

PROJECT REPORT

MuTAVi – MULTIMEDIA TOOLS AGAINST VIOLENCE



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“Intimate partner and sexual violence affect a large proportion of the world population – with the majority of those directly experiencing such violence being women and the majority perpetrating it being men”. This is one of the ever-worrisome statements of the 2010 Report “Preventing Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Against Women” of the World Health Organization.

This is a complex phenomenon, stemming from social and psychological motivations. In order for the police forces, attorneys and social and health officers to help and support the victims of intimate partner and sexual violence, a series of tools are necessary. Such tools must, in an early stage, be capable of activating listening and understanding abilities and, in a later stage, provide adequate support in reconstructing a life strategy.

This is the main aim of the MuTAVi Project – Multimedia Tools Against Violence: It offers a contribution just in terms of conception and implementation of multimedia tools necessary to police forces, attorneys and social and health officers that in an early stage interact and take care of the victims. The two-year duration Project has been co-financed by the European Commission, Directorate General Justice, in the framework of the Daphne III Programme, aiming at preventing and fighting violence against children, youth and women and to protect victims and endangered groups.



MuTAVi consistently draws from the results of the AGIS Victas project and the Daphne II AViCri project. The first project aimed at developing operative strategies to protect the victims’ needs and rights during criminal proceedings. The second project focused on the training of police forces in approaching the victims and its methods and contents were

later acknowledged also by the European Police College. Starting from these assumptions, MuTAVi is dedicated to the *conception and implementation of audiovisual tools of interactive training* addressing professionals of this field to increase their capacities to deal with the approach, the relief and the assistance to the victims of intimate partner violence.

To this purpose, a “training kit” - the Project's final outcome - will be conceived including specific tools for police forces. Indirect beneficiaries are the victims of violence that will be provided with a more appropriate assistance vis-à-vis their needs by public institutions and by non-governmental organizations operating in this field.

MuTAVi will identify and define typical situations characterizing the assistance to victims of intimate partner violence. Later on, videos of possible interventions will be proposed in order to promote the active learning, also thanks to the e-learning, capable of favouring a better awareness of the conditions affecting the victims, their feelings and their needs.

More in detail, project *MuTAVi will provide videos, video lessons, interactive exercises and summaries* concerning the main training aspects in this field, as well as information materials. Within the audiovisual tools, a synthesis of lessons and materials developed by the Daphne II *AviCri project* will be provided, and new videos will be edited, drawing from investigative interviews car-

ried out with the support of law enforcement experts.

Guidelines will also be prepared so that officers assisting the victims of violence may actually make use of the training kit. An assessment of the training kit's effectiveness will also be provided. Moreover the project will ensure the appropriate mainstreaming of materials, training kit and results achieved throughout the European Countries.

A particular attention, given the social relevance of the matter tackled by the Project, will be dedicated to the *communication and dissemination aspects* of the Project's results, activities and products. Indeed, the MuTAVi website, will be a focal point to collect information and documentation (including the electronic version of the training kit), and it will also serve to promote the networking of best practices and experiences. To this end, a mailing-list of key stakeholders at different levels will be drawn up.

MuTAVi features some pioneering ambitions: First of all, it will connect the best practices in training, recently tested on European Police Forces, to advanced techniques and multimedia methodologies - designed, experimented and tested also in academic contexts. The aim is to enable all European Countries, including the new Member States, to benefit from the tools conceived by the project. Furthermore, the efficiency and effectiveness of such tools

will be scientifically validated. Finally, the Project will experiment a cooperative approach among public and private organizations and services, assisting the victims of intimate partner violence.

MuTAVi relies on the collaboration of a Consortium composed of four institutions and one organization of three European Countries;

Italy, United Kingdom and Germany.

CIRMPA, the Inter-University Centre for the study of development of pro-social and anti-social motivations, based in Rome, is the leading partner of the Project. It gathers eight Italian universities: Università “La Sapienza” of Rome, Università ‘Federico II’ 3 of Naples, Università Cattolica of Milan, Università di Firenze, Università di Padova, Università di Catania, Università di Torino and Università di Aosta.

Regione Lazio (Latium Region), is an Italian Local Board with regional scope.

IMED, Mediterranean Institute of Rome.

Devon & Cornwall Police Department is the largest geographical police area in England, extending from Dorset and Somerset.

Polizeidirektion Hannover is the largest Police Board of Germany. It includes the Capital, the Lower Saxony and the Hannover regions.

Associated to the Consortium is also the **Italian Ministry of the Interior**, namely its Department of Public Security, Central Directorate of Criminal Police.

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