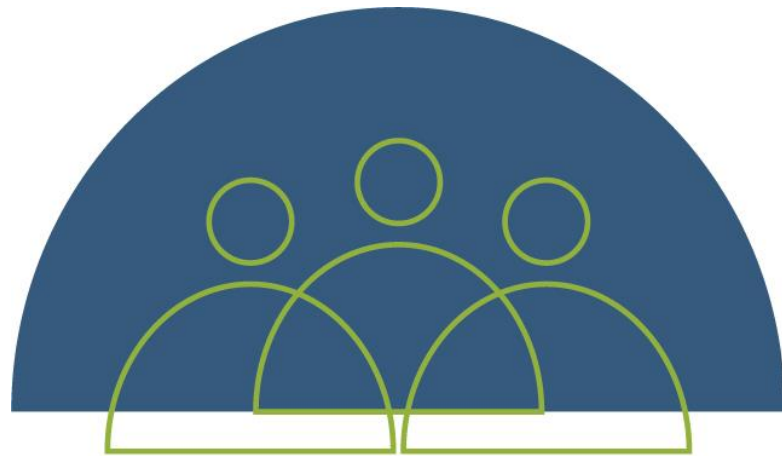




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SAFE

Project Output 2:

A Safer life for older women – A training curriculum for professionals

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The curriculum

- Is designed for teachers and trainers to deliver training on the prevention of and response to violence and abuse against older women. Trainers should have field experience working with older victims and survivors.
- The main target group for training is professionals of health and social care. The manual provides ideas for the basic education of social and health care students and in-training and further training of professionals.
- Violence against older persons is a shared field between domestic violence services and elderly care. The curriculum aims to combine these two separate fields.



Objectives

- to improve professional development of teachers and trainers to work as educators in violence against older persons and in gender-specific issues
- to improve quality of teaching and training for developing working life-oriented training curriculum
- to build capacity of social and health care professionals to identify and intervene in abuse of older women
- to support social and health care authorities and professionals as well as other stakeholders to develop intervention measures in cases of violence against older women



Modules

The curriculum is divided into 5 modules:

- 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
- Each module includes the topics and their theoretical background, learning outcomes and key messages.
 - The suggested teaching methods (exercises) are published as a separate booklet.



Module 1: Perspectives to violence against older women

- Definitions
 - Elder abuse
 - Violence against older women
 - Domestic violence
- Theories of abuse
- Diversity of violence against older women
 - Prevalence, forms and special features of violence against older women
 - Perpetrators of older women
 - Domestic violence and dementing illnesses
- Human rights and women's rights approach



Module 2: Working with an older survivor

- Long-term suffering and its consequences
 - Trauma caused by violence for older women
- Help seeking process and challenges of older women victims of domestic violence
 - Why older women do not leave?
- Working with older women
 - Risk factors, signs, red flags of violence on older women
 - Psychological First Aid (PFA)



Module 3: Practical procedures

- Promising practices in identification, examination and treatment of older victims of domestic violence
 - Screening/routine enquiry
 - Examination and documentation for health care professionals
- Multi-agency cooperation
 - How to build multi-agency cooperation and trust
- Safeguarding and protection of older abused women
 - Safety planning for older women victims of violence



Module 4: Working as a professional

- Professional challenges in working with older trauma survivors
 - Secondary traumatization, compassion fatigue and professional burnout
 - Protective factors
- General ethical guidelines and considerations
 - Working with family members and perpetrator
- Safety issues of professionals
 - health and social care settings as public places with open access
- Safety issues of workers



Module 5: Conducting Training with Social and Health Care Professionals

- How to develop a training agenda
- Mentoring

Appendix: Booklet of exercises



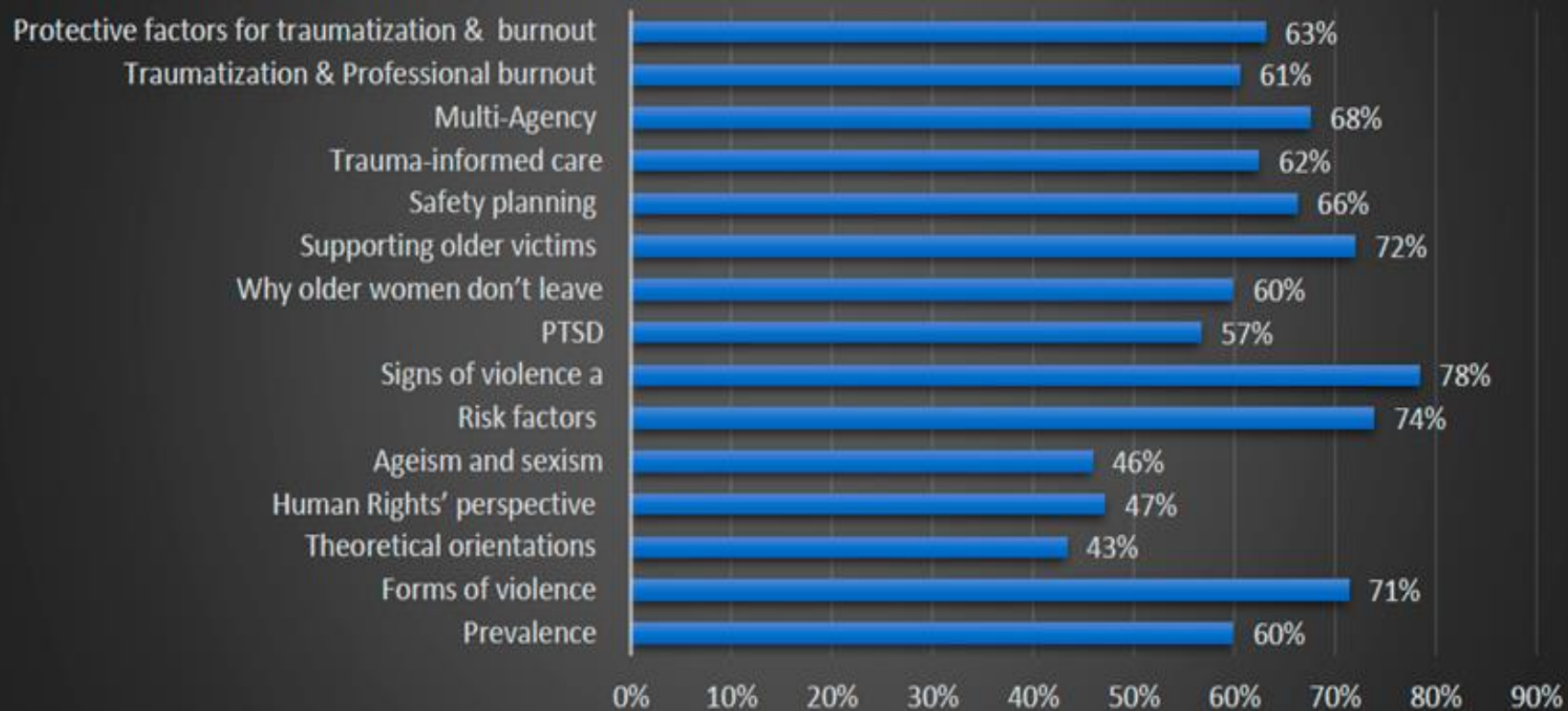
Piloting of the curriculum

- The training curriculum was piloted in each country with similar approaches and target groups but taking into account the local specificities and needs.
- The piloting was evaluated through pre- and post-questionnaires
- Pre-questionnaire collected some demographic information about participants and assessed existing knowledge, perceived priorities and expectation.
- Post-questionnaire collected information about perceived utility of the training



Outcomes of the piloting

Perceived high relevance of topics



Outcomes of the piloting

- After taking part in the training, over 95% of participants believed that elder abuse should have a higher priority in their workplace
- 97% of participants claimed that they have learned something new on elder abuse
- 97% of participants either agreed or completely agreed with the statement “I am very satisfied of the information gained through the workshop”
- Overall, the outcomes highlight that the methodology was effective and appreciated by participants



Thank you!

The curriculum and the booklet of exercises are available in Romanian, Italian, Finnish, Greek and Portuguese.

Please visit <http://www.safeeuproject.eu/outputs/> to download.

You may contact VoiVa Coop at info@voiva.fi



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