

## Introduction EU-Project Marbourg without partner violence

Goals – Results – international networking → [www.marburg.de/mrop](http://www.marburg.de/mrop)

Funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (REC) of the European Commission.

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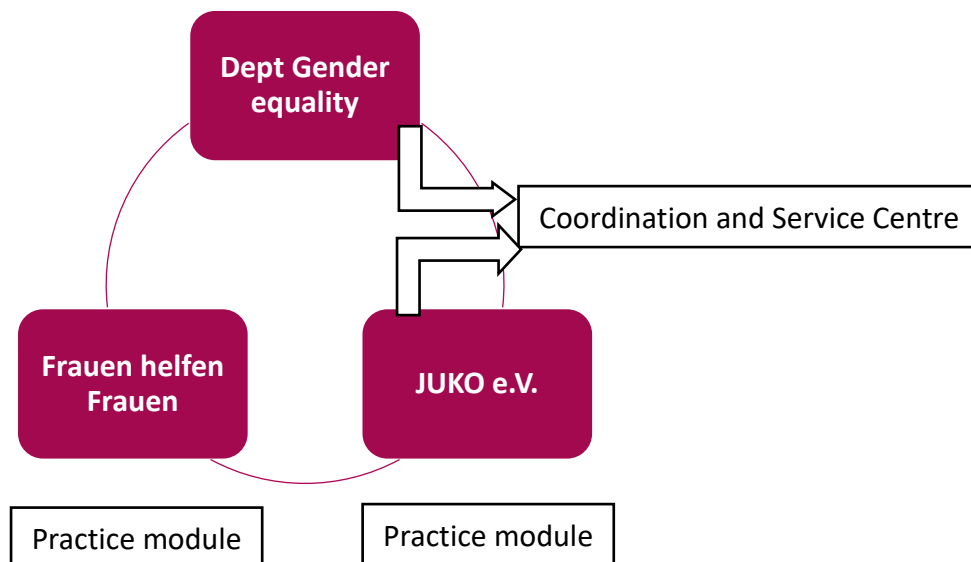
Duration: 24 months, October 2019 - September 2021

Cooperation between Department for gender equality, diversity and anti-discrimination, JUKO Marburg e.V. and Frauen helfen Frauen e.V.

### Goals:

- Expanding the municipal prevention strategy and networking it internationally
- Linking up with the tried and tested practice of supporting women and working with perpetrators.
- Check how well migrants and refugees are reached and cared for.
- Adapt services to make them more accessible to these target groups.

### Structure:



### Core contents of the project

through public relations

- Imparting knowledge about the form and dynamics of violence & offers of help
- Strengthening public awareness and civil courage

Develop an overall strategy for the city

- Identify gaps in the network with all local support providers and create new services in a coordinated way.

## Public Relations

Through public relations work, the city population is to be sensitised to domestic violence. To remove the taboo from the topic and to make it visible that domestic violence is not an individual but a structural problem and a consequence of social structures.

Photo 1: A special photo campaign was the campaign "Show your face - because partner violence concerns everyone": For the photo campaign, the project cooperated with the Rugby Union of the city of Marburg. The aims of the campaign:

1) to create awareness and sensitivity for the topic of HG2) to draw attention to the fact that violence in partnerships is not a private matter. All citizens - neighbours, friends, family - have a responsibility to help and take action against violence.

Photo 2: The first shooting for the photo campaign was filmed for the reportage format plan b on ZDF (public television).

Photo 3: In addition, there were of course press releases and conferences, a radio interview, an episode in the podcast "Hörmal Marburg", where we drew attention to the project and its goals.



## Extension and adaptation of auxiliary modules

Another task in the project was to expand and adapt the existing support services. For the practical component of the association Frauen helfen Frauen e.V., this meant that we once again dealt with the needs and living situations of refugee women and their children from a research-based perspective.

- Thanks to the financial and personnel resources, we were able to develop two diversity-sensitive concepts. \* One concept deals with the question of how we can further develop our educational work in the women's shelter in a diversity-sensitive way and how we can create needs-based services. \* The other concept deals with the question of target group-specific public relations work: How can we develop our public relations work strategically and methodically in order to reach, inform and encourage refugee women in their everyday lives, in their living environments. In both concepts, a participatory approach was important to us, in which we address the women with refugee experience as experts\* in their own lifeworlds.
- We carried out creative and empowerment projects in the women's shelter. The aim was to make the linguistic and cultural diversity in the women's shelter visible. For example, we wrote courageous and empowering sentences with residents in different languages. These were addressed to future residents. The framed quotes are now hanging in the foyer of the women's shelter. We have also painted T-shirts and offered other participatory activities, such as beauty days and bicycle rides, intercultural cooking and so on, and of course we will continue to do so.
- In the course of target-group-specific public relations, we have, for example, revised our information material. We had it translated into different languages and designed it

in a lifeworld-oriented and appealing way. In addition, we have developed a poster to make women's rights in Germany visible.

JUKO has also been able to further develop and adapt its services in the course of the EU project. The target group for JUKO Marburg e.V. were non-German-speaking men for whom access had not been possible until now. In response to the Istanbul Convention

They have further developed the STOP training (social training-victim protection and prevention). The project has been around since 2006. It is a behavioural training for male perpetrators of domestic violence that lasts about 9 months. In the context of the project, access could also be extended to non-German-speaking men.

\* With regard to language requirements, JUKO now works with trained interpreters.

Psychological stress, other values and norms are also taken into account. Through clearing talks: In this way it can be determined in which setting such training can take place and the view is broadened to diversity-sensitive training.

After the clearing, it can be decided whether a transfer to the German-language STOP training or the continuation in interpreter-supported individual training is possible.

Both practical modules were able to carry out interpreter training as part of the EU project "Marburg without Partner Violence". Interpreters are indispensable for working with refugee women and non-German speaking men. In order to support people who do not yet have a good command of the German language in crisis situations and to work out new perspectives, language mediation is required.

For this reason, interpreter training courses were held (with external instructors). On the one hand, to educate and train the interpreters on the topic of HG, to prepare them for translations in the context of domestic violence, and on the other hand, to check self-protection mechanisms and limits and possibly avoid secondary re-traumatisation. For Women Helping Women and JUKO: even more intensive cooperation with the interpreting service DOLMA and a pool of trained interpreters who can be invited for assignments.

## **How to International Networking**

how did we proceed?

- Many questions, but start anyway
- look for contacts, look for supporters
- Don't be discouraged by dead ends and further questions, once a match has been found, many things become possible

Example: mails from the twin towns.

- Great joy, excitement, Do I understand everything? Can I answer correctly? How does it continue?

- don't get excited!

- There are dictionaries, there is translation software, there are hands and feet; communication is successful, the linguistic hurdles are not a problem if there is the will to cooperate on both sides.

Filling the Network with content

- You guessed it, the Corona virus got in the way of our work.
- we had to learn digitally and use new instruments
- We couldn't get rid of Corona, but we managed to do a lot: an international digital conference, a digital conference, several exchange meetings with Poitiers and Sibiu.
- We have taken a lot away from this: Diversity of offers, of structures, of ideas, we benefit from these suggestions.

The international final conference was held hybrid;

- finally "meeting real people" again,
- a delegation from Poitiers was there, many participants from Sibiu were there digitally,
- thanks to the technology, we were able to exchange ideas on the international podium.
- Limited number of participants on site, even sitting outside in the evening and talking without a mask

#### Our recipe for international cooperation at eye level

Openness and curiosity ... sharing your own experiences, learning new things

Enthusiasm and courage ... it's exciting to get to know new partners, we can overcome language barriers together

Patience and perseverance ... it takes time to build a stable network.

Be sure to try this recipe every now and then, it can be refined wonderfully from time to time!!!!

#### **What does our international network look like today**

in the beginning 3 cities worked with network on the topic of partner violence

we have won three more partner cities to exchange ideas on the topic of gender justice

This is what the network looks like today, or rather what is being created in this future lab.

we dare to take a global look:

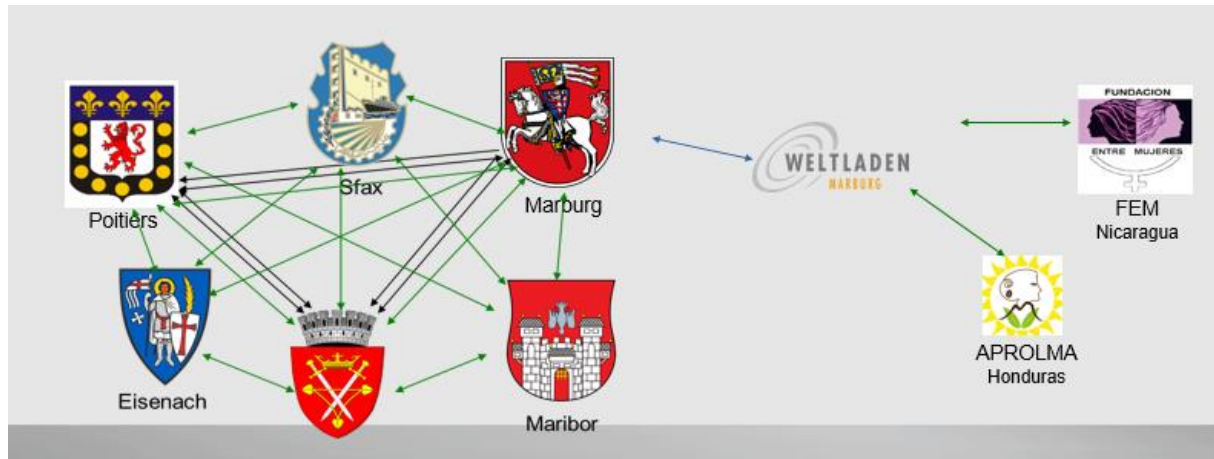
The cooperation partner of the city is the Weltladen Marburg - thematic area of fair trade.

The Weltladen has 2 partner organisations; FEM from Nicaragua and APROLMA from Honduras.

the partnership group Honduras / Nicaragua of the Weltladen Marburg has made it possible for us to take a global look at the topic of gender justice and gender-based violence today. I would like to take this opportunity to thank this group, and Jutta Greb, who is here today, most sincerely.

Cris Merlos and Kenya Baca from FEM are here in person today. Cris will present her contribution in a moment.

From APROLMA, Dilcia Vasquez and Dalila Aquilar have prepared a video that we can show today. Dilcia is on the board and Dalila is active in women's rights work at APROLMA and also in the Marcala Women's Network, in addition they are both coffee producers e.g. for Elisabeth coffee.



#### Project goals according to the application:

- Making support services for partner violence accessible to migrants
- Concept for transition to a life free of violence for victims & perpetrators of partner violence
- Raising awareness of gender-based violence, especially partner violence, and knowledge of support structures.
- Dismantle gender stereotypes and social norms that contribute to tolerating, perpetrating or enduring partner violence
- Engage boys & men in gender justice & non-violent partnerships
- Develop town twinning as a platform for European networking on violence prevention.

#### Results according to the application:

- Structures and staff are in place to provide professional, needs-based and culturally sensitive support to migrants in cases of gender-based violence, especially intimate partner violence.
- Victims and perpetrators with experience of flight or migration quickly find suitable help in cases of partner violence and, if necessary, support in finding work/housing.
- Partner violence is less tolerated. The social environment intervenes more quickly.
- Networks and cooperations have been established at the municipal, national and European level, which react to new needs for action in an efficient and solution-oriented way.