

## IO2 – REPORTS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD

The partnership of SAFE Project – A safer life for older women, is proud to present the results of Output 2: the “SAFE Training Curriculum”.

The outcome is a multi-professional training curriculum which is a total package of learning modules for VET teachers and trainers in the social and health care field, on violence/abuse of older women. The package includes the knowledge/information to be transmitted, and also the organization of the curriculum which includes structure, content and sections and the training methods.

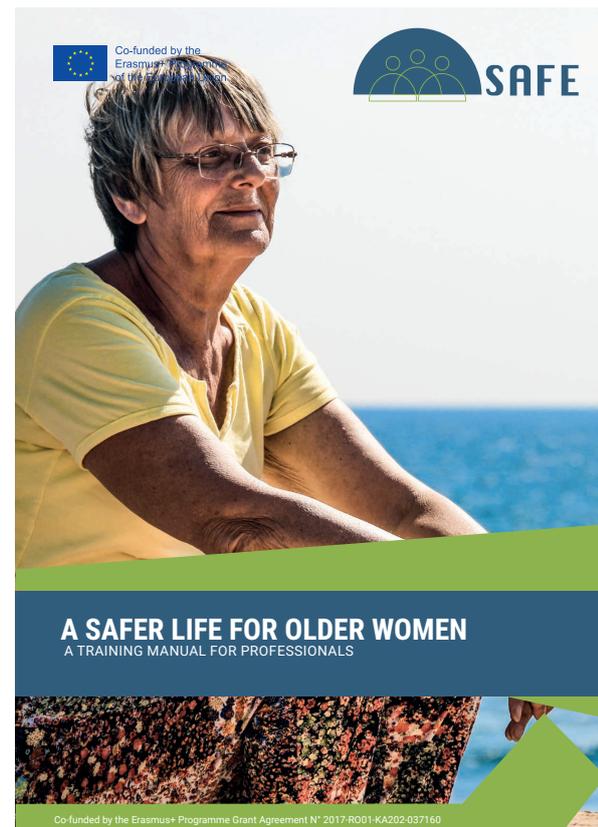
The training programme is built on four modules, plus a fifth one focusing on training for trainers methodologies

- Module 1: Perspectives to violence against older women
- Module 2: Working with an older survivor
- Module 3: Practical procedures
- Module 4: Working as a professional
- Module 5: Conducting Training with Social and Health Care Professionals

The curriculum is available for download through the project website from this link: <http://www.safeeuproject.eu/outputs/>

## COLLABORATIVE LEARNING GROUPS REUNITED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE POLICY PAPER ON PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION IN CASES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST OLDER WOMEN

The aim of Output 3 is to strengthen and sustain the capacity of public, government, nongovernment organizations and service providers to prevent, identify and respond in an adequate manner to violence and abuse of older women. It will be strongly connected with the VET educator/trainers who



educate and train future social and health care professionals and teachers/trainers for the field of elder abuse.

It will also introduce strategic principles and general guidelines for prevention, identification and response to suspected or identified cases of violence and abuse. It will give recommendations for the services, identification and response, multi-agency work, promoting public awareness and education and training.

The partnership applied again the methodology of Collaborative Learning Groups, i.e. multi-professionals working group involving experts in the health and social care field, social and health care trainers/teachers and experts in gender-based violence, discussing together and sharing ideas and experiences on a list of topics proposed by the partnership. Specifically, this time experts were asked to provide inputs in relation to:

1. Development and consolidation of professional competences through adapted training for different categories of professionals working in the field of violence / abuse against older women
2. Development of inter-institutional cooperation and work relations in each country and between institutions inter-countries at EU level in the field of violence / abuse against older women and for ensuring integrated services in the same field
3. Adopting effective and adapted prevention measures in the field of violence / abuse against older women

In **ROMANIA**, Asociatia Habilitas CRFP has organized six collaborative learning groups, in July 2019. The participants were professionals with experience in working with the elderly - doctors, psychologists, social workers, sociologists and law enforcement officers and represented state run and private healthcare providers, state run social services, NGOs active in the area of elderly care, law enforcement institutions and the National Council for the Elderly.

The three specific themes indicated by the IO3 methodology were discussed and the most relevant conclusions were:

- Training on the issue of abuse against older women must be developed and become mandatory for all professionals as part of their compulsory training as well as part of their continuous training with the active implication of educational institutions (universities, professional high-schools, VET providers), professional boards and law enforcement institutions should be involved in developing such training. Adequate monitoring for training activities and daily activities on this issue must be developed and implemented
- Developing a state-run service within the Ministry of Justice or the Ministry of Labor that would organize and manage the development of an inter-institutional network with a clear mandate to improve multi-agency cooperation on the issue of elderly abuse in general and abuse/violence against older women in particular.
- Developing a strategy on elderly care that would include abuse/violence prevention that would include legislative development, creation of services for both victims and perpetrators, training of professional and awareness campaigns addressed both to the general public and professionals.

In **ITALY** the CLGs took place in July 2019 and involved both new participants and professionals that participated to the previous round of discussion which led to the development of IO1. Among the key-recommendations we can mention the importance of incorporating new practices in existing policies and services, thus not requiring additional economic and human resources. Another recommendation referred to the importance of establishing clear and regulated procedures to foster cooperation among different professionals and services, such as cooperation protocols.

In **GREECE**, KMOP implemented the Collective Learning Groups meetings in July of 2019. In total, there were 18 participants of which ten were social workers, five were nurses, two were psychologists and one was a helping staff member. Three topics were discussed in total, with each topic being divided into two meetings for a total of six meetings. Those topics revolved around the development and consolidation of professional competences through adapted training for different categories

of professionals working in the field of violence / abuse against older women, the development of inter-institutional cooperation and work relations in each country and between institutions inter-countries at EU level and the adoption of effective prevention measures. The participants of the CLGs identified all those professions that should be involved in the field of violence/abuse against older women, the various areas for intervention based on job profile, the institutions responsible for the training activities in that field and those that actively deal with cases of violence and gave their useful insight and recommendations for future policies.

Empowering Old Age Coop VoiVa ran six CLG meetings in June-July 2019 in **FINLAND**. The participants (27 in total) represented the public social and health care services and the Vocational College of the city of Helsinki. The main recommendations produced by the group in line with the GLG meeting themes were as follows: to develop the training curriculum of social and health care professionals in basic and advanced vocational training to include basic knowledge on violence against older women, specifically the signs/indicators and consequences of violence as well as support of older female victims; to create and reinforce a centralized system for data collection and analysis on elder abuse in social and health care services; and to develop screening programmes on elder abuse for the needs of all elderly care services, and provide the social and health care professionals the required training, advice and support mechanisms.

In **PORTUGUAL** the main recommendation emerged from the CLGs concerned the need to create friendly tools to report cases of abuse. One possibility is to create an electronic platform for health professionals and even older persons themselves to fill with situations of mistreatment that deserve attention. This platform would be also an instrument to guide action to those that fill it. Participants also considered compulsory training on elder abuse topics for different professionals as the only way to warrant basic skills for coping with older person's abuse issues. In line with this, it was suggested that certain professional services deserve that hiring employees for them, should require previous specific training in older adults' abuse issues. Examples for these services are residential facilities or care homes, unities of long care and services of geriatric psychiatry. Another suggestion concerned the creation of spaces and time for reflection between professionals in different positions of the intervention circuit on older adults' mistreatment. These spaces for presenting and reflecting in cases of abuse are a necessary movement bottom-up that can neutralize the worst parts of the strategy top-down that guide sometimes in a messy way the action of professionals. Additionally, it was proposed the offering on a regular basis, of training programs with different levels of complexity and whose umbrella should be gerontology and not only violence as a social phenomenon. Finally, it was recommended that professionals that cope with older adults' mistreatment cases should have support and protection in the quantity and quality they need.

## SAVE THE DATE!

The final conference of SAFE project will be organized in Bucharest, Romania, Ramada Majestic Hotel, on 25th October 2019, by DGASMB - project coordinator and Asociatia Habilitas CRFP, with participation of all partners and of different stakeholders in the VET, social and medical care of the aging field. All project results and activities will be presented, and different speakers will talk on actual issues in the field of prevention and combating violence against older women, including a speaker from University College London, UK.

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