing about the Daphne Iceberg project. In regards of raising awareness, almost all the students at Coventry University are aware of the Iceberg project, thanks to awareness activities which had been done with the new students in the Fresher's Week. Welfare staff working at Coventry University had been trained to detect cases of gender-based violence. In addition, Coventry University showed a special web-based platform which is linked with the homepage of Coventry University and which provides information, professional responses, data, case studies, etc. for students and aims to provide support in cases of domestic violence:

<http://wwwm.coventry.ac.uk/health/Pages/Daphne.aspx>.

City of Mulhouse (FR): After a short introduction about the social and political situation in Mulhouse, where there is a high percentage of immigrants, poverty and violence, the French partners explained the activities done. An observatory on gender-based violence had been created and the Iceberg project will allow reinforcing the activities of the observatory. The members of the observatory (local coalition) are from both, public institutions and different associations working in social fields. On the other hand, several activities are planned in order to raise awareness about the Iceberg project and the

The screenshot shows the Coventry University website. The main content area is titled "The Daphne ICEBERG Project". It describes the project as a resource for students, funded by the European Commission, aimed at supporting women and children in abusive relationships. It mentions a coalition of partners from Italy, Bulgaria, Greece, France, and Spain. The page also includes a logo for the ICEBERG project and a list of navigation links.

problems related to gender-based violence (Conferences on 25th November, International Day to fight against Gender-based Violence, a presentation of a movie on gender-based violence on 2nd December and another conference on 15th December). They also presented the first results of the surveys. To the date 179 surveys have been completed (expected sample 472). Results have shown that 26% of the surveyed people have experienced violent situation at their homes, and that in 80% of the people with higher education, the violence was psychological. Most of the respondents think that the problem should be solved by the family and people from the close environment of the victim.

National Association of Municipal Clerks (BG): The Bulgarian partner started its presentation explaining that various meetings with representatives from Sofia Municipality, with the Police and Social Services had been undertaken in order to get the necessary institutional support for the Iceberg project. Related to the local coalitions, their members are from the different sectors: police officers, social workers, members of the municipal council, representatives of the student community, municipal officers, and lawyers. He explained that in cooperation with the Centre for Prevention of Law- Breaking at Sofia Municipality, an analysis of all victims of gender-based violence registered in the Centre has been carried out. Ten of these cases representing a variety of situations have been selected and during the lifetime of the Iceberg project, the favourable/unfavourable developments in each case will be observed. They have undertaken different activities to raise awareness about the problem of gender-based violence, such as presentation of the Iceberg project in conferences, press, media, at local, national and European level.

Fundación Comunidad Valenciana-Región Europea (ES): The representative from the FCVRE informed about the various dissemination activities developed at local, regional and European Level, through press releases, infosheets, dissemination of the project in Conferences, and the material produced in the framework of the project (Logo, notepads, CDs, stickers, folders etc.). She also presented the Iceberg Website which has been created together with the project leader.

Valencia Local Police (ES): Partners from the Valencia Local Police explained their contribution in the training seminars for the Valencian local coalitions. They presented their activities and role in the professional team created for supporting the local coalitions. They also presented the special police unit against abuse (GAMA) of the Valencia Local Police. This unit provides support to victims of gender-based violence. At last, they explained the "WEBPOL online learning platform", to provide online training courses for the local police units.

Finally, the project coordinator spoke about the next steps to follow regarding the awareness campaigns, the website, the results and the data of the baseline survey, the preventive team, International Symposium and coalition exchanges (Coventry-Valencia and Valencia-Mulhouse).

LAUNCHING OF THE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN AND THE WEBSITE

On November 24th, the day before the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, the launching event of the awareness campaigns in the framework of the Iceberg project was held in Cullera (Valencia, Spain).

The event was opened by the Valencian Vice-Minister for Governance, Serafin Castellano, and it was attended by more than 80 people, including members of the local coalitions from Suecia, Tavernes and Cullera, representatives from municipalities and from the Valencian regional government, as well as different police forces.

Besides the launching of the campaign, whose slogan “Before the abuse, you are not alone” refers to citizens’ support for women who suffer this type of violence, the project’s website was presented and a diploma was given to the members of the coalitions for their participation in the training sessions against this type of violence.

Mr. Castellano highlighted that “*The intention of the Iceberg project was to reinforce the development of preventive policies of social intervention to achieve a public awareness of this social problem*”. This aim is expected to be successfully achieved by the awareness campaigns of the Iceberg project.

The campaign began on 28th November with the dissemination of the project

through posters referring to the project, and informing the public. Furthermore, on 1st December, representatives from the Valencian Regional Ministry for Governance of the Generalitat Valenciana, set up a stand at the street market of Cullera, to collaborate with their Local Coalition to continue the dissemination of the campaign. It must be stressed the high rate of participation and interest of citizens and their level of awareness and involvement to fight against this social problem.



WEBSITE

The website, also launched on November 24th, has been designed as an important tool to disseminate the project and to help victims of gender-based violence. The page is structured in different sections. The first one offers an overview about the project, its partners, associates, local coalitions, as well as about the multidisciplinary preventive team.

There’s a second section mainly targeted to victims of gender-based violence, where can be found a questionnaire for the self-evaluation that once filled in, if the woman has answered affirmatively to some of these questions, it is important for her to review her relationship. It recommends to get in touch with a qualified professional or with the local coalition to deeply evaluate the risks of mistreatment to which can

be exposed to. Visitors can also find a guide for abused women carried out by the Police of the Valencian Regional Government with useful advices and recommendations for encouraging victims to react and ask for help.

The next sections contain news about the project and outstanding events, as well as documents or publications related to the project, such as an Infosheet or Newsletters. Events are also showed through a visible calendar in the main page situated close to a banner of the WEBPOL, Virtual Platform of vocational training for European local police. Finally there is a contact form that visitors can fill in if they want to receive more information about the project or help.

<http://www.iceberg-project.eu/>



PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

Although the project has been disseminated through several conferences and events during the last months, it is important to highlight two of the most recent, celebrated in the framework of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (November, 25th).

International Symposium on Police Procedures against Gender-based Violence

The City of Valencia hosted an International Symposium on Police Procedures against Gender-based Violence organized by the Valencia Local Police (City of Valencia) together with the Fundación Comunidad Valenciana – Región Europea, on the 22nd and 23rd November.



In the event participated leading members of the Council of Europe, European Parliament and the European Commission Representation in Spain as well as representatives of the European networks “Women Against Violence Europe” (WAVE) and “European Network for Migrant Women” (ENMV).

The ICEBERG project was presented by Asunción Quinzá, Regional Vice-Minister of the Valencian Regional Government for Governance, who in her inaugural speech stressed “the importance of participating in European experiences to fight against gender-based violence” and said that

“the Valencian Regional Government for Governance will continue focusing on training and specialization through the Valencian Institute of Public Safety and Emergencies (IVASPE) and through European projects such as Iceberg”.

On the other hand, Estefanía Navarrete, Inspector of the Valencian Local Police and Coordinator of the GAMA Group against violence on women, during the presentation of a Manual of Good Practices developed for the police management against this kind of violence, highlighted the ICEBERG project for engaging the citizenship through the creation of local coalitions to support and help women victims of gender-based violence.

In addition, there was a stand to disseminate the project. This event was attended by more than 300 people, most of them belonging to different State Security Forces.

IX Congress on Violence Against Women

The County Council of Alicante organized a Congress to fight against Gender-based Violence for the ninth year on 22 and 23 November. It was addressed to social services, health and law professionals, psychologists, women’s associations, teachers, researchers, etc.



The Conference was opened by Luisa Pastor, President of the County Council of Alicante and it tackled issues such as the prevention of gender-based violence associated to alcohol and other drugs, domestic violence among adolescents and disabled women and how to prevent it.

On the morning of Tuesday 22nd the presentation made by Covadonga Naredo, European expert in gender-based violence, who talked about European programs to fight against violence against women was highlighted. This intervention was followed by a presentation made by

Juan Carlos Valderrama, Deputy Director of Safety and Training of the Valencian Regional Ministry for Governance, who was in charge of presenting the Iceberg project as an innovative model in the prevention of gender-based violence.



iceberg project partners

REGIONAL MINISTRY FOR GOVERNANCE OF THE VALENCIAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT (ES)

www.gov.gva.es

One of the major skills of the Regional Department for Governance (Regional Government of Valencia, Generalitat Valenciana) is to address issues such as public safety and emergencies. Since 16 years it has been working in this field through the IVASPE Training Institute for safety and emergencies. In addition, it has experience in European projects and it is specialized in the development of policies related to the prevention of violence against women. As leaders of the project, they will be responsible for the development and coordination of the project.

COVENTRY UNIVERSITY (UK)

wwwm.coventry.ac.uk

Coventry University is an institution of the UK higher education. It also participates in numerous research projects at national and international level, especially focused on developing values to fight all forms of social exclusion. The role of Coventry University in the implementation of the project will especially consist in assessing the quality and the development of the project and its results.

VILLE DE MULHOUSE (FR)

www.mulhouse.fr

It is responsible for local public services, as well as for social issues and activities for the preservation of social cohesion. Since the administration is facing constant problems of violence among its citizens they are a key partner to collaborate with local associations which work on the prevention of domestic gender violence. By participating in the project it will be created a local coalition to prevent violence against women.

NATIONAL INSTITUTION OF MUNICIPAL CLERKS (BU)

www.namcb.org

The National Association of Municipal Clerks in Bulgaria (NAMCB) is a professional non-profit association, established in July 2005. They work closely with the Administration of the Municipality of Sofia, in collaboration with experts from different fields association (health, welfare, etc.).

It has an extensive experience in developing European projects and with its participation in the ICEBERG project they intend to develop new procedures to fight against gender violence.

FUNDACIÓN COMUNIDAD VALENCIANA — REGIÓN EUROPEA (ES)

www.uegva.info

The role of the Fundación Comunidad Valenciana-Región Europea (FCVRE) as dissemination partner includes among other activities: presenting projects at meetings, seminars, conferences and other events relevant at a level, regional and European level as well as its dissemination through articles in specialized magazines, brochures, press releases and European networks.

VALENCIA LOCAL POLICE (ES)

www.policialocalvalencia.es

It counts with more than 1.700 police officers and it is one of the most active of the police services in Spain due to its continued innovation in technology. Furthermore it also has a specialized unit in violence against women: the GAMA group. Since 2003 it has been participating in a large number of European projects. Within the framework of ICEBERG it will collaborate in the training sessions for local coalitions, as well as in the development of tools aimed at preventing such violence.

