

Needs and Resources Analysis for Gender Sensitization and Gender Based Violence Prevention Programmes with Male Migrants and Refugees

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1. Introduction

This report presents the results of an analysis of needs and resources for gender sensitization and prevention of gender-based violence with male refugees and migrants as part of the FOMEN project.

The project "FOcus on MEN: gender-based violence prevention work with male refugees and migrants" is a two-year European project, funded by the European Union's Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (project no REC-RDAP-GBV-AG-2018 - 856614). It is run by partner organizations based in six European countries and it is coordinated by "Verein für Männer- und Geschlechterthemen Steiermark (VMG)" in Austria. The project aims to promote innovative approaches in the prevention of gender-based violence among male refugees and migrants, avoiding the double discrimination suffered by this vulnerable group, that refers to the different stereotypes and barriers they face in the country that they are being hosted and also in being restricted by their own cultural codes, religion and customs in their communities (Pittaway & Bartolomei, 2018).

Globally, migration has been on the rise significantly over the past years, characterized by a crisis of refugee reception as well as increased forced displacement, an unprecedented situation since WWII (UNFPA, 2016). As people flee from war and conflict, and become displaced, the breakdown of social structures and the unfamiliar living environments and requirements challenge traditional gender relations, social norms and ties (Lindsey-Curtet, Holst-Roness, & Anderson, 2004). This makes refugees vulnerable to further violence and discrimination.

Women are often more vulnerable and isolated than men in the host countries due to a variety of reasons (Kawar, 2004): continued exposure to all forms of gender-based violence in their home countries and during the migration journey; higher difficulty encountered when seeking asylum, especially when it comes to providing evidence or when they have suffered gender-based persecution, as they are not willing to tell or re-live their story; their child-caring role; pressure by male family members (husband, brothers, cousins, etc.); education and language, a great obstacle to the integration and cultural and economic independence of women and girls (Reception of female refugees and asylum seekers in the EU - Case study Germany, 2016).

Violence against refugee women is extremely hard to quantify because there are a lot of hidden victims that are ashamed or afraid of punishment from their family and revictimization by the institutions of the host countries who could deny their status as refugees.

It is estimated that female refugees are more likely to be victims of gender-based violence than any other female group (Freedman, Sexual and gender-based violence against refugee women: a hidden aspect of the refugee "crisis", 2016). It is therefore of paramount importance to create specialized services and improve the network of services for migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. In general, it is important to raise awareness about gender-based violence, report more cases, create an international network of experts and provide services across multiple sectors (prevention of abuse, management of the consequences of violence, etc.), educate operators from a gender perspective to take care of the migrant population in response to prevention.

Gender Based Violence has always been characterized by female victimhood and male perpetration. It is worth noting that male victimhood happens a lot and the consequences are devastating. GBV against men, and from men to men, is an issue since the survivors very often struggle to disclose or seek support (Chynoweth S. , 2017).

The reason behind this difficulty lies within the toxic constructions of masculinity, that men are expected to be dominant, express anger and emotions such fear, sadness and vulnerability are prohibited (Freedman, 2012)

The often biased legal framework and the fact that the police and service providers may not know how to identify violence against men as well as the lack of empathy across them, perpetuate the unwillingness of male survivors to disclose that they have been victims and they find themselves belittled (UNHCR, 2010)

The FOMEN project addresses the issue of how migration processes and experiences collide with gender norms, especially focusing on diverse concepts of masculinity (Connel, 2005) (Hearn, 1998). It has been evident that there are variations in attitudes towards gender-based violence across different societies (Farahani, 2008). Differences in religion, ethnic origin or geographically based culture play a significant part in the perception of gender-based violence (Njibwakale, 2019). A significant impact of gender-based violence on individual health and wellbeing, whether as victims, perpetrators, or communities as a whole has become evident. To minimize the impact of previous experiences of violence there is a need

to develop gender sensitive prevention services and to improve existing services for refugees and migrants.

The FOMEN project addresses the fact that migration can create conflicts between different ways of understanding gender-based violence, for example in relation to views on relationships, family, children and youth, women, sexual exploitation, and masculinities. FOMEN aims to work with male migrants and refugees in the form of dialogue-oriented seminars, to encourage but also challenge their reflection on the topics of gender roles, self-care, social relations, violence prevention and caring masculinities. Innovative methods will allow learning through shared experiences: participants will use creative means of expression (dialogue or art-based tools), through which the reflection on attitudes will be encouraged. It is essential to produce and share knowledge across the EU in order to challenge the inequalities that underpin gender-based violence in both countries of origin and host countries.

The project's interdisciplinary team from six countries, together with national experts, have identified needs, resources and good practices in relation to violence prevention work with male refugees and migrants. Based on this analysis, quality standards will be developed for gender sensitization and violence prevention programmes. Also, a manual will be created towards implementing a training programme for professionals in the partner countries and beyond. Within the project, intervention / education programmes will be carried out with male migrants or refugees with the aim to encourage their reflection on topics such as gender roles, violence prevention, self-care and caring masculinities.

This transnational report on the needs and resources for gender sensitivity and violence prevention programmes with male migrants and refugees is based on the six national reports of the participating partner countries and will summarize their main results pointing out similarities and differences in the needs and resources detected.

2. Country situations: migration statistics, policies and health provision

The project has been implemented in six European countries with many similarities but with many differences as well. Especially in the field of migration the context differs a lot in each country as some of the countries have a tradition as a host country, in particular the northern European countries, and some countries have recently started to have inflows of migrants and refugees, in particular the southern European countries. Additionally, some countries such as Greece, Italy and Spain act as first reception countries while in the others the population is relocated from other countries where they have either request for asylum status or not.

Europe has encountered a refugee crisis in recent years due to continuing conflicts and human rights violations in many countries. This has led to the displacement of millions of people, who seek refuge in Europe.

Every European country follows a different approach within regards to the refugee crisis and the migration policies differentiate significantly amongst the European destination countries. The Variance in the recognition rates of the asylum applications is the most compelling indicator of such differences.

According to Eurostat there was a recognition rate of only 14,8% of all applications in Greece, while in Germany the rate was up to 41.6% in 2014 (Eurostat, 2015).

In 2018 the rate of first-time asylum applications was high for Germany with a striking 161,009 and 142,005 in 2019. The number of first instance decisions in 2019 was 154,002 with a 45,6% being positive.

The same year Spain received a record-breaking number of 52,700 requests for asylum applications and in 2019 115,002 with a positive outcome for 66,2% on first instance decisions. It is worth mentioning that 60,7% of the positive decisions on first instance were granted for humanitarian reasons.

Croatia received 700 first time applications in 2018 and 1,300 in 2019 with a positive 17,5% on first instance decisions on the same year and a 88 percent rejections on final decisions.

In Italy in 2018 there were 53,004 first time asylum applications and 35,000 on 2019 with 19,7% positive final decisions.

In Austria, the refugee statistics for 2019 in total are 10,008 for first time asylum applications with a decrease since there were 11,006 in 2018. The first instance decisions of applications had a positive percentage of 53,5 in 2019, while in the same year the number of final decisions on asylum applications was at 55,7% (Eurostat - Data Explorer, 2008-2019).

A short summary of each country's situation will be followed by a presentation of the results of the quantitative and qualitative research.

2.1. Austria

Austria, a country with 8,858,775 inhabitants, has experienced two significant periods of refugee emergency inflows in the last 40 years: Net immigration only surpassed 50,000 per year in 1989-91 and 2015-2016. 88,098 individuals applied for asylum in 2015 (Statistik Austria, 2019) – this corresponded to about 1% of the Austrian population and almost 7% of all asylum applicants in the EU (Isabella Buber-Ennser, 2016). Since then, the number of asylum applications has fallen heavily (2017: 24,735 asylum applications, i.e. 41.5% fewer than in the previous year) (Integration Report 2018, 2018).

Most persons applying for international protection in 2015 and 2016 came from Syria and Afghanistan followed by Iraq, Iran and Pakistan. Later on, there was a shift in countries of origin: Main countries of origin of asylum seekers in 2018 were Syria, Afghanistan, Iran, Russian Federation, Iraq, Nigeria, Somalia and Georgia with significant differences in the quota of recognition (e.g. persons from Georgia and Nigeria have very limited chances to be accepted for international protection, whilst Syrian and Iran nationals have a much higher recognition rate) (COMMON Home, 2019). A significant rise in the number of female asylum applicants in Austria can be identified in 2017, which reflects family reunification with persons entitled to asylum already resident in Austria. In this year, women were in the majority among asylum seekers from Syria with 57% (absolute: 4,210 Syrian women). In the case of applications from Afghanistan, women made up only a minority (33%, 1,229 Afghan women); among asylum seekers from Pakistan, there were almost no women (2%, 39 Pakistani women) (INTEGRATIONBERICHT 2018, 2018). Asylum seekers coming to Austria are as a group younger than the average for the entire population.

The events of 2015 and onwards were accompanied by often discriminatory attitudes toward Muslims in Austrian media and everyday discourse, like in many other EU countries (Isabella Buber-Ennser, 2016). The religious identity of persons seeking asylum was widely discussed. The integration of refugees also became a very dominant topic in Austrian politics with a focus on labor market measures, language, and cultural orientation. New policies were

developed and re-developed, and a number of political parties made migration their main issue, which is still influencing Austrian politics now in 2020.

In 2016, “temporary asylum” was introduced. Since then, beneficiaries of refugee status are no longer granted an unlimited right of residence but only one that is limited to a period of three years. After three years, it is extended to an unlimited period if the status is not withdrawn. Legal insecurities are prevailing for beneficiaries of subsidiary protection. Since 2014, their protection status and hence residence permit is issued for one year and has to be renewed thereafter every second year (Asylum Act §8) (COMMON Home, 2019).

The Integration Act (IntG) was introduced in June 2017 and came in effect at the start of 2019. The Integration Act (IntG) binds legal claims for integration measures (e.g. language courses) to duties and sanction mechanisms. Recognized refugees and persons granted subsidiary protection (15 years and older) must sign the “Integration Declaration”, immediately after the recognition of their protection status. The declaration demands a German language level of A2 among others, including sanctions in case of non-compliance, resulting in cutting social assistance, the last social net support for persons who have not been sufficiently entitled into the social security system in Austria. For refugees and persons granted subsidiary protection it is hardly possible to reach the minimum social security entitlements which allow access to the benefits of the unemployment security (COMMON Home, 2019).

Although formal health access is granted in Austria, research suggests that marginalized groups, in particular asylum seekers and undocumented migrants, encounter manifold barriers to health services, which are partly addressed by NGOs and civil society organizations (Barriers to health care access and service utilization of refugees in Austria: Evidence from a cross-sectional survey, 2019). In comparison to Austrians it would appear that displaced persons’ health status is polarized by gender, with males reporting better health (89% compared with 81% of Austrian males) and women reporting worse health (69% compared with 77% of Austrian females) than in the host country’s population (Isabella Buber-Ennsner, 2016). According to another study (Barriers to health care access and service utilization of refugees in Austria: Evidence from a cross-sectional survey, 2019), female refugees more often reported consultation of psychologists, psychotherapists or psychiatrists than male (13% of female versus 5% of male refugees). The authors of the survey also state that “two in ten male and four in ten female refugees report unmet health needs. Most frequently cited barriers include scheduling conflicts, long waiting lists, lack of knowledge

about doctors, and language.” The authors recommend to improve refugees’ access to health care in Austria by a) improving the information flow about available treatment, in particular specialists, b) fostering dental health care for refugees, and c) addressing language barriers by providing (web-based) interpretation services.”

With regards to protection from violence, there are some gender-specific barriers and dangers for refugees. According to the Austrian Report for the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO) from 2016, *“in several of the nine provinces of Austria, some groups of migrant or refugee women, especially undocumented and asylum-seeking women and women with limited social rights and benefits, face barriers to accessing women’s shelters [...] because funding for the women’s shelter depends on the individual women’s entitlement to social benefits.”* (Austrian NGO-Shadow Report, 2016). Due to their vulnerable financial situation, refugees of all genders can become victims of abusive, exploitative relationships with Austrian citizens, who offer financial help, help with housing and so on in exchange for intimate relationships. This holds true also for men. There has been journalistic research into this topic, with special focus on so-called “sugar mamas” who exploit young men (Sugar Mamas Und Ihre Fluechtlinge, 2017) as well as reports from NGOs, which state that male immigrants already living in Austria can become victims of human trafficking (Männer als Betroffene von Menschenhandel in Österreich, 2015).

2.2. Croatia

Croatia does not have a tradition as an immigration destination. Historically it had ongoing and high outward economic migration. In the beginning of 20th century this was to North America due to agricultural and economic crisis, and after the Second World War political emigration to South America, Australia, and the US. During the nineteen sixties and seventies, the economic emigration again increased, mostly to Germany and Sweden. During the war following the breakup of former Yugoslavia humanitarian migration included outward going refugees from Croatia (about 200,000) and incoming refugees from Bosnia Herzegovina (about 400,000). The more significant refugee migration from non-European countries into Croatia started in 2014.

Between September 2015 and March 2016, the “Balkan refugee route” was redirected through Croatia with thousands of refugees and migrants transported every day by trains, amounting up to over 600,000 people going through the country. Very few refugees

requested asylum in Croatia, and if so, they actually attempted to travel further to Germany, Netherlands, Sweden and other Western EU countries. The Croatian Ministry of Interior (MUP) collects statistical data and publishes reports about international protection in Croatia. Over the last 12 years, more than 8,000 people have requested asylum in Croatia. A total of 799 people received international protection, including relocated persons (Ministry of Interior). After the EU closed its borders, the pressure of illegal migration through Croatia increased in 2018, about 6,600 border police officers processed 8,207 illegal migrants of which 1,068 requested asylum. The others were mostly pushed back to Bosnia and Herzegovina (B&H) and Serbia, while some were detained or returned to third countries. The main countries of origin were Afghanistan, Syria, Iran, Iraq, and Algeria. The number of people who received protection status in 2018 was approximately 50% higher in comparison to 2017. Of the 2018 applicants 50.3% were men, 16.1% were women, 27.6% were children, and 6% unaccompanied minors (Asylum Information Database, Country Report: Croatia, 2018 acc. to IOM mapping report Protect, 2019). The highest recorded numbers of requests for international protection were in the period of 2016 to 2019. In 2016, 2,233 persons requested asylum, 1,858 persons in 2017, 1,068 persons in 2018 and 1,986 persons in 2019. These numbers are not representative of the real frequency of requests because of the (violent) pushbacks on the borders that have become a practice since 2017/2018. Croatia is very restrictive in affording international protection to refugees. On average, Croatian authorities grant international protection to about 9% of persons seeking it. Also, numbers of approved asylum requests are low because many asylum seekers leave the country before their asylum procedure is finalized, making them later vulnerable to being returned to the country where they first requested asylum.

Croatia agreed to accommodate about 1,600 refugees through relocation and resettlement programs; to date, about 250 refugees have come into the country through these programs (Second group of Syrian refugees arrive through Croatia's Resettlement II Programme, 2019). Most of the resettled people also leave for other countries because of a better economic situation and presence of communities from their countries of origin which Croatia generally does not have. Most of the relocated refugees are no longer to be found in Croatia, despite having been informed by Croatian authorities that they could not receive protection in any other country except the country of relocation (Siegfried, 2019). We estimate that, in total, about 400 adults and children remain in the county and are integrating, of which 200 are probably adults. Croatia has two Reception Centres for Asylum Seekers with a total capacity of 700 persons, located in Zagreb and Kutina. Separate premises for women and

vulnerable groups are provided in the Reception Centre in Kutina. Families are kept together, while single women, unaccompanied children and traumatized applicants are accommodated in separate rooms. However, some children have been accommodated together with other asylum seekers in reception centres including children staying alongside single men, people with mental disabilities and persons with substance abuse issues (AIDA, Asylum Information Database Croatia, 2018. according to IOM mapping report Protect, 2019). Unaccompanied children are placed in homes for children without parents and sometimes with children and youth with behavioral problems. A specific challenge is that many asylum seekers, knowing that unaccompanied minors have privileged rights, and are not being deported, claim they are underage. They are placed in correctional facilities for youth, in order to protect unaccompanied children placed in children's homes. There is a lack of a facility that would accommodate migrants who should go through the process of determining their age.

Although the number of applicants for international protection has decreased, there has been an increase in approved international protection in 2019, especially asylum granted - 240 asylums and 25 subsidiary protections were granted, the largest number since the establishment of the asylum system. Females continue to be granted relatively more international protection than males. On the other hand, Ministry of Interior statistics show a continuous increase in irregular (illegal) migration. The tendency to strengthen state border control and effectively control irregular migration, which is the obligation of the Republic of Croatia as an EU member, could jeopardize unhindered and secure access to the asylum system, especially for the most vulnerable groups of women. The Ombudsperson believes that according to the Law on International and Temporary Protection, all social groups and individuals who have been recognized as victims of gender-based violence in their domicile states should have a valid reason for requesting and being granted international protection. This includes rape and sexual violence, genital mutilation of women, forced marriages, domestic violence, honor crimes and gender discrimination, all forms of gender-based violence for which their states do not offer effective protection, or if they do not criminalize and/or prosecute such crimes (2019 Annual Report of the Ombudsperson for Gender Equality).

Having experienced a massive transit of more than 650,000 refugees and other migrants over its territory as part of the Balkan corridor from September 2015 to April 2016, Croatia has committed itself to participate in the EU's quota scheme for the relocation and resettlement of third-country nationals or stateless persons eligible to be granted international protection.

By the end of 2018, approximately 150 persons arrived in Croatia under both schemes, whereby the country met its quota undertaken for 2017 and 2018, out of a total of 1,583 persons it undertook to receive in the future. According to the Ministry of the Interior, about 650 applications were approved by October 2018, of which 510 for full asylum status and 140 for subsidiary protection. The new situation created by the arrival of further refugees under the relocation and resettlement scheme as well as the increased number of those granted protection in Croatia under the standard asylum application procedure triggered the adoption of a new Action Plan for Integration. It focused solely on persons afforded international protection and was adopted in June 2017 for the period to 2019. As stated in the Action Plan itself, “the reason for creating the measures in this Action Plan is precisely the particular vulnerability of persons who have been granted international protection, and the aim is to provide assistance and protection so they can more easily overcome their difficult situation during the refugee, humanitarian crisis that has affected not only EU member states, but also our country” (OHRNM, 2017).

The goal of International and Temporary Protection Act was to ensure the rights of refugees. Thus, the people with refugee status have the rights to: (1) residence in Croatia; (2) family reunification; (3) accommodation; (4) work; (5) health care; (6) education; (7) freedom of religion; (8) free legal aid; (9) social welfare; (10) assistance with integration into society; (11) acquisition of property; and (12) obtaining Croatian citizenship. The assistance with integration also means assistance in learning the Croatian language, history and culture. Furthermore, the Act stressed the importance of preventing discrimination and raising the awareness about problems encountered by refugees.

Also, since Croatia doesn't have many communities of migrants from the Middle East, Africa and Asia, there is a constant lack of interpreters who could become involved in preventive and treatment work. Organizations providing support in this field, therefore, employ people who speak the relevant languages, but they are rarely professional interpreters. The FOMEN partner organization Society for Psychological Assistance (SPA) provides training for interpreters and helpers regarding support to migrants and refugees with the help of translation.

2.3. Germany

The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF - Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge) displays monthly statistical reports concerning asylum information (BAMF, 2020). In 2015, with the beginning of the refugee crisis, Germany experienced a peak of

745,545 refugees and migrants who requested asylum. The number decreased to 165,938 in 2019, and between January and March 2020, Germany received 36,401 asylum applications, which indicates a decrease of 22% compared to the year before (Eurostat, 2020). Based on the applications, the Federal Office of Migration decided to give protection status to 39.5% of the applicants. In 2019, Germany reached 165,938 Asylum applications, of which the main applicants were from Syria, Afghanistan, and Turkey. Based on the asylum procedure law that focuses on refugee protection, asylum applicants from the Middle Eastern and North African region, such as Syrians received a protection ratio of 83.7%, followed by Afghan applicants with 38%, Iraqi applicants with 35% and Iranian applicants with 20.2%. Furthermore, African applicants such as Nigerians receive 6.9% protection quotas, while Eritrean applicants reach a quota of 73.9% for protection. According to the Central Register of Foreigners, 1.3 million people in Germany received asylum protection under the Geneva refugee convention due to different circumstances and regulations, of which 25% are minors and 42.8% are women. Around 274,600 people are in the waiting process of asylum procedures and 191,100 rejected cases are still living in Germany.

In the Federal Republic of Germany, the procedures for seeking asylum are regulated by the Asylum Procedure Act (FMIBC, 2020). Asylum seekers are assigned to the reception centres of the federal state that they arrive in, where they submit their asylum application at the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF, 2020). During the examination and decision process, asylum seekers receive a preliminary right to reside in Germany, until the end of the asylum procedure. In the case of official asylum application acceptance, the applicants are given a preliminary residence permit. This affords them almost the same right as German citizens such as social services, children support, financial support as well as language and integration courses. Since January 2020, the so-called temporary acceptance law, provides refugees and migrants, whose deportation is on hold, with the opportunity to follow an apprenticeship or profession that assures their independent financial sustainability (Bundesministerium des Innern, 2020). The duration of the preliminary residence permit is three years, after which the German authority will determine an eventual extension or denial.

From 2019, the German government has approved different legal measures regarding integration and deportation (InfoMigrants, 2020). On the one hand, these laws are providing refugees and migrants with more employment opportunities; on the other hand, they increase the regulations on deportation. Following are the regulations implemented since 2019 (InfoMigrants, 2019):

- Irregular Migrants and asylum seekers who are over eighteen years old and single are staying in the reception facilities for up to 18 months (InfoMigrants, 2019). In addition, migrants who come from countries that are not listed as coming from war regions from the EU perspective, such as Afghanistan, might face extended deadlines in their stay at reception facilities. However, families may be relocated earlier.
- Refugees who originate from “safe countries of origin”, meaning that there is consistently and generally no persecution as defined in Directive 2004/83/EC, no torture or inhuman or degrading treatment and no threat by no reason of indiscriminate violence in situations of international or internal armed conflict, as classified by the European Commission, Migration and Home Affairs are thereby classified as identity counterfeiters, may face a longer stay in reception facilities (Council Directive 2005/85/EC, 2005).
- The “Orderly Return Law” implements measures that result in detention for the rejection of asylum seekers. Thus, they can be held in custody with convicted felons until they will be returned to their home countries.
- Asylum seekers with undetermined identity are facing reduction in their social welfare income.

In Germany, every inhabitant, no matter what residence status, has the right to medical care. Refugees with residence permit status are entitled to health insurance that covers all regular services that the country provides on health provision, according to the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act (Healthcare for Refugees, 2020). Asylum seekers who fall under the category of tolerated stay (“Duldung”) and those who are entitled to a “border crossing certificate” are divided into the following subgroups:

- Asylum seekers who are residing in Germany for less than 15 months, are only entitled to emergency healthcare. This excludes all chronic diseases. People of this category can only access immediate healthcare with health vouchers.
- Asylum seekers who are residing in Germany for more than 15 months, and therefore are entitled to “Health-Card issued for refugees” under the Asylum Seekers’ Benefits Act. This grants them to access all regular health care services through a health insurance company (Healthcare for Refugees, 2020)

Asylum seekers who have a “tolerated stay” (“Duldung”) status are entitled to psychiatric and psychological support. This can be attained through welfare services by notifying social workers at their accommodation, who will pass an application to the doctors which will be

evaluated and assessed. When these applications are accepted, asylum seekers can receive psychosocial support. Asylum seekers who are categorized as victims of torture, and are trauma patients, can apply for specialized treatment, offered in the Centre for Victims of Torture (Medecins du Monde, 2020). However, the accessibility in these centres is highly limited, as these centres are only partially financially supported through government funds.

2.4. Greece

Greece has witnessed since the early 2000s a strong increase in the numbers of people from the Middle East, South Asia and the countries of sub-Saharan Africa entering the country, flows that had started already in the 1990s mainly from the Balkans and the post-Soviet Union space. However, since the spring of 2015 the narrative of the so-called “refugee crisis” monopolized the public debate in Europe and in Greece with over a million passing through. In 2016, two crucial political decisions led to the confinement of many thousands, eventually many hundreds of thousands inside Greece, a country marked by ten years of recession and austerity measures, though this was not intended to be their original destination: the closure of the borders between the Republic of Northern Macedonia and Greece in March 2016, and the signing of the agreement between the EU and Turkey on March 18.

Prior to the signing of the Agreement between the EU and Turkey, there were 872,519 recorded refugee/migrant arrivals in the Greek islands. The majority of these people were trapped in the islands of Lesbos, Chios, Samos in the Eastern Aegean, residing in structures originally designed for the accommodation of only a few thousand people, ended accommodating more than 10,000 persons each for protracted periods of time. According to the Ministry of Immigration and Asylum, on the island of Lesbos alone (with 86,000 permanent residents) 22,251 asylum applications were registered during the year of 2019. However, the recording of the exact number of refugees and irregular migrants across the country has proven to be extremely difficult, especially after the new government's decision to freeze asylum applications in March 2020.

From 2013 to February 2020, 299,620 people applied for asylum in Greece, with the main volume of asylum applications being recorded in the years 2016-2019. Regarding the ethnicity of the applicants, 25% came from Syria, 19.8% came from Afghanistan, 11.3% from Pakistan, 9.9% from Iraq, and a much smaller percentage from Albania, Turkey, Bangladesh, Iran, Palestine, and other countries. Out of the total number of asylum applications, 12,415 requests concerned unaccompanied minors, the vast majority of whom were boys (91.1%). Also, from 2013 to February 2020, 54,302 people were granted refugee

status or subsidiary protection, while 63,006 first instance asylum applications were rejected (Eurostat, Eurostat Newsrelease, 2020).

As mentioned in the Policy Brief on Refugees' and Migrants' Health in Greece by Mahmoud Abderasoul (Abderasoul, 2020), "The Greek National Health Service" (NHS) had to face multiple challenges as the management of the situation requires sufficient financial and human resources that are lacking, due to the economic recession experienced by the country since 2009, affecting the overall public health sector. Consequently, the health facilities were reluctant to serve the newcomer population. Meanwhile, the NHS was also called upon to deal with traumatic experiences, as well as cultural and linguistic differences. Overcrowded reception centres and refugee camps have high health requirements and have been associated with severe illnesses. After 2015 the first health programmes were launched with the use of European financial instruments, starting with the Philos programme by KEELPNO (and now NHS). These programmes were initially implemented at Reception and Identification Centres (RIC) on the islands and then on the mainland, with very limited results. In many cases, the situation remains severe often non-manageable. On the islands of the eastern Aegean, access to health facilities remains particularly limited due to lack of staff. However, in July 2019, the Greek Government suspended the issuance of Social Security Number (AMKA) for asylum seekers and undocumented migrants, thus blocking free access to healthcare services and pharmaceutical treatment. In addition, post-traumatic stress disorder is no longer considered as one of the vulnerability categories examined during the asylum process, while detention measures have been extended. The serious situation resulting from the disruption of AMKA (especially for people with chronic and serious illnesses) was addressed after six months with the establishment of the Provisional Security Number (PAAYPA), which is granted to all asylum seekers by the Asylum Service upon registration of the application for international protection. If the asylum application is rejected, PAAYPA will automatically deactivate, while in case of acceptance of the application it will be switched to AMKA.

From 2015 onwards, the procedures for refugee housing rehabilitation were intensified due to the increased number of people who remained trapped in Greece. The urgent needs and pressures that have arisen have led to the creation of refugee camps in response to the urgency of providing humanitarian assistance, a decision promoted by the EC and agreed upon by the Greek government, yet much debated as this is the first time following WWII that mass camps are created in Europe. Meanwhile, the EC also funded through UNHCR an accommodation programme in flats for about 20,000 persons in a few cities and towns run

by the respective municipalities and NGOs. The transitional grace period was recently reduced significantly: Since March of this year, people can no longer stay in the reception system for six months after they were officially recognized as refugees -- they only have 30 days. Among the roughly 11,000 refugees who have been asked in June 2020 to leave the reception system are both people whose grace period expired recently and some who were allowed to stay long past their grace period. Theoretically, officially recognized refugees should have access to most of the social services that Greek nationals have. They are also allowed to work. But in practice, the transition out of the asylum reception system is incredibly difficult for many. The bureaucratic hurdles to receive state support are high, many refugees cannot yet communicate effectively in Greek, and many face discrimination in the job and housing market. So they have a hard time paying for housing and finding an apartment or house. Particularly, in a country severely hit by austerity measures and the crippling of its economy since the 2010 onwards EU memoranda.

However, the most important problem in the Greek reality, which either directly or indirectly has an impact on working with refugees and migrants regarding issues of gender-based violence, is the incomplete or even totally absent information and awareness of the Greek society on gender issues. In addition, the educational system refers exclusively to the biological - without any reference to the social- gender, with the subject not being discussed at all or even being treated as a taboo. For this reason, the professionals who work with refugees are uneducated when it comes to gender issues and their interventions are often lacking in any feminist approach to the issue.

2.5. Italy

Italy has experienced several migration waves. From 2011 to 2017, Italy witnessed a growing emergency related to the migration flows of undocumented people coming from African and Middle Eastern countries. From 2018, due to internal political changes and the new decree on immigration and security, the number of arrivals in Italy decreased: the sea arrivals of refugees and migrants dropped from over 99,851 in 2017 to over 20,210 in 2018 - a 72.2% decrease -. However, the majority of migrants arriving in Italy via the sea are still coming from Africa and the Middle East (Italian Ministry of Interior).

According to a report by the Italian Senate's Special Commission on the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights (Rapporto della Commissione Straordinaria del Senato per la Tutela e la Promozione dei Diritti Umani), migrants are often identified only after their arrival in hotspots and without the help of interpreters or intercultural mediators, they are

denying their rights to receive adequate orientation to request international protection (MIGRAZIONE E ACCOGLIENZA: la necessità di un approccio di genere – Buone pratiche e nuove progettualità., 2017). The European directive 83 of 2004, applied in Italy with the legislative decree 251 of 2007, states, however, that all foreign people arriving in Italy, whether legally or illegally, have the right to request international protection from the State. The request should then be examined by the relevant authorities that, after following a hearing, decide whether to grant international protection, either as political asylum (or refugee status) or as subsidiary protection. The third form of protection, humanitarian protection, was introduced in Italy in 1998 and then abolished with the 2018 decree on immigration and security (Decreto su immigrazione e sicurezza).

Those migrants who are granted asylum are transferred to second-tier reception centres part of the SIPROIMI network (Protection network for people who have been granted international protection and unaccompanied foreign minors, Sistema di protezione per titolari di protezione internazionale e per minori stranieri non accompagnati in Italian), which have replaced and incorporated the SPRAR (protection system for asylum seekers and refugees, Protezione per Richiedenti Asilo e Rifugiati in Italian) and the CAS (special reception centres, Centri di Accoglienza Straordinaria in Italian), a hybrid between first and second-tier reception centres.

According to data from the Ministry of Interior, 95,000 asylum requests were examined in 2018. From those, 7,000 (7%) were granted refugee status, about 4,000 (5%) were granted subsidiary protection, and 21,000 (21%) humanitarian protection. About one third of the total of asylum seekers were thus granted some form of protection in 2018. Following the abolishment of the humanitarian protection, these data were changed significantly in 2019. According to the data from the Ministry of Interior, about 81,000 asylum requests were examined from January to October 2019. From those, 9,000 were granted refugee status (over 11%, a significant increase compared to previous years), 5,500 were granted subsidiary protection (6,9%), with 1,000 humanitarian protection requests still not actioned since 2018. 67% of the requests were denied in 2018, while in the first 10 months of 2019, the number rose to 80%. These data places Italy at the bottom of European countries list with the highest percentage of asylum requests resulting into international protection.

The data on migrants' health shows that they are more exposed to infective diseases depending on their home and transit countries, yet also depending on their access to health

services and to deprived life conditions in transit and final destination countries (WHO, 2018).

The data also show a fairly low risk of transmission to the population of the host countries. The majority of those who arrive in Italy are in good health conditions, which confirms the hypothesis of the “healthy migrant” who was in good health when leaving the country of origin. While the Italian healthcare system is universal, many refugees and asylum seekers are often denied access to it due to their legal status (Borges & Guidi, 2018).

According to the WHO European Region report on the health of refugees and migrants (WHO, 2018), there are also other health conditions that could affect migrants’ health: non-transmissible diseases, mental health issues, mother and child health issues and work-related issues. Such issues tend to get worse as the migrants spend more time in the host countries, due to the continued exposure to negative social determinants, especially in the case of an integration system that is lacking. Following the trauma of displacement, the migrants’ mental health might be severely impacted upon by the poor socioeconomic conditions and social isolation in the host country (e.g. depression). Female refugees and migrants tend to show worse pregnancy-related indicators. Refugee and migrant women have more chances to protect themselves if they are more educated, have better knowledge of the local language, and the host country has stronger integration policies (WHO, Improving the health care of pregnant refugee and migrant women and newborn children, 2018).

Regarding violence prevention, and barriers for female migrants and refugees, as well as for female asylum seekers, research shows that violence within the family is the most frequent form of abuse (70% of the surveyed people), followed by human trafficking (52%) and sexual abuse and rape (50%). Female asylum seekers coming mostly from African regions have often been victims of genital mutilation in their country of origin. While in Italy and Europe, where there are incidents of Female Genital Mutilation amongst some communities, most often they are victims of abuse, stalking and forced marriage. Furthermore, 15% of the interviewed cases come from countries where honor killings still take place (Luca, 2019).

2.6. Spain

According to data provided by the Spanish Commission for Refugee Aid (Comisión Española de Ayuda al Refugiado - CEAR), 118,264 people applied for asylum in Spain in 2019, more than twice as many as in 2018 and almost four times more than in 2017. 55% (64,541) of these people are men and 45% (53,723) are women. About half (59,311) are between 18 and 34 years old, almost 30% (34,928) are between 35 and 64 years old, 15%

(18,468) are small children between 0 and 3 years, while 3% (3,905) are minors between 4 and 17 years old, and finally only just over 1% (1,652) of those seeking asylum are over 65 years old.

A specificity of the Spanish situation in comparison to other European countries, mainly due to cultural and language reasons, is that the vast majority of asylum-seekers come from Latin America, specifically from Venezuela (40,906) and Colombia (29,363), followed at quite a distance by Honduras (6,792), Nicaragua (5,931), El Salvador (4,784), Peru (3,989), and finally some non-American countries such as Morocco (2,585), Syria (2,419), Ukraine (2,383) and Georgia (1,815).

Of all the asylum applications filed in Spain, there have been only a total of 60,198 resolutions: 66% of displaced persons have been assigned "protection for humanitarian reasons", 5% have been assigned "subsidiary protection" or they have been recognized as "refugees" and 29% of the resolutions have been unfavorable, which means that asylum-seekers become irregular in the country.

The right of asylum is recognized as a fundamental human right in article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and further elaborated in the Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951 and its Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees (New York, 31 January 1967). Spain recognizes this in its Constitution and regulates it through its asylum law, and it is also included in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union of 2007.

In Spain, Law 12/2009 Regulating the Right to Asylum and Subsidiary Protection (Ley Reguladora del Derecho de Asilo y de la Protección Subsidiaria) grants refugee status to any person who has a well-founded fear of being persecuted in his/her country on the grounds of race, religion, nationality, political opinions, belonging to a particular social group, gender or sexual orientation and it is a form of permanent protection. Subsidiary protection is reviewed every five years and is granted to people who cannot return to their country of origin because they would face a real risk of serious harm, such as death penalty or execution, torture or inhuman and degrading treatment, serious threats to their lives or integrity because of indiscriminate violence resulting from internal or international conflict. Finally, there is also protection on humanitarian grounds, which provides temporary protection for reasons unrelated to those mentioned above.

The Dublin Regulation No. 604/2013 states that the Member State of the European Union where a person arrives for the first time is responsible for processing asylum.

Asylum-seekers are those who have applied for international protection but have not yet received a reply on their case from the Spanish authorities. Once the application has been submitted, a decision should be given within a maximum period of 6 months. However, the process usually lasts longer due to the collapse of the system.

During this period of time, Spanish legislation includes the following rights for people seeking international protection: right to free legal aid and interpreter; right to have his/her application communicated to UNHCR; right to suspend any process of refoulement, expulsion or extradition that might affect the asylum-seeker; the right to know the contents of the record at any time; the right to health care; the right to receive specific social benefits under the terms of the Law and, finally, the right to be documented as an applicant for international protection. Moreover, after six months, an asylum-seeker has the right to work in Spain.

If the application is refused, the person must leave Spain, except if he/she has residence permit. He/she also has the option of appealing the rejection of his/her asylum application to a court.

The Royal Decree-Law 7/2018, of July 27, on universal access to the National Health System, does guarantee access to health services to everybody living in Spain again, including migrants and refugees, independent of their legal status.

Moreover, both applicants for international protection and those with refugee, subsidiary or humanitarian protection status have the right to access to the so-called reception system, which is provided mainly by different specialized NGOs.

The total duration of the reception system is 18 months, which can be extended to 24 months for the most vulnerable people and it is divided into two phases (after a first assessment and referral): the first one is the reception phase and the second one is the phase of preparation for autonomy. The first phase begins with the admission to a shelter where the basic needs of a person are met by providing accommodation and maintenance. In addition, social care, psychological care, training, interpretation and translation and legal assistance are provided. It also includes activities such as cultural and educational orientation, language teaching and pre-employment and employment training. The second and final phase begins when people finish their stay in the reception facility. At this stage, they are provided with financial support, intensive language learning and the access to employability and training programmes.

2.7. Country situations and their impact in FOMEN

It is especially difficult to collect and document evidence of violence prevalence against boys and men who are male migrants and refugees due to the fear of stigmatization and the complicated legal frameworks that do not recognize men as victims, and make the process of reporting it to the police even more difficult (Chynoweth D. S., 2017).

The gender assumptions that work to obscure violence against women and girls, also continue to hide the situation of violence against men and boys (Chynoweth D. S., 2017).

As mentioned on April 2020 in the Policy Brief on Male Gender-Based Violence: A Hidden Issue (Petalidou, 2020) in order to design effective strategies, it is crucial to keep in mind that GBV is linked to gender-based power inequalities, which mainly affect women and girls detrimentally. Increase in gender equality and transformation of gender norms, are two effective ways to prevent GBV. Prevention strategies should entail a shift from the term ‘victims’ to the term ‘survivors’ with a focus on empowerment and efforts to incorporate men and boys in any intervention (SIDA, 2015). Equally important is the strengthening of the legal and policy framework, as well as bridging the gap between law and practice. Also core elements of an effective strategy are efforts that give an end to the impunity for GBV (Gender-Based Violence, 2019), while responding to survivors, in accordance to their rights to protection and access to services, including shelters and health sector services.

International research recognizes the significant impact that gender-based violence has on individual health and wellbeing, whether as victims (WHO, Global and regional estimates of violence against women: prevalence and health effects of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence, 2013), or perpetrators (Hester, et al., 2015), or communities as a whole. The EU Guidelines for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Child denounce that the repercussions of violence against children are grave and damaging. The impact of the violence has consequences in their present lives and affects their future expectations and opportunities. To minimize the impact of previous experiences of violence there is a need to develop gender sensitive preventative services and improve those services which already exist.

As it is obvious from the FOMEN country analyses above there are many differences in each country’s situation with regard to the migration and refugee policy and also in the approach to gender-based violence. Some countries have experience and developed policies in

receiving migrants and refugees, while others less so. Also, there is a difference in statistics as in some countries the number of hosted populations is much higher than in others.

The differences of the countries are also obvious about how motivated refugees and migrants are to participate and what kind of opportunities are available in each country. Most of the migrants and refugees who enter Europe now, through the three first reception countries (Italy, Greece, Spain) wish to reach countries in Central Europe, like Germany, Austria etc. where economy is more stable and still there are job opportunities. On the other hand, Croatia is a country that refugees and migrants are not staying long and is just a drive-through country. As a result, in first reception countries most of the asylum seekers are waiting for their asylum procedures and then they travel either legally or illegally (legally refers for Dublin cases and recognized refugees who can grant travel documents and illegally for people who travel with smugglers), while in other countries they have the feeling of the final destination and let's say "home". All these facts should be under consideration in the implementation of a project as the impact on project's results will be relevant.

These differences have an impact on the implementation of the FOMEN project, as in some countries the issue of gender-based violence within the refugee and migrant population is not so extended and discussed, while in others there are no policies and practices or projects for violence prevention among migrants and refugees.

3. Methods and sample of the needs' assessment

The purpose of this initial assessment of the FOMEN project was to analyze needs and resources as well as examples of good practices, regarding the prevention of gender-sensitive and violence-preventive measures for male migrants and refugees. In all the six countries, a needs assessment took place using both qualitative and quantitative methods. These included experts' workshops and Focus Group Discussions as well as qualitative interviews with professionals working with male migrants and refugees and/or in the fields of gender-awareness, masculinities, and violence prevention. Moreover, the same online survey was used in the six countries, translated into the separate languages, to gather additional quantitative information from a wider sample.

3.1. Qualitative focus groups and interviews

As an initial step, a total of nine expert workshops and Focus Group Discussions with professionals (working with male migrants and refugees and/or in the fields of gender-awareness, masculinities and violence prevention) were held in the six countries and an additional focus group with male refugees and migrants was held in Austria. Moreover, 26 (semi) structured interviews with experts were conducted in the qualitative part of the analysis.

Although the structure of each workshop differed from country to country the main parts of the discussion could be summarized as including the following.

- Needs and interests of male migrants and refugees,
- Needs of the professionals working with male migrants and refugees,
- Good practices examples if any and approaches that should be avoided.

3.2. Quantitative survey

A quantitative survey was used to cover a wider sample than was possible with focus groups and interviews. A questionnaire was drafted with the collaboration of all country partners based on the results of the qualitative part of the project, and the contents of the questionnaire reflected the same areas that were explored in the focus groups and expert interviews. The questionnaire included 73 questions, mostly using the Likert type response format with a 5-point scale. Another eight items in the last part of the questionnaire offered the participants an opportunity to describe good practice experiences, but these were optional. It took about 20 minutes to complete the questionnaire with close-ended items, and another 15 minutes to complete the open questions in the last part of the questionnaire.

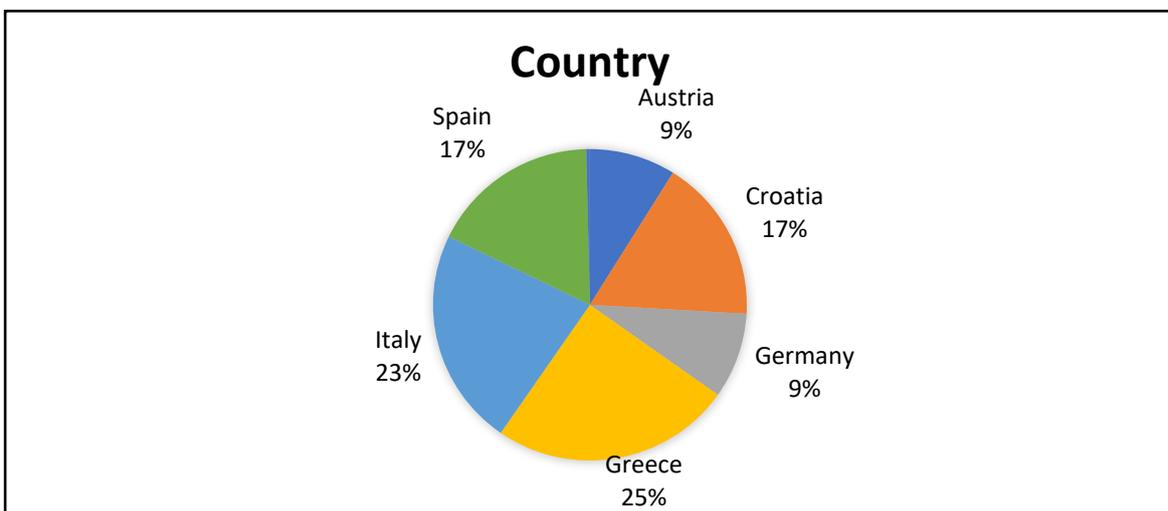
The questionnaire had four parts. The first group of questions asked about sociodemographic, professional and institutional information. The second part of the questionnaire was about the needs of migrant and refugee men regarding gender sensitivity and violence prevention work, about strategies to reach out and motivate migrant and refugee men to participate in this kind of work, about barriers for this target group to participate, about strategies to create a feeling of safety in the group for the men participating and about strategies to address intercultural and language differences in these kind of programmes. The third part of the questionnaire focused on the needs of professionals to work with male migrants and refugees on gender sensitivity and violence prevention. The fourth part of the

questionnaire asked the participants to share examples of good practice regarding work on gender/masculinities and/or prevention of gender-based violence with asylum seekers or refugees. At the end, the participants were offered information about the FOMEN project results and activities and possibly to take part in them. Further details can be found in the annex.

3.3. Sample

In sum, a total of 271 participants filled out the entire survey. Unfortunately, there is an unequal number of participants in each country. The country distribution is presented in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Distribution of the sample by countries (N=270)



Gender has been defined as a category of identity. This includes binary as well as non-binary dimensions. The gender distribution is shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Distribution of the sample by gender (N=271)

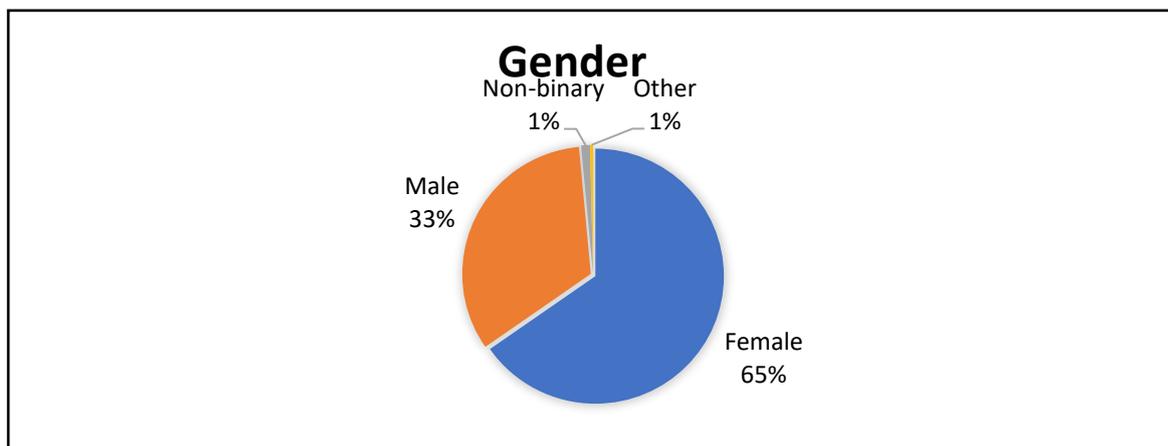


Figure 3: Distribution of participants by age groups (N=271)

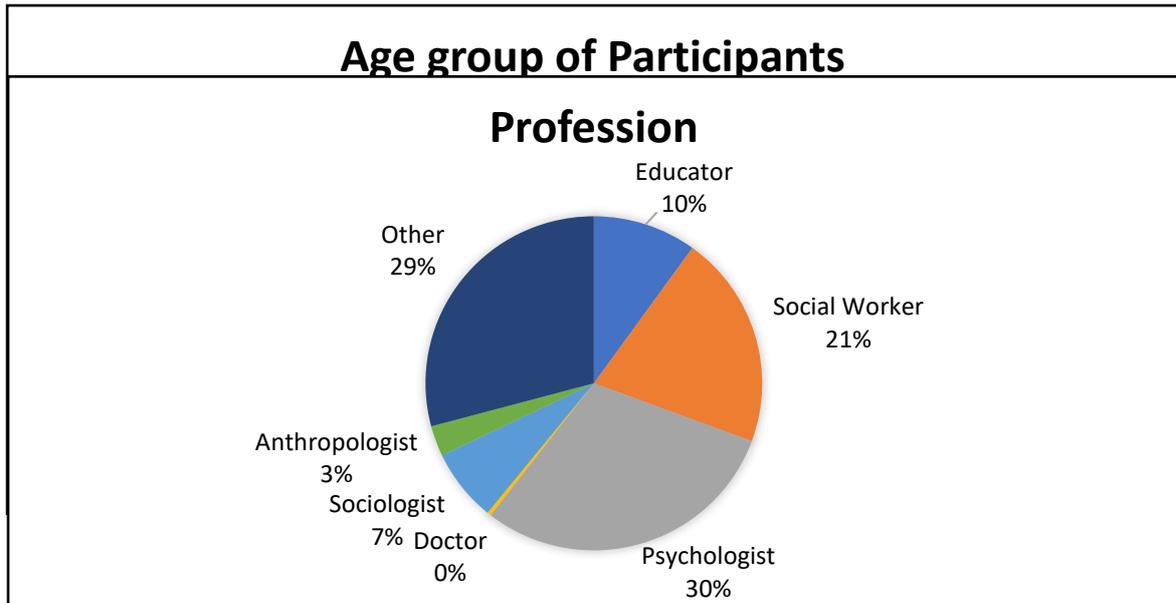
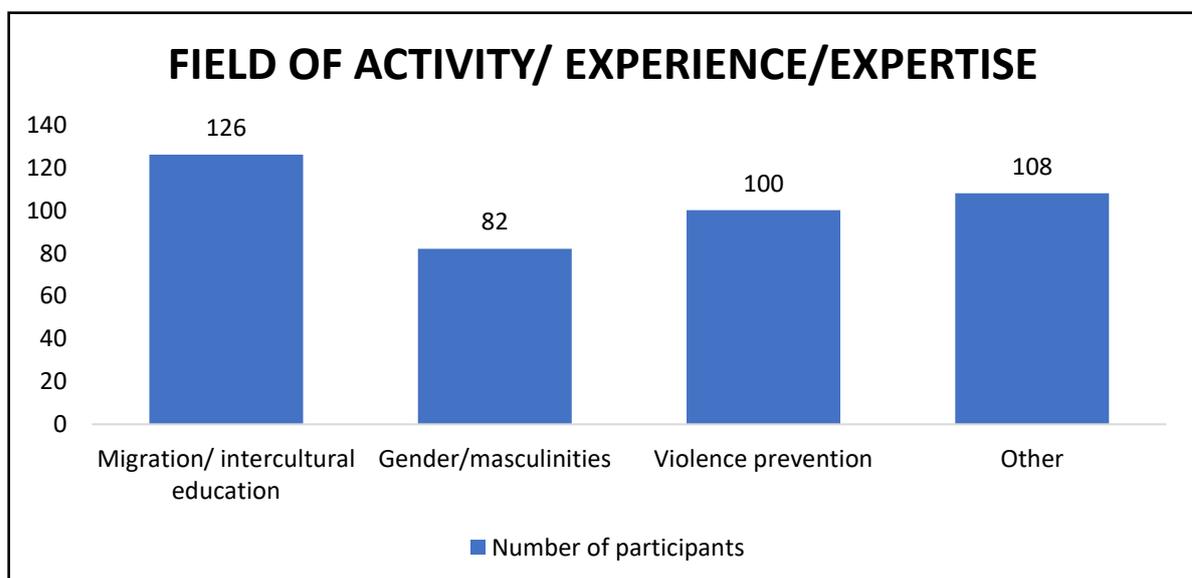


Figure 4: Distribution of participants by profession/basic training (N=271)

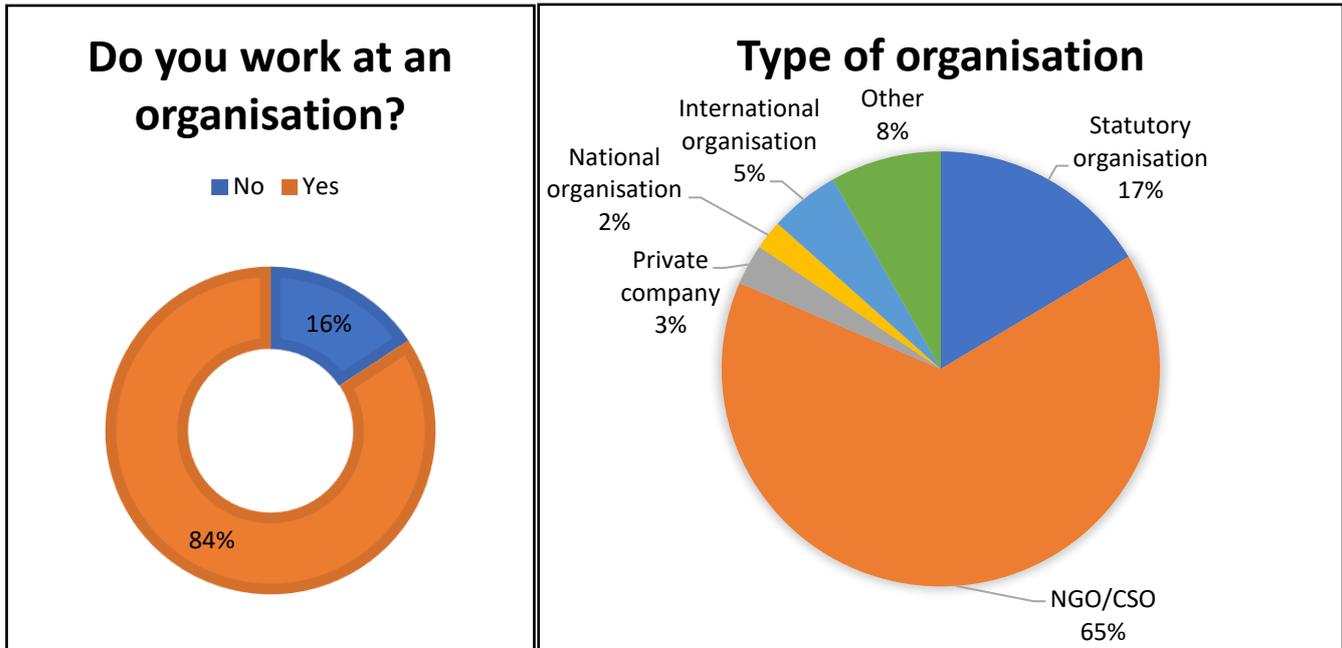
As the survey investigates migration, gender-sensitivity & masculinities, and gender-based-violence prevention, the demographics of the participants provides an overview in which of these fields the professionals are working. Multiple answers were given. The answers show that most of the participants work in the field of migration and intercultural education (126), 82 work in areas related to gender and masculinities and 100 in violence prevention. Again, 108 participants indicated that their field of activity or experience was another and it was not possible to assign them into qualitative groups.

Figure 5: Distribution of participants by field of activity/ expertise (N=271)



Most of the professionals who participated in the survey work in an organization (84%). Furthermore, 65% work in non-governmental organizations, 17% in statutory organizations, only 3% in private companies and 2% in national organizations, whereas 5% work in international organizations. 16% of the respondents do not work in an organization.

Figure 6: Distribution of participants by type of organization in which they work



4. Results of the qualitative and quantitative research

This section describes the needs of male migrants and refugees regarding gender awareness and violence prevention programmes, firstly on the basis of the information provided by professionals in the interviews and focus groups and secondly from the results of the online survey of the larger target group.

Firstly, we examined the main needs and interests of male migrants and refugees regarding gender sensitivity and violence prevention work and the conditions to do so. Secondly, experts' experience and examples of good practice in violence prevention were considered. Finally, we investigated the main needs of professionals in relation to delivering gender sensitive and violence prevention programme and their expectations from a corresponding training.

To check for differences in responses between groups of respondents, we conducted several univariate analyses in SPSS. Therefore, the independent variables Gender (male, female, non-binary) and Country (Austria, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Spain) were used. Also

the data was checked for normality. Additional analyses were done on the difference between field of experience as independent variables (i.e. violence prevention vs. gender masculinities vs. migration intercultural education). Significant main effects were further analyzed and mean differences were noted.

4.1. Needs and interests of male refugees and migrants

This section describes the needs of male migrants and refugees regarding gender awareness and violence prevention programmes, firstly based on the information provided by professionals in our interviews and focus groups, and secondly from the results of the online survey.

Qualitative research with professionals

The needs of male migrants and refugees as they have been discussed and analyzed during the Focus Group Discussions and the interviews can be summarized in the following:

- Satisfaction of their basic needs, such as access to asylum and mental and physical health.
- Express themselves and share experiences. In most of the countries the need of a safe space for men was highlighted. A space where men can talk about the migratory process and exchange thoughts, ideas and experiences
- Knowledge on legal issues, personal rights, obligations, and responsibilities

Qualitative research with refugee and migrant men

It is worth mentioning that Austria is the only country where an additional Focus Group Discussion was held with male migrants and refugees and the specific needs that came out should be mentioned separately. The main needs that arose were:

- For migrant and refugee men, the political and societal conditions lead to insecurity and precariousness. The way the asylum processes are managed by the state, the missing access to employment, a lack of opportunities for participation, and experiences of racism diminish their opportunities to actively create their life and have a sense of ownership about it.
- These men expressed a strong desire to learn about ways to gain back some quality of life when their circumstances have drastically changed and are often beyond their

control. They want to learn about how to deal with the mental health effects of being made to wait for a decision during the asylum process and how to find strength and agency in these circumstances.

- Language learning was also a desire expressed by the men
- Information about the asylum process, personal rights and responsibilities was the most prominent subject mentioned by men themselves. Especially information, which is reliable and trustworthy since they often have already experienced confusing rules and regulations.
- Fatherhood and family life are also topics in which men are interested. This could mean learning about what they are expected to be and do as fathers in Austria, where to find (financial) support for newborns, how a community supports parents and how are children's rights handled locally. They are also concerned about their children who have graduated the compulsory education or exhausted all educational offers available to them and need employment.
- Violence prevention includes all kinds of violent constellations in which a man can be involved. Men can be affected by violence as victims and as perpetrators, and both at the same time. An example mentioned by an interviewee is a refugee who was a soldier in an Arabic country and was involved in killings but also a victim of sexualized violence perpetrated by a fellow soldier. Especially young men/boys need to be considered in the multitude of constellations with regards to violence.

Quantitative research

The online survey asked professionals how important they consider the following needs to be for male migrants and refugee in relation to the work of gender sensitive and violence prevention. In Table 1, the mean values assigned by the participants are indicated for each response, according to a scale from 1 = nothing important to 5 = very important.

Table 1: Importance of the needs of migrant and refugee men

Needs	Mean
Talking about the violence and discrimination they have been and are subjected to and its consequences as a basis for preventing violence	4.46
Talking about the difficulties in and barriers to participate in the country of residence	4.41
Learning about views, values and laws on violence against women and children in the country of residence (in comparison to the country of origin)	4.39

Learning about views, values and laws on family and gender roles and equality in the country of residence (in comparison to the country of origin)	4.27
Reflecting on / talking about how the flight / migration and integration process has affected and affects their role and identity as men	4.23
Talking about their experience of flight / migration and related trauma with other refugee and migrant men	4.21
Knowing about different forms of sexualized and gender-based violence and its consequences on victims/survivors	4.11
Discussing with other migrant / refugee men how to transform their role in family and other relationships in the country of residence	4.08
Learning about views, values and laws on LGBTIQ* in the country of residence (in comparison to the country of origin).	3.97
Learning about flirting, dating, sexual and intimate relationships in the country of residence (in comparison to the country of origin)	3.9

As can be seen, most respondents professionals believe that it is important for refugees to talk about the violence and discrimination they have been and are subjected to, followed by the difficulties in and barriers to participate in the country of residence. Also, highly important seems the fact that refugees and migrant men should learn about views, values and laws on violence about women and children as well as family and gender roles and equality in the country of residence.

Statistical analyses showed some significant differences between respondent groups in the answers to these questions. There were significant¹ differences between countries in the ratings of importance to talk about their experience of flight / migration and related trauma with other refugee and migrant men. While respondents from Croatia state its importance (Mean= 4.67), for experts in Austria it seems less important (Mean = 3.42).

There was also a significant difference between Countries regarding the question of whether it is important to learn about flirting, dating, sexual and intimate relationships in the country of residence². Comparing means showed highest scores of importance in Croatia (Mean = 4.51) and lowest scores in Greece (Mean= 3.04).

¹ F (6, 206) = 3.12; p= .006

² F (6, 206) = 3.69; p = .002

In order to create a pathway to address the issue of gender in-equality and violence against women and girls, it is essential to provide a safe space to male migrants in order to be able to talk about their experiences, associated trauma and discrimination against them.

Those are essential parameters to consider when planning a violence prevention and gender awareness programme and it can also be seen from the convergence of the answers from the Focus Group Discussions and the interviews.

4.2. Reaching out to male migrants and refugees

In the interviews, the focus groups and the online survey, the ways how to approach migrants and refugee men to motivate them participate in a gender sensitive and violence prevention work programme were also discussed.

Qualitative research

During the Focus Group Discussions, the experts from all the six countries developed their thoughts according to their experience in their field of expertise in regards the approach that a violence prevention project should follow. The approaches can be summarized as including the following:

- Respectful and appreciative approach towards the participants
- Cultural background and understanding: Facilitators and trainers, when possible, should have cultural or ethnic background similar to the target group.
- Language skills: Facilitators and trainers should speak at least one of the languages of the target group.
- Intersectionality skills: Facilitators and trainers need to be trained on an intersectional level.
- Gender: At least some facilitators and trainers should have the same gender as the target group.
- Intercultural sensitivity: Facilitators and trainers should be educated / trained on intercultural diversity, specifically based on the one of the target group.
- Identify and comprehend barriers: Facilitators and trainers should be able to comprehend and tackle eventual taboos and stereotypes of the target group (Male migrants and refugees).
- Non-hierarchical approach: The workshop should be held on a basis of ownership, which gives the participants the opportunity to be part of the process. Therefore, facilitators should use a flat organization approach.

Quantitative research

In the survey, participants were asked about how good they believed the following strategies are to reach out to male migrants and refugees and/or motivate them to participate in a violence prevention and gender sensitivity programme. In table 2, the mean values (on a scale of 1 = very poor to 5 = very good) are reported.

Table 2: Best strategies to reach out men

Strategies	Mean
Involving respected members or leaders of refugee / migrant communities	4.26
Informing about and promoting the work through statutory / public institutions working with refugees or migrants	4.21
Holding the sessions at or near to their communities / places they live	4.19
Informing about and promoting the work through NGOs / civil society organizations working with refugees or migrants	4.05
Offering childcare	3.96
Informing about and promoting the work through associations or local communities of refugees or migrants	3.84
Offering a certification for taking part	3.7
Through website or social media	3.27
Not mentioning “violence” in the name of the programme or dissemination efforts	2.99
Through flyers or leaflets	2.76
Offering financial compensation for taking part	2.75

As can be seen, according to most experts a good strategy to reach out to migrant men is through respected members or leaders of refugee/migrant communities or through statutory organizations. It seems also a good strategy to hold the sessions at or near to their communities.

Moreover, looking at the differences in field of experience the analyses indicated significantly that while experts in violence prevention ($M = 3.97$) believe it is acceptable to conduct outreach for promoting the intervention program through statutory/ public

institutions of the target group for respondents in gender/ masculinities ($M = 3.67$) this approach has rather less effect.

Other analyses showed significant differences between experts in violence prevention and other experts. Respondents with experience in violence prevention believe mostly that it is good promoting the intervention program through NGOs/ civil society organizations ($M = 4.3$). On the other hand, respondents with expertise in gender/masculinities think that it is a better strategy to promote the intervention program through associations or local communities of refugees or migrants ($M = 4.4$).

According to experts working in migration/ intercultural education, it might be a good approach to hold the sessions at or near to their communities / places the refugees live ($M = 4.42$). For the experts working in gender/ masculinities, it has less effect ($M = 4.18$).

There was also a significant difference between countries regarding the question whether offering financial compensation for taking part in a gender sensitive and violence preventive work program would motivate migrant and refugee men. Comparing the means showed the most significant difference between Austria ($M = 3.55$) and Italy ($M = 1.87$).

Additionally, according to respondents who have experience in violence prevention offering financial compensation might be a good approach ($M = 3.1$) compared to experts in gender/masculinities ($M = 2.4$).

Another significant effect was found between countries regarding the question whether offering a certification for taking part would motivate participation. Comparing the means showed the most significant difference again between Austria ($M = 4.31$) and Italy ($M = 3.48$).

We can see convergence in both research methodologies here as well. Involving male migrants in associations and organizations that work with them is regarded as the best strategy to motivate them to participate in a gender sensitivity and violence prevention program.

Interestingly, instead of receiving financial compensation, providing sessions near their residence as well as childcare are considered as a preferable strategy.

4.3. Requirements and methodologies of prevention programmes for refugee and migrant men

Qualitative research

This section describes which characteristics a gender sensitivity and violence prevention programme for male refugees and migrants should have.

According to the expert's point of view, it is essential that the issue of gender and violence will not be addressed in the very beginning of the program.

The priorities that need to be addressed initially are, above all, the creation of a safe space so that the male migrants can talk about their personal needs and situation. Respondents believed it was better to start with more indirect topics such as migration and integration.

Other tools that will enhance social and communication skills are the practice of empathy and assertiveness.

4.4. Obstacles to participation

Another topic of both qualitative and quantitative research was to discuss the possible obstacles to participation of male migrants and refugees in such a programme.

Qualitative research

The main difficulties that emerged from the experts' workshops regarding the gender sensitivity and prevention of violence are that the male migrants and refugees are victims of violence and discrimination themselves. Another important issue is their fear of being judged and stigmatized. The knowledge and use of different cultures within the same group is of great necessity since a Eurocentric point of view should be avoided and the structural and cross-cultural issues should be highlighted.

Mixed groups consisting of migrants, refugees and native men could be a solution to overcome the potential for double stigmatization. The potential drop out of the participation in the group could be a risk since migrant men could feel that they are identified specifically as potential perpetrators. A development of these issues connected to their daily life could benefit the participation for them as men. More specifically, the group should build a relationship through other activities which are connected to their daily life, such as cooking workshops, traditional dance lessons in order to create a bond that will allow to the facilitators to introduce them to topics and meanings related to gender and gender based violence.

Quantitative research

The survey asked how important the following obstacles are for migrant and refugee men to participate in a violence prevention and gender sensitive programme. Table 3 reports the

means of the answers to each response (on a scale from 1 = nothing important to 5 = very important).

Table 3: Importance of the obstacles to participation

Answers	Mean
Fear of legal consequences if violence is disclosed	4.09
Feeling (doubly) stigmatized as migrants and (potential) perpetrators of violence	4.0
Lack of resources to attend (time, money for transport)	3.73
Having to travel to take part	3.7
The issue is not a priority in their current situation	3.66
Having to commit to attend a certain number of sessions	3.55

In sum, most of the experts believe that the fear of legal consequences if violence is disclosed is an important obstacle, followed by the risk that participants might feel stigmatized as migrants and potential perpetrators of violence. Another important obstacle seems the lack of resources to attend, as well as having to travel to take part.

Regarding the question which barriers for male migrants and refugees were important in preventing them to participate in a gender sensitive and violence preventive work programme, the analyses showed significant differences between countries regarding that participation in the programme is not a priority in their current situation. The comparison of means showed that most experts in Austria ($M = 2.79$) do not consider this a very important obstacle, while experts in Spain ($M = 4.03$) do consider it quite an important difficult. Further analyses of the same question showed that for experts in migration / intercultural education ($M = 2.99$) this issue is a less important barrier than for other experts ($M = 3.89$).

According to experts, another barrier was a lack of resources to attend the programme, which showed significant differences between countries. The lack of resources to attend the programme is seen as a more important obstacle in Greece ($M = 4.11$) than in Italy ($M = 3.21$). Also, further analyses of the same question showed that for experts in migration/ intercultural education lack of resources to attend is a less important barrier ($M = 3.26$) compared with other experts ($M = 3.92$).

Another disagreement or difference between countries was found about the obstacle that having to travel to take part would influence migrant men and refugees. It is seen as a more important obstacle in Spain (M = 4.02) than in Italy (M = 2.91).

The fear of legal consequences if violence is disclosed is rated as a less important barrier by experts in gender/masculinities (M = 3.82) than by other experts (M = 4.35). Again, respondents in gender/masculinities indicate that having to commit to attend a certain number of sessions of the intervention programs is a less important barrier for the people of concern (M= 2.9) compared to other experts (M = 3.76).

According to the results that were found during Focus Group Discussions, the interviews as well as the online survey, the main obstacles that could prevent the participations of the male migrants in the programme are the fact that this would not be a priority in their lives, as well as that they could potentially face a double stigmatization due to the fact that they could be seen not only as migrants, but also as the potential perpetrators of violence.

4.5. Creating a safe space

As seen in the previous sections, creating a safe space within the group with the purpose of working on gender sensitivity and violence prevention is considered a basic requirement in order to carry out such a programme. Therefore, both in the Focus Groups Discussions and interviews and in the survey, possible strategies to achieve this were explored.

Qualitative research

In the qualitative part, it was mentioned that it was of high importance that the members of the group are approached with equality and to have a respected and unconditional acceptance of diversity from the perspective of the trainer. Therefore, there was the suggestion to appoint members of the community or those with the same socio-economic background (e.g. second generation migrants or people that have previously faced familiar context) as co-facilitators in order to promote a group effect of trust within them.

Quantitative research

Participants were asked to answer the question "How good are the following strategies to create, as much as possible, a safe space in the group for gender sensitive and violence preventive work?". In Table 4, the mean scores obtained (according to a scale of 1 = very poor to 5 = very good) can be seen.

Table 4: Best strategies to create a safe space

Answers	Mean
Promoting and creating an inclusive atmosphere (no discrimination, but diversity of cultural identities and masculinities)	4.54
Clarifying rules of confidentiality (especially in which cases confidentiality will have to be broken – informed consent)	4.47
Having translators for all involved languages in the group	4.41
Adapting the structural frame and contents to the individual needs of the participants (rhythm, limits, personal background/experiences)	4.34
Having cultural mediators or members from the communities as co-facilitators of the group	4.3
Encourage participation of and conversation among all participants	4.29
Creating informal spaces of interaction and relationship building (e.g.: excursions, cooking, visits to museums)	4.16

In accordance with both the quantitative and qualitative results, the best strategy is deemed to promote a non-discriminating environment with members of the community co-facilitating.

It is worth mentioning that all strategies suggested and proposed, received high scores and that there were no significant differences between countries or other respondent groups

4.6. Language issues

Qualitative research

There were a variety of perspectives among the professionals regarding the language issue. Regarding the utilization of translators or cultural mediators there were different, partially contradicting suggestions. On the one hand, group members proficient in the language or respected members from the community were suggested, while other experts preferred “neutral” translators or cultural mediators who are not known to members of the group.

It was also highlighted that if the group is familiar with the translator the latter might be in a position of “power” over the participants, who might feel uncomfortable in this situation and restrain from openly participating.

Another issue that might arise is that some of the participants who are not familiar with the language might disconnect from the group or start talking to each other. As a result, it was suggested that there should be a provision of pre-training and language tools for the interpreters and trainers. The solution of choosing participants with advanced language proficiency, as it was mentioned by some experts, would lead to exclusion of many people.

Quantitative research

Table 5 shows the means of the ratings of different strategies to address intercultural and language issues (on a scale from 1 = “very poor” to 5 = “very good”).

Table 5: Best strategies to address language differences

Answers	Mean
Having intercultural mediators	4.06
Using audio-visual / multimedia resources	4.03
Using less or non-language-based methods (such as theatre, art, etc.)	3.86
Using professional interpreters from outside the local community/ies	3.83
Having country-of-origin nationals as co-facilitators	3.63
Using interpreters from the local community/ies	3.44
Using translation by group members	2.91

In sum, according to the experts, it is a good strategy to have intercultural mediators, as well as using audio-visual / multimedia resources, followed by less or non-language-based methods in order to address language differences.

Differences between countries were also found regarding the question whether having country-of-origin nationals as co-facilitators is a good strategy to address intercultural and language differences in gender sensitive and violence prevention work. Especially for German experts this strategy seems not to be very helpful (M = 1.5), while for Spanish experts it might be a good strategy (M = 4.24).

4.7. Needs of professionals for gender sensitivity and violence prevention work with male migrants and refugees

This chapter summarizes the main needs of professionals working with male migrants and refugees in relation to gender awareness and violence prevention work.

Qualitative research

In the qualitative part of the research discussions were also focused on the needs of the professionals. More specifically, needs were analyzed with regards to the attitudes, knowledge and skills, contextual and organizational requirements and the expectations for a training aiming at violence prevention with male migrants and refugees.

The development of targeted material, tools, and guidelines is considered essential prior to any intervention. Professionals should get more familiarized with the meanings of gender-based violence, masculinities, migration etc.

Additionally, professionals should have a deep knowledge of the cultural background of the participants and be able to understand how they perceive issues like feminism, gender-based violence, masculinities etc. The importance of understanding the migratory process and experience and the impact it has in the daily life of male migrants and refugees was also highlighted.

Professionals who work with groups should have developed some soft skills such as active listening, empathy, understanding etc. which will be helpful in the process and in the creation of a safe space where men can feel protected and be open to the discussion.

The need to have stronger professional networks and to share and exchange experiences was also highlighted. Especially the exchange of good practices is considered helpful.

Finally, the experts across all the six countries in regards their expectation of a training are mostly interested in the expansion of their knowledge on topics such as gender roles, masculinities, gender terminology. A training should use tools for the deep understanding of gender roles and masculinities in the European society in contrast the stereotypes and roles in the countries of origin of the participants and the presentation of tools to overcome the boundaries.

Quantitative research

The online survey also investigated the needs of professionals working on gender sensitivity and prevention of violence with migrant and refugee men. Regarding these, on the one hand they were asked how important they think these needs are (from 1 = nothing important to 5 = very important) and on the other how far these needs are covered for them (from 1 = not covered to 5 = very much covered). Table 6 shows averages in order of importance.

Table 6: Importance of needs and to what degree they are covered

Answers	Mean (important)	Mean (covered)
Having reflected on their own beliefs, stereotypes and experiences regarding gender and violence (discrimination /sexism)	4.46	3.17
Knowledge and skills to identify and address gender-based and domestic violence in perpetrators and victims	4.43	2.86
Knowledge on gender and family roles and relations in cultures of origin	4.41	2.84
Having reflected on their own beliefs, stereotypes and experiences regarding refugees and migrants (discrimination / racism)	4.39	3.04
Having reflected on their own beliefs, stereotypes and experiences regarding gender and violence in (male) refugees and migrants	4.39	2.95
Knowledge of the national legal framework on gender- based and domestic violence	4.37	3.26
Knowledge on problems, difficulties and barriers in the process of migrant integration into a new culture	4.36	3.15
Knowledge of relevant protocols and referral mechanisms for addressing gender-based and domestic violence	4.26	3.11
Knowledge on the national system of accepting and integrating migrants/refugees	4.22	3.26
Knowledge and skills for group work with clients from diverse cultures	4.22	2.82

Knowledge and skills for working on gender and masculinities with men	4.22	2.71
Knowledge and skills for group work and managing group processes in preventive work with men	4.16	2.64

The main results from the table on most important needs can be summarized as follows: Most important needs are having reflected on their own beliefs, stereotypes and experiences regarding gender and violence, knowledge and skills to identify and address gender-based and domestic violence in perpetrators and victims, as well as knowledge on gender and family roles and relations in cultures of origin. On the other hand, least covered needs according to the experts are knowledge and skills for group work and managing group processes in preventive work with men, knowledge and skills for working on gender and masculinities with men, knowledge and skills for group work with clients from diverse cultures, knowledge on gender and family roles and relations in cultures of origin.

Unexpectedly, further analysis showed no significant differences between countries, expert groups, or profession regarding the degree to which some needs are covered.

4.8 Good Practices

During the Focus Group Discussions some prominent projects were presented as examples of good practice, for example **Men Talk** in Austria³. What makes it a best practice, it uses teams of facilitators, and it offers space for exchange between men. It is a dialogue-oriented intervention/education program with male refugees targeted towards gender sensitivity and violence prevention. It is a modular dialogue series based on a concept by Alternatives To Violence (ATV, Norway). It is ongoing since 2019 in Graz/Styria, funded by the Integration Fund.

A good practice example that took place in Italy was the “**Boys in Care**”⁴ manual, created within the framework of the European project “Boys in Care – Strengthening boys to pursue care occupations” (BiC). The objective of the manual is to offer information to male and female operators working with boys on how to support them in their choice of getting trained

³ https://vmg-steiermark.at/de/men_talk

⁴ <https://www.boys-in-care.eu/it.html>

in caring professions. More in detail, the aim is for operators to be able to provide professional counselling also based on gender awareness.

Another example for good practice is the project **Heroes**⁵. Heroes is a German initiative that focuses on preventing honor killing and oppression by giving the lead to young men with a migration background who educate other young men and boys on breaking patriarchal structures and preventing gender-based violence in their community. The project is operating in several German cities and is financed by the World Childhood Foundation (HEROES, 2020).

Heroes follows the concept of peer-education, in which young men and boys with a migration background will be trained to become “anti-violence” trainers themselves and train other male youngsters in intervention programs, in which they follow the so-called role-model approach. The project uses the following measures:

- Tackling gendered honor killings and gender equality with youngsters
- Conducting workshops that focus on challenging cultural views, patriarchal structures, gender roles, gender equality, human rights, and intersectionality.
- Collectively overcoming gendered power structures and rigid gender norms through mutual learning.
- Coach trainers who have a similar socio-cultural background like the target group.
- Offer an extensive peer education that has a duration of 1 year and will be then rewarded with a certificate.

Furthermore, through multicultural activities, Heroes creates cross-cultural bridge-building spaces for critical work on gender norms and masculinities reflection.

Another good practice example that was mentioned is the project **Men Speak Out**⁶. This project aimed to engage men in the process of ending FGM and, on a larger scale, to end violence against women and promote gender equality through a human rights’ approach.

Taking into account the good practice examples that were mentioned it is obvious that professionals in all the six countries agree that the most effective and prosperous projects are those which ensure the active participation of the team and conditions where participants can express themselves.

⁵ <https://www.heroes-net.de/>

⁶ <http://menspeakout.eu/>

5. Conclusions and Recommendations in Summary

The needs and resources analysis, based on both qualitative and quantitative research, shows that professionals from all countries, beyond the institutional differences and the different governmental policies, consider gender sensitive and violence prevention programmes with male migrants and refugees as very important. Special emphasis is put on the needs for a deep understanding of a migrant's / refugee's current situation and the impact of the experiences during the flight or migration process, including on their understanding of gender and family roles in relation to social norms and stereotypes, both in the past and within the current circumstances.

In regards the needs of refugee and migrant men satisfaction of their basic needs, such as access to asylum and mental and physical health are priorities, as well as safe spaces for men, where they can talk about the migratory process and exchange thoughts and experiences.

Regarding the approaches that should be followed by professionals in gender sensitive and violence preventive work, all countries agree that the work with men for the violence prevention should follow a non-discriminatory approach and apart from their own background, diversity and categories of affiliation, the trainers should always have in mind the cultural background of the participants.

The language barrier is also an issue that was discussed extensively in both parts of the research, especially in countries where there are not many migrants and refugees (e.g. Croatia). Where there is lack of interpreters, this is an obstacle that should be overcome. All the participants in the research highlighted the importance of the language in the implementation of the project.

In all parts of the needs' analysis, the participants have expressed the need of further training and capacity building of professionals who work with migrant and refugee men. Few of the participants are considering themselves adequately trained and prepared to work with men for a violence prevention program, although they have expressed this need to their managers.

As it was apparent from the results of the research, a training programme for the professionals ought to aim to increase their own awareness first in the fields of migration and in non-discrimination, feminism, patriarchy, and masculinities. Professionals do not

consider they are well informed and familiar with meanings like these, and they wish to be further trained. An educational programme could use more interactive tools such as role playing and case studies for this purpose.

Another need that a training program should cover is providing information to professionals about the national and European policies regarding migration, asylum process and gender-based violence. Material easily accessible and understandable should be available to professionals who wish to work on gender sensitivity and violence prevention projects with refugee men. This could be achieved with regular trainings (online but also with physical presence) and with available links in the websites of the project, yet also coming from other organizations.

Working with groups needs well-trained professionals who are prepared and, in a position, to understand the dynamic of the group and can make participants feel safe and protected. From the research results it seems that it is an unmet need for most of the participants who expressed their wish to be further trained on that. Again, more interactive activities should be included in a training so as the professionals to be more familiarized with the facilitation of a group.

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FOMEN Network

The FOMEN project team is composed of actors from six different European countries who are contributing their specialised expertise

- Verein für Männer- und Geschlechterthemen Steiermark (VMG), Austria, Lead Partner www.genderforschung.at
- Society for Psychological Assistance (SPA), Croatia <https://dpp/hr/en>
- Associació Conexus: atenció, formació i investigació psicosocials (CONEXUS), Spain <https://conexus.cat>
- Symbiosis Astikis mi Kerdoskopiki Etaireia (SYMBIOSIS), Greece <https://symbiosis.org.gr/en>
- Centro di Ascolto Uomini Maltrattanti (CAM), Italy www.centrouominimaltrattanti.org
- European Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence (WWP EN), Germany www.work-with-perpetrators.eu

Annexes

- Annex 1: Information for participants and informed consent form
(for expert workshop focus groups)**
- Annex 2: Annotation sheets on key questions (for expert workshop focus groups)**
- Annex 3: FOMEN online questionnaire**
- Annex 4: Results of the quantitative analyses**

Participant Information and Informed Consent Form

Expert Workshop

FOMEN: FOCUS on MEN: Gender Based Violence Prevention Work with Male Refugees and Migrants

The FOMEN project

The Project “FOCUS on MEN: Gender Based Violence Prevention Work with Male Refugees and Migrants” is a two year European project funded under the Rights Equality Citizenship Programme of the European Union (project nº REC-RDAP-GBV-AG-2018 – 856614). It is run by partner organisations in six European countries and is coordinated by “Verein für Männer- und Geschlechterthemen Steiermark (VMG)” in Austria. Here in [country], [your organisation] is the organisation delivering the activities of the FOMEN project and the responsible person is:

[main researcher of your organisation, contact e-mail and or phone]

Expert Workshops

The Expert Workshops have the main objective to assess needs and resources and identify best practices concerning gender sensitive violence-preventive work with male refugees and migrants in each partner country. Groups of experts from the fields of migration / intercultural education, gender / masculinities and violence prevention will share and discuss relevant needs, challenges, resources and good practices to guide the further development of the project activities.

The Expert Workshop will last about 2-4h. A moderator will ask you several questions while facilitating the discussion. Notes will be taken, and the discussion will be audio-recorded for accuracy of the later transcription.

Voluntary participation

Participation in the Expert Workshop is voluntary, and you can refuse to answer any question and withdraw from the Workshop at any time.

Confidentiality and data protection

Any information and personal data you give will be treated according to [national data protection law] and to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation). The results of the Expert Workshop may be summarised in published articles, reports and presentations. Quotes or key findings will always be made anonymous in any formal outputs unless we have your prior and explicit written permission to attribute them to you by name.

Your personal data given in the Expert Workshop participant list will only be used to contact you for your possible participation in other activities of the FOMEN project in the future. The participant list will be shared with the coordinator of the project, “Verein für Männer- und Geschlechterthemen Steiermark” (Graz, Austria), and the European Commission (Directorate-General Justice and Consumers, Brussels, Belgium), with the exclusive purpose of reporting on this project activity, and will be treated according to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation) by these entities.

Please do not share other people’s identities or responses from the Expert Workshop with others to maintain the privacy of the participants outside of the group.

Informed Consent

	YES	NO
I have read and understood the Participant Information, or it has been read to me. I have been able to ask questions about the Expert Workshop and my questions have been answered to my satisfaction.	YES	NO
I consent voluntarily to participate in this Expert Workshop and understand that I can refuse to answer questions and I can withdraw from it at any time, without having to give a reason.	YES	NO
I agree that the Expert Workshop will be recorded using audio and written notes.	YES	NO
My words / contributions to the Expert Workshop can be quoted in publications, reports, web pages and other research outputs in an anonymised way.	YES	NO
I agree to [your organisation] recording and processing the personal data and information I provide. I understand that this information will be used only for the purposes set out in this statement and according to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).	YES	NO
I give permission for my personal data in the assistance list to be shared with the coordinator of the project, " <i>Verein für Männer- und Geschlechterthemen Steiermark</i> " (Graz, Austria), and the European Commission (Directorate-General Justice and Consumers, Brussels, Belgium). These organisations will treat my data according to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).	YES	NO
I give permission for photographs of the Expert Workshop and myself to be used in reports on the activity and on websites and social media of the FOMEN project and its partners.	YES	NO

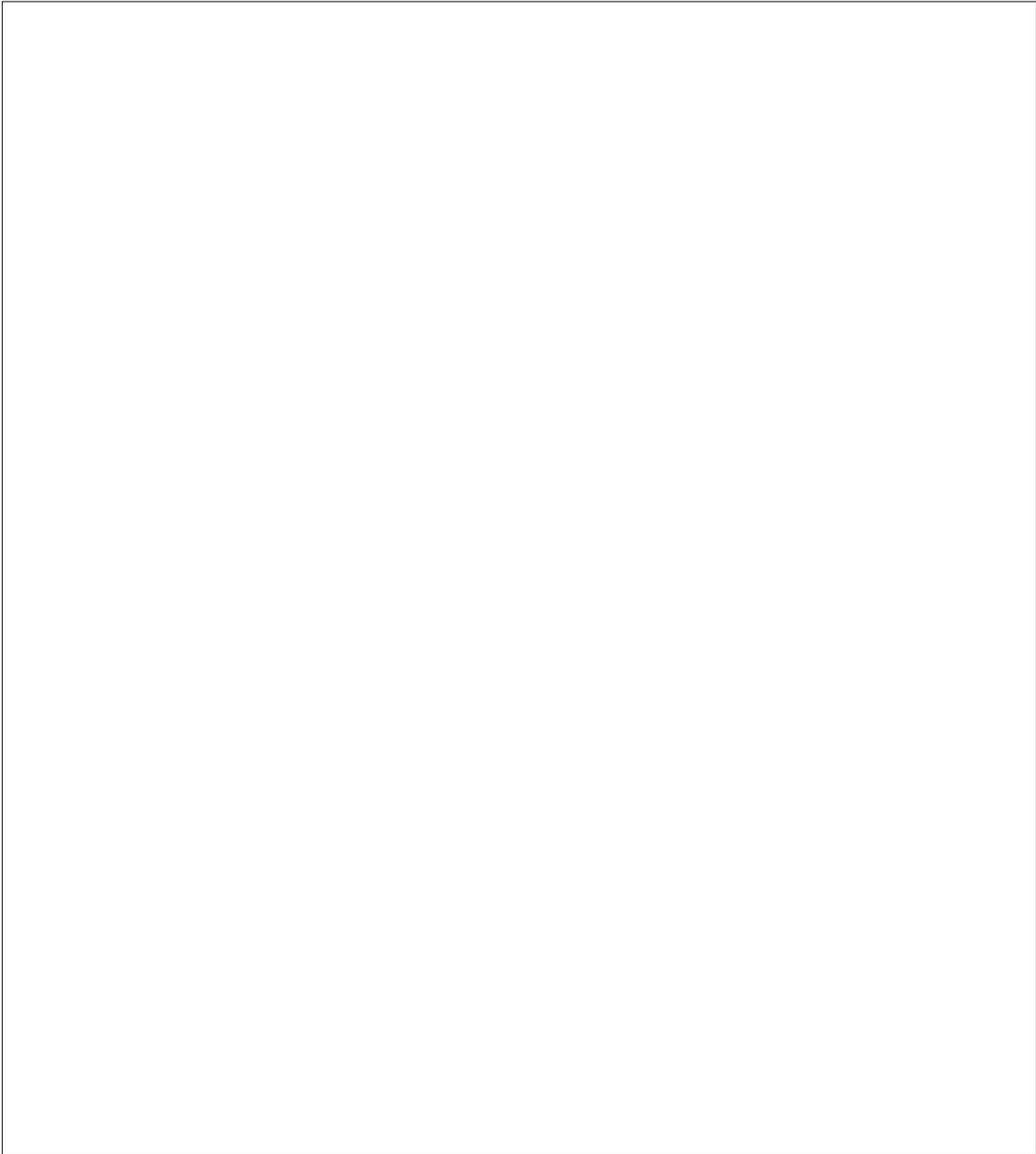
I agree to take part in the Expert Workshop

Date	Name of Participant	Signature
Date	Researcher's name	Signature

2 copies: 1 for the participant, 1 for the project file

1. Previous experiences and good practices in preventing gender-based violence or working for equality with immigrant or refugee men

- What have you worked on?
- What has worked? Which strategies / methodologies have been useful?
- What have been the difficulties or obstacles and how could they be overcome?



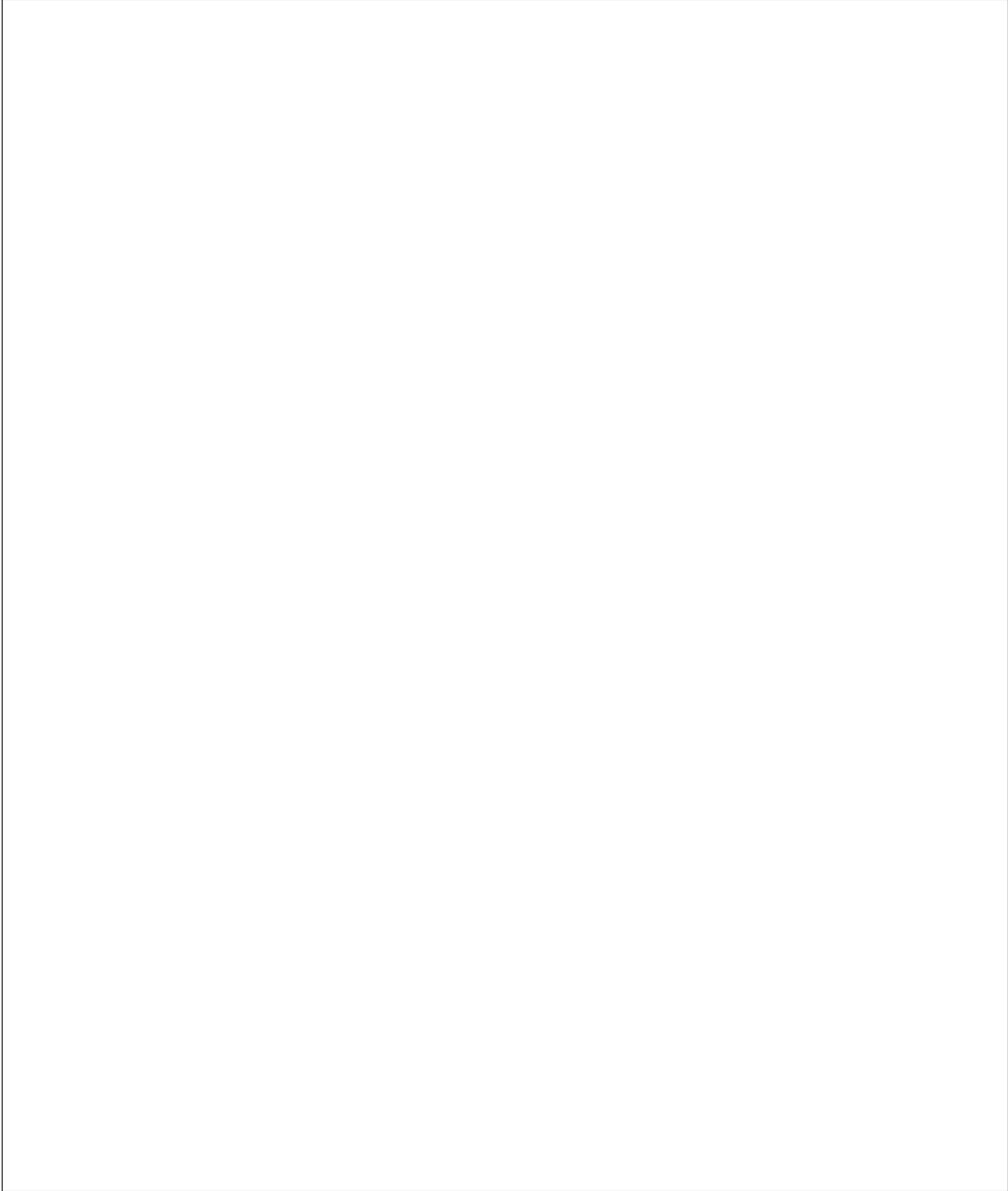
2. Needs of migrant and refugee men regarding gender sensitivity and violence prevention work

- What content should be addressed in different target groups (asylum seekers, migrants, etc.)? What needs have / perceive the men of the collective, which ones the women?
- How to present and carry out the work without stigmatizing the collective and contributing to xenophobic discourses?
- How can (different) migrant and refugee men be reached (through which services, etc.)?
- What would motivate them to take part in a prevention activity?
- What could be barriers for their participation and how could they be overcome?
- How can a safe space be created in the group?



3. Needs of professionals working with male migrants and refugees regarding gender sensitive and violence prevention work

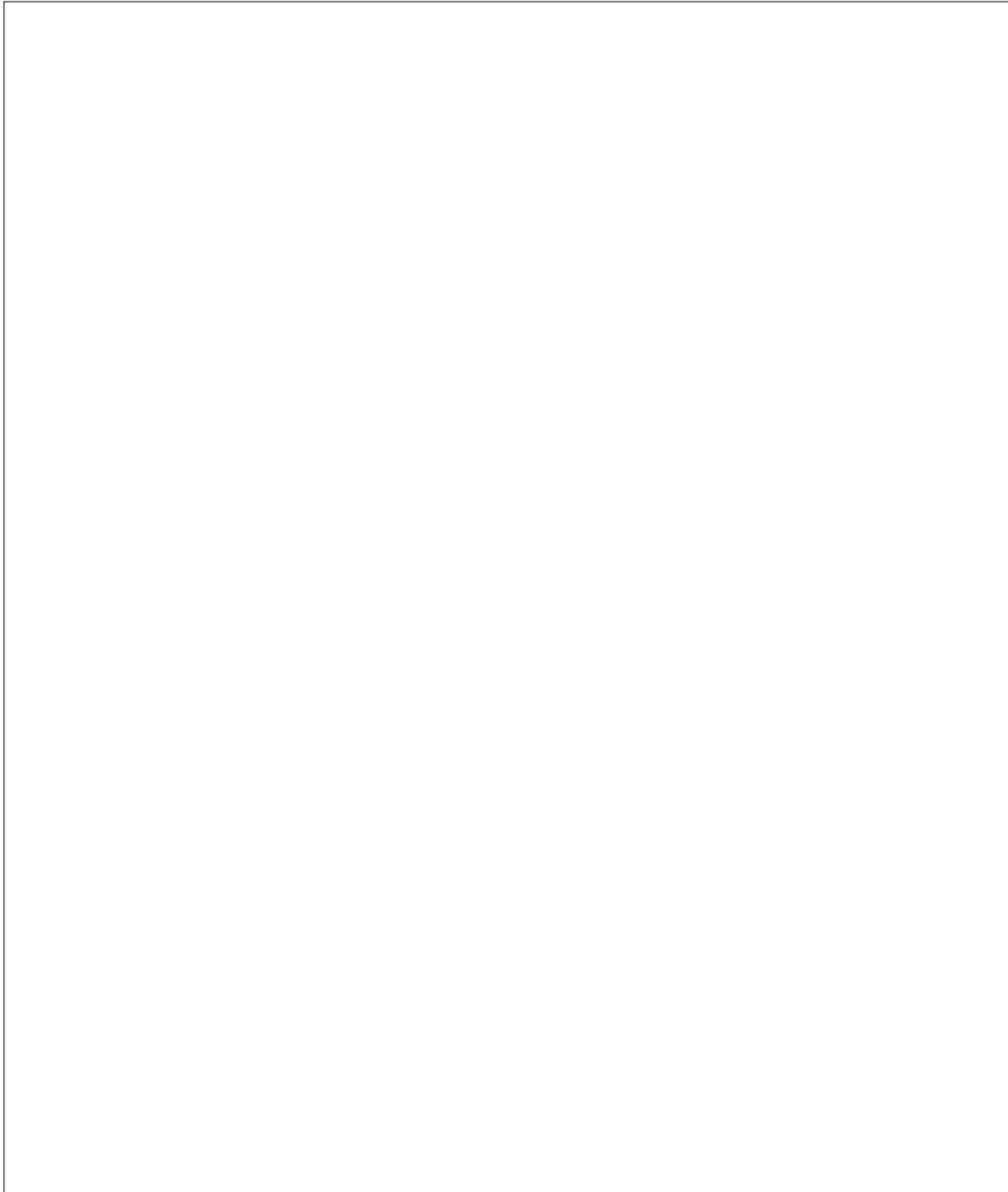
- What are the main needs of professionals working with male migrants and refugees regarding gender sensitive and violence prevention work?
- What knowledge and skills would they need to deliver a violence prevention programme with these men?
- What would motivate them to take part in a training course and to undertake such a prevention initiative?



4. Proposals for a survey on needs and resources for prevention

We are going to design a questionnaire for gathering experiences, needs and opinions from more people working in the field across the state, related to the prevention of gender-based violence with male migrants and refugees.

- Which are the most important questions to be asked?
- Which of the questions discussed today are important, which aren't so much?
- Which other questions should be asked?





Funded by the
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Co-funded
by:



On-line Questionnaire

WP2 Needs and Resources Analysis

FOMEN - FOCUS ON MEN: Gender Based Violence Prevention Work with Male Refugees and Migrants

The FOMEN project

The Project "FOCUS ON MEN: Gender Based Violence Prevention Work with Male Refugees and Migrants" is a two year European project funded under the Rights Equality Citizenship Programme of the European Union (project n° REC-RDAP-GBV-AG-2018 – 856614). It is run by partner organisations in six European countries and is coordinated by "Verein für Männer- und Geschlechterthemen Steiermark (VMG)" in Austria. For more information on the FOMEN project, please see also: <https://www.focus-on-men.eu>

In Germany, WWP is the organisation delivering the activities of the FOMEN project and the responsible person is: Daliah Vakili Daliah.vakili@work-with-perpetrators.org

This questionnaire is part of the Needs and Resources Analysis of the FOMEN project and its main objectives are to:

- Collect and analyse the perceived needs of the target group of migrant and refugee men regarding gender sensitivity and violence prevention work,
- Collect and analyse the needs of professionals working with migrants and refugees regarding gender sensitivity and violence prevention,
- Collect and analyse good practice examples and opportunities in this kind of work as well as perceived difficulties or obstacles and strategies to overcome them,
- Establish collaboration with professionals and organisations for the pilot implementation of the project (train the trainers, pilot intervention).

The survey has two main parts. The first part is about your views on the needs of migrant and refugee men regarding gender sensitivity and violence prevention and on how to meet them through a prevention project (including needs of professionals to deliver such a project) and takes about 20 minutes to complete. The second part is optional and asks about (good practice) examples, experiences and lessons learned in this kind of work. It takes about 15 min to complete.

We know you are all very busy and tried to make the survey as short as possible. However, this is a unique opportunity to ask frontline workers and experts across various countries about these important issues and we feel that all these questions are essential to understanding how to move this issue forward in an appropriate way.

Thank you very much in advance for you collaboration!

1. Informed Consent

Voluntary participation

Answering the Questionnaire is voluntary, and, of course, you can refuse to answer any single question or the Questionnaire as a whole at any time.

Confidentiality and data protection

Any information and personal data you give will be treated according to [national data protection law] and to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation). The results of the Questionnaire may be summarised in published articles, reports and presentations, where quotes will always be made anonymously.

I consent voluntarily to answer this Questionnaire and understand that I can refuse to answer questions and I can withdraw from it at any time.

- Yes
 No

My answers to the Questionnaire can be quoted in publications, reports, web pages and other research outputs in an anonymised way.

- Yes
 No

2. Personal and institutional information

2.1. Please, provide the following information about yourself:

Gender:

- Female
- Male
- Non-binary

Other:

Age:

- 18-24
- 25 -34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65 +

Profession / basic training:

- Educator
- Social Worker
- Psychologist
- Doctor
- Sociologist
- Anthropologist

Other:

Do you live in the country you were born in?

- Yes
- No

Do you consider yourself a person with international family history?

- Yes
- No

Have you been a refugee at any time in your life?

- Yes
- No

2.2. In which country(ies) do you work? (multiple answers possible)

- Austria
- Croatia
- Germany
- Greece
- Italy
- Spain

Other:

2.3. What is your field of activity / experience/ expertise? (multiple answers possible)

- Migration/ intercultur. education
- Gender / masculinities
- Violence prevention

Other:

2.4. How many years of experience do you have in this field(s)?

- less than 1
- 1 – 3
- 4 – 10
- more than 10

2.5. Which population do you work with? (multiple answers possible)

- Women
- Men
- LGBTQI*
- Adults
- Minors
- Locals
- Refugees
- Asylum seekers
- Migrants

2.6. Please, provide the following information about your organization:

- I don't work in any organisation (freelancer, etc.) -
 - I work in an organisation
-

2.7. Your organisation is a / an ...

- Statutory organisation / public body
- NGO /CSO
- Private company
- National organisation
- International organisation

Other:

2.8. How many staff does your organisation have?

- Up to 10
- 11 – 50
- 51 – 100
- More than 100

2.9. What is the main field of activity of your organisation?

- Migration/ intercultur. education
- Gender / masculinities
- Violence prevention

Other:

3. Needs of migrant and refugee men regarding gender sensitive and violence prevention work

3.1 How important are the following needs for male migrants and refugees regarding gender sensitive and violence prevention work?

	1 not important at all	2 slightly important	3 moderately important	4 quite important	5 very important
1.Learning about views, values and laws on family and gender roles and equality in the country of residence (in comparison to the country of origin)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.Learning about views, values and laws on violence against women and children in the country of residence (in comparison to the country of origin)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3.Learning about views, values and laws on LGBTIQ* in the country of residence (in comparison to the country of origin).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4.Talking about their experience of flight / migration and related trauma with other refugee and migrant men	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5.Talking about the violence and discrimination they have been and are subjected to and its consequences as a basis for preventing violence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6.Talking about the difficulties in and barriers to participate in the country of residence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7.Reflecting on / talking about how the flight / migration and integration process has affected and affects their role and identity as men	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8.Discussing with other migrant / refugee men how to transform their role in family and other relationships in the country of residence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9.Knowing about different forms of sexualized and gender based violence and its consequences on victims/survivors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10.Learning about flirting, dating, sexual and intimate relationships in the country of residence (in comparison to the country of origin)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11.Others: <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. Reaching out and motivating migrant and refugee men for gender sensitive violence prevention work

4.1. How good are the following strategies to reach (out to) male migrants and refugees and / or motivate them to take part in a gender sensitive and violence preventive work programme?

	1 very poor	2 poor	3 acceptable	4 good	5 very good
1. Informing about and promoting the work through statutory / public institutions working with refugees or migrants	<input type="radio"/>				
2. Informing about and promoting the work through NGOs / civil society organisations working with refugees or migrants	<input type="radio"/>				
3. Informing about and promoting the work through associations or local communities of refugees or migrants	<input type="radio"/>				
4. Involving respected members or leaders of refugee / migrant communities	<input type="radio"/>				
5. Through flyers or leaflets	<input type="radio"/>				
6. Through website or social media	<input type="radio"/>				
7. Not mentioning "violence" in the name of the programme or dissemination efforts	<input type="radio"/>				
8. Holding the sessions at or near to their communities / places they live	<input type="radio"/>				
9. Offering financial compensation for taking part	<input type="radio"/>				
10. Offering child care	<input type="radio"/>				
11. Offering a certification for taking part	<input type="radio"/>				
12. Others: <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>				

4.2. How important are the following barriers for male migrants and refugees to participate in a gender sensitive and violence preventive work programme?

	1 not important at all	2 slightly important	3 moderately important	4 quite important	5 very important
1. Feeling (doubly) stigmatized as migrants and (potential) perpetrators of violence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. The issue is not a priority in their current situation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Lack of resources to attend (time, money for transport)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Having to travel to take part	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Fear of legal consequences if violence is disclosed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Having to commit to attend a certain number of sessions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Others: <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Creating a safe space for migrant and refugee men in gender sensitive and violence prevention work

5.1. How good are the following strategies to create, as much as possible, a safe space in the group for gender sensitive and violence preventive work?

	1 very poor	2 poor	3 acceptable	4 good	5 very good
1. Promoting and creating an inclusive atmosphere (no discrimination, but diversity of cultural identities and masculinities)	<input type="radio"/>				
2. Adapting the structural frame and contents to the individual needs of the participants (rhythm, limits, personal background/experiences)	<input type="radio"/>				
3. Clarifying rules of confidentiality (especially in which cases confidentiality will have to be broken – informed consent)	<input type="radio"/>				
4. Encourage participation of and conversation among all participants	<input type="radio"/>				
5. Creating informal spaces of interaction and relationship building (e.g.: excursions, cooking, visits to museums)	<input type="radio"/>				
6. Having cultural mediators or members from the communities as co-facilitators of the group	<input type="radio"/>				
7. Having translators for all involved languages in the group	<input type="radio"/>				
8. Others: <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>				

6. Addressing intercultural and language issues in gender sensitive and violence prevention work

6.1. How good are the following strategies to address intercultural and language differences in gender sensitive and violence prevention work?

	1 very poor	2 poor	3 acceptable	4 good	5 very good
1.Using professional interpreters from outside the local community/ies	<input type="radio"/>				
2.Using interpreters from the local community/ies	<input type="radio"/>				
3.Using translation by group members	<input type="radio"/>				
4.Having intercultural mediators	<input type="radio"/>				
5.Having country-of-origin nationals as co-facilitators	<input type="radio"/>				
6.Using less or non-language based methods (such as theatre, art, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>				
7.Using audiovisual / multimedia resources	<input type="radio"/>				
8.Others:					
<input style="width: 350px; height: 15px;" type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>				

7. Needs of professionals to work with male migrants and refugees on gender sensitive and violence prevention

7.1. Regarding the following needs of professionals to work with male migrants and refugees on gender sensitivity and violence prevention:

a) how important do you think they are?

b) to which extent are they covered for yourself?

a) importance of this need	1 not important at all	2 slightly important	3 moderately important	4 quite important	5 very important
1. Having reflected on their own beliefs, stereotypes and experiences regarding refugees and migrants (discrimination / racism)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Having reflected on their own beliefs, stereotypes and experiences regarding gender and violence (discrimination / sexism)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Having reflected on their own beliefs, stereotypes and experiences regarding gender and violence in (male) refugees and migrants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Knowledge on gender and family roles and relations in cultures of origin	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Knowledge on problems, difficulties and barriers in the process of migrant integration into a new culture	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Knowledge on the national system of accepting and integrating migrants/refugees	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Knowledge of the national legal framework on gender-based and domestic violence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Knowledge of relevant protocols and referral mechanisms for addressing gender-based and domestic violence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Knowledge and skills for working on gender and masculinities with men	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Knowledge and skills to identify and address gender-based and domestic violence in perpetrators and victims	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. Knowledge and skills for group work with clients from diverse cultures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. Knowledge and skills for group work and managing group processes in preventive work with men	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13. Others: <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	1 not at all covered	2 a little covered	3 moderately covered	4 quite a bit covered	5 very much covered
b) I have covered this need					
1. Having reflected on their own beliefs, stereotypes and experiences regarding refugees and migrants (discrimination / racism)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Having reflected on their own beliefs, stereotypes and experiences regarding gender and violence (discrimination / sexism)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Having reflected on their own beliefs, stereotypes and experiences regarding gender and violence in (male) refugees and migrants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Knowledge on gender and family roles and relations in cultures of origin	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Knowledge on problems, difficulties and barriers in the process of migrant integration into a new culture	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Knowledge on the national system of accepting and integrating migrants/refugees	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Knowledge of the national legal framework on gender-based and domestic violence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Knowledge of relevant protocols and referral mechanisms for addressing gender-based and domestic violence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Knowledge and skills for working on gender and masculinities with men	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Knowledge and skills to identify and address gender-based and domestic violence in perpetrators and victims	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. Knowledge and skills for group work with clients from diverse cultures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. Knowledge and skills for group work and managing group processes in preventive work with men	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13. Others: <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

8. Good practice examples of gender sensitive violence prevention work with male migrants or refugees

Do you know of any examples of work on gender / masculinities and or prevention of gender based violence with male migrants or refugees?

- Yes
 No
-

8.1. If yes, please, provide a short description and, if available, a link to a website or to any documents with further information on each of the initiatives you know of:

Have you taken part in any of these examples of work on gender / masculinities or prevention of gender based violence with male migrants or refugees yourself?

- Yes
 No
-

Do you have enough knowledge about any of these examples of work on gender / masculinities or prevention of gender based violence with male migrants or refugees to be able to answer some question on it/them?

- Yes
 No
-

Would you be willing to answer a few questions on the experience and lessons learned in this work (it will take about 15 min)?

- Yes
 No

8.2. What was the name of the example of work on gender / masculinities or prevention of gender based violence with male migrants or refugees you (if you have knowledge of several examples, please, choose the one you consider most relevant)?

8.3. What were the three main objectives of the project or initiative?

8.4. What were the three main strategies to reach out to and engage migrant or refugee men to participate (and how successful were they)?

8.5. Please, briefly describe the main contents of the project initiative.

8.6. What were the three main difficulties or obstacles for the project / initiative and how were they overcome?

8.7. How were cultural and language issues dealt with and with what success (e.g. interpreters, cultural mediators)?

8.8. All in all, which are the three main lessons learned from this work example of work on gender / masculinities or prevention of gender based violence with male migrants or refugees?

9. Information about the project results and activities

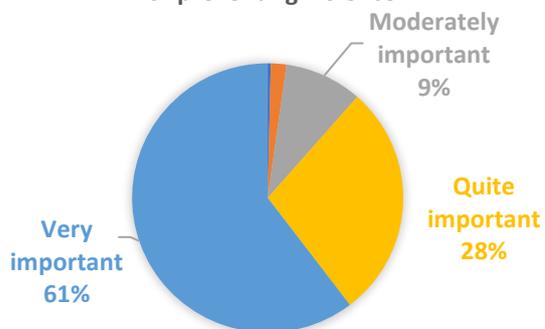
9.1. If you would like to be informed about the project results and activities and possibly take part in them, please, write an e-mail to Daliah Vakili, Daliah.vakili@work-with-perpetrators.org

9.2. Is there anything else that you want to tell us or do you have any comment on the questionnaire or the FOMEN project?

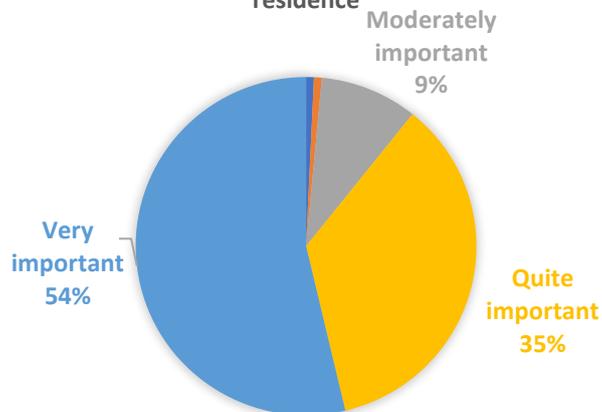
Thank you very much for your time and for sharing your knowledge with us!

Needs of migrants and refugee men in relation to gender perspective/ violence prevention work

5. Talking about the violence and discrimination they have been and are subjected to and its consequences as a basic for preventing violence



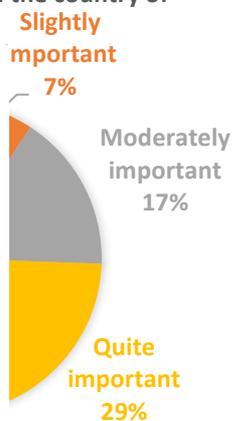
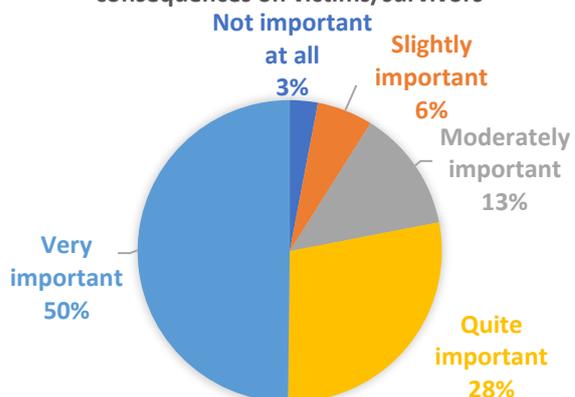
6. Talking about the difficulties in and barriers to participate in the country of residence



7. Reflecting on / migration or affected and affected

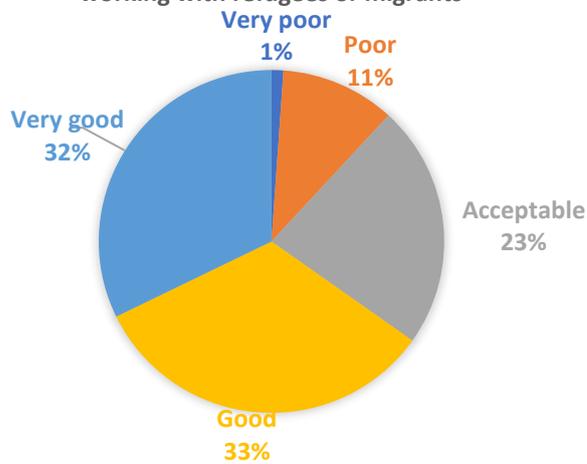
8. Discussing with other migrant / refugee men how to transform their role in family and other relationships in the country of residence

9. Knowing about different forms of sexualized and gender based violence and its consequences on victims/survivors

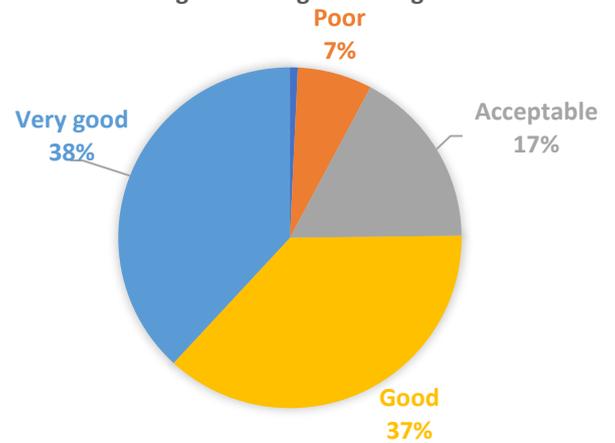


Reaching and motivating migrant and refugee men in relation to gender perspective work and violence prevention

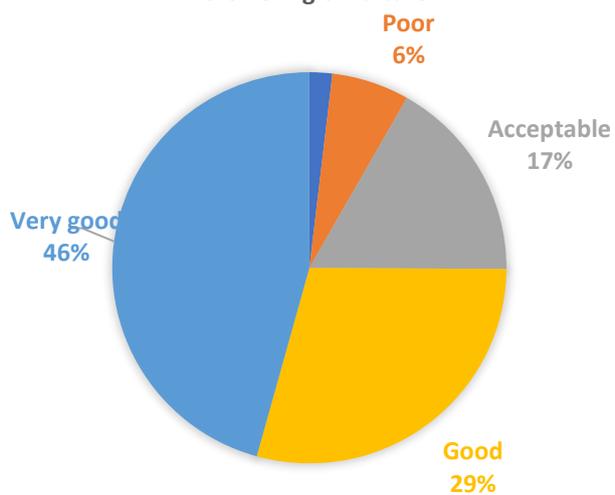
1. Informing about and promoting the work through statutory / public institutions working with refugees or migrants



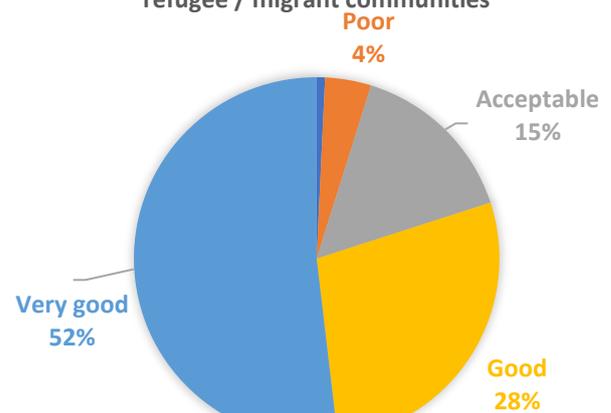
2. Informing about and promoting the work through NGOs / civil society organisations working with refugees or migrants



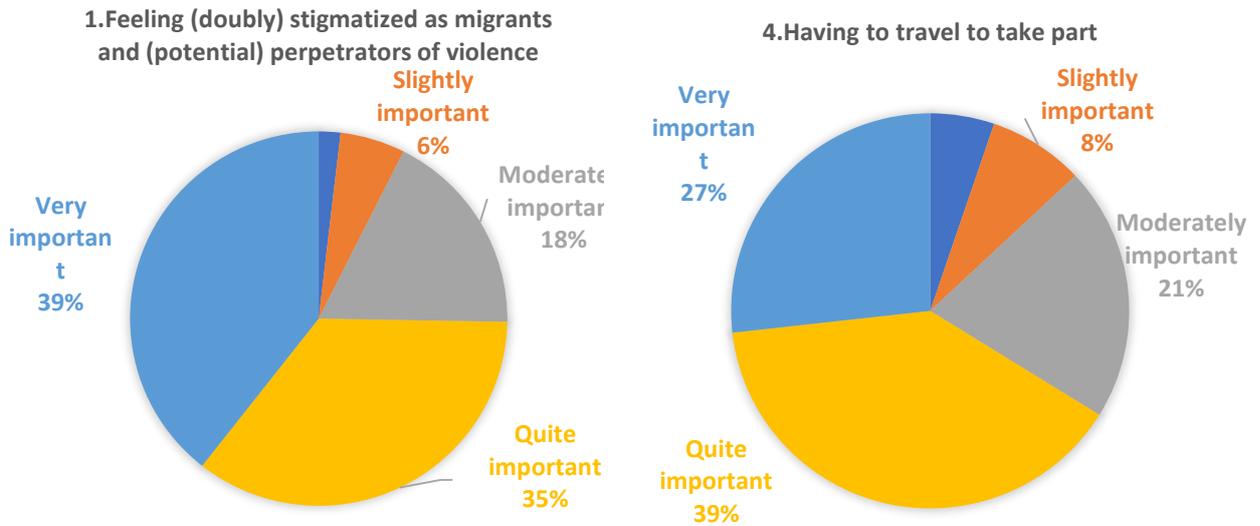
10. Offering child care



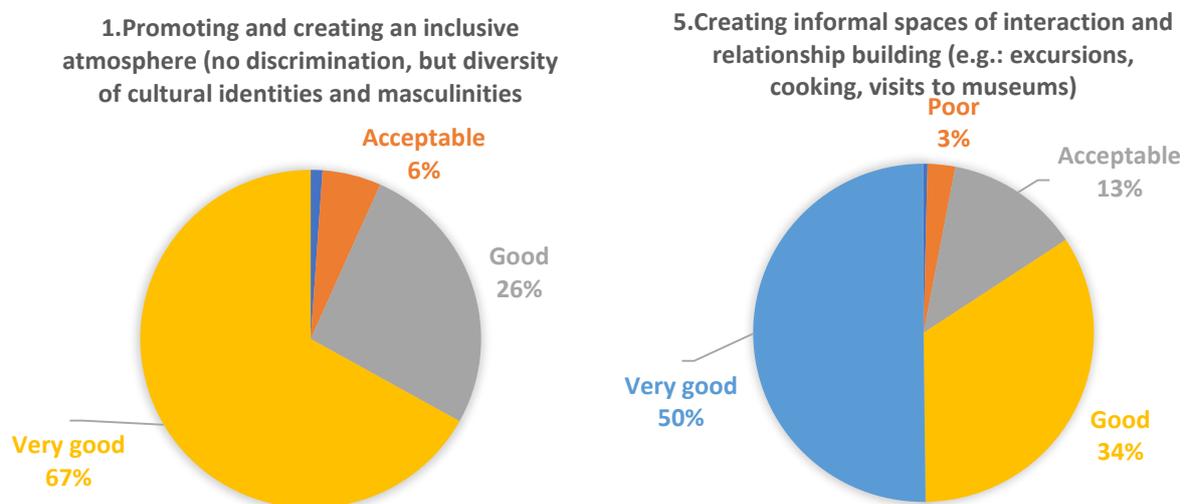
4. Involving respected members or leaders of refugee / migrant communities



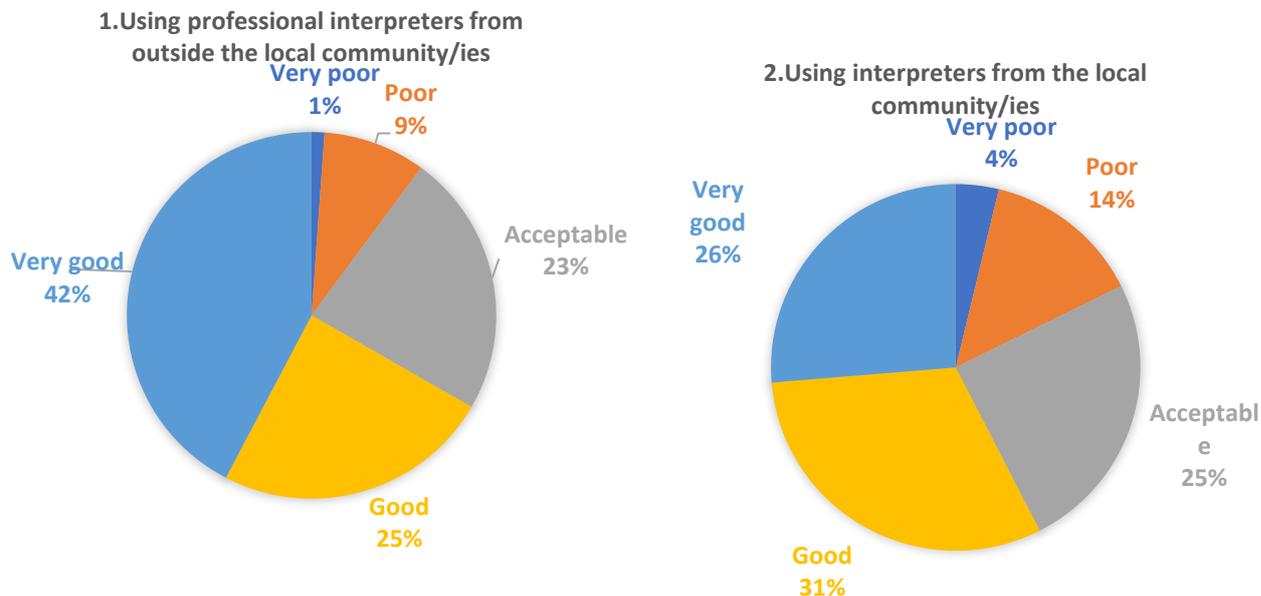
Identification of barriers of male migrants and refugees based on participation



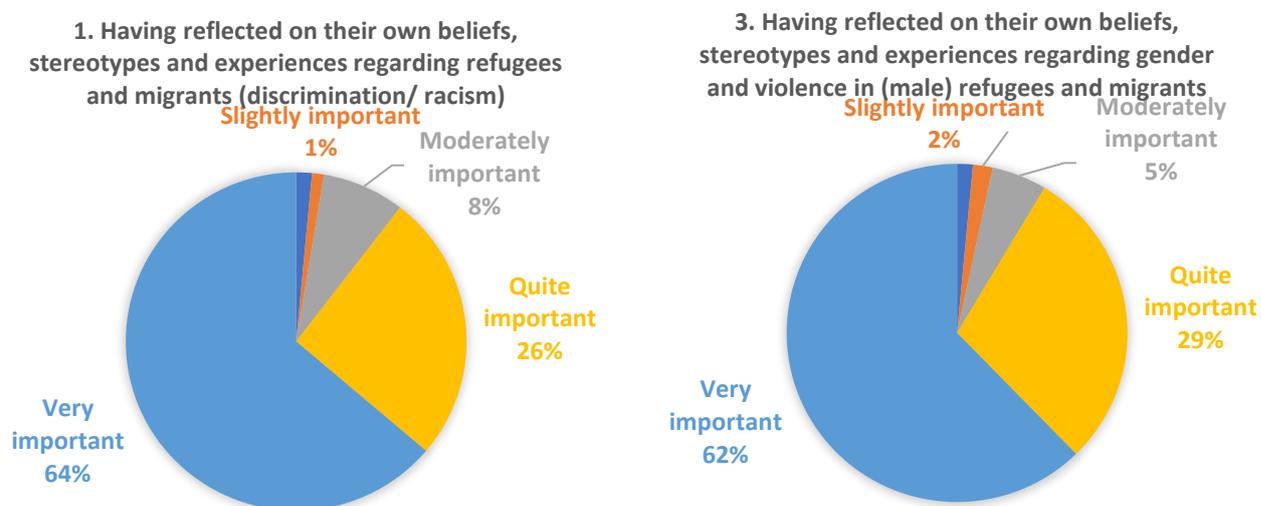
Create a safe space to work on gender perspective and violence prevention with migrant men and refugees



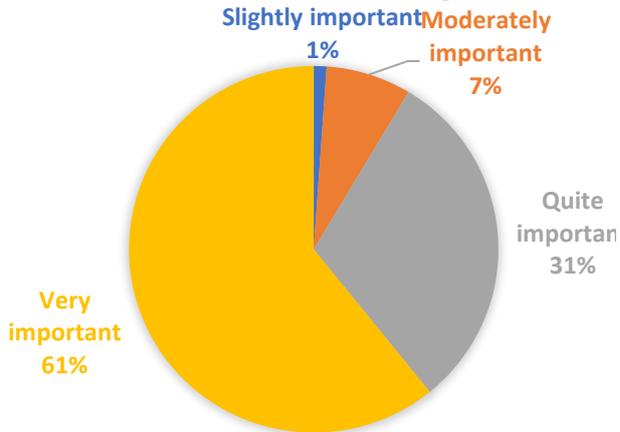
Addressing intercultural and linguistic issues in gender perspective and violence prevention work



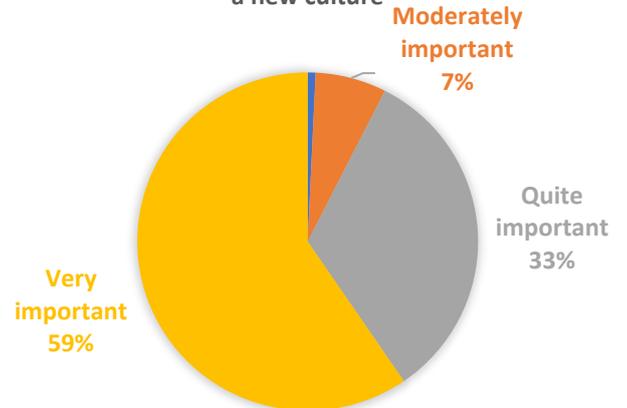
Needs of professionals who work on gender perspective and violence prevention with migrant men and refugees.



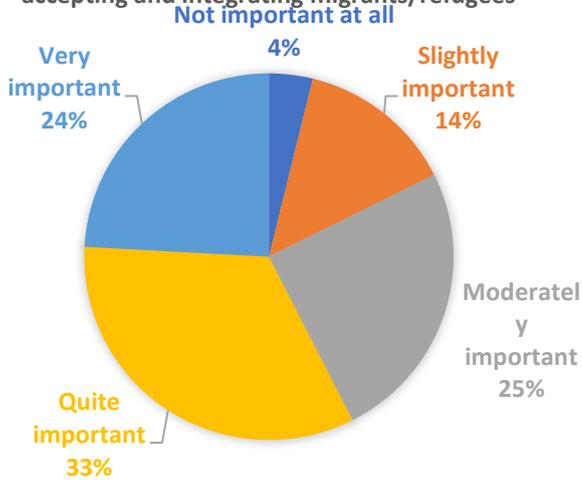
4. Knowledge on gender and family roles and relations in cultures of origin



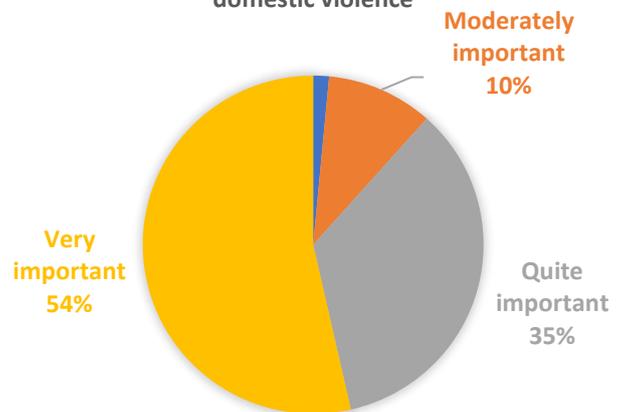
5. Knowledge on problems, difficulties and barriers in the process of migrant integration into a new culture



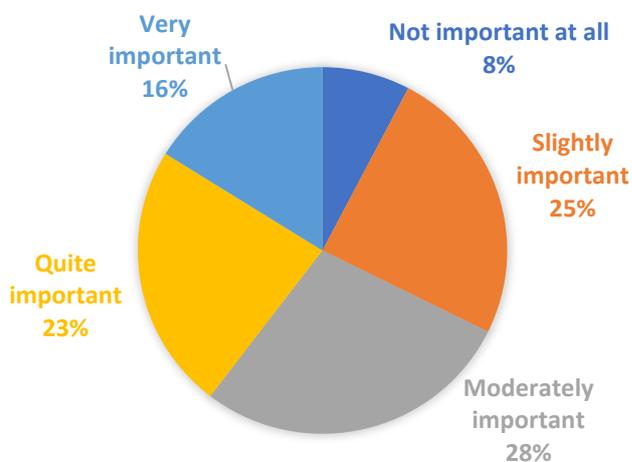
6. Knowledge on the national system of accepting and integrating migrants/refugees



domestic violence



9. Knowledge and skills for working on gender and masculinities with men



11. Knowledge and skills for group work with clients from diverse cultures

