

## **ANNUAL REPORT**









### **Prepared the report:**

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### January, 2021

During 2021, WFE implemented the following projects:

- The project "Improved access for women and girls survivors of violence in Elbasan Region" has continued even for 2021. This project started to be implemented on September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2021 with the support of UN Women through UNTF (United Nations Trust Fund) and January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2021 is financed by AWEN/Sida (National Women's Empowerment Network in Albania). For the year 2021, UNTF has contributed with the value of \$39,050 or x % and AWEN with the value of 30,000 Euros or y %
- 2. "Challenging existing societal norms through awareness-raising campaigns among school communities on harmful gender stereotypes that perpetuate all forms of VAWG, in particular sexual violence, harassment, stalking and forced marriage" with the support of UN Women in the amount of \$39,845.
- 3. "Improving the access to legal and psychological services and information on free legal aid to women and girls all over the Region of Elbasan, Rrogozhina and Kavaja until November 2022" with the support of UN Women in the amount of funds of 7,629,800 All
- 4. "Partnership between the State Police, local actors and the community regarding Domestic Violence and Gender-Based Violence in the Municipality of Belsh, Gramsh, Peqin and Librazhd"

The activity of the Woman Forum Elbasan (FGE) throughout 2021 is focused on three main pillars as follows:

- ✓ Concrete services in favor of women and girls;
- ✓ Awareness campaigns;
- ✓ Training and capacity building.



### a. Services

Concrete services for women/girls with violence problems are provided by:

1. The Counseling Center offers free services to help women/girls with violence and social-economic problems in the District of Elbasan, but also from other Districts of Albania.

The services offered through the psychologist/social worker are:

- Psychological, social support individually or in groups;
- Mediation with family members and beneficiaries to find alternatives to solve their problems;
- Mediation in the centre of Professional Training, or Local Businesses;
- Information, orientation and referral of cases for other necessary alternative services provided by other local actors (public and non-public).
- **During the period 01 January 31 December 2021,** from all the psychological counseling services offered in total:
- 271 consultations were through the telephone line, through the telephone number +355 69 65 11 674 the beneficiaries presented their problems while remaining anonymous.
- **546 face-to-face counseling,** where girls/women came directly to the Counseling Centre and presented their problems and concerns.
- **213 questionnaires were** completed by the beneficiaries to identify their needs, in housing, employment, etc.
- 2. **The Advocate Studio** offers free legal services. More specifically, the services are as follows:
- **453 legal consultancy** with different objects. These consultancies were offered to beneficiaries who wanted to receive legal information;
- **68 legal files** opened for representation in court;
- **70 legal acts** drafted for the judicial process and requests addressed to other institutions.
- **323 legal consultations** within the files provided before and after court sessions;
- **116 representations** in court with lawyers.



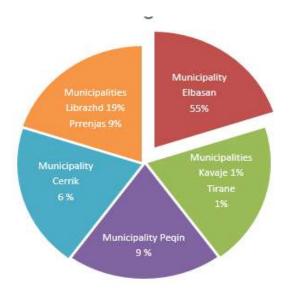
2. Day Care Center (or Emergency Shelter) is the only one in the entire Elbasan District. This center was created to assist and support abused women who denounce their abusers, are in danger and seek to be provided with an Immediate Protection Order and Protection Order. From September 2021 until April 30, 2022, this shelter was supported by UNDP and the duration of staying in this shelter was increased until receiving a Protection Order which legally requires 15 days. In December 2021, for the first time after 10 years of the shelter creation, the rent was supported by the Municipality of Elbasan and this support will continue for a three-year period according to the statements made by the mayor on various social media. The contract signed between the two WFE-Municipality institutions ends in August 2022.

The services offered through the shelter are:

- 1. Shelter from a few hours to 5 or 15 days, until receiving the Immediate Protection Order/Protection Order, for girls/women and their children under 18 years old.
- 2. Provision of psycho-social-legal and medical counseling by the CC and AS during the days of accommodation.

During 2021, 32 women/girls and 33 children of different age groups were accommodated in the DCC.

17 cases were from the Municipality of Elbasan, 6 from the Municipality of Librazhd, 3 from the Municipality of Peqin, 3 from the Municipality of Prrenjas and 2 from the Municipality of Cërrik, 1 case was from the Municipality of Kavaje and another case from the Municipality of Tirana.





Other activities besides the ones mentioned above, were carried out in the framework of the project supported by UNTF and implemented during 2021:

The round table with all the local actors to present the findings from the three-year monitoring of:

Elbasan Judicial District Court for the period:

- ➤ 1 December 2018-28 February 2019
- ➤ 1 December 2018-28 February 2019
- ▶ 1 December 2018-28 February 2019

Media, in relation to the issues it has dealt with regarding violence and gender-based violence in Elbasan District. The period that has been monitored is:

- ➤ 1 December 2018-28 February 2019
- ▶ 1 December 2018-28 February 2019
- ▶ 1 December 2018-28 February 2019

7 municipalities and 50 Administrative Units under their jurisdiction regarding how they implemented the legal obligations for survivors of domestic violence and gender-based violence after they were provided with a Protection Order (IPO/PO) by the Elbasan Judicial District Court. The monitoring period is;

- ➤ 1 March 2019-31 May 2019
- ▶ 1 March 2020-31 May 2020
- ▶ 1 March 2021-31 May 2021

This monitoring process was done three months later in order to receive the Court's data to monitor how the Municipalities have implemented the legal obligations for the payment of PO in the amount of 3000 All for survivors of violence provided with IPO or PO.

The meeting was organized in the premises of "Real Skampis" on July 30, 2021. For this reason, we distributed invitations to public and non-public institutions, media, etc. A copy of it is attached below.

Woman Forum Elbasan (WFE) invites you to participate in the *round table* to present the report of the findings of the three-year monitoring 2018 - 2021, carried out in the framework of the project "Improved access for women and girls who survived violence in the Region of Elbasan" financed by UN Women through the United Nations Trust Fund. The project aims to reduce Domestic Violence (DV) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) for women and girls survivors of violence in the Elbasan Region for the period September 2018 - 2021.

The purpose of this *round table* was to present the report of findings and recommendations regarding the monitoring of the Elbasan Judicial District Court, 7 Elbasan District Municipalities and local visual and written media carried out over three years (2018-2021).



The results of this monitoring clearly showed how judicial institutions, local government units and the media operate, provide services and provide sensitive information regarding the issues of DV, GBV and gender equality.

The meeting will be held on July 30, 2021, at 10:30 a.m., in the hall of "Real Skampis" Elbasan.

Welcome!



Photos from the Round Table July 30, 2021

Based on these findings, a monitoring report was prepared, which remained for 15 days on all WFE social media, and then this report was published.

Link post Web: <u>http://www.forumigruaselbasan.org/blog/fge\_publikimi-i-raportit-te-gjetjeve-te-monitorimit-2018-2021-untf/</u>

Direct link web; <u>http://www.forumigruaselbasan.org/wp-</u>

content/uploads/2021/08/FGE\_Raporti-i-Gjetjeve-te-Monitorimit-UNTF\_2018-2021-1.pdf

Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2852211371707966</u> Twitter: <u>https://twitter.com/ForumiGruasElba/status/1422889215881322501</u>

With the main findings of the report, WFE prepared a letter and sent it to the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs for consideration.

- 1. To remove the treatment of survivors of domestic violence from the current legislation in force such as: Law 57/2019 dated 18.07. "On social assistance in the Republic of Albania" and DCM No. 597 dated 04/09/2019 "On setting the procedures, documentation and monthly measure of the benefit of economic assistance and the use of the additional fund on the conditional fund for economic assistance" and should be treated with in a new specific legislation only for such cases;
- 2. A survivor of domestic violence who is part of the economic assistance scheme should not have her payment interrupted as a family in need, and for the violence she has been through she should receive the payment in the amount of 3000 All for the full time determined in the decision of Court

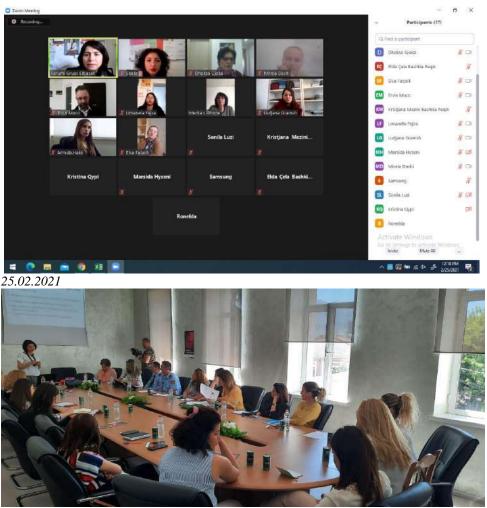


(same as in the case when a survivor of domestic violence is employed and receives both);

- 3. The full benefit of the entire period of validity of the Protection Order (Immediate Protection Order, Protection Order) for every victim recognized by any Court in Albania;
- 4. Receiving Protection Order (Immediate Protection Order, Protection Order) even if a survivor is in Albania or abroad;
- 5. Depositing the payment of the Protection Order (Immediate Protection Order, Protection Order) with the respective Banks and not sending them by mail;
- 6. Not to interrupt the value of the Protection Order (Immediate Protection Order, Protection Order) even if the survivor is employed during this period; Based on the law in force (on which the electronic system of the EA scheme functions), the payment of the EA (PO/IPO) is not interrupted because of the employment of the person, BUT if the person does not declare about being employed, then he is excluded from the scheme for the reason of "False declaration". (Legal basis DCM no. 597.2019: point 11 of Chapter II).
- 7. To consider the possibility of doubling the payment for each victim of domestic violence recognized by the Court from 3000 ALL to 6000 ALL
- 8. To implement point 6 of Article 23 of the Law "On measures against violence in family relations" as amended, which states: In case of voluntary non-execution by the parties or obstruction of the execution of protection orders by the implementing bodies, as provided in the provisions of this law and/or in the court's decision, the provisions of the Criminal Code for actions carried out in violation of the court's decision, in relation to the duties arising from protection orders, are applied to the responsible persons.
- Example 4 ...... empowerment sessions for girls and women survivors of violence have been held with the aim of empowering them and providing information on issues related to employment, housing, property rights and economic assistance. --beneficiaries of WFE services have been part of these sessions to break the cycle of violence and to re-integrate into society. Due to the confidentiality of the women/girls, photographs of the sessions are not taken or published.



In order to help the victims of domestic violence according to the issues raised by them, 3 Regional Networks were held this year with the participation of local actors from the entire Elbasan District. Due to the situation of COVID 19, the first Regional Network of this year was online.



28.05.2021







The most important event in 2021 was the Conference "22 minutes for 22 years" that the WFE staff organized at the "Skampa" theatre Elbasan. A large number of participants, representatives from all public institutions, Municipalities, Police, Court, Prosecutor's Office, University, beneficiaries of WFE services and WFE volunteers. In this conference we had the presence of two ministries with two Vice/Ministers, Mrs. Nina Guga And Mr. Albert Nikolla the first Vice/Minister of Education and Sports and the second Vice/Minister of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, as well as Mrs. Alma Katragjini representative of the Ministry of the Interior, with whom WFE has cooperated these years.







"SKAMPA" theatre hall





The following were also present at this Conference: Mrs. Elsa Hastad, Ambassador of Sweden in Tirana. The Swedish Government is the Strategic Donor for WFE as it has started to finance the services of WFE since 2002 until today. Mrs. Fiona McCluney Permanent Coordinator of the UN in Albania. Guests of honour at this Conference were Mrs. Diana Çuli, a well-known writer and President of the Independent Forum of Albanian Women and Mrs. Ines Leskaj, Executive Director of the Albanian Women's Empowerment network AWEN, where WFE has been a member for years. At this conference, the Mayor of Elbasan awarded WFE with the prize "The city's gratitude".

https://www.facebook.com/llatja.gledian/posts/439629697534487 https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2925591904369912

The conference was led by Mr. Eduart Çala, well-known actor and director at the SKAMPA Theatre. In this conference, the "Champions of Change" were honoured, who in their daily lives help women/girls with problems of domestic violence and gender-based violence. Specifically: Mr. Ylli Salla from the Elbasan Local Police Directorate, CPR that cooperates very closely with WFE in the management of cases of domestic violence, especially when the survivor denounces the violence and asks the police to draft a lawsuit request for a Protection Order . Mr. Agim Hajdari, Head of Human Resources at the Company "Fenix shpk" Mr. Hajdari accompanies every woman/girl with violence problems who works at the company "Fenix Shpk" directly to the premises of WFE to support her.

Mrs. Natasha Meçe, a nurse, also identifies women/girls with violence problems in the Shale Administrative Unit and, in compliance with legal obligations as an employee of the Ministry of Health structures, directs the survivors to WFE to benefit from the



necessary services. Mrs. Xhoana Kila has raised funds to support survivors of domestic violence, ABI Bank as it is the first banking institution in Albania that supported some survivors and the Emergency Shelter managed by WFE.

Documents on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sccYVJSWuvc

### Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2923285284600574 https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2924716917790744 https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2925321611063608 https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2926072337655202 https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2926081687654267

### Twitter:

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### YouTube links local media:

TV Skampa: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j7TCRVSMKOQ</u> Best Channel Elbasan: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ELVKzaPr9O4</u>

During 2021, WFE has held many awareness meetings with high school students and students of "Aleksandër Xhuvani" University. 4 open lectures were organized where 170 students participated, of which 134 were girls and 36 were boys. A thank you to Mrs. Zamira Cabiri from the Faculty of Social Sciences, "Aleksandër Xhuvani" University for her commitment and contribution in these lectures with students. These students will be the future nurses and have legal obligations to identify survivors of violence, to help and to direct them to services.





Meetings with students

		Meetings in high schools 2021				
Date	Total	Photos	Girls	Boys	Age	School
31.05.21	17		13	4	16-17	Vasil Kamami
31.05,21	13			7	16-17	Vasil Kamami
31.05.21	12			3	16-17	Vasil Kamami

### Table with the meetings organized in schools



31.05.21	12	6	6	16-17	Vasil Kamami
22.10.2021	26	19	7	17-18	Dhaskal Todri
05.11.2021	20	15	5	17-18	Vasil Kamami
24.11.2021	17	15	2	17-18	Vasil Kamami
25.11.2021	32	25	7	14-18	Luigj Gurakuqi



25.11.2021	20		14	6	14-15	Jorgji Dilo
		RESTA C RAMED				
01.12.2021	20		15	5	16-17	Mahir Domi
02.12.2021	26		20	6	17-18	Kostandin Kristoforidhi
03.12.2021	19		14	5	15-18	Prrenjas
13.12.2021	27		19	8	12-13	Sule Harri
15.12.2021	20		13	7	12-13	Belsh



Some of the main activities developed in the framework of the project: "Improved access to legal and psychological services and information on free legal aid for women and girls in the entire region of Elbasan, Rrogozhina and Kavaja until November 2022"

#### Informing sessions with women/girls

During 2021, a meeting was held in Prrenjas on 9.12.2021 in the hall of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of Prrenjas. Where a thank you goes to the mayor of this municipality Mr. Nuredin Belba.



#### Training with law students December 15, 2021

Training of 17 students of the Faculty of Law at "Aleksander Xhuvani" Elbasan University. The training was conducted by the WFE lawyer experienced in the legal field. The Faculty of Law is a newly opened faculty at the University of Elbasan, this training will offer students the opportunity to increase their capacities, follow the work of an experienced lawyer and experiment with providing free legal aid to marginalized communities . Also, this training will affect the increase of students' skills, so that they can offer their voluntary contribution to increase citizens' access to the justice system, especially for groups in need.

Some of the main issues addressed in the training were:

- ✓ Law no. 111/2017 "On legal aid guaranteed by the state;
- ✓ Provision of primary legal assistance by NGOs;
- ✓ Completing primary legal aid forms
- ✓ Aspects of the implementation of Article 52 and 53 of the Council of Europe Convention "On preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence";
- ✓ Achievements and challenges in the implementation of law no. 47/2018 and law no. 125/2020 for some additions and changes to law no. 9669, dated 18.12.2006, "on measures against violence in family relationships", amended;
- $\checkmark$  The amended criminal code;
- $\checkmark$  The amended family code;



- ✓ DCM no. 597 dated 04/09/2019, pursuant to law no. 57/2019, "On social assistance in the Republic of Albania";
- ✓ Albanian legislation on the right to benefit from child support or other forms of support for other family members and problems of its implementation in practice
- ✓ Issues of gender-based discrimination and violence in property relations



For more information check out the social media links below: Facebook; <u>https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2943965029199266</u>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/ForumiGruasElba/status/1471147259257626626

Project "Challenging existing social norms through awareness campaigns among school communities on harmful gender stereotypes that perpetuate all forms of VAWG, in particular sexual violence, harassment, stalking and forced marriage.

It was a very important project for WFE because thanks to it, WFE extended the psycho/social service to all seven municipalities of Elbasan District in order that a survivor of violence who could not come to Elbasan, could benefit from the services in the territory of the municipality where she lived. The process started with the selection of psychologists/social workers in each municipality. At every stage, WFE cooperated closely with the Municipalities of Gramsh, Peqin, Belsh, Cërrik, Librazhd, Prrenjas, from the stage of staff selection, then in their accommodation with the premises and work tools near the Municipality, and then the equipment by WFE with computers.





WFE staff during 2021

Since the first days of January, WFE started to build capacities among the new staff. Some of the topics covered were:

Some of the most important activities carried out during 2021 were:

A one-day workshop in each municipality with local professionals from 7 municipalities of the District of Elbasan. Some of the main issues addressed in the workshop: Legal basis

• Law no. 125/2020 for some additions and changes to law no. 9669, dated 18.12.2006, "On measures against violence in family relationships", amended

• DCM, No. 334, dated 17.2.2011, for the establishment of the Referral Coordination Mechanism for the referral of cases of violence in family relationships and the manner of its procedure

Monitoring of IPO/PO/PIPO - at the Municipality level

Protection Order / Imediate Protection Order / Preliminary Immediate Protection Order

### What is a IPO/PO/PIPO;

- Exercise, each participant will complete a IPO to see the level of knowledge and difficulties for completing it;
- Feedback on the completion of the IPO by the participants.
- Providing a standard model for completing a IPO (at the municipality level)
- Management of cases of violence
- Identification of cases of violence,
- Referral of cases to local institutions and actors,
- Successful management of cases of gender-based violence and domestic violence,
- Teamwork: Why professionals may fail to help a survivor of domestic violence
- Social aspects of domestic violence





Workshop with the local professionals Belsh 24.02.2021 Workshop Belsh Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2740943366168101</u> Twitter: <u>https://twitter.com/ForumiGruasElba/status/1364648730016837635</u>



Workshop with the local professionals Librazhd 27.01.2021

### Workshop Librazhd

Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2722316101364161</u> Twitter: <u>https://twitter.com/ForumiGruasElba/status/1354508397165608961</u>





Workshop with the local professionals Prrenjas 03.02.21

Workshop Prrenjas Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2726743177588120</u> Twitter: <u>https://twitter.com/ForumiGruasElba/status/1356977128273813505</u>

Training with the workers of Economic Assistance Elbasan



04.03.2021 Workshop Elbasan

Workshop Elbasan

Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2746177182311386</u> Twitter: <u>https://twitter.com/ForumiGruasElba/status/1367506299886436356</u>

A very important component of the UN Women project was the training of local professionals such as economic assistance workers, nurses and CPS-s at the District level, specifically in Elbasan, in Librazhd (Librazhd/Prrenjas), in Cërrik (Cërrik/Gramsh/Belsh/Peqin). Below is the agenda used in these trainings;

### Agenda

Training Session "Challenging existing social norms through awareness campaigns among school communities on harmful gender stereotypes that perpetuate all forms of GBV, in particular sexual violence, harassment, stalking and forced marriages" Place: Hall at the Children's Cultural Centre In Elbasan, it was held in the council hall of Elbasan district In Cërrik, it was held at the hall of the Cërrik Municipal Council

10:00 - 10:10	<b>Registration of participants / Welcome</b>
10:10 - 11:00	Moderator Znj. Shpresa Banja



	Znj. Dhoksa Gjoka
	<ol> <li>Law no. 9669 dated 18.12.2006 "On Measures against violence in family relationships" (amended);</li> <li>DCM, No. 327, dated 02.06.2021, for the mechanism of work coordination between the authorities responsible for referring cases of violence in family relationships, as well as its procedure for the support and rehabilitation of violence;</li> </ol>
	<ul> <li>for the support and rehabilitation of victims of violence;</li> <li>3. Law No. 57/2019 on social assistance in the Republic of Albania</li> <li>4. DCM 597 dated 04.09.2019 For the determination of procedures, documentation and the monthly measure on benefiting the economic assistance and the use of the additional fund over the conditional fund for economic assistance</li> </ul>
11:00 - 12.00	Management of violence cases
	• Identification of violence cases,
	• Referral of cases to local institutions and actors,
	• Successful management of gender-based violence and domestic violence cases,
	• Group work: Why professionals may fail to help a survivor of domestic violence
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch





14.12.2021 Training of the Economic Assistance workers, Elbasan



15.12.2021 Training of the Economic Assistance workers, Librazhd -Prrenjas





16.12.2021 Training of the Economic Assistance workers



25.02.2021 Training of the Economic Assistance workers, Cërrrik

#### The training agenda Legal basis

- 1. Law no. 9669 dated 18.12.2006 "On Measures against violence in family relationships" (amended);
- 2. VKM, No. 327, dated 02.06.2021, for the mechanism of work coordination between the authorities responsible for referring cases of violence in family relationships, as well as its procedure for the support and rehabilitation of victims of violence;
- 3. Law No. 57/2019 on social assistance in the Republic of Albania
- 4. DCM 597 dated 04.09.2019 For the determination of procedures, documentation and the monthly measure of the benefit of economic assistance and the use of the additional fund over the conditional fund for economic assistance



### Management of cases of violence:

- Identification of violence cases,
- Referral of cases to local institutions and actors,
- Successful management of gender-based violence and domestic violence cases,
- Group work: Why professionals may fail to help a survivor of domestic violence

In the framework of this project, 7 Information Sessions were held with school security officers, school psychologists and teachers, focusing on the obligations to report violence and to handle cases of young people presenting violence issues to the relevant authorities. In addition to theoretical knowledge, the sessions had a practical part with Self-Defense techniques (ESD-Empowerment through Self-Defense), which was developed by an WFE employee who is a certified ESD instructor.

Duration of the session was one hour with a group of 20-25 participants (officers of security in schools, school psychologists and teachers of social subjects and physical education) decided in an appropriate schedule for everyone.

For this reason, the cooperation of all seven Local Education Offices in the municipalities of Elbasan District was required for the best realization of this activity, based on the

Authorization received from the Ministry of Education and Sports.



15.10.2021 Belsh





09.12.2021 Prrenjas



15.12.2021 Librazhd



16.12.2021 Cerrik





17.12.2021 Gramsh



21.12.2021 Peqin

Training with "Aleksandër Xhuvani" University students in Elbasan through the online platform. For each session there was an agenda for the issues that would be dealt with in the online training with the students. Below is a model for the first session. You will find detailed information in the link below for each session.

### Agenda

Training "Prevention of harassment & sexual abuse through the use of technology." Regional Program for Combating Violence against Women ''Implementing Standards, Changing Mindsets'' Place: online, Zoom platform January 21, 2021

15.30-15.45	Registration of participants / Welcome Gertjana Hasalla, WFE	
	Presentation of training moderators	
	INES LESKAJ, GENDER EXPERT	



ILIRIAN GJONI, EXPERT ON GENDER EQUALITY AND     ONLINE SECURITY
• Presentation of training goals and objectives
Introduction, Session 1 Moderator, Mr. Ilirian Gjoni Gender Equality and Online Safety Expert
<ul> <li>Introduce yourself in one word.</li> <li>Purpose and objectives of the training</li> <li>Participants' expectations</li> <li>Energizer – Starting your day like</li> </ul>
Short break
Internet harassment , dangers in online navigation. Moderator, Mr. Ilirian Gjoni Gender Equality and Online Safety Expert
<ul> <li>a) Forms of gender-based violence</li> <li>b) b) How to report on incident of second violence how on the second violence</li></ul>
<ul> <li>b) b) How to report an incident of sexual violence, harassment, stalking and forced marriages</li> <li>Where to report: Alo 116, Child Protection Unit, CPR, WFE, etc.</li> </ul>

Session 1

Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2718270105102094</u> Twitter: <u>https://twitter.com/ForumiGruasElba/status/1352321802744246276</u>

Session 2

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2721602091435562 Twitter: https://twitter.com/ForumiGruasElba/status/1354125695627227143

Session 3

Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/forumigruaselbasan/posts/2723478904581214</u> Twitter: <u>https://twitter.com/ForumiGruasElba/status/1355152499741700098</u>

Session 4

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community policing project are: *Coordination with the project's strategic partners*: After the project was approved by the SCAP program, the Woman Forum Elbasan held meetings with the four mayors of the partner municipalities in the project, Belsh, Librazhd, Gramsh and Peqin, and the Director of the Elbasan Local Police Directorate, where a brief presentation of the project

and ways of operational cooperation between institutions were discussed. In addition, the Woman Forum Elbasan, within the framework of a cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Education and Sports, prepared all the necessary documents and managed to obtain the authorization to carry out the project's awareness campaign with young people in 9-year-old schools. and secondary schools in Elbasan District.

**The proper functioning of the referral mechanism** in the municipalities of Belsh, Gramsh, Peqin and Librazhd, for this WFE has practically supported the 4 CRM and the 4 partner municipalities in this project.

### Meeting of the Leading Committee (LC)

For each Partner municipality, it is planned to hold a LC meeting. The four partner municipalities have been assisted by WFE with a draft agreement according to the new competences of each member determined by the new DCM of the CRM. During this



reporting phase, a LC was held in the Librazhd Municipality, where after the establishment of the Referral Mechanism in 2019 with the support of the SCPA program, the Mayor of the Librazhd Municipality held a steering committee meeting on December 22, 2021. In these meetings, 16 leaders (8 women and 8 men) from 11 local institutions such as the Municipality, Police, Prosecutor's Office, Enforcement, Health, Social Service, Prefecture, Muslim and Orthodox Religious Communities, etc. were present.

All leaders of CRM member institutions signed the new cooperation agreement and showed their commitment to the fight against domestic and gender-based violence.



### Activity 1.2 Meetings of the Interdisciplinary Technical Group (ITG)

During the months of September - October 2021, 4 ETN meetings were held, one meeting for each partner municipality in the project, the municipalities of Belsh, Librazhd, Gramsh and Peqin. 59 participants (39 women and 20 men) were present in the four meetings, 16 participants in the ITG meeting organized in Gramsh Municipality, 15 in Belsh Municipality, 15 in Librazhd Municipality and 13 in Peqin Municipality.

In Librazhd Municipality, ITG members asked the social service director of this municipality to appoint a local violence coordinator who is responsible for the coordination and management of cases of violence. Also, the WFE has lobbied the mayor of Librazhd about the importance of appointing a local violence coordinator. From all the lobbying carried out in November, Librazhd Municipality appointed for the first time the local violence coordinator.





# Training with members of the violence referral mechanism in the 4 partner municipalities.

In the framework of this project, a one-day training was organized in September with 19 representatives (14 women and 5 men) of the main local institutions that are members of the referral mechanism in the four partner municipalities in the project. During the training, the participants were trained about new legal changes, early identification of cases of violence, successful management of cases of gender-based violence and domestic violence, drafting of individual case plans and monitoring of POs, as well as sharing of experiences from the representatives of ITGs of 4 partner municipalities. The training was interactive with presentation of materials in ppt, questions, discussions and group work. From the answers given by the participants in the questionnaire for the evaluation of the knowledge obtained during the training, it is worth emphasizing the evaluation of the training carried out and the need for the realization of other trainings in the future.



### Awareness meetings with young people

During this period, 3 awareness-raising meetings were held with young people from secondary/9-year-old schools in Librazhd, Gramsh and Peqin. 91 participants (49 women and 42 men) were present at these meetings. Young people have been made aware of the



phenomena of domestic violence, gender-based violence, citizen security and policecitizen partnership. During the meetings, innovative and comprehensive methods were used to encourage young people to take initiatives in the communities where they live to change backward mindsets and educate peers on gender roles, gender equality and the importance of police-citizen partnership.



#### **Public Forums**

During this reporting period, 1 public forum was held with the community in Librazhd Municipality. 32 people (22 women and 10 men), men, women, young people and local government representatives, as well as the SCPA grant monitor, participated in this meeting.

The public forum was organized in close cooperation with the Librazhd Municipality and the Librazhd Police Station. In addition to men, women and young people from the community, CPR, the violence coordinator, the employee of the NGO, representatives from A.U, schools and health centres were present at the meeting. In this meeting, the role of the police, the role of public institutions of the local government, challenges, problems and the importance of taking responsibility from all parties for a better order and security were discussed.



### 16 Days Against Violence Campaign 2021

Together with the members of the referral mechanism, we worked from September to prepare a Plan of coordinated activities for the campaign of 16 Days of Activism against Violence against women and girls in the four partner municipalities.

While in Elbasan, 3 informational corners were realized in "Kostandin Kristoforidhi" high school, "Dhaskal Todri" and in the square in front of the "Skampa" Theater from dt.



25 to December 10. The activity was carried out by the Woman Forum Elbasan in cooperation with the coordinator of violence in Elbasan Municipality, 2 Community Policing Specialists, and 2 new assistant Community Policing Specialists and the Press Spokesperson of the Elbasan Local Police Directorate. During the implementation of these activities, awareness materials created by the SCAP Program specifically for this campaign and other materials produced within the project were distributed. Awareness meetings were held in younger classes, where the challenges of domestic violence and gender-based violence, the role of the violence coordinator, CPSs and the referral mechanism were discussed.

