



E-MARIA - EUROPEAN MANUAL ON RISK ASSESSMENT

NEWSLETTER

March 2013

E-MARIA is funded by the European Commission, DG Criminal Justice, to develop innovative approaches to and instruments for risk assessment and management in the field of domestic violence in order to increase the prediction of re-assault and to promote the safety and security of victims of violence, as well as the recovery, empowerment and autonomy of survivors and to prevent further victimisation.

E-MARIA PROJECT ACTIVITIES IN THE FIRST PROJECT PHASE

During the first year, based on comprehensive needs analysis activities the partner institutions (from Portugal, Austria, Germany and Lithuania) developed a European Manual on Risk Assessment as well as two training manuals – one is targeting professionals and one is targeting survivors of intimate partner violence (IPV). In addition, a number of transnational meetings and online sessions have been implemented, according to the project design.

European Manual on Risk Assessment






The *European Manual on Risk Assessment* was launched in December 2012 at Kaunas (Lithuania) in a transnational conference and on the 14th of January in a seminar in Lisbon (Portugal).

The E-MARIA project intends to contribute towards improving interventions in domestic violence, developing innovative approaches and instruments for risk assessment in order to more accurately assess the likelihood of re-assault and to promote the safety and security of victims/survivors of violence.

Safety and security are basic conditions for victims/survivors to recover from their abusive relationship and to (re)-build their lives violence free.

The Manual supports an integrated and holistic approach validating women's perception of risk to contribute to reducing homicides and attempts of homicide.

The manual consists of six chapters with the following contents:

-  *Introduction*
Project background, motivation, results from the needs analysis, target groups, principles
-  *Women's Human Rights*
Women Humans Rights and definitions – for example: what is violence against women?
-  *Risk Language*
Understanding: risk language, intimate partner violence and its impact, support intervention



- ⚠ *Risk Assessment*
Objectives, principles, proceedings, instruments
- ⚠ *Risk Management*
Objectives, principles, proceedings, information sharing, referral, high risk situations, legal issues, crisis management, safety plans, children and adolescents
- ⚠ *Community Networks*
Understanding community networks, core issues, objectives, procedures, myths about partnership work

We consider that this Manual on Risk Assessment and Management as a specific guideline will support professionals' intervention around Europe.

The Manual is available for download on the project website: http://e-maria.eu/?page_id=13

Training for Professionals

In complement to the Manual, the E-MARIA partners developed a training course related to risk assessment and management directed for professionals. The main aim of this training course is to deepen knowledge on intimate partner violence (IPV), especially on risk assessment and management and to understand the dynamic nature of risk and ways to assess and manage it. It also intends to contribute to promoting the recovery and empowerment of women survivors of violence.

The training targets professionals that work directly on this matter, with special focus on legal, paralegal and judicial professionals and law enforcement authorities, and professionals who provide frontline services for victims. It also addresses all professionals who intervene in the field of IPV, taking into account that the implementation of risk assessment has an impact on all levels of the intervention.

Besides the content directly related to risk assessment and management issues, the training gives a general introduction to IPV and includes complementary topics such as Human Rights, professional roles; community network, and coping strategies.

The training is based on a combination of web-based training modules and face-to-face workshops, as shown in the following table.

	eLearning hours	F2F hours
Human Rights	4	
General Introduction to IPV	7.5	
Risk Identification, Assessment and Management	16.5	6
Role of Professionals	15.5	
Community Networks	7.5	
Coping Strategies	7	1
	58 hrs	7 hrs

The online modules are designed as self-learning course for an individual, and with interaction in a group. They are delivered on a specifically designed Moodle platform. The e-learning modules are specially designed to prepare, repeat or support the trainer-led sessions. Moreover, participants can deepen their knowledge independently at their pace.

Moreover, the face-to-face workshops are based on several learning methodologies, such as: brainstorming, group discussion, case studies, and role plays. Special importance will be given to the exchange of experiences and reflection of good practices.

The pilot training will be implemented between **11th March till 26th April** in the partners' countries. If you are interested to receive more information, please contact the partnership.

Training for Survivors

Based on the need analysis report of the project, the partnership has conceived a training package for survivors of violence to contribute to their personal development and empowerment. This training intends to raise awareness of Women Human Rights, gender issues, domestic violence and its risk and impact, to create understanding for the protection mechanisms at European and at national levels, and to promote the development of personal, social and employment skills, based on an active citizenship approach. The training includes ten modules dedicated to different themes, including: Women Human Rights, domestic violence, children and domestic violence, personal safety, personal development, life project, active citizenship and prevention, gender equality, development of employment skills and ICT – Information and Communication Technologies.

	F2f
Women Human Rights	3h
Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence	6h
Children and DV/IPV	3h
Personal Safety	3h
Personal Development	6h
Life Project	3h
Active Citizenship	3h
Development of Professional Skills	6h
Gender Equality	6h
ICT – Information and Communication Technologies	3h
	45 hrs



The Project E-MARIA (Ref. JUST/2010/JPEN/AG/1599) has been funded with financial support of the Criminal Justice Programme of the European Commission. The contents of this newsletter are the sole responsibility of the Project Partners and reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.



E-MARIA WEBSITE

For further information, please contact either the coordinator or one of the partner organisations.

www.e-maria.eu

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