

Call for Partners

PROJECT TYPE

Erasmus+ KA2 Capacity Building for youth in ACP countries, Latin America and Asia

PROJECT NAME

Erasmus+ Together4Equality - Raising awareness about gender stereotyping

GOAL

With this project, we aim to empower state actors, institutions, the private sector, and civil society to make a greater contribution to combating violence against women.

THE MAIN IDEA OF THE PROJECT

One in four young males and one in ten young females in Serbia believe that a slap across the face does not constitute violence, according to the research conducted during 2016 by the Autonomous Women's Centre.

Reasons why one in ten young males support the standpoint that there are situations in which it is justifiable to hit a female partner, and why one in 33 girls agrees with that, can be found in the upbringing and education of young people who primarily adopt the pattern of violent behavior from their parents. Considering that every other woman in Serbia has been subjected to some type of psychological violence, and every third woman to physical violence by their intimate partners, it is evident what kind of behavioral patterns boys and girls are exposed to while growing up.

One of the most significant social determinants of violence is gender inequality and its associated harmful gendered norms and beliefs, as it hampers the social, political and economic development of individuals, families, communities and broader society. Gender inequality helps to fuel and embed gender-based violence as 'normal' and acceptable behavior.

In Serbia, gender inequality is a deeply rooted issue and violence against women is still very much present. A report of the Republican Institute for Social Protection: The Work of all Centres for Social Work (CSW) in Serbia (2014), indicated that women make up 88% of adult victims of gender-based violence. According to the same data source, girls make up 80% of victims of sexual violence.

According to the data collected by UNICEF, through Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) only four years earlier, men and boys between 15 and 29 were more likely than women of the same age to believe there are justifiable reasons for beating women. Community-level research with young men in Serbia, conducted by Centar E8 found that 17% of boys and young men agree that sexual violence is caused by women's inappropriate behavior.

The number of reported cases of violence against women is increasing. In 2016 the number of reports was 24 percent higher compared to 2015, which is as much as 57.8 percent higher compared to 2014. The Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence is being enforced, but there is uncertainty in terms of effects on the protection of women and other victims.

Research data obtained over different time periods, on different samples and using various methodologies show similarities and a consistent prevalence of violence against women. Almost every other woman (46.1%) had experienced at some point in life some type of violence, and every third woman (30.6%) was physically assaulted by a family member, and at least 6% experienced sexual violence. A research conducted in Vojvodina has confirmed these findings and contributed information on the exposure of women to the threats of violence (27%), economic violence (11.4%), persecution (18.6%) and sexual violence (9%). The number of reported cases is on the rise, and that is partially due to the increased willingness of women to report the attacks. However, they don't always meet the response they might be expecting or hoping for. People working in relevant institutions might not always be sensitive to the needs of abuse victims, might not always consider them to be victims in the first place and might assume the victim somehow provoked the abuser. This should not happen.

The problem is there. It layered. It's complicated. It's multinational, but it is also local. It affects both boys and girls, men and women. Both the general population and the decision makers.

The problem is there, but it is not unsolvable.

By carefully approaching youth workers, youth leaders, NGO activists, representatives of student organizations and all others working/dealing with target groups affected by gender related discrimination, we believe we could make a step forward in finding the solution. Changing the way of thinking of young children. Raising awareness among teenagers. Adjusting the approach to victims by the first responders. And finally influencing the women themselves and empowering them to fight for their own rights.

With the main focus being on the talent discovery, building capacity, skills and maintaining a two-way learning process, by the end of this project, each partner organization will be capable of working on improving topic-related situation in their own country.

This project will include following topics:

- Relationship building and empowerment
- Time management
- Planning techniques
- Personal capacity building
- Professional skills development
- Interactive knowledge transfer
- Support human rights
- Types of discrimination
- No hate speech
- Prejudice, stereotype and tolerance
- Individual differences
- Intolerance online and offline

- Informing about discrimination and discriminated groups
- Responsibility and purpose of institutions
- Social behavior
- Exclusion of the individual or entities based on illogical or irrational decision making
- Social engagement
- Providing participants concrete practical knowledge and skills

Main activities of this ERASMUS+ long-term project are:

- *Creating project website*
- *Creating visual identity of project*
- **Contact making event - one of the program countries**
- *Local research related to the topic in all of the partner organization countries*
- **1st Mobility - Training course - Serbia**
- *Local capacity building activities*
- **2nd Mobility - Seminar - one of the program countries**
- *Local workshops - working with the target group*
- **Final conference - Serbia**
- **Evaluation meeting - one of the program countries**

OBJECTIVES

- To provide info to our participants about mentorship process
- To train and educate participants to transfer knowledge to the target group
- To raise awareness about the gender biases and gender related discrimination
- To use Erasmus+ Programme as a tool for improving the position of affected groups

TARGET GROUP

In this project we are inviting NGO activists, youth workers, young leaders, and all other that are working with unemployed young women and other groups affected by gender related discrimination.

EXPECTED RESULTS

We expect this project will result in all of the partner organizations completely qualified and capable to implement workshops in their local elementary schools, secondary schools and in work with the first responders and decision makers.

PROFILE OF PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

We are looking for partner (youth) organizations whose activities are related to women, and other target groups affected by gender related discrimination.

Organizations **must be** established in **Erasmus+ Program countries and Other Partner Countries from Regions 5 to 14** (check on Erasmus+ Programme guide pages 22, 23 and 24).

If you are interested in becoming a partner organization in our project please send us: Filled partnership identification form – in form of a Word document (.doc) to E-mail: obuke.nzi@gmail.com

Deadline for receiving partnership identification form is: **25 January 2020**

Only selected partner organization will be contacted and asked for additional information!

WHO WE ARE

The Women's Initiative of Novi Sad was established in May 2010 as an informal group made up of students who were socially active at the time and worked through various youth, civic and student organizations, as well as through student and youth representative bodies. The founders and members gathered within the framework of the National Theater Institute in order to initiate and actively participate in the cultural, social, civic and political transformation of the Serbian society as a whole.

The main objectives of the organization are:

- ✓ Active work in the field of raising the level of civic awareness
- ✓ Encouraging women to actively participate in society
- ✓ Developing women's cooperation and providing conditions for participation in decision-making through a sustainable institutional framework, based on the needs of women and in partnership with women
- ✓ Providing healthy living and social conditions for the upbringing and upbringing of children
- ✓ Developing a system of informing women at all levels and in all areas
- ✓ Ensuring the exercise of the right to equal opportunities for all women in society, especially women living in harsh conditions and particularly vulnerable women
- ✓ Improving the living conditions of vulnerable social groups
- ✓ Encouraging and evaluating the exceptional manifestations and achievements of women and children in different areas
- ✓ Improving opportunities for quality leisure time for women and children
- ✓ Preservation of traditional values, old crafts, homemade craftsmanship and hand crafts
- ✓ Developing, promoting, encouraging and stimulating employment of women, self-employment of women and women's entrepreneurship
- ✓ Improving conditions for the safe life of women and children

- ✓ Preservation and promotion of the health of women and children, reduction of risks and leading health disorders and development of health care tailored to women and children
- ✓ Empowering women for initiatives and activities that are in line with the basic goals of sustainable development and a healthy environment
- ✓ Advocacy for the protection of basic rights and freedoms in order to improve the standard of living and quality of life
- ✓ Advocacy for the protection of nature and a healthy environment
- ✓ Activities aimed at nurturing, developing and protecting the family as the basic cells of society