Project ends - work continues

In the final newsletter we would like to present you the project meeting in Steinkjer (Norway) on 14-15 May, sum up what has been done during two years of project implementation and share our thoughts about the project.

Final touches in Steinkjer

On 14-15 of May representatives from BIIA resource centre, Solstafir, ZISPB and hosting organisation – Folkuniversitetet – met in Steinkjer (Norway) for the last meeting. Project lasted two years and a lot of has been done – good practice examples of working with perpetrators of domestic violence, women and children who experienced, witnessed it in Lithuania, Sweden, Norway and Iceland have been collected, innovative training programme to work with all parties involved in domestic violence has been prepared for adult educators (psychologists, social workers, consultants, etc.). In each participating country at least 4 local workshops were organised to present the training materials obtained during transnational meetings and training programme. We are glad that almost all partners involved more people in local training than anticipated. Partners had an opportunity to discuss the final report and what is still left to do until the official end of the project. The checklist of tasks was reviewed once again, financial documents collected from partners. Project partners have also spent some time to discuss some difficulties encountered during the project: the change of staff in partners’ organisations, language barrier, the difficulty in collecting a certain number of workshop participants. However, we have successfully solved those issues and are satisfied with the final result.
IMPRESSIONS ABOUT THE PROJECT

We have decided to ask people who worked on the project their opinion about the success, results and challenges encountered in our work.

Frank Nunes, the project coordinator in Folkuniversitetet (Norway): “The training manual generated by this project will become an important tool for training those who are in constant contact with families as part of their professional work. It provides the basis for helping those whose job it is to protect victims of domestic abuse and those whose job it is to help the perpetrators avoid engaging in abusive behaviour.”

Lísbet Harðar Ólafardóttir from Sólstaðir (Iceland): “In Iceland the war against gender based violence is on. We have learned that there should be no tolerance for a threat in your own home. That within the walls of your home you should be safe. For the last decades we have been focusing on getting the survivors to a safe haven, but we also need to see that there is a cause - the perpetrator also needs a solution - a program to seek assistance and return in a healthy way back to society.”

Robert Eneaåhl from BIIA resource center (Sweden): “I think the overall impact of the project on society and surroundings in 4 countries has been significant. We have helped to raise awareness of the subject. As a result of the project, we delivered the training of people to work concretely with the main parties involved in DV, as well as created the opportunity to immerse themselves in and develop themselves through the handbook and training program. I see the project as clearly successful, although it was not that easy to perform and complete. Collaboration with many different individuals and different conditions where diversity is a force. The results and performance of the project have clearly exceeded my expectations. And the result will have good effects even in future after the project end!”

Gintarė Černikienė from ZISPB (Lithuania): “We learnt a lot from this project – both on the subject and working in an international team. I would like to thank the whole team!”

More information about the project http://domesticviolence.zispb.lt/en/

We are glad to introduce adult educators with “Good Practice Examples for Working with Perpetrators and Survivors of Domestic Violence” and “Innovative Training Programme for Adult Educators To Work with Perpetrators, Women and Children who Suffered from Domestic Violence”.

During 4 meetings in Lithuania, Sweden, Iceland and Norway we learned a lot from each other – new ideas, work methods, widened horizons, course of work and also – NEW FRIENDS.