

WORK SAFE IN SEX WORK

A European Manual
on Good Practices
in Work with and
for Sex Workers



TAMPEP





Work Safe in Sex Work

A European Manual on Good Practices in Work with and for Sex Workers



European Network for HIV/STI Prevention and Health Promotion among Migrant Sex Workers

Main coordinator: Licia Brussa

TAMPEP International Foundation
Obiplein 4
1094 RB Amsterdam, Netherlands
Tel: +31 20 692 6912
Fax: +31 20 608 0083
tampep@xs4all.nl
www.tampep.eu

This Manual is based on contributions from all 26 member organisations of the TAMPEP network. It was compiled within the frame of the TAMPEP 8 programme (December 2007 - November 2009).

This Manual is part of a series of resources produced by the TAMPEP 8 programme:

Sex Work in Europe | a mapping of the prostitution scene in 25 European countries

Sex Work, Migration and Health | a report on the intersections of legislations and policies regarding sex work, migration and health in Europe

www.services4sexworkers.eu | an on-line directory of services for sex workers across Europe

All of the above resources are available from the members of the TAMPEP network and at www.tampep.eu.

Editor	Veronica Munk Amnesty for Women TAMPEP-Germany
Text correction	Nine SCOT-PEP TAMPEP-UK
Photos	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Activity carried out by the TAMPEP network in February 2008 during the General Meeting I, in Vienna, Austria• Lomography Project LEFÖ TAMPEP-Austria
Design & Layout	Brigitte Reinhardt Hamburg Germany
Print	Mottendruck Hamburg Germany



This publication originates from the project TAMPEP (European Network for HIV/STI Prevention and Health Promotion among Migrant Sex Workers) which has received funding from the European Union, in the framework of the Public Health Programme.

The responsibility for this publication lies solely with the author and the Executive Agency is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.

Acknowledgements	We wish to acknowledge the financial contribution of all the national partners of the TAMPEP network, as well as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNFPA United Nations Population Fund, HIV/AIDS Branch, Technical Support Division, New York• BSG Department of Social and Family Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection of Hamburg• Department of Justice of Hamburg Bußgeldfonds• DO Foundation, Hamburg
------------------	---

Publisher	TAMPEP International Foundation © TAMPEP 2009
-----------	--

CONTENTS



7	TAMPEP	59	CAMPAIGNS FOR CLIENTS
8	The TAMPEP network	60	0911/81 52 999 GERMANY
9	Introduction	62	Clients, a condom at all costs! FRANCE
10	Aims	63	The FairPlay campaign GERMANY
12	Themes	66	Don Juan SWITZERLAND
13	Background issues	67	www.webcliente.com SPAIN
23	Glossary	69	www.sexhandel.no NORWAY
27	OUTREACH WORK	71	ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS
	Indoor	72	Sex workers lust... for their rights! AUSTRIA
28	Power of prevention BULGARIA	74	Sex work. My work AUSTRIA
30	Contacting sex workers at gender counselling FRANCE	75	Young people talking about sex work BELGIUM
31	Workshops with nurses GERMANY	76	Love takes refuge wherever it can BELGIUM
33	Joint working with NGO and Public Health Service NETHERLANDS	78	From one reality to another BELGIUM
34	Making contact in private flats SPAIN	79	Theatre comedy BELGIUM
	Outdoor	80	Sex work: a transnational phenomenon CZECH REPUBLIC
35	Night-time mobile outreach ROMANIA	81	Action against transphobia FRANCE
37	At the Prague main train station CZECH REPUBLIC	83	Women's (good) cultural assets GERMANY
38	All sex should be safe LATVIA LITHUANIA LUXEMBOURG	84	For the rights of sex workers ITALY
39	HIV/STI prevention around Paris FRANCE	85	Things are not always as they seem... NORWAY
40	STI testing during outreach work SLOVAKIA	87	Human rights, not violence! SLOVAKIA
	Internet	88	Lumi-Fashion SPAIN
41	Social assistance and accompaniment SLOVAKIA	89	Saucepan banging SPAIN
41	Outreach on-line UNITED KINGDOM	91	MISCELLANEOUS
43	URHO project FINLAND		Drop-in Centres
	Border Area	92	Centre Espaço Pessoa PORTUGAL
45	Project JANA CZECH REPUBLIC & GERMANY	94	Danish Centres of Prostitution DENMARK
47	Mobile clinic in a border area CZECH REPUBLIC	95	Vulnerable population ROMANIA
48	Safety on the road ESTONIA	295	Club Underpass SLOVAKIA
50	On the highway HUNGARY	98	Meeting for a cup of tea... FRANCE
51	PEER EDUCATION		Information Materials
52	Rubberball FINLAND	99	Puttanopoly ITALY
54	Training for sex workers BULGARIA	101	For Mimi and Any BULGARIA
56	Outreach with peer educators FRANCE	102	Transworld calendar FRANCE
57	FENARETE Project ITALY	103	Spotlight on sex workers' rights HUNGARY & AUSTRIA
		104	Intoxi magazine SLOVAKIA
		105	About HIV and AIDS SLOVENIA
		106	Counselling via chat rooms SPAIN
		108	For your work and health SPAIN
			Training
		109	Language course for migrant sex workers NETHERLANDS
		111	Reflecting on women's migration AUSTRIA
		113	Step by step HUNGARY
		114	Sex work, law and public health POLAND
		117	Recommendations
		120	Literature
		124	Endnotes
		125	TAMPEP Resources

The TAMPEP network members



TAMPEP



TAMPEP | European Network for HIV/STI Prevention and Health Promotion among Migrant Sex Workers was founded in 1993 in response to the needs of migrant sex workers in Europe, based on the principles of the protection of human rights and the direct representation of sex workers.

TAMPEP is an international networking and intervention project operating in 25 EU countries.

TAMPEP's aims are:

- to advocate for the human and civil rights of female and transgender migrant sex workers
- to facilitate the sharing of knowledge, experience and good practice amongst members
- to develop and implement effective strategies of HIV and STI prevention amongst migrant sex workers across Europe.

The role of TAMPEP is to organise, co-ordinate, facilitate and carry out activities related to the implementation of HIV/STI prevention among migrant sex workers in the participating countries. These activities are based on TAMPEP's methodology of enhancing the active participation of sex workers and their human rights.

Furthermore, TAMPEP aims to train members of the network; to facilitate the participation of CEE countries; to organise lobbying and advocacy activities at national, regional and international levels; to promote and organise international forums and plat-

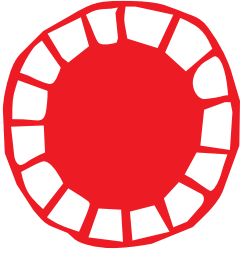


forms; to carry out research concerning sex work and migration in the countries of the network; and to initiate and run support projects for trafficked women and transgender people, in partnership with organisations in their countries of origin.

The Coordination Centre of TAMPEP is located in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, at the TAMPEP International Foundation.

TAMPEP's experience and expertise in combating the social exclusion of migrant sex workers has strengthened the national response within participating countries through facilitating the exchange of knowledge and models of good practice in relation to HIV/STI prevention amongst migrant and sex work projects. It has strengthened the international response through cooperation with international agencies while identifying appropriate strategies and influencing policy development in relation to the needs of migrant sex workers.

The internationalisation of prostitution and the national and transnational mobility of sex workers require active cooperation on the European level, with a human and civil rights perspective, to guarantee sex workers' protection and public health interests.



The TAMPEP Network

Austria

Maria Cristina Boidi
LEFÖ
Kettenbrückengasse 15/4
1050 Wien
tel + 43 1 58 11 881
fax + 43 1 58 11 882
office@lefoe.at
www.lefoe.at

Belgium

Isabelle Jaramillo
ESPACE P...
116, Rue des Plantes
1030 Bruxelles
tel + 32 2 219 98 74
fax + 32 2 217 02 15
espacepbx@hotmail.com
www.espacep.be

Bulgaria

Rayna Dimitrova
Health and Social Development
Foundation
17, Macedonia Blvd.
1606 Sofia
tel + 359 2 952 12 96
fax + 359 2 953 34 55
prohealth@hesed.bg
www.hesed.bg

Czech Republic

Hana Malimova
Rozkoš bez Rizika
Bolzanova 1
11000 Praha 1
tel + 420 22 42 34 453
fax + 420 22 42 36 162
rozkos@rozkosbezrizika.cz
www.rozkosbezrizika.cz

Denmark

Ann Maskell
The National Board of
Social Services
Åbenrå 5
1124 København K
tel + 45 3317 0900
fax + 45 3317 0901
anm@servicestyrelsen.dk
www.servicestyrelsen.dk

Estonia

Yuri Kalikov
AIDS-i Tugikeskus
Kopli 32
10412 Tallinn
tel/fax + 37 2 64 13 165
aids@tugikeskus.ee
www.tugikeskus.ee

Finland

Jaana Kauppinen
Pro-tukipiste
Prostitute Counselling Centre
Vilhonkatu 4 B 20
00100 Helsinki
tel + 358 9 72 62 877
fax + 358 9 72 31 0250
toimisto@pro-tukipiste.fi
www.pro-tukipiste.fi

France

Camille Cabral
P.A.S.T.T.
94, rue la Fayette
75010 Paris
tel + 33 1 53 24 15 40
fax + 33 1 53 24 15 38
pastt@hotmail.fr

France

Lucile Favet
Association Autres Regards
3, rue de Bône
13005 Marseille
tel + 33 4 91 42 42 90
fax + 33 4 91 42 75 23
contact@autresregards.org
www.autresregards.org

Germany

Veronica Munk
Amnesty for Women
Grosse Bergstr. 231
22767 Hamburg
tel + 49 40 38 47 53
fax + 49 40 38 57 58
info@amnestyforwomen.de
www.amnestyforwomen.de

Greece

Chryssoula Botsis
ACT UP
K. Manou 11
11633 Athens
tel/fax + 30 210 330 5500
actup@otenet.gr
tatiana@hellasnet.gr

Hungary

Judit Forrai, Peter Csepe
Sex Educational Foundation
SOTE
Nagyvárad tér 4.
1089 Budapest
tel + 36 1 210 29 40
fax + 36 1 355 93 44
forjud@net.sote.hu
www.sexeducatio.hu

Italy

Pia Covre, Carla Corso
Comitato per i Diritti Civili
delle Prostitute
67 Casella Postale
Pordenone 33170
tel/fax + 39 0434 551 868
tel/fax + 39 040 348 1366
luciole@iol.it
stellapolare.trieste@iol.it
www.luciole.org

Latvia

Inga Upmace
Infectology Center of Latvia
3 Linezera street
Riga, LV-1006
tel + 371 6701 4595
fax + 371 6701 4568
upinga@inbox.lv
www.infectology.lv

Lithuania

Svetlana Kulsis
Lithuanian AIDS Centre
Nugalėtojų g. 14D
10105 Vilnius
tel + 370 523 001 25
fax + 370 523 001 23
demetralt@gmail.com
www.aids.lt

Luxembourg

Carmen Kronshagen
DropIn
Croix Rouge Luxembourgise
31, rue de Bonnevoie
1260 Luxembourg
tel + 352 48 90 01-1
fax + 352 48 90 01-20
dropin@croix-rouge.lu
www.croix-rouge.lu

The Netherlands

Licia Brussa
TAMPEP International Foundation
Obiplein 4
1094 RB Amsterdam
tel + 31 20 692 69 12
fax + 31 20 608 00 83
tampep@xs4all.nl
www.tampep.eu

Norway

Liv Jessen
Pro-Sentret
Tollbugt. 24
0157 Oslo
tel + 47 23 100200
fax + 47 22 410544
liv.jessen@sby.oslo.kommune.no
www.prosentret.no

Poland

Tatiana Duklas
TADA
Ul. Małkowskiego 9/2
70-305 Szczecin
tel/fax + 48 91 433 44 58
info@tada.pl
www.tada.pl

Portugal

Maria Cecilia Peixoto da Eira
Autoestima/ARS Norte
Rua do Godinho, 769
4450 Matosinhos
tel/fax + 35 1 229 379 222
autoestima_mato@sapo.pt
www.arsnorte.min-saude.pt

Romania

Sorin Briceag, Veronica Broasca
ARAS
Intrarea Mihai Eminescu, nr. 5, sct. 2
020079 Bucuresti
tel + 40 21 210 07 71
fax + 40 21 210 82 51
sorin.briceag@arasnet.ro
www.arasnet.ro

Slovakia

Lubica Tornóczyová
C. A. Odysseus
Ukrajinská 10
83 102 Bratislava
tel/fax + 42 1 2524 94 344
podchod@ozodyseus.sk
www.odysseus.org

Slovenia

Evita Leskovsek
CARS
Kardeljeva pl 1
1000 Ljubljana
tel + 386 409 777 00
fax + 386 156 53 829
evita.leskovsek@ivz-rs.si
www.ca-rs.org

Spain

Silvia Garcia
Hetaira
C/ Fuencarral, 18, 4ºF
28004 Madrid
tel + 34 915 232 678
hetaira@colectivohetaira.org
www.colectivohetaira.org

Switzerland

Marianne Schweizer
Aspasie
36, Rue de Monthoux
1201 Genève
tel + 41 22 732 68 28
fax + 41 22 731 02 46
aspasie@aspasie.ch
www.aspasie.ch

United Kingdom

Ruth Morgan Thomas
SCOT-PEP
149-151 Cowgate
Edinburgh EH1 1RP
tel + 44 131 622 7550
ruth.morganthomas@scot-pep.org.uk
www.scot-pep.org.uk

INTRODUCTION



In seeking to build the capacity of service providers to enhance social and health services for and with sex workers in Europe, it is essential to clarify how one defines sex work within a human rights framework, and, as a result, which services should be developed.

'The sex industry', 'sex work' and 'sex worker' are used as non-judgmental terms in relation to commercial sex and those selling sexual services. The terms focus on the conditions under which sexual services are sold and enable us to realistically explore how sex workers' vulnerability can be reduced. For the purpose of this manual, we are focusing on the situation of sex workers who provide physical contact services to clients.

As with many industries, abuse and exploitation occurs within sex work; however, these do not *define* sex work or the experiences of all sex workers. Voluntary engagement in sex work is by definition consensual sex between adults. Non-consensual engagement in sex work is forced labour or slavery. As such, sexual violence is a gross violation of human rights. The involvement of children and young people in the sex industry is sexual exploitation and abuse; therefore, it is also a violation of human rights.

The fact that sex becomes work does not remove sex workers' right to maintain control over who they have sex with, the sexual services they provide or the

conditions under which they provide those services. Nor does it mean that violence becomes part of the job. Offering sexual services is never an invitation to violence.

All of the female, male and transgender sex workers who decide to enter sex work, as well as those trafficked and coerced into the sex industry, have the same rights under international human rights treaties.

In October 2005 the International Committee on the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe organised the European Conference on Sex Work, Human Rights, Labour and Migration in the European Parliament at which the Declaration of the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe¹ was endorsed by 120 sex workers and 80 politicians and allies from human rights, labour and migrants organisations from 30 countries. The Declaration is drawn from international human rights treaties and identifies rights to which sex workers should be entitled under international law.

The Declaration highlights states' obligations to ensure that these rights are not violated by the state or others and that all structures of the state are organised to ensure that people from diverse backgrounds can enjoy and exercise their rights. It goes on to make recommendations for measures and practices to ensure that sex workers' rights are respected and protected. In doing so, it offers guidance to organisations and institutions seeking to develop a comprehensive and human rights-based approach to sex work.

These are the principles on which **WORK SAFE IN SEX WORK** is based.

The TAMPEP Network



AIMS



The manual **WORK SAFE IN SEX WORK (WSSW)** has three main objectives:

1. To present examples of good practice for health and social service providers offering care for migrant and mobile sex workers working in both indoor and outdoor settings. It is hoped that this will lead to appropriate health promotion activities carried out with a non-judgmental attitude, and operating from a human rights perspective.
2. To present examples of different experiences of HIV/STI prevention strategies, as well as introducing and facilitating implementation of innovative tools for specific outreach methodology, peer education, campaigns for clients and advocacy campaigns.
3. To increase and expand good practice actions targeting sex workers and their clients.

WHAT ARE GOOD PRACTICES?

Good practices are activities, projects or ways of working that have been considered successful in dealing with problems or phenomena, thus making a positive contribution to the issue at hand. The framework of good practices is a useful tool, not only as a way of learning and disseminating knowledge but also to supply practical means of partnerships between communities, governments and the private sector. Good practices provide a much-needed link between research and policy-making by inspiring decision-makers with successful initiatives and

model projects that can make an innovative and sustainable contribution to solving problems in society.²

According to TAMPEP, the criteria for good practices should focus on the diversity of sex workers' environments in order to maximise effectiveness. The examples presented in this manual were selected in line with the following criteria:

- The intervention included the active participation of sex workers in the design, implementation and evaluation.
- The intervention has been evaluated.
- The intervention is transferable to other situations and countries.

WSSW presents 60 examples of good practice, all of them following the three TAMPEP criteria. These examples are the result of outreach carried out successfully in all 25 TAMPEP partner countries.

There are other definitions of good practices.

According to the WHO

(World Health Organization)³:

- Adopt a non-judgmental attitude;
- Ensure that interventions do no harm;
- Ensure that sex workers' rights to privacy, confidentiality and anonymity are respected;
- Respect sex workers' human rights and accord them basic dignity;
- Respect sex workers' views, knowledge and life experiences;

In seeking to build the capacity of service providers to improve options for sex workers in Europe it is essential to ensure that sex workers are consulted and empowered to participate at all levels. Community participation and empowerment should be at the heart of all activities. These have been used as a measure of good practice throughout this manual.

- Involve sex workers, and, where appropriate, other community members, in all stages of the development and implementation of interventions;
- Recognise that sex workers are usually highly motivated to improve their health and well-being, and that sex workers are part of the solution;
- Build capacities and leadership among sex workers in order to facilitate effective participation and community ownership;
- Recognise the role played in HIV transmission by clients and others involved in the sex industry, rather than only sex workers;
- Recognise and adapt to the diversity of sex work settings and of the people involved.

According to UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)⁴:

- Best Practices are innovative: they develop new and creative solutions to problems that are consequences of immigration, poverty and social exclusion.
- Best Practices make a difference: they demonstrate a positive impact on the living conditions of the individuals, groups or communities concerned.
- Best Practices have a sustainable effect: they contribute to the eradication of social exclusion, by involving the participants.
- Best Practices have the potential for replication: they are models for generating policies and initiatives elsewhere.

The examples of good practices included in WSSW were based on interventions developed by TAMPEP national partners themselves or other organisations in their countries. The activities were developed within different circumstances and environments, with different corresponding outcomes.

The aim of the manual is to highlight lessons learned – both positive and negative – from experiences in

Sex Workers' Rights are Human Rights

Governments should protect the human rights of all sex workers: female, male and transgender, migrant and domestic. These are common and accepted rights that apply to citizens of every nation. Governments have already agreed to these rights by signing treaties, but they are still denied to sex workers.

Sex Work is Work

Sex work is work and a profession; sex workers are workers and must be recognised as such. We demand the protection of our labour, social and human rights on an equal footing with other workers, especially social rights such as access to social security, healthcare and minimum wages. Sex workers, including migrant workers, should be able to work legally.

Governments should ensure safe and healthy working conditions for sex workers, similar to other workers.

Recommendations of the European Conference on Sex Work, Human Rights, Labour and Migration. Brussels, October 2005



sex work environments within different European countries, and provide guidance on how successful interventions may be duplicated.

The manual carefully describes different European examples of activities which resulted in sex workers' empowerment, alternative strategies for reaching out to and engaging with sex workers, and how to create greater awareness among clients about safer sex and respect for sex workers.

THEMES OF WSSW

Taking into account the knowledge and long fieldwork experience of all TAMPEP partner organisations within the sex work milieu, WSSW presents examples of good practice in five specific areas:

1. OUTREACH WORK METHODOLOGIES

In order to reach marginalised (migrant and mobile) sex workers, diverse outreach strategies for indoor and outdoor prostitution were identified. The partners, through their continued outreach activities, have had positive and negative experiences, underlining those which are effective methods of good practice.

By collecting these various experiences, different models of comprehensive fieldwork methodology (aims, team, preparation, evaluation, documentation, distribution of material, etc), applied in different situations, areas, and settings, are described and analysed.

2. PEER EDUCATION INTERVENTION MODELS

Sex workers are a very mobile population which often makes it hard to reach them, even for recurring outreach campaigns.

Utilising the peer education method, recognised as one of the most efficient educational strategies for mobile populations, will increase sex workers' own involvement and self-help initiatives.

3. PROMOTION OF SAFER SEX PRACTICES AIMED AT CLIENTS

The manual gives examples of strategies which were developed for the promotion of safer sex practices aimed at clients of sex workers. These include those which seek to actively involve clients of sex workers in HIV/STI prevention efforts.

4. ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS FOR SEX WORKERS' RIGHTS

The manual presents diverse examples of successful campaigns aimed at improving sex workers' human and labour rights. These allow others to engage and develop such activities on a local, national and European level.

5. MISCELLANEOUS

This part of the manual presents examples of good practice regarding drop-in and counselling centres for sex workers, the development of information materials, and different training formats, including those for sex workers and cultural mediators.



BACKGROUND ISSUES



VULNERABILITIES OF SEX WORKERS

In seeking to build the capacity of health and social service providers to improve their work with sex workers in Europe, it is essential to acknowledge the push and pull factors at play in influencing global and local labour markets, particularly the sex industry, and the vulnerabilities created by structural determinants such as poverty, gender, education and employment. The situation of refugees, internally displaced people, economic migrants and asylum seekers must be addressed to enable every human being to achieve both economic security and sexual fulfilment without exploitation or the necessity to sell and buy sexual services.

These structural determinants require sustained long-term interventions at both national and international levels; they are beyond the immediate influence of local sex work projects and service providers. However, local projects can reduce vulnerabilities and minimise the harm experienced by sex workers because they fall within both their circle of influence and control.

RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF SEX WORKERS

Sex workers, even those working in the same sector of the sex industry or those of the same nationality, are not a homogeneous group. In addition, sex workers' needs go beyond ensuring that their genitalia are disease-free. In order to develop effective pro-

grammes within sex work settings, a holistic and person-centred approach to health, rights and well-being must be adopted which responds to the diverse and complex needs of sex workers.

Sex work projects must provide comprehensive services that encompass:

- **Promoting dignity** – dignity, defined as ‘a high opinion of oneself’ and ‘self-esteem’, is critical to achieving an integral health and social structure. This requires a non-judgmental and supportive environment, promoting sex workers’ rights, and challenging the stigma and discrimination experienced by sex workers.
- **Promoting empowerment** – within a community development and participation framework, and defining empowerment as the process of gaining confidence, self-esteem, understanding and power to articulate concerns, ensure actions are taken to address them and more broadly for individuals to gain control over their lives.
- **Promoting peer education** – involving current and former sex workers at every level and in particular encouraging sex workers to share health promotion and personal safety information with their colleagues.
- **Promoting client education** – providing support to sex workers by educating clients about safer sex and sexual health and challenging negative attitudes towards sex workers.
- **Providing support** – with a person-centred approach, responding to needs presented and providing support through the provision of appropriate in-house services and referrals to external agencies.

SEX WORKERS' KNOWLEDGE

General levels of knowledge amongst sex workers accessing sex work projects about safer sex, condom use, HIV, STIs and drug use are reported as relatively high. However, low levels of knowledge among sex



workers on first contact with support services is consistently reported across Europe.

Having knowledge about how to reduce the risk of HIV/STI infection and the steps to take if one has been at risk does not necessarily mean that sex workers are able to put that knowledge into action. In addition to the difficulties that are faced in negotiating safer sex within sexual relationships, sex workers' ability to protect themselves and control the sexual services they provide is directly affected by the choices they are able to make, the control others have over them, and for some their dependence on substances.

It is common for sex workers to share knowledge with colleagues; many are true experts in safer sex practices and protecting their health. However, to assume that all the information shared is correct and that all sex workers in an area know one another and are in the knowledge loop is a dangerous supposition. It is therefore essential to ensure that accurate and up to date information is made available to sex workers to share with their colleagues.

The more choices they are able to make and the less coercion and dependence involved, the greater ability sex workers have to put knowledge into practice.

Attention has been focused primarily on increasing sex workers' knowledge of safer sex and correct condom use. However, clients, as stakeholders in HIV prevention in the sex industry, have been, for the most part, ignored as a potential target group in Europe.

The illegality of sex work should not prevent client campaigns, just as the illegality of illicit drugs does not prevent drug harm reduction campaigns; such campaigns are critical to increasing sex workers' ability to successfully negotiate safer sex with clients.

METHODS OF PROMOTING SERVICES TO SEX WORKERS

The most effective method of promoting services to sex workers is word of mouth within the sex industry itself. Once services have established a good reputation among sex workers for providing confidential, high-quality services that respond to the needs of the community, sex workers will recommend them to their colleagues. In addition, it is essential to negotiate with gatekeepers, both controllers and managers, to encourage them to promote the services to sex workers – but not to coerce them into accessing them. Many sex work projects have developed creative and innovative promotional materials in collaboration with sex workers to publicise the services available to them – such as beer mats for bars and clubs, lighters, matchbooks, lipsticks and nail files.

SEX WORK ENVIRONMENTS

Outdoor work

In short, outdoor work encompasses any location, which offers willing participants and opportunity,⁵ including, but not limited to, highways, parks, forests, public toilets, shops, theatres, back alleys near gay bars and clubs, paths by rivers and canals, beaches, car parks and truck stops, saunas and swimming pools, train and bus stations, backrooms in bars, porn cinemas and sex shops. These areas vary greatly from town to town; some are in pleasant residential neighbourhoods, while others are in industrial areas. For male sex workers, the key areas may be close to known gay bars, parks known as cruising areas, or toilets used for sex encounters⁶.

Indoor work

The visibility of indoor sex work may vary with the laws and their enforcement in different areas. Despite this, most sex workers do business with their clients indoors.

● Brothels and Private Clubs

Although organised differently across Europe, brothels and private clubs follow some general working practices: sex workers will take a client to a room to provide sexual services for a fixed period of time. The client pays the house or management and the sex worker receives a percentage. Extra money may be earned by the sex worker by socialising and drinking alcohol with the client, or giving extra sexual services once alone with the client⁷.

● Saunas and Massage Parlours

Many saunas and massage institutions do not themselves provide sexual services. On the other hand, many depend on business from clients seeking sexual contact, and will be aware that sexual activity of various kinds, including the selling of sex, takes place on the premises. There are different kinds of saunas: gay, heterosexual, private and/or municipal,⁸ as well as massage parlours where mainly Asian sex workers are active.

● Bars or Night Clubs

These are established commercial locations where it is known that people selling sex may go to socialise as well as look for business. Some of these bars or clubs may be specifically known as venues to buy sex, and often owners will be aware of and may encourage this. Some owners even provide dark rooms or private rest areas. However, this is different from a brothel, as it is very rare for bar or club staff to be involved in negotiating the sexual transaction; their profit margin is received purely from the sale of alcohol and other beverages. In some venues the owner may charge the sex worker 'rent' if a room is used for sexual activity.⁹

● Apartments

Many sex workers operate alone, from private addresses. Most use some form of advertising (usually in daily newspapers and on the Internet), to make contact with potential clients by telephone.¹⁰ Some work alone, while others may share an apartment with a colleague; some work and live in the apartment, and others operate exclusively by personal recommendation and never advertise.

● Windows

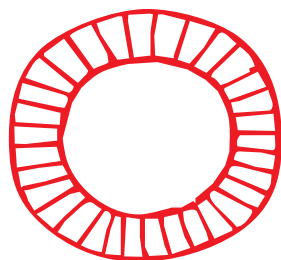
Windows can be found in the Netherlands and Belgium but also in other European countries. Sex workers present themselves to potential clients by sitting behind a 'shop' window. Sexual services are then provided in a small room just behind the window. To let other clients know they are 'busy' a curtain is closed. Window sex workers must pay daily to rent the window.¹¹

● Escorting

Escort agencies and independent escorts advertise in local newspapers, contact magazines and on the Internet. There are both male and female escorts, and male and female clients¹². Escorts visit clients in hotels, private homes, or wherever the client is staying.

METHODS OF REACHING OUTDOOR-BASED SEX WORKERS

Outdoor sex workers are often the most visible and straightforward group to reach within the sex industry. They work in public places that can be accessed relatively easily, such as city streets, highways, lorry parking areas, motel parking areas, and near border crossings. The challenges of working in outdoor sex work settings are primarily practical. In countries where law enforcement actions target them, sex workers tend to work in isolated areas at times that are often considered 'dangerous', because they are outside the normal working hours of many service providers. In addition, outdoor-based sex



work is often displaced either geographically or temporally by law enforcement or other community interventions.

Sex work projects across Europe have developed low-threshold street outreach and drop-in services as the most effective means of reaching and providing support to outdoor-based sex workers.

Outdoor sex work settings can attract criminal elements such as drug dealers, protection racketeers and 'controllers' who can impact the safety of service providers. Given the outdoor sex work environment, established sex work projects have developed health and safety protocols and provide training for outreach teams that enable the interventions to be undertaken in relative safety.

Street outreach services are mobile – undertaken either on foot in small well-defined outdoor sex work settings or by car or mobile unit in dispersed and transient outdoor sex work settings.

Street drop-in services are static in well-established and permanent outdoor sex work settings; low-threshold drop-in centres have been established in fixed premises in or near the area, while in dispersed or transient outdoor sex work settings a mobile unit that can be easily relocated is often used to provide a drop-in service. Some drop-in centres and mobile units include medical outreach clinics where health-care is provided; others refer to clinical services.

METHODS OF REACHING INDOOR-BASED SEX WORKERS

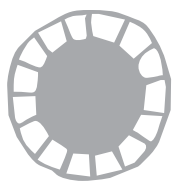
Indoor-based sex workers operate in a wide range of settings, the vast majority of which are not automatically and directly accessible to service providers – apartments, bars, brothels, escort agencies, hotels, independent Internet escorts, nightclubs, and windows. The challenges of working in indoor sex work settings are primarily related to accessibility, trust and the degree of control that gatekeepers have

in allowing or forbidding service providers' access to sex workers. In countries where running an indoor sex work business, other than as an independent sex worker, is illegal or in a grey area of the law, the situation often attracts criminal elements. However, in countries where indoor sex work settings are legal there is far less criminality associated with the indoor sex industry.

Where law enforcement actions actively targets the indoor sex industry, venues are often transient and gatekeepers suspicious of service providers' collusion with law enforcement agencies. For sex work projects beginning to develop services for indoor-based sex workers because of a shift to indoor sex work, it can seem daunting to identify indoor sex work settings and even more daunting to negotiate access with gatekeepers. The identification of indoor sex work venues is relatively easy, as sex work businesses must attract clients. They must advertise in the public domain and can easily be found through newspaper or Internet advertisements.

Established sex work projects across Europe have developed a diverse range of outreach strategies aimed at indoor-based sex workers, as well as health and safety protocols, and provide training for their outreach teams that enable outreach to be undertaken in relative safety.





Outreach services

Outreach workers visiting indoor sex work venues may include medical personnel, such as nurses or doctors, as well as cultural mediators when reaching out to migrants. Great care is needed when providing clinical services in order to protect the confidentiality of sex workers' medical care and test results. Methods of arranging outreach vary depending on the local context and resources available – some sex work projects respond to sex workers requesting visits, others phone to offer visits, while others do spontaneous visits without warning the establishments. Regardless of the method used, all outreach requires negotiation with both gatekeepers and sex workers and should include consent from sex workers.

Internet outreach services

These are generally websites through which sex work projects provide information and advice for sex workers. The Internet is used proactively by some sex work projects to search for indoor sex workers, primarily escorts, and to contact them through email or websites. Internet outreach (netreach) can also be done on-line in chat rooms.

'Drop-in' centres

These are locations where sex work projects provide a range of health and social support services in a community-based setting. Some sex work projects run open access low-threshold drop-in support services in which sex workers can drop in without appointments, while others run appointment-based support services, often due to lack of resources.

Clinical services

These are sex work projects based in clinical settings, usually within a sexual health clinic, providing a special dedicated clinic for sex workers.

OVERCOMING THE BARRIERS OF STIGMA AND FEAR OF AUTHORITY

One of the most effective ways of engaging with sex workers has been through organisations which have been set up by and for sex workers and continue to be run by sex workers. However, given the continuing stigma and marginalisation of sex workers in Europe this is neither an easy nor simple process to initiate. It is particularly difficult in countries where the sex industry or selling sexual services are criminalised. Although it should be encouraged wherever possible, and should be supported by the established sex worker organisations in Europe, other alternatives present a more realistic and achievable means of reaching out to and engaging with sex workers in Europe.

In line with accepted good practice, services should always seek to encourage and include sex workers at every stage in developing and evaluating services.

Sex work projects that provide anonymous and low-threshold services record limited amounts of personal information, and do not attempt to track sex workers beyond their engagement with the service. These services have proved most successful in establishing contact and engaging with sex workers. Many established sex work projects have developed contact recording systems that allow them to distinguish individual service users and track contact with them over time.

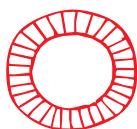
Examples of poor practices

Below are examples in which the methodology used may have created significant barriers for sex workers to establish trust in service providers.

- **Outreach teams** involving law enforcement officers (even if only in a support role) in countries where sex work and the sex industry are not recognised as legal. Although the presence of law enforcement officers may be accepted by gatekeepers and sex workers (because they have limited or no choice) it

can often negatively impact trust and the relationship to be developed with sex workers.

- **Law enforcement** officers being used to ‘collect’ sex workers and bring them to clinical service providers for ‘testing’, and in some extreme cases sex workers’ test results being released to the media or other third parties.
- **Health services** focusing only on keeping sex workers’ genitalia disease-free and failing to address the broader sexual and reproductive health issues and primary care needs of sex workers.
- **Public health** and social services that provide a discriminatory and judgmental service to sex workers and a lack of effective referral networks to provide equitable access and treatment for sex workers.



CULTURAL MEDIATION & PEER EDUCATION AMONG MIGRANT SEX WORKERS

The involvement of cultural mediators from the same ethnic and/or cultural group or nationality as the migrant sex workers allows for interpretation of non-verbal codes as well as verbal communication to facilitate understanding of health and social issues. Through confidential contact, a cultural mediator is capable of eliciting the trust of the target group. As a recognised supporter she or he is required to promote and facilitate empowerment, counselling and self-esteem.

- **Peer educators** are members of the migrant sex worker community who have migration experiences and backgrounds that reflect those of the broader community of migrant sex workers. Their involvement provides not only interpretation and a cross-cultural bridge but also a role model for migrant sex

PEER EDUCATORS

Both migrant and national sex workers represent a valid resource for projects and services. They facilitate contact with sex workers and help to create and maintain a relationship that is based on a significant offer and acceptance of help. The shared experience of sex work often lowers defensive barriers and enables a relationship of trust to develop much more rapidly and effectively.

workers, increasing self-esteem and self-confidence amongst the community. Their placement within the community enables them to articulate the interests of migrant sex workers to service providers and policy-makers, raise awareness, organise and conduct workshops, promote health and safer sex practices, and empower migrant sex workers through solidarity, support and understanding.

SAFER SEX, CONDOM USE, HIV & STI PREVENTION

Established sex work projects have developed a high level of knowledge and skill amongst staff, volunteers and peer educators in the areas of safer sex, condom use, STI and HIV prevention. Many have developed in-house training programmes as well as access to specialist external training to ensure a high-quality service for sex workers. Established sex work projects are therefore a valuable resource for other service providers that are seeking to develop support services for sex workers to improve the quality of support and services provided.

Some services limit the number of condoms that they distribute to sex workers – in the most extreme case sex workers are given only one condom! It is essential to highlight that all services must have and demonstrate an awareness of the reality of sex workers’ needs in relation to condoms and ensure that sex workers have access to free or affordable

condoms and other safer sex supplies that will significantly minimise their risk of HIV and STI infection. In the United Kingdom, where some sex work projects have limited budgets and are unable to supply free condoms, many have established 'condom shops' where sex workers can bulk-purchase safer sex supplies at cost price, making them far more affordable than those available through commercial outlets.

HIV & STI COUNSELLING, TESTING & TREATMENT

Established sex work projects also have a high level of knowledge and skill amongst staff and volunteers in relation to providing information to sex workers about access to HIV counselling, testing and treatment. Some projects have developed good working relationships with HIV treatment clinics. However, where such relationships have not been developed, it is essential that sex work projects are supported in developing them.

The vast majority of sex work projects who provide clinical services follow the established voluntary, counselling and testing good practice guidance; however, a number of clinical service providers are failing to fully respect the guidance in relation to sex workers. In addition, there

are a number of countries in Europe that continue to require mandatory HIV testing of sex workers – the results of which sex workers are then required to share with third parties.

The promotion of HIV testing to individuals should always take into account their likely access to treatment options should the result prove to be positive, as well as other potential consequences.

DRUG HARM REDUCTION

Reported levels of drug use, and in particular injecting drug use and drug dependency, vary considerably across indoor- and outdoor-based sex worker populations and between countries within Europe.

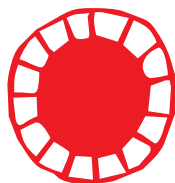
Where sex work projects provide services to injecting drug users, they have developed high levels of knowledge and skills amongst staff, volunteers and peer educators in relation to drug harm reduction, including drug treatment options, and working with drug users. Most sex work projects have developed working relationships with drug specialist services in their area and are part of drug harm reduction networks. Where such relationships are not already in existence it is essential that they are established.

PERSONAL SAFETY AND CRIME REPORTING

Awareness of the levels of violence experienced by sex workers is increasing both within sex work projects and society at large.

The majority of sex work projects provide information and advice concerning how to reduce the risk of violence from clients, and support for options to reduce violence from controllers and to break away from traffickers. Many sex work projects have worked with sex workers in developing tips for staying safe. However, few sex work projects have developed comprehensive personal safety and crime reporting initiatives with and for sex workers, and there is significant scope for developing support offered to sex workers with regard to personal safety and crime reporting.

In Scotland (UK), SCOT-PEP, a sex work project set up in Edinburgh by sex workers in 1989, has a range of initiatives to address the disproportionate levels of violence experienced by sex workers.



● Ugly Mug Scheme

Provides an early warning system for sex workers about violent clients by taking reports from sex workers about dangerous incidents and sharing descriptions of potentially dangerous clients among both indoor- and outdoor-based sex workers.

● Protect Yourself:

a safety handbook for sex workers

Provides information and advice for all sex work settings. This was developed through collaboration between both indoor- and outdoor-based sex workers, healthcare professionals, police and SCOT-PEP staff and volunteers.

● Police Liaison Officer

Acts in a welfare/support role for outdoor-based sex workers. Exchanges information with sex workers and project staff about changes in law enforcement practices and potentially dangerous individuals. Provides a 'safe' point of contact for sex workers. Critical to the success is that the officer is not part of any law enforcement actions against sex workers.

● Remote Reporting

Enables both indoor- and outdoor-based sex workers to report crimes to the police through community-based organisations rather than attending police stations. The scheme allows sex workers to report crimes anonymously for police intelligence, as well as reporting crimes for investigation, the latter requiring contact details to be provided by the sex worker.

● Victim Support

Enables sex workers to request support either from SCOT-PEP staff or from a specialist NGO offering support throughout the criminal justice process to victims of crime.

NEGOTIATING SKILLS WITH CLIENTS & MANAGERS

Most sex work projects provide information, advice and tips for negotiating condom use with clients; in addition some sex work projects proactively engage and negotiate with gatekeepers of sex work environments to improve working conditions for sex workers. Some sex work projects provide personal development programmes which seek to empower sex workers and improve their interpersonal and negotiating skills.

Clients, as critical stakeholders in successful HIV and STI prevention, have been mostly ignored as a target group – except for the political lobbying and legislation around criminalising the purchase of sex. Only in countries such as Germany, where sex work is accepted as labour, or Italy, where neither sex workers nor their clients are criminalised, have specific campaigns been run seeking to change not only clients' sexual behaviour and encourage safer sex, but also to challenge their attitudes towards sex workers.

Campaigns aimed at clients of sex workers are critical to increase sex workers' ability to negotiate safer sex successfully with them. There is real potential for programmes to be developed that seek to directly influence clients' attitudes and behaviour.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Many sex work projects report varying degrees of conflict within communities in relation to the presence of sex work and sex workers. However, the vast majority of local authorities and law enforcement agencies have chosen to focus on eradicating sex work in areas where problems have been experienced – with little attention being given to potential mediation and conflict resolution. To date, no such initiatives have managed to eradicate sex work; such initiatives have at best managed to disperse or displace sex work settings, geographically, temporally or from outdoor to indoor sex work environments –

making it more difficult for sex work projects and other service providers to reach sex workers, and potentially increasing vulnerability to HIV and STI infection.

SUPPORT TO MOVE ON

Sex work projects across Europe identify not only the need for support to move on from sex work, but also the need to provide support to enable sex workers and those coerced into sex work to move on from their current situation in the sex industry at a number of levels.

🌀 Support and assistance is required by victims of trafficking in both countries of origin and destination.

Unfortunately, the majority of sex work projects in destination countries reported that many women who had been trafficked were not prepared to access the support and assistance offered to victims of trafficking. In many countries, support offered to women was linked to providing evidence against traffickers and then being returned to their country of origin. In addition states were failing to assess and take into consideration the negative consequences that victims of trafficking may face if returned to their home countries without adequate protection.

However, sex work projects tend to have little or no influence over how governments respond to their duty of care and protection of victims of trafficking from future harm and violation of their human rights.

TAMPEP-Torino (Italy) has, through its 12 years' experience of working with women from Nigeria, developed support systems for victims of trafficking locally in Italy and has built partnerships with NGOs in Nigeria to ensure that women have appropriate support in countries of both destination and origin. They have also worked on an educational video for use in Nigeria as a trafficking prevention tool.

LEFÖ, the Austrian TAMPEP partner, implemented the concept of cultural mediation in supporting trafficked women. Since 1998, LEFÖ runs the Intervention Centre for Trafficked Women in Austria (LEFÖ-IBF) and provides shelter, legal and psychosocial assistance as well as judicial accompaniment for trafficked women. Cultural mediation is a central component of LEFÖ's work and a key strategy to understanding the multi-faceted realities of trafficked women and to providing appropriate services.

La Strada Poland has developed a comprehensive support package for victims of trafficking. This includes finding and assisting in their release; crisis intervention for returnees; support during legal action; and rehabilitation and reintegration. They provide a case management system with a key-worker who is allocated at the start of contact and remains with the individual throughout the entire process.

🌀 Support is needed for sex workers who are drug-dependent or whose partners are drug-dependent.

In some cases, one may not have an alternative source of income to finance one's dependency or access to drug treatment programmes. Although some sex work projects have developed substitute



prescribing services in-house, some do not allow the partners of sex workers to access these services. It is essential that the sex worker's partner can access drug treatment at the same time if the sex worker is to be able to move on from sex work.

🌀 Support is needed for sex workers who are coerced and unable to leave their controllers.

Some of these sex workers wish to leave the industry altogether, while others wish to be able to continue to work in it independently. Open Door (UK) believes an integral part of the outreach service provided is to establish trust with service users and explore with them their situation and alternatives, while supporting them in determining how best to protect themselves and gain independence.

🌀 Support is needed for sex workers with minimal education wishing to find alternative employment with little or no formal qualifications.

Autres Regards (France) ran an accredited training programme for peer educators and sex workers that provided them with formal qualifications that are externally recognised.

🌀 Support is needed for sex workers who wish to further their education to enable them to move on from sex work into reasonably paid employment.

Fenarete (France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands and Poland) ran an accredited training programme to prepare and place peer educators into paid employment in appropriate health and social care settings. The evaluation of the projects identified mentors and personal development as essential components for sex workers to make the transition into formal employment in what were often bureaucratic institutions.

🌀 Support is needed for sex workers who wish to eventually move on from sex work.

SCOT-PEP (UK) ran a New Futures Project which employed a career guidance worker to support sex workers in identifying their own aspirations, developing a personal action plan of varying length and making their goals a reality.

🌀 Support is needed for sex workers who wish to move within the sex industry to a less vulnerable setting.

Amnesty for Women (Germany) provides multilingual leaflets, information and support to migrant sex workers from the 12 new EU member states about how they can make their status as sex workers legal in Germany.



GLOSSARY



TAMPEP's glossary of terms aims to ensure clarity and a common definition of terms used. It also includes the definition of trafficking as set out in the Palermo Protocol¹³.

Sex worker

This term has been used in preference to 'prostitute'. The term 'sex worker' is intended to be non-judgmental, focusing on the conditions under which sexual services are sold. The term 'commercial sex worker' is no longer used, primarily because it is considered to be making the same point twice ('commercial' and 'work').

Sex work, the sale of sexual services or commercial sex

These terms are used in preference to 'prostitution' or 'commercial sex work'.

Transgender

The term 'transgender' includes transsexuals and transvestites as well as others who do not feel they fit into society's gender classifications. Transsexuals are individuals who identify with a physical sex different from their biological one. Transvestites are people who wear the clothing of the other gender.

Sex industry

This term has been used in preference to 'prostitution' to describe the phenomenon of commercial sex.

Indoor-based sex worker

This term has been used for sex workers who establish contact with clients in an indoor setting or via the Internet. Indoor sex work is often advertised in the media or on-line.

Outdoor-based sex worker

This term has been used for sex workers who establish contact with clients in outdoor settings. Outdoor sex work settings are not advertised, but are areas where sex workers are known to frequent.

Client

This term is used to describe those purchasing sexual services.

Service user

This term is used in preference to 'client' to describe an individual who accesses support from a sex work project or other service provider.

Partner (of a sex worker)

This term is used for individuals in a relationship with a sex worker and should not be interpreted as synonymous with 'pimp'.

Controller (of a sex worker)

This term is used in preference to 'pimp' to describe individuals who determine a person's involvement in sex work and the sexual services they provide.

Manager (of a sex business)

This term is used to describe individuals who run sex businesses but who do not determine an individual's involvement in sex work or the sexual services they provide.

Gatekeeper

This term is used to describe individuals with whom sex work projects and other service providers must negotiate to enable contact with sex workers.



Sexual exploitation of children and young people through prostitution

This term has been used in preference to ‘child prostitution’.

Young person sexually exploited through prostitution

This term has been used in preference to ‘young sex worker’ or ‘child sex worker’.

Trafficker

This term is used only when all three components of the definition of trafficking are present.

Trafficking

“‘Trafficking in Persons’ shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.”¹⁴

Broken down into its components, the definition comprises acts, means, and a purpose. One or more elements in each of the three components must be present to meet the definition. The consent of a victim is irrelevant if any of the means are used or if the victim is under 18 years. The three components are illustrated for ease of reference in the table below.

ACT	MEANS	PURPOSE
Recruitment	Threat or use of force or other forms of coercion	Exploitation
Transportation	Abduction	
Transfer	Fraud	
Harbouring	Deception	
Receipt of persons	Abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability	
	Giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person	

Forced labour and slavery-like practices in sex work or the sex industry

These terms are used in preference to ‘sexual slavery’ or other emotive terminology.

Unprotected sex

This term is used in preference to ‘risky sex’ or ‘high-risk sex’.

Safer sex

This term is used in preference to ‘safe sex’ which may imply complete safety. The term ‘safer sex’ more accurately reflects the idea that choices can be made and behaviours adopted to reduce or minimise risk.

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)

This term is used in preference to ‘venereal disease (VD)’ or ‘sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)’ which do not convey the concept of asymptomatic sexually transmitted infections.

Sexually transmitted infections are spread by the transfer of organisms from person to person during sexual contact. In addition to the ‘traditional’ STIs (syphilis and gonorrhoea), the spectrum of STIs now includes HIV, which causes AIDS; Chlamydia trachomatis; human papilloma virus (HPV) which can cause cervical or anal cancer; genital herpes; chancroid; genital mycoplasmas; hepatitis B; trichomoniasis; enteric infections; and ectoparasitic diseases (i.e., diseases caused by organisms that live on the outside of the host’s body).

The complexity and scope of sexually transmitted infections have increased dramatically since the 1980s; more than 20 organisms and syndromes are now recognised as belonging in this category.

Injecting drug user

This term is used in preference to 'intravenous drug user', 'drug addict' or 'drug abuser', which are seen as derogatory and which often result in alienation rather than creating the trust and respect required when dealing with those who inject drugs. UNAIDS does not use the term 'intravenous drug users' because subcutaneous and intramuscular routes may be involved.

Using non-sterile injecting equipment (if referring to risk of exposure to HIV)

This term is used in preference to 'sharing' (needles, syringes, etc.)

Using contaminated injecting equipment (if referring to HIV transmission)

This term is used in preference to 'sharing' (needles, syringes, etc.)

Individuals at increased risk of exposure to HIV

Avoid the terms 'high-risk groups'. Membership of groups does not place individuals at risk, but behaviours may. It is behaviours, not memberships, which place individuals in situations in which they may be exposed to HIV. There is a strong link between various kinds of mobility and heightened risk of HIV exposure, depending on the reason for mobility and the extent to which people are removed from their social context and norms. Some populations may be at increased risk of exposure to HIV.

HIV

This term is used in preference to 'HIV/AIDS', 'HIV virus' or 'AIDS virus' (unless specifically referring to AIDS). Since HIV means 'human immunodeficiency virus', it is redundant to refer to the HIV virus. Since AIDS is a syndrome, it is incorrect to refer to the virus as the 'AIDS virus'. AIDS is what people die of; HIV is what they are infected with.

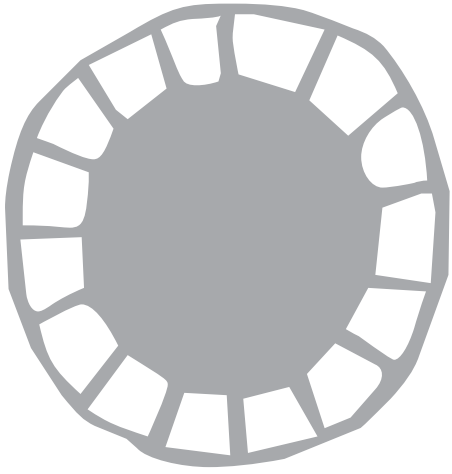
Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT)

This term refers to testing initiated by the service user. HIV testing is pivotal to both prevention and treatment interventions. The '3Cs' continue to be underpinning principles for the conduct of all HIV testing of individuals. Testing must be: confidential; accompanied by counselling; and only conducted with informed consent, meaning that it is both informed and voluntary.

People living with HIV

It is preferable to avoid certain terms: 'AIDS patient' should only be used in a medical context (most of the time, a person with AIDS is not in the role of patient); the term 'AIDS victim' or 'AIDS sufferer' implies that the individual in question is powerless, with no control over his or her life. It is preferable to use 'people living with HIV' (PLHIV), since this reflects the fact that an infected person may continue to live well and productively for many years. Referring to people living with HIV as innocent victims (which is often used to describe HIV-positive children or people who have been infected through blood transfusions) wrongly implies that people infected in other ways are somehow deserving of punishment. It is preferable to use 'people living with HIV', or 'children with HIV'.





To reach marginalised (migrant and mobile) sex workers, diverse outreach strategies for indoor and outdoor sex work were identified. The partners, through their continued outreach activities, have had positive and negative experiences, underlining those which are effective methods of good practices. These different models of fieldwork methodology, applied in different situations, areas, and settings, are described and analysed.

OUTREACH WORK

Outreach work involves actively making contact with potential or existing service users on their own territory, or wherever else they may be found, and not waiting for them to seek out project workers. It is a service as well as a method of service delivery. It puts the project firmly on sex workers' territory and as such is about taking resources to sex workers. Outreach practice depends on local patterns of sex work, on the individuals involved, and how they perceive their needs.¹⁴



POWER OF PREVENTION

Target Female sex workers, controllers, clubs and brothel owners

Where Sofia | BULGARIA

What Outreach work for indoor-based female sex workers

When 2005 to 2007

Who HESED | Health and Social Development Foundation | Sofia | www.hesed.bg | in collaboration with partner organisations JAZAS | Belgrade | www.jazas.net | and Soa Aids | Amsterdam | www.soaaids.nl

Why To reach and meet the needs of sex workers working indoors, and to carry out HIV/STI prevention activities within the indoor sex industry in Sofia.

STEPS

1. Assessment of the situation – The information sources used to begin with were articles on sex work and sex workers' advertisements published in the media, special websites for sex workers, key informants in the social and health areas, sex workers and other people inside the milieu.

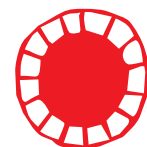
2. Mapping of the area – Mapping began of the city of Sofia's indoor sex industry. The city was divided into zones in order to facilitate the identification of areas with a higher concentration of indoor sex industry environments: clubs, apartments, brothels, striptease bars. This preliminary research took three months and served as the basis for the outreach. The updated overview of the situation allowed for adequate planning and the practical implementation of the fieldwork activity.

3. Training the team in the specifics of indoor outreach work – Despite HESED's extensive experience in outreach work, mainly in the outdoor sector, professionals involved in POP had to be trained on the specifics of indoor sex work. Training was provided by Dutch colleagues from Soa Aids, and covered:

- Presentation and discussion of the mapping results.
- Knowledge, skills and strategies when approaching the indoor sector: sex workers, controllers, club and brothel owners or managers.
- Outreach guidelines: teams of two (two women or one man and one woman).
- Assessment of the risks and preparation of measures to reduce them. Three people were in charge of each outreach activity: two were to visit the premises and a third person would wait outside, nearby, in case of an unforeseen risky situation. Mobile phone contact was agreed between them for such situations.

4. Selecting the first areas for outreach – The team identified a realistic number of spots to be covered, according to available resources. The first areas for intervention were outlined and the zones with the highest concentration of sex industry establishments were chosen. The weekly schedule of the outreach team was modified so that the new places could be included.

5. First contacts – A letter outlining the work and a contact phone number was printed and distributed during the initial visits. The number is used for contact between sex workers, others involved in the sex industry and the outreach team. The team started to visit the chosen spots and to make initial contact. At first this time was mostly devoted to gatekeepers and other figures who are important in 'opening doors' to reach sex workers.



Always stick to the outreach principles of confidentiality, anonymity, and free will in receiving your services. Do not interfere; respect the rules of the establishment. Consider and assert your own limits and respect the limits of others.

6. An ongoing outreach strategy – The next step was to consolidate the contacts, which meant the process of gaining trust through regular visits, not interfering in their business, and accepting the rules of the house. Building good relationships was crucial for successful work.

Development

The mapping was a crucial step in the process. It had two main objectives:

- To gain an overview of the situation regarding indoor sex work. The information included a general pattern of the sex industry as well as the organisation and structure of the work carried out in clubs, bars, apartments and brothels. The legislative framework was perused and analysed at this point.
- To gather and analyse information about sex workers' knowledge of HIV/AIDS and STIs, in order to carry out a needs assessment of habits, living and working conditions, vulnerability factors, field-work effectiveness, and the accessibility of services.

Outreach is carried out 10 to 12 times a month. At the beginning, until the team had built a firm relationship, the new places were visited twice a month. After that, the frequency became once a month. All visits were at night and took around half an hour, sometimes more.

Participants

🌀 Sex workers, once in contact, acted as a bridge between the outreach team, other sex workers, and representatives from other services. They also referred the team to other indoor establishments, sex workers, club owners and guards.

🌀 The team: psychologists and social workers. Medical staff: dermatologist and nurses.

Materials

Bag packed with condoms, lubricants, safer drug use materials, leaflets, specialised educational materials, pregnancy tests, dildo.

Documentation

A protocol was drawn up for each outreach visit and a monthly report written for the lead organisation.

EVALUATION

Sex workers answered a feedback questionnaire, which covered around a third of the contacts made in the 3 years. Another evaluation was carried out by the lead organisation Soa Aids.

⊕ HESED was the first organisation in Bulgaria to begin working with indoor sex workers. Its positive experience was shared with and adopted by 7 other organisations in different Bulgarian cities. It was crucial to get information about the needs of the previously unreached demographic of indoor-based sex workers, as they represent the majority of sex workers in Bulgaria. Therefore, the preliminary research and ongoing outreach work afforded the opportunity to collect information and make important contacts for the future development of interventions targeting this group. The sex industry in Bulgaria is very strictly organised as all indoor premises are part of a network. Thus, one is referred to another locality automatically and new contacts are easily made. Forging closer relationships with indoor-based sex workers and their circle (managers, guards, etc.) makes it possible to extend the coverage of services offered. Their involvement is highly effective in developing an HIV/AIDS/STI prevention process, because they are the ones who control the situation.

1 As a result of the mapping and the ongoing outreach work, we concluded that it is almost impossible to cover all the needs of indoor sex workers and of all the places offering sexual services. Outreach teams lack the resources to cover all indoor premises because of the large number of clubs, bars, and apartments.

LESSONS LEARNED

It is important to set realistic aims, tasks and objectives. Patience and consistency is a must because direct contact with sex workers, in most cases, is only possible after the third or fourth visit. It is of fundamental importance to be well prepared for everything that is liable to happen during the work, and not to be discouraged if one is not given access at first, if the target's needs are not all met immediately, or if they just do not want to engage. Leave them alone; do not insist on engagement because that could cause future problems. If you apply too much pressure it could cause the complete failure of your intervention. There are some places where your offers of help are not needed. Respect that. Be active, reliable, and do not give up!

CONTACTING SEX WORKERS AT GENDER COUNSELLING

Target Transgender sex workers

Where Marseille | FRANCE

What Contacting transgender sex workers through gender identity counselling at the Hospital Sainte-Marguerite's department of 'Sexual Advice Therapy', and referring them to Autres Regards.

When Since 2001

Who Autres Regards | www.autresregards.org

Why To provide information on the transition process, hormone therapy, and gender identity; to help and support people before, during and after transition; to mediate between doctors, endocrinologists, psychiatrists, and the transgender individual; to stop discrimination against transgender people and to make medical specialists aware of the situation of transgender people (in the sex industry).

STEPS

1. Feedback from transgender people showed a need for more specialised information for this group. **2.** A needs assessment carried out by Autres Regards confirmed a lack of knowledge among this group, a lack of support at social and medical appointments and increased self-medication, mainly the use of unregulated hormone therapy. **3.** Support was offered where hormone therapy is provided to transgender individuals: at the hospital.

Development

Contact was made with medical staff at the Hospital Sainte-Marguerite to explain the situation and the needs, plan and intentions of Autres Regards. Since then, the hospital has informed the organisation about appointments made by transgender individuals with the specialists. Prior to each appointment, Autres Regards project workers prepare the required information material.



They make themselves available in the waiting room of the Gender Identity Counselling Ward, waiting for transgender people to come and make contact. This activity is carried out once a month, for 3 hours, at the hospital, and appointments are made for during the week at Autres Regards.

Participants

Ⓢ Transgender sex workers are involved in discussions about all sorts of problems encountered by transgender and transsexual people.

Ⓢ The team consists of a transsexual peer and a nurse from Autres Regards. It is important to always use the same team because of the specific counselling, to make identification easier and to build up trust.

Materials

At the hospital: coffee, drinks, and cakes to welcome people in a friendly atmosphere.

In general: condoms, lubricants, harm reduction information materials, booklet on gender identity. 'Livret de genre ou genre de livret', a booklet on gender identity by Autres Regards.

The organisation's website is also linked from the website 'Diane et le sexe des anges', a Swiss forum for transgender people, www.dianeetlesexedesanges.ch

EVALUATION

The activity has always received very positive feedback from transgender service users, during and after the counselling hours. Official evaluation is carried out by the team implementing the project and by the organisation's annual and action reports.

⊕ Transgender people come to the counselling hours even if they do not have appointments at the hospital, giving the organisation the opportunity to disseminate more information. Cooperation with the medical specialists at the

hospital allows for a better understanding for both parties regarding transsexualism and transgender people in sex work.

⊖ There is not enough networking between the different organisations and institutions dealing with transgender people. With this in mind, Autres Regards plans to commence meetings with medical and other specialists and transgender people, for them to be heard not only as patients.

LESSONS LEARNED

Outreach needs to be developed further because of the enormous need for information, counselling, and advice for transgender people, particularly counselling for their family members.

WORKSHOPS WITH NURSES

Target Female and transgender migrant sex workers

Where Hamburg | GERMANY

What Regular outreach work carried out with cultural mediators and migrant nurses to make contact with female and transgender migrant sex workers in private apartments and brothels.

When Since 1995

Who Amnesty for Women
www.amnestyforwomen.de

Why To spread information on legal rights and health issues, to deliver workshops on safer sex and HIV/STI prevention, to empower, and to refer to other support organisations in the city.

STEPS

1. Mapping the city and creating an address list.
2. Formation and training of the international team according to the local situation.
3. Compiling the materials needed.
4. Planning a work schedule.
5. Conducting the outreach activity.
6. Documenting each instance of outreach.
7. Monthly exchanges and evaluation meetings with the team.

Development

The cultural mediator chooses the day route, checks the address using the Internet, and prepares the bags. Each outreach activity takes about 5 hours, in the afternoon.

The workshops are given spontaneously, according to sex workers' questions.

The nurse and the cultural mediator answer questions, show pictures, demonstrate how to do a breast exam, and make referrals to the Public Health Service or other organisations.

The duration depends on sex workers' availability, and may be from 10 to 60 minutes.

The grab bag is a useful 'door opener'. It starts as a game (women are asked

to grab something from inside and say something about it) which then leads to discussions.

Participants

Sex workers inform staff of other addresses where they can find sex workers, and often deliver peer support by referring their colleagues to AfW and the Health Care Centre.

The team consists of cultural mediators, (migrant) nurses and a driver. A visit is always conducted by two people: two cultural mediators or one cultural mediator and one nurse.

Materials

Condoms, lubricants, leaflets on health promotion, sex work and legal issues, referral addresses.

Special materials for the workshops include cards with pictures, and the grab bag is filled up with different sorts of condoms, lubricants, syringes, contraceptives, dildo, tampons, sponges, diaphragm, female condom, dental dam.

Documentation

A sheet is filled in with information about each apartment or brothel visited. After every outreach activity, the cultural mediator and the nurse are responsible for writing a short report.

EVALUATION

is done informally by sex workers during and after the workshops. An official evaluation is carried out by the outreach coordinator and the team in annual final reports.



The presence of cultural mediators and (migrant) nurses increases reliability.

The workshops increase sex workers' knowledge and facilitate the spread of correct information among colleagues, which strengthens and improves their negotiating skills. The knowledge gained through the workshops is a very important empowerment tool.



The mobility of sex workers makes it difficult to build up long-lasting contacts or to expand the information provided if the first contact was very short. It also requires constant updating of the apartments and brothels' address list.

LESSONS LEARNED

Because of migrant sex workers' isolated working conditions, outreach work is fundamental in making contact with them, and because of their mobility, it has to be done regularly. The workshops are very effective in identifying gaps in sex workers' knowledge of health issues.

Contents of the grab bag: different sorts of condoms, lubricants, needles, different contraceptives, sponges, dildo, dental dam.

JOINT WORKING WITH NGO AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Target Female and transgender migrant sex workers

Where Alkmaar | THE NETHERLANDS

What Regular outreach sessions in window brothels for migrant sex workers.

When Since 1998

Who TAMPEP International Foundation www.tampep.eu | in collaboration with GGD (Public Health Services) www.ggd.nl

Why To enhance the quality of outreach work in window brothels; to analyse the situation and the needs of migrant sex workers in this environment; to improve the role of the Public Health Service in meeting those needs.

STEPS

1. Agreement on the need for combined outreach work. **2.** Decision to form a team of two: one cultural mediator from TAMPEP, and the nurse from the consultation hour held by the GGD in the prostitution zone. **3.** Plans made around methodology, time schedule and materials to be distributed. **4.** Carrying out the combined outreach activity once a month.

Participants

- ⑥ Sex workers are involved through their questions, needs and demands.
- ⑥ The team consists of one TAMPEP cultural mediator and the nurse from the GGD.

Materials

HIV/STI information materials, condoms, lubricants, sponges.

EVALUATION

Migrant sex workers give their opinion during outreach. Official evaluations are carried out by TAMPEP and the GGD in their annual reports.



This has been a very fruitful experience for both TAMPEP and the GGD over all these years. It is a concrete example of a long and effective collaboration between two different institutions – a NGO and a GO – which, although working from different angles, have common aims: to provide comprehensive information and efficient services for migrant sex workers.

Migrant sex workers were always content about this collaboration because they were getting very competent social and health counselling together at the same time.

LESSONS LEARNED

The provision of services, of HIV/STI prevention activities for migrant sex workers, should be based on an offer of multifaceted, multilingual, multicultural activities and services, which are not limited only to testing and offers of medical treatment.



MAKING CONTACT IN PRIVATE FLATS

Target Male and transgender sex workers

Where Madrid | SPAIN

What Outreach work targeted at those working in private apartments.

When Since 2004 for male sex workers and since 2006 for transgender sex workers.

Who Fundación Triángulo | www.sindudas.org | www.fundaciontriangulo.es

Why To inform male and transgender sex workers working in private flats about health, social and legal matters, to disseminate prevention information and safer sex material, and to deliver workshops on safer sex.

STEPS

1. Mapping of the area where male and transgender sex workers are active.
2. Completion of a needs assessment of the target group and an assessment of the services available.
3. Selection and training of the team of male social workers.
4. Scheduling of outreach activity according to the organisation's availability.
5. Conduction of outreach work twice a week, 5 to 7 pm: once for male and once for transgender sex workers.
6. Revisiting the same addresses every two to three weeks.
7. Following each visit, completion of a documentation sheet outlining the date, address, material distributed, number of people contacted, issues discussed, type of support requested, referrals.

Development

The stability and the efficiency of the outreach activity are a consequence of the regularity and consistency with which the work is done. The target group knows the days when the outreach team is coming to visit them, resulting in a relationship of trust and open communication between sex workers and the team.

Another aim of the outreach team is to observe and detect personal or group situations of marginalisation and exclusion, in order to plan educational interventions which will develop changes in attitude, values and habits for the benefit of one or more members of the group.

Participants

⑥ The activity began in response to sex workers' demands for outreach work activities to be developed in their workplaces.

⑥ The team is comprised of male social workers with experience and knowledge of the environment and the working conditions of the target group.

Materials

For distribution: flyer about the outreach programme, condoms, lubricants, the address of the site www.sindudas.org (aimed at male and transgender sex workers), the telephone number of the Fundación Triángulo, and the brochure 'One way ticket', with information on HIV/STI prevention, drug use, and safer sex, which serves as a basis for the issues discussed during workshops.

EVALUATION

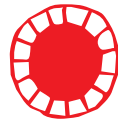
The outreach is continuously evaluated by the target group through discussions and questionnaires. The entire work is regularly evaluated by the outreach team, other project workers and staff from the public institution funding the programme.

+ The fact that the outreach team goes to where sex workers are active, inspires confidence and trust between them, and permits staff to offer a service which is much more personalised and adapted to the target group's needs and realities.

- Due to the fact that transgender sex workers are a highly mobile group, the outreach team must constantly revisit those flats where they work and offer as much information as possible each time, because they never know if they will meet those same sex workers again.

LESSONS LEARNED

It is very important to detect and search for new apartments all the time, as well as to develop new tools for reaching male and transgender sex workers active in those premises, due to their high mobility.



NIGHT-TIME MOBILE OUTREACH

Target Female outdoor-based sex workers

Where Bucharest and 10 other cities | ROMANIA

What A national health programme providing free social, psychological and medical support (vaccinations for hepatitis A, B and C, rapid HIV testing) to sex workers, on an anonymous and confidential

basis. The work is conducted via a mobile unit which is used to contact street-based sex workers in Bucharest and 10 other cities in Romania.

When Since 1999

Who ARAS (Romanian Association Against AIDS)
www.arasnet.ro

Why Because sex work is criminalised and stigmatised in Romania, there is a gap with regard to the medical and social needs of sex workers. Due to this situation, sex workers have no access to, or are afraid to access, public medical and social services. Since 1999, ARAS is the only organisation – NGO or otherwise – in the country developing programmes for sex workers.

STEPS

1. Mapping of the environment – The street areas where the outreach action was to take place were mapped several weeks before the first attempt to contact sex workers. The mapping included an analysis of the working conditions of sex workers, whether the majority worked outdoors or indoors, their relationships with controllers and/or middlemen, size of the sex worker population, and perceived ease of approaching and making contact with street sex workers.

2. First contact – The action began with one person walking around the area with a bag full of condoms; while distributing them, she tried to make contact with the women working on the streets.

3. The first car – In order to be able to cover a larger area, including other cities, the organisation purchased a car, and different project workers joined the team, such as a medical doctor and a psychologist. The car did not display ARAS' name on it. It was a small white car that did not draw attention to itself when passing through the red light district.

4. The first mobile unit – Through funding from the Global Fund for Women, the team was able to buy a big van that held a bed for medical examinations, two chairs and a table for counselling. The outreach activities were improved significantly with the acquisition of this mobile unit because other services like proper counselling, social assistance, and medical care could be offered and developed according to need.

5. The ambulance – After some years the team bought a proper ambulance which was able to extend the medical services to rapid tests for HIV, HCV and HBV, conducted during outreach hours, and vaccination against hepatitis A and B. More mobile units were acquired later on in order to carry out the same programme in the other ARAS branches located in 10 different cities in the country.

Outreach with the ambulance and the mobile units is carried out five days a week, in all the cities involved in the programme.

Participants

⊕ Sex workers were constantly consulted for feedback regarding their situation and working conditions, so that the programme could be adapted and further developed according to their needs. Most sex workers claimed that their greatest needs were around health and proper medical assistance, so activities were directed mostly into this field.

Interventions should not be limited to handing out condoms, lubricants or information promoting safer sex practices. Success relies on establishing personal contacts with sex workers while providing guidance and support around social, legal and psychological issues.

Contacts made through the outreach activities also permitted other sorts of developments, such as the self-organisation of sex workers. Although sex work is criminalised in Romania, meetings were held with several sex workers present.

The objectives of these meetings were to empower, facilitate and encourage them to create a sex workers’ organisation, a NGO which would defend and advocate for sex workers’ rights and for the legalisation of sex work. This organisation does not yet exist.

⊕ Staff were comprised of a multidisciplinary team of doctors, social workers, psychologists and peer educators (sex workers).

Materials

Condoms, lubricants, sterile injecting equipment.

Documentation

A report is made annually. Contacts are recorded in an anonymous database, with codes used for the service users. Codes are simple and contain the following: 3 letters from mother’s name, year of birth, 3 letters of service user’s name, month of birth and sex. Example: MAR 82 ALE 12 F (mother’s name is Maria, she was born in 1982, her name is Alexandra, she was born in December and she is female).

Media

The media were only allowed to get involved from 2007, and even so with great care, due to the delicate legal position of sex workers and their need for confidentiality.

EVALUATION

The multidisciplinary team of project workers evaluated the activity. Evaluation reports were made for different funders and networks, such as TAMPEP, SWAN, and the Global Fund.

+ The programme has been a great success over the years because it worked to improve the situation for sex workers in Romania as much as possible, through medical, social and psychological care.

- The legal status of sex workers in Romania did not change.

LESSONS LEARNED

Although sex work is illegal in the country, one can still develop services for this population, despite police and media harassment.

Although things may seem impossible at first, believing in better situations is really important. In 1999 the team never imagined that eventually they would be able to have mobile medical units specially designed for this target population and the inclusion of a multidisciplinary team.

This initiative has demonstrated the relevance of a harm reduction programme designed for sex workers and IDUs. Such activities allow a vulnerable population to have access to information about HIV, STIs and to primary healthcare, who might otherwise be rejected by medical centres due to a lack of health insurance or documentation. Interventions need to be systematic, frequent and intensive in order to build up trust with service users.

AT THE PRAGUE MAIN TRAIN STATION

Target Drug-using sex workers

Where Prague | CZECH REPUBLIC

What A joint initiative by four Prague NGOs working with drug users to develop outreach activities at the Prague main train station and surroundings. Services include a medical doctor and social workers who distribute information and condoms, and refer to support organisations.

When Since March 2008

Who Rozkoš bez Rizika | www.rozkosbezrizika.cz
DropIn | www.dropin.cz
Sananim | www.sananim.cz | and Progressive

Why Because the majority of drug-using sex workers working at the Prague main train station have controllers, it was difficult to reach them. Outreach was set up to establish closer contact with this group, and to build a referral network for drug-using sex workers.

STEPS

1. Meeting with different NGO teams dealing with drug users and sex workers in order to plan a collaboration strategy for outreach activities.
2. Exchange of information about services and the personnel available to carry out outreach activities.
3. Agreements made to organise and plan the shared outreach activities at the station and surroundings, and other common activities such as team trainings.
4. Carrying out of joint outreach activities.



Development

The collaboration aimed to share information about the situation and working conditions of drug-using sex workers in the area, and about the role and capacities of the different NGOs; to share outreach activities; and to train staff involved on safer drug use.

The organisations consist of NGOs dealing with (migrant) sex workers, drug users and drug-using sex workers. There were four preparatory meetings to organise the collaboration. Each outreach activity takes about three hours, every two weeks, at different times of the day.

Participants

- ⊗ Sex workers inform staff about the situation and problems at the Prague train station.
- ⊗ The team was made up of members of the participating organisations: social and outreach workers, a nurse and a medical doctor specialising in hepatitis and drug substitution programmes.

Materials

Information leaflets from the partner organisations about services available; condoms and lubricants, lighters, mirrors and personal safety alarms. Information about La Strada, for victims of trafficking | www.strada.cz. Often croissants and other baked goods are also distributed.

Documentation

Records are kept of the preparatory meetings and field notes.

EVALUATION

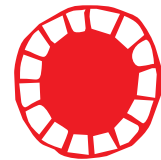
The action has been evaluated by the partner organisations' teams.

- ⊕ Sharing information and experience – about trends in drug use, new locations, plans and perspectives – with outreach workers from different organisations dealing with drug users and sex workers.

LESSONS LEARNED

Collaboration is beneficial since the target is shared by all.

In so doing it is possible to carry out more activities, and to offer better and diversified services. Outreach programmes are very important in making drug users aware of the existing services and making referrals to them. The organisation also benefits through gaining more information about the scene, and the living and working conditions of the target group.



ALL SEX SHOULD BE SAFE

Vilnius | LITHUANIA

■ Outreach carried out by the Lithuanian AIDS Centre | www.aids.lt | for **drug-using sex workers** active in **streets, bars, train and bus stations**. They distribute condoms, lubricants and information leaflets, and offer syringe and needle exchange from Monday to Friday, in the afternoons and evenings. The outreach team is composed of peer educators (sex workers and IDUs themselves), social workers and volunteers. The objective is to more effectively implement HIV/AIDS prevention, providing more information and harm reduction materials. Their eight years' experience in the field show that sex workers and IDUs are reached much more effectively through outreach activities. Also, it is easier to keep contact, to motivate and involve the target group when employing peer educators.

Riga, Jelgava and Jurmala | LATVIA

■ Outreach work carried out by Genders for sex workers active on the streets. They distribute condoms, and booklets about AIDS and STIs, breast cancer detection, and the risks of cigarettes, drugs and alcohol. The outreach team is composed of peer educators (sex workers), Genders outreach workers, personnel from the Latvia STD clinic, and volunteers. Outreach activities are carried out twice a month for about 3.5 hours each time. The aim of the activity is to make sex workers aware of safer sex practices and HIV/STI prevention. Despite the fact that not all sex workers were willing to talk to the outreach team, it was considered a success because most were willing to have a short conversation, to get information about health issues and to discuss them.

Luxembourg | LUXEMBOURG

■ Outreach work carried out by Dropln, Croix Rouge Luxembourgeoise | www.croix-rouge.lu | for sex workers active on the streets. They distribute condoms, lubricants and information on HIV/STIs. Lately, in response to misunderstandings regarding certain sexual practices and an increase in cases of hepatitis B, the team decided to develop a specific brochure on the issue. Information is given during outreach work and in the counselling centre. The team is composed of cultural mediators and nurses, who use the brochure and special visual information equipment to accompany the explanations. The experience showed that such tools can greatly enhance understanding of sometimes very abstract matters, while outreach work facilitates contact with those sex workers who do not visit the counselling centre. Interventions in the counselling centre are very important as they stimulate sex workers to attend the medical doctor's consultation hours, and this is an incentive for them to request vaccinations against hepatitis B.

HIV/STI PREVENTION AROUND PARIS

Target Transgender street-based sex workers

Where Paris and surroundings | FRANCE

What A mobile unit that distributes safer sex kits and information on STI prevention.

When Since 1992

Who PASTT association

Why To promote safer sex amongst transgender sex workers and distribute free condoms.

STEPS

1. Training and formation of outreach teams.
2. Decisions made about where to go, which part of town to visit, team members and when outreach activity should be carried out.
3. Preparation and organisation of the safer sex kits.
4. Contact made with transgender sex workers working on the streets.
5. Distribution of the safer sex kits.

Development

Outreach is conducted from Monday to Friday in the evenings, on the streets and in parks where transgender sex workers are active. The mobile unit is a small van which allows the transportation of the materials to be distributed and contains a small table and chair for short consultations with the social workers and peers.

The objectives of going to where sex workers work are to make them aware of the risks of unsafe sex, to inform them about other issues concerning their work and their rights, to distribute the kits and to refer them to other organisations if required.

Participants

- ⊗ Sex workers are among the volunteers participating in the outreach work.
- ⊗ The team consists of transgender volunteers and social workers at PASTT.

Materials

Flyers aimed at transgender sex workers, TAMPEP materials, safer sex kits with condoms, alcohol swabs, lubricants.

EVALUATION

Transgender sex workers are very receptive to the services offered by the outreach team. An official evaluation is carried out by PASTT in their annual reports.

LESSONS LEARNED

Outreach is a basic strategy to combat transgender people's vulnerability to HIV and STIs.

STI TESTING DURING OUTREACH WORK

Target Drug-using sex workers and their clients

Where Bratislava | SLOVAKIA

What Low-threshold, anonymous, free of charge HIV and syphilis antibody testing is carried out on blood samples during regular outreach activities.

When Since 2006

Who C.A. Odysseus | www.odysseus.org

Why Because STI testing is a high-threshold service in Slovakia requiring payment, and as such is inaccessible to the target group.

STEPS

1. Training of staff who will carry out the testing.
2. Encouragement of sex workers and clients to get tested.
3. Conduction of tests.

Development

In the past, C.A. Odysseus had a one-year project involving HIV, syphilis, HBV and HCV testing during outreach, conducted by a health specialist who took sex workers' blood samples. The samples were registered under a special code and sent to a laboratory which guaranteed anonymity. Sex workers were given the test results during outreach. After the project, the target group wanted it to continue, so Odysseus resumed offering HIV and syphilis antibody testing. Service users receive test results within around ten minutes.

Participants

- ⊗ Sex workers receive counselling provided by the project workers before and after the testing takes place.
- ⊗ The team comprises specially trained C.A. Odysseus employees and contracted health workers.

Materials


Tests, pre-test and post-test counselling, C.A. Odysseus information materials on STIs, safer sex and safer drug use.


Documentation

Database of test results.

EVALUATION

Sex workers gave their comments during outreach work and counselling hours. An official evaluation is carried out by the coordinator and the outreach project workers periodically and in their annual reports.

 The target group is provided with the service in their usual surroundings which allows for a more relaxed atmosphere. The testing is done by specially trained staff with whom the sex workers are familiar. It is conducted inside a mobile unit, which is a safe and secure space for sex workers.


 Due to the lack of funding it is not possible to provide the service regularly.

LESSONS LEARNED

This type of activity can be carried out during regular outreach work with very positive results. It is useful for this type of target group because otherwise they experience difficulties in accessing health services. Among drug-using sex workers, there is a need to provide testing for other diseases as well.

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AND ACCOMPANIMENT

Bratislava | SLOVAKIA

 Since 2001 C.A. Odysseus | www.odyseus.org | offers drug-using sex workers social assistance and accompaniment to appointments. Often drug-using sex workers experience rejection and

discrimination when dealing with the authorities. C.A. Odysseus' social workers consequently help them to overcome barriers they encounter while visiting doctors, getting ID cards, entering substitution programmes, applying for a job, etc. C.A. Odysseus liaises with experts and public institutions to encourage them to cooperate and support the service user. This service enables drug-using sex workers to address their problems with the support of people whom they trust. It eases their integration into society and reduces institutionalised discrimination.

OUTREACH ON-LINE

Target Sex workers advertising on-line

Where Edinburgh | United Kingdom

What Audit of escort listings sites on-line and contact made where possible

When Since 2002

Who SCOT-PEP | www.scot-pep.org.uk

Why Increasingly, many sex workers make contact with clients on-line. Many of them work independently and are not linked in with other sex workers or support services. It is crucial to adapt to new trends and to reach out to sex workers in new settings, to let them know what is out there, both in terms of peer support and organisational support. Many are new to the industry and are unaware that support services even exist.



STEPS

1. Mapping – An investigation was carried out of websites pertaining to the local sex industry. The most prominent sites were identified and regularly checked for new sex workers and other information.
2. Ongoing checks – Less popular sites need to be checked on occasion as they may attract completely different people. In addition specialist sites are visited occasionally, such as those advertising pregnant sex workers, submissives, transgender sex workers etc.
3. Contact – An introductory e-mail was drafted and is sent to those with e-mail addresses on display. A confidential e-mail list was set up to maintain regular contact with sex workers who respond positively, as well as ongoing one-to-one contact as and when required. E-mails to the list are always composed using the BCC field so that nobody can see who else is on the list.

Development

A document was drawn up and continues to be regularly updated listing sex workers advertising on-line; a new list begins every year. Over time this has been fine-tuned to convey the most pertinent information. Because profiles are sometimes deleted, e-mails sometimes bounce and websites sometimes become defunct, the date is noted of when last the profile was viewed.

Duplication sometimes occurs, with escorts using different names, claiming different nationalities and using different photos on different websites, so it is simply not possible for statistics to be 100% accurate. For this reason it is beneficial for one individual to carry out this audit, in order to prevent as many errors as possible.

Cold-calling was developed to make contact with sex workers who display phone numbers instead of e-mail addresses.

SCOT-PEP also developed a presence on numerous message boards which are aimed at sex workers and often their clients too.

The activity can take some hours (especially at the beginning, when familiarising oneself with relevant websites) or 5 minutes (it's easy to search for updates in between bigger tasks). Mass e-mails are normally sent to the list once or twice a month.

Participants

⑥ Sex workers responding positively are added to the confidential e-mail list. They are notified of this and every time a mass e-mail is sent out they are reminded that they can be removed at any time if they prefer. Sex workers responding negatively or not at all will not be contacted again.

⑥ The 'team' consists of one SCOT-PEP project worker.

Materials

As the work focuses on the Internet, good web literacy is essential! It is also crucial to put together an effective means of recording data. With so many sex workers on-line it can become difficult to keep track.

“ The initial introductory e-mail listed the different services we provide, including needle exchange and safer sex supplies. Although all services were presented neutrally, some sex workers felt as though we were implying they used drugs or didn't practise safer sex. A more up to date introductory e-mail acknowledges that we work with sex workers across the industry and that we recognise that different people have different issues, and that some may want to just keep our number and call us some time in the future if they need us. Unfortunately there are still occasionally recipients who infer that we are judging them despite the text explicitly stating the opposite; we engage with them if they wish to discuss. It is not surprising, given stigma and isolation, that some may be suspicious of us if they haven't heard of us before, but generally with dialogue this can be improved. ”

SCOT-PEP project worker

SCOT-PEP developed a coding system to record the most pertinent information without taking up too much space, so that it can be found at a glance.

Documentation

Contact recording forms; list of sex workers advertising in Scotland (new list each year); list of relevant websites; hardcopy of mass e-mails sent and posts to message boards. Mass e-mails and message board posts must always be reviewed by a second staff member prior to posting.

+ Internet outreach has been successful in making contact with sex workers who were previously 'under the radar' as well as those who may be isolated geographically.

- It has enhanced our understanding of the on-line sex industry including information on migrants, young people, and safer sex practices.
- Mass e-mails serve to remind sex workers of our presence and frequently they respond to them with requests for help or information.
- Ugly Mug warnings are particularly appreciated and sex workers tend to relay these to others who are not on the list.
- As a result of our Internet outreach we were invited to participate on a number of message boards which were set up by and for sex workers.

- The sex industry on-line is vast and unmoderated.

- Some escorts cannot be contacted directly (or at all) due to having no e-mail address or phone number on display, and terms & conditions of websites preventing services from promoting themselves.
- In particular a significant minority of escorts are offering bareback (unprotected sex) services via certain websites and no contact with them is possible.

LESSONS LEARNED

Normally SCOT-PEP only provides support to sex workers in Edinburgh; however through Internet

outreach the organisation contacts sex workers throughout Scotland – and in fact throughout the UK, due to tours and message boards. This has been particularly helpful for sex workers based in rural areas.

In addition this broadening of focus has enabled SCOT-PEP to detect trends which have caused suspicion. Recently the organisation identified a network of escorts which could potentially be linked to trafficking. These escorts work in cities other than Edinburgh but the project worker became aware of them thanks to dedicated Internet monitoring and concerns have now been raised with police.

URHO PROJECT

Target Male and transgender sex workers

Where On-line | FINLAND

What Conduction of outreach work in an Internet-based environment which includes a chat room that is frequented by MSM (men who have sex with men). In addition, outreach work is carried out on various contact advertisement websites. The aim of the work is to observe and contact sex workers who promote commercial sexual services via the Internet. The URHO project also offers the services of an e-advisor through the project's website. Information and support are offered on various issues such as safer sex, health, accommodation, income, employment, legal issues and other relevant topics. | www.pro-urho.fi

When Since 2006

Who Pro-tukipiste | www.pro-tukipiste.fi

Why To establish and develop contact with male and transgender sex workers who use other Pro-tukipiste services either in a limited fashion or not at all; to inform them about services available to them at Pro-tukipiste; to gain information on the working environment of male and transgender sex workers.

STEPS

1. Preparatory meeting for the Internet outreach session with the workers involved. **2.** Conduction of the outreach work. **3.** Meeting after the outreach session in order to reflect on outcomes and possible challenges faced. **4.** Documentation of statistical results during and after each outreach session.

Development

Outreach is carried out through continuous analysis and reflection based on the content of messages sent to potential clients on various Internet-based contact advertisement websites in which sex workers advertise sexual services. Contact advertisements on various websites are observed and the advertisers contacted on a regular basis. Outreach is conducted once a week over approximately two hours, including preparation meeting, outreach work, meeting after the outreach session and documenting statistical information.

Participants

- ⊕ Sex workers are encouraged to give feedback, comments and suggestions, and develop a dialogue with the service provider (Pro-tukipiste).
- ⊕ The team consists of staff from the outreach unit at Pro-tukipiste.

Materials

Internet-based advertisements (banners) and information material on website.

Documentation

Weekly and monthly statistics are recorded.

EVALUATION

Sex workers are continuously encouraged to provide feedback and ideas for future development. Internal evaluation is carried out in the form of regular steering sessions, project meetings, unit meetings and organisational development sessions held bi-annually.

⊕ This form of outreach work has proven to be an effective method of reaching male and transgender sex workers. It puts them in direct contact with Pro-tukipiste, therefore enabling better access to services.

⊖ It requires resources and poses specific demands in relation to issues such as setting of boundaries: how to recognise sex workers from often ambiguous contact advertisements and how to separate a 'real' sex worker from a person 'faking' involvement in the sex industry.

LESSONS LEARNED

It is important to create publicity and demonstrate credibility of the Internet outreach work both among the target group and colleagues from other organisations. A long-term commitment to this form of outreach work is necessary in order to build up trust and credibility. It is essential to develop and maintain knowledge and technical skills when conducting Internet-based outreach work. As usual, when doing outreach work, a team is needed: two workers are a must during each session, and a good working relationship is required between them, along with an ongoing discussion on working roles, responsibilities and professional boundaries.

PROJECT JANA

Target Female sex workers and club owners

Where Domažlice, Klatovy, Tachov | CZECH REPUBLIC

What A collaborative outreach project between the Czech Republic and Germany in the border area, with a social and medical counselling centre in Domažlice and a medical mobile unit.

When Since 1997

Who JANA | the German-Czech AIDS prevention project | www.ropf.de (search for JANA)
The project is financed both by the Government of the State of Bavaria (Germany) and by the Ministry for Social and Health Affairs of the Czech Republic. The coordination centre is in Regensburg, Germany.

Why Due to a high demand for sexual services mainly from German clients and a high number of sex workers in this area, the aim is to improve the medical, social and psychological conditions of sex workers.

STEPS

1. Mapping – First, a needs assessment of the border area was conducted in order to obtain

information about the living and working conditions of sex workers, their nationality groups, existing workplaces, and the services available to them in this specific cross-border area.

2. Looking for partners – After analysing the situation and determining the needs of sex workers in this area, JANA began raising awareness among local and regional authorities, and others in positions of responsibility both from the Czech Republic and

Germany, in order to gain their cooperation. Their involvement was crucial in laying the foundations for the work, both regarding its importance and the financial support required.

3. Bi-national cooperation – A very important issue to consider was cultural differences when working within such a bi-national structure. The teams had to have and/or develop sensitivity as well as tolerance and flexibility in order to achieve the project's aims.

4. Formation of the teams – The team of social workers was chosen according to their familiarity with the sex work scene and their knowledge of foreign languages, as fluency is very important for making contacts and developing trust.

5. Structuring fieldwork – The next decision was about the outreach work itself: when to do it, where, how, and the most appropriate way to compose the teams.

6. Materials – The preparation of the materials to be used and distributed was a very important step in order to guarantee the quality of the information given to sex workers on health and legal issues. Referrals to other existing organisations in the area and in the region also had to be looked at with care.

7. Network – To ensure the effectiveness of the project, it was crucial to establish a national and international network with contacts at public health departments and organisations who work on sex work, forced prostitution and trafficking of women.

Development

The project's aims are:

- To carry out HIV/AIDS and STI prevention, diagnosis and counselling for sex workers active on the Czech side of the border area between the Czech Republic and Germany.

Because of sex workers' mobility (often they meet the team only once or twice) it is very difficult to build up trust and confidence in outreach workers. Regular and continuous outreach work is therefore fundamental for effective HIV/STI prevention work and the empowerment of sex workers.



- To develop new strategies of outreach work in border areas, and sex education for a specific target group in a cross-border cooperation structure.

Outreach work is therefore conducted regularly, along pre-established routes. The outreach workers contact sex workers and bar owners, offering them the services available – mainly medical tests and treatments – in the counselling centre and/or the mobile unit. During visits to the mobile medical unit, it is possible to have more in-depth discussions about medical problems with the doctor. Each outreach activity takes approximately 4 to 6 hours. Outreach is carried out twice a week, between 4pm and midnight. Eight tours are conducted each month, covering an area of 150 km. All 70 clubs in the area are reached at least once a month.

Another service available is the accompaniment of (mainly migrant) sex workers to hospitals or medical specialists, assisted by cultural mediators speaking Czech, Russian, English, and German. There are fixed opening hours for the medical centre (Tuesdays 3–5pm) and the counselling centre (Tuesdays 10am–5pm, and Wednesdays 12–4pm).

Participants

⊕ Sex workers and club owners are involved through conversations during outreach work, when they have the opportunity to talk about their needs and circumstances.

⊕ The team consists of two social workers. Twice a month, they are joined by a medical doctor or a nurse.

Materials

TAMPEP-leaflets, JANA information materials, condoms, lubricants, sponges, etc.

Documentation

Documentation is recorded by the medical staff (doctor and nurse) and by the social workers.

EVALUATION

Sex workers and club owners provide feedback during outreach work.

Evaluation is otherwise carried out by the outreach teams, by the medical team (doctor and nurse) and by the project coordinator.

⊕ Due to JANA's long experience in the field and word-of-mouth recommendations, contact with sex workers and bar owners is very positive and open. Some owners of new bars make initial contact with the counselling centre or medical centre, which is very much appreciated.

- A very positive experience is the recognition by the German and Czech public authorities of the importance of the work done for sex workers in this area, and accordingly their financial support and cooperation.

⊖ The clubs are quite distant from one another. Because of sex workers' isolation, competition among them and little income, they are often nervous, thus making contact quite difficult.

- Despite the fact that the project offers different workshops for sex workers to increase empowerment and professionalism, their interest is often low because of their difficult situation.

- A great difficulty is the limited financial support the project receives: as funding is only given for one year at a time, it must be re-applied for every year, taking up a lot of time and causing stress as no-one knows whether it will be allocated or not.

LESSONS LEARNED

Outreach and the medical mobile unit in particular are very effective tools for reaching sex workers. The JANA project demonstrates that cooperation is possible between organisations from two neighbouring countries.

This approach combines the spread of information regarding healthcare and the treatment of STIs, making prevention more effective. If STIs are treated and cured, the transmission of HIV can be avoided, leading to successful prevention work.

MOBILE CLINIC IN A BORDER AREA

Target Female sex workers working in night clubs

Where Border area with Austria | CZECH REPUBLIC

What Visiting different night clubs in the area with a medical mobile unit, to offer voluntary, anonymous and free of charge medical examinations, information on HIV/STI prevention, condoms, lubricants and other information brochures.

When 2006 to 2008

Who Rozkoš bez Rizika | www.rozkosbezrizika.cz

Why Due to the limited services available to sex workers in this area, the aim was to offer medical examinations at their workplaces, and to give out information on HIV/STIs to raise sex workers' awareness regarding their health.

STEPS

1. Agreement made between Rozkoš bez Rizika and the Znojmo Charity Institution, a local agency experienced in visiting the night clubs, about which specific ones were to be visited and the most appropriate dates to do it. **2.** Preparation of the

materials to be distributed: medical material, information leaflets and safer sex supplies. **3.** Appointments made with sex workers for the mobile unit to visit and provide medical examinations. **4.** Visits made; medical examinations and laboratory work conducted. **5.** Service users informed of test results and follow-up treatment provided if required.

Development

Sufficient funding was needed to acquire a mobile unit customised to provide medical services. Also important was collaboration with local agencies in order to make contact with and enter the different establishments. Outreach was conducted in Southern Moravia, in the towns of Znojmo and Mikulov, on average once every two months.

Participants

Sex workers were involved as patients and as clients of counselling sessions.

The team was comprised of Rozkoš bez Rizika project workers: a medical doctor, nurse, social workers, and a driver, as well as a social worker from the Znojmo Charity Institution.

Materials

Medical supplies, information leaflets, safer sex supplies such as lubricants and condoms.

EVALUATION

Very positive feedback was received from sex workers on the services offered by the mobile clinic, due to the lack of other services in the region. Evaluation was carried out by both Rozkoš bez Rizika and the Znojmo Charity Institution. The basis for the evaluation reports was medical files (records, lab results) and field notes on social issues.



+ Many sex workers were able to undergo medical examinations for free and anonymously. Because the border area is quite an isolated one, it was helpful that consultations and examinations were available at their workplaces and during their working hours. It was also very important that follow-up for medical treatment was guaranteed.

- There were insufficient funds to guarantee the running of the mobile unit and laboratory processing, due to their very high costs.

LESSONS LEARNED

This type of service is very valuable and effective for sex workers because they do not have to travel elsewhere to get medical treatment. It is also extremely useful for migrant women without health insurance, because the service is anonymous.



SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Target Sex workers and truck drivers

Where Narva, along the Tallinn-St Petersburg motorway on the Estonian border with Russia | ESTONIA

What HIV/STI prevention campaign, distribution of condoms, lubricants and information leaflets, and analysis of sex work scene.

When May to October 2008

Who AIDS-i Tugikeskus | www.tugikeskus.ee the Tallinn medical centre Tervisekeskus Elulootus, and Narva's Rehabilitation Centre for Alcoholics and Drug Addicts

Why It is common to have up to 500 trucks waiting for 2 or 3 days to cross the border from Estonia to Russia. Sex workers from Narva and nearby towns work at night around the motorway area. The campaign's aims were: to spread information on HIV/STI prevention, because there are no sex worker-oriented health service providers in East Estonia; to contact truck drivers, because they had not previously been approached on this issue; and to identify partner organisations in St Petersburg in order to set up cross-border cooperation.

STEPS

1. Formation of partnership – AIDS-i Tugikeskus contacted Narva's Rehabilitation Centre for Alcoholics and Drug Addicts (a NGO) and they embarked on a needs assessment of the region by collecting information from the local media, Internet, and sex workers working in Narva and in the surrounding area.

2. Formation of team – The two partners commenced forming and training the team, which included

experienced outreach workers from Tallinn and Narva, who had experience working with sex workers and/or drug users.

3. Action plan – The partners confirmed the participation of team members, and coordinated the planned action with municipal police and local authorities.

4. Preparation of action – The team met from 4pm to 6pm, before the action, to prepare and organise material for distribution, such as small bags and snacks.

5. Conduction of campaign – The action was carried out at night, allowing for optimum contact with sex workers and truck drivers. The outreach work was carried out from between 10pm and 1am on four consecutive evenings, on the motorway from Tallinn to St Petersburg, close to Narva.

6. The survey – Short questionnaires were developed and distributed to the sex workers and truck drivers. Those participating in the survey received small gifts after answering the questionnaire. The questionnaire for sex workers had 12 questions on age, sex work experience, education, marital status, reasons for sex work, children, use of condoms and lubricants, last HIV test, last STI tests, frequency of street sex work, and need for medical/social services.

The questionnaire for truck drivers had 10 questions on age, marital status, ethnic origin, frequency of border crossings, experience with sex workers, condom use, last HIV test, and last STI tests.

Development

The coordinators and the outreach team met together twice before the first action was carried out, in order to share the different responsibilities between the team members from Tallinn and Narva, to prepare the printed materials for distribution, and to organise the outreach schedule.

Before the second campaign took place, another partners' meeting was held in order to make an interim evaluation and to correct mistakes made during the first action.

The final evaluation consisted of a general meeting of the coordinators and all participants from Tallinn and Narva, to exchange achievements, shortcomings, and possible future similar activities.

Participants

☉ Sex workers and truck drivers: answered the questionnaires.

☉ The team consisted of the coordinators of the three participating organisations, outreach workers, a medical nurse and a mobile unit for needle exchange outreach activities.



Materials

Small bags for the sex workers and truck drivers, containing condoms, lubricants and information materials on HIV/STI prevention issues. Small snacks for the sex workers and truck drivers.

Documentation

A report about the action is included in the TAMPEP 7 and the Bordernet Network Final Reports.

Media


The media were informed only after the action. Articles appeared on a web portal and in a newspaper in Russian.

EVALUATION


The target groups – sex workers and truck drivers – gave their opinion by answering the questionnaires.

The action is being evaluated by the project coordinators, through analysis of the questionnaires and articles in the media.

About 8,500 condoms, 9,600 lubricants, 540 information leaflets, 340 syringes, and 400 small snacks were distributed altogether. During the two campaigns, 31 sex workers and 864 truck drivers were contacted.

 All sex workers interviewed said that the distribution of prevention materials, condoms and lubricants through this sort of outreach activity was very useful and welcome. About 60% of the truck drivers had the same opinion.

This was the first attempt to carry out such an activity in this region, targeting sex workers and their clients. Because of the amount of sex workers and truck drivers, and high levels of mobility, this type of outreach is very effective for direct prevention work as well as influencing changes in behaviour with regards to safer sex and safer drug use.


 When making contact and filling in the questionnaires, some sex workers were concerned about their anonymity, while some truck drivers found it difficult to speak openly about their experience with street-based sex workers.

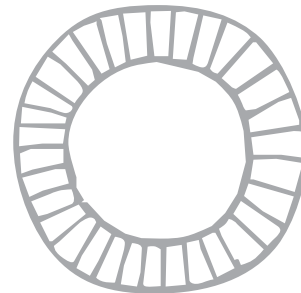
LESSONS LEARNED

This sort of activity should be organised regularly and carried out by local NGOs. In the future, rapid STI testing could be offered during such actions, provided there are adequate public health services in the area to offer counselling and treatment, and that they are prepared to deal with sex workers on a non-discriminatory basis.

ON THE HIGHWAY

Tatabanya | HUNGARY

 Outreach for street-based sex workers is also carried out on the major international Hungarian highway, near the city of Tatabanya. During outreach conducted by social workers from a local NGO, sex workers are given information materials, condoms and lubricants. Through contact with the sex workers, social workers are able to observe their circumstances and needs, and to provide support or referral to other organisations.



Sex workers are a very mobile population which often makes it hard to reach them, even for recurring outreach campaigns. Utilising the peer education method, recognised as one of the most efficient educational strategies for mobile populations, will increase sex workers' own involvement and self-help initiatives.

PEER EDUCATION

Peer educators are sex workers themselves. They have to be recognised as community leaders; their role implies didactic activities regarding safer sex practices and HIV/STI prevention; they assist colleagues in raising awareness about those issues, in enhancing knowledge and self-esteem. Because of the great mobility among sex workers, peer educators have a very important role as distributors of information.¹⁶



RUBBERBALL

Target Russian-speaking female sex workers

Where Helsinki | FINLAND

What Peer educator training programme: five interactive lessons given by experts on subjects concerning sex workers' rights and legislation, safer sex, contraceptives, mental and physical health, drugs and alcohol, as well as fieldwork experience. The training was held in Russian or translated into Russian.

When Spring 2006

Who Pro-tukipiste (Prostitute Counselling Centre) | www.pro-tukipiste.fi

Why To train Russian peer educators on rights, health and safer sex issues; to reach and spread information among Russian sex workers and their networks, as Pro-tukipiste's outreach activities cannot cover the entire Russian scene.

STEPS

1. Planning the peer education training – After deciding that the target should be Russian-speaking sex workers, the first step was to gather information on their needs and their knowledge about rights, safer sex and health issues, in order to plan what kind of information the training sessions should provide. The aim was to find out about the difficulties and interests of Russian-speaking sex workers and to plan the training sessions so that they would receive information about topics relevant to them. During this assessment, carried out through interviews, sex workers were informed about the requirements of such training. Another important point was to decide when and where the training should take place.

2. Recruitment of experts – After selecting topics for training, the next step was to recruit the experts and the interpreter for the sessions. The pregnancy and contraceptives training was delivered by a gynaecologist, drugs and alcohol training by a doctor specialising in intoxicating substances, and sex work training by an expert on Finnish legislation. The Pro-tukipiste team prepared the trainers by discussing the ideology of peer education work and the significance of the training for the target group. The aim was for the experts to get a clear idea about what sort of information their lessons should contain; and the training should be interactive.

3. Recruitment of Russian-speaking peers – The recruitment of the peers began a month before the training took place. It was carried out during outreach work and the drop-in opening hours at Pro-tukipiste. The project workers provided information about the training and on peer education, and motivated service users to take part in the project, while distributing leaflets with information about the training. Registration for participating in the training was carried out anonymously: the recruited peers registered using a pseudonym. A total of fifteen women registered, but the final number of participants was eight.

4. Carrying out the training – The timetable of the training was agreed with the recruited trainees. It was carried out over four weeks, with one or two sessions a week. Each session lasted around three hours and took place in Pro-tukipiste's drop-in premises. The sessions were either carried out in Russian or translated into Russian. The aim was to make the atmosphere feel intimate, so that the trainees could feel safe to speak openly about their experiences and be sure that their confidentiality was guaranteed.



The training sessions started with a dinner for the peers, the team and the day's instructor. An assessment of knowledge concerning the day's topic was carried out using a questionnaire which the trainees filled in before the training. After the dinner there was a short introduction to the day's topic, presented by the project's main trainer. The lesson itself lasted about an hour. After the lesson there was time for discussion and questions.

The topics of the five training sessions were:

- Safer sex and sexually transmitted diseases
- Pregnancy and methods of contraception
- Relaxation and well-being
- Legislation and Finnish society
- Drugs and alcohol

The training sessions also included information about peer education work and the interviews the peer educators were expected to conduct during the fieldwork phase. The trainees were encouraged to actively participate in the training and to ask questions and share their experiences.

There is an enormous will and potential among sex workers to learn, to get information and to spread this information among their colleagues.



5. The fieldwork phase – Interviews were carried out through the Rubberball Peer Education Training over the course of one month. The aim of the interviews was for sex workers themselves – the newly trained peer educators – to carry out a needs assessment in the field and to subsequently evaluate and analyse it, together with one of the trainers. Each peer educator conducted three to four interviews. The questionnaires included questions, space to write the answers and some instructions for the peer educator. The interviews were conduc-

ted anonymously. The peer educators handed out TAMPEP leaflets and other information materials. They also handed out free condoms to encourage sex workers to participate in the interviews.

6. Final session with feedback and diplomas – After the fieldwork phase, the peer educators participated in a group evaluation discussion session in which they filled out evaluation questionnaires regarding the entire training period. During this session the peer educators returned the completed questionnaires from the fieldwork phase. In order to recognise their effort and engagement and to thank them for their participation, Pro-tukipiste handed out diplomas and gifts to the eight sex workers newly trained as peer educators. The diplomas confirmed their participation in the trainings and their capacity to work as peer educators. The Rubberball Training Project took about six months, including the planning, training sessions, fieldwork phase and evaluation.

Development

The purpose of the peer education training was to empower sex workers and boost self-esteem, while providing important and useful information to be disseminated by Russian sex workers to their colleagues.

The last phase of the training was the analysis and reporting of the gathered data. A Pro-tukipiste employee wrote the evaluation, the analysis and the final report which consisted of the interview results as well as the evaluation of the entire training. A final evaluation is fundamental to enable the development of further peer education training. It is also very important to improve services for sex workers as well as strategies in reaching them, through the information given by the peer educators and their experience in the field.

Participants

- ☉ Sex workers were included in the planning (identifying issues according to their needs), the training (the expert on legal issues was a sex worker herself) and the evaluation of the project. The peer educators shared their experiences and expertise during the entire training.
- ☉ The team was comprised of social workers, experts and the A-clinic Foundation, the training's cooperating partner.

Materials

Leaflets, other hand-outs, power point presentations, condoms.

Documentation

A final report in Finnish and in Russian, with a summary in English; a CD-ROM with information about peer education work and harm reduction material in Finnish and in Russian.

EVALUATION

Each peer educator completed an evaluation form and took part in the group's feedback evaluation. Pro-tukipiste and the A-clinic Foundation wrote an evaluation report, which included evaluation by the peer educators participating in the training.

- ⊕ The opportunity to develop empowering methods and strategies was very successful. Because the planning involved the participation of sex workers themselves, they were very pleased with the experts and the information they received. The interviews provided Pro-tukipiste with important information about Russian sex workers' needs, knowledge and expectations.
- ⊖ The planning of the training should have included additional time after its ending for support of the trainees, because some of the peer educators were subsequently interested in developing their role as peers.

LESSONS LEARNED

Peer education should be used more often, as a method to provide information to sex workers who are not reached by or are not in touch with NGOs or other service providers, and may not be sufficiently aware of their rights and opportunities for free and anonymous health and social services.



TRAINING FOR SEX WORKERS

Target Sex workers

Where Sofia | BULGARIA

What Peer education training for sex workers, delivered by foreign and national trainers and peers.

When 2002, 2006, 2007, 2008

Who HESED, Health and Social Development Foundation | www.hesed.bg

Why To empower sex workers; to increase their self-confidence and awareness of healthcare options.

STEPS

1. Creation and development of training programme, topics to be covered, and methodology to be used.
2. Selection and invitation of guest trainers, including peer educators.
3. Selection and invitation of potential participants.
4. Conduction of training.
5. Evaluation.

Development

After choosing the educators and the guest trainers, the next step was to find an appropriate location for the training to take place – a hotel – which was easy to find and where the staff would not discriminate against sex workers. After structuring the programme, ice-breakers for the sessions were prepared, such as role plays, games, etc.

The outreach team distributed invitations during regular outreach work and extra outreach was conducted as necessary. Phone contact with sex workers was useful, to give reminders, to pass on additional information and to make appointments.

At the end of the last day cocktails were provided for all participants and trainers, and participation certificates were distributed, showing the sex workers' names (if desired) and signed by the educators.

The main topics of the training were health, HIV/STI prevention, safer sex (“Can you put a condom on correctly without looking?”), tips for working, legal issues, outreach and counselling strategies.

The training was carried out once a year, over three days.

Participants

⊕ Sex workers were involved in both delivering and receiving the training.

⊕ HESED's outreach team made the necessary preparations, and the trainers were comprised of both foreigners and nationals, peer educators (sex workers), psychologists and social workers.

Materials

All kinds of materials were used during outreach work: flipchart, paper, markers, dildo, gifts, and certificates for the last day.

EVALUATION

Sex workers gave written feedback at the end of the training. An evaluation report was made by the training team and the donor organisations.

⊕ Sex workers are much more interested in the training and keen to participate when peers are involved, because the information is more accessible, the knowledge gained is more sustainable, and the interactive approach is significant in teaching skills to be put into practice.

⊖ It is very difficult to attract sex workers to participate because they often have controllers. They do not have much time available because many work during the day, but if they have night shifts, they rest in the daytime.

LESSONS LEARNED

It is important that peers are included as trainers because their involvement with the target group goes deeper in terms of discussing HIV/STI prevention, personal safety, good sexual practices, sense of solidarity, etc.

Sex workers in the role of trainers and/or organisers set a very good example for other sex workers, empowering them to become more confident in making their own decisions and taking more responsibility for their psychological and physical health.

It is very important to carry out such activities as often as possible, in order to have the opportunity to meet sex workers outside of their usual environment. Drop-in centres, where sex workers can come whenever they need to, make for good meeting places.

OUTREACH WITH PEER EDUCATORS

Target Female street-based sex workers

Where Marseille | FRANCE

What The facilitation and encouragement, during outreach activities, of an open discussion on health, sex work and legal issues among sex workers. Outreach is carried out by peer educators (sex workers), on foot and with a mobile unit, both day and night, to inform about HIV/STIs and violence prevention and legal rights, and to distribute condoms and lubricants.

When Since 1995

Who Autres Regards | www.autresregards.org

Why To empower sex workers by highlighting their role in delivering safer sex and HIV/STI prevention messages, as well as defending their rights as sex workers, as women and as migrants.

STEPS

1. Increasing outreach activities because only some of the street-based sex workers were taking up the services offered by the counselling centre.
2. Preparation of the materials for outreach: information, condoms, lubricants.
3. Checking the last outreach report for information on where new sex workers have been seen and when.
4. Touring Marseille on foot or with the mobile unit.
5. Return to office and compilation of report.

Development

The association was created by sex workers, and they have been part of the team since the

beginning. Therefore, despite the subsequent employment of more social workers, Autres Regards has kept peers on the team because of their important role in prevention work and their expertise in speaking about sex work. Outreach is carried out every working day, in different locations in and around Marseille: three times during the day and twice at night. During the afternoon, outreach takes around three hours on foot, and four hours in the mobile unit. At night, mobile unit outreach takes place from 10pm to 4am.

Participants

Sex workers comprise part of the outreach teams and write the report after each outreach session. Sex workers contacted during outreach provide feedback.

The team consists of social workers, a nurse, cultural mediators and peer educators. Outreach is always conducted by two people: nurse and peer, cultural mediator and peer, doctor and social worker, or social worker and peer.

Materials

Condoms, lubricants, dildo, harm reduction materials and information material (including TAMPEP leaflets) are brought along on every outreach session. Mobile unit outreach also allows for provision of coffee, tea, drinks, fruit and cakes.

EVALUATION

Sex workers give their opinions directly or indirectly during outreach. Evaluation is also conducted by the outreach team, the peers and the target group during outreach or at the office.

Many sex workers are reached who do not normally come to the office. They react positively to the presence of peers during outreach work, and have more open discussions about their work, including 'codes of conduct', violence, and protection.

– It can be difficult for peer educators to keep private life and professional life separate.

Often migrants have difficulty using the materials provided because some cannot read, and some do not read them if there is no discussion involved. Depending on the number of sex workers, discussions can be hard to moderate, due to the outdoor setting and the limited time available for outreach.

LESSONS LEARNED

There is a need for better cooperation and communication between peers and social workers regarding the rules and codes of outreach work, to avoid peers having to be solely responsible for the work. It was observed that when informal health discussions at the office are not planned, when they happen spontaneously, more sex workers are interested in taking part. However, to be able to offer that, the team members, including peers, need to be available and have time for it, be more prepared with regard to the information covered, and be ready to instigate a discussion at any time. It's hard work, but it's worthwhile as it's much more efficient!

FENARETE PROJECT

Target Sex workers

Where Pordenone | ITALY

What Professional training for peer educators in the sex work field. It was developed within the framework of a European project, involving eight partners in six EU countries: France, Germany, Italy (which oversees general coordination), Lithuania, the Netherlands, and Poland. The project was funded by the European Commission under the Leonardo da Vinci Programme.

When 2001 to 2003

Who Comitato per i Diritti Civili delle Prostitute www.lucciole.org | Autres Regards | Amnesty for Women | Hydra | Lithuanian AIDS Centre | TAMPEP International Foundation | La Strada | TADA.

Why To acknowledge and enhance the skills and professional role of sex workers by promoting their training and further employment as outreach workers, counsellors and advisers in organisations and institutions dealing with sex workers.

STEPS

1. Development of training methodology.
2. Meeting with partners and trainers from the six countries to present the project, its aims and methodology; this methodology would be used by all trainers equally, permitting adaptations where necessary.
3. One-week training programme given by the two Italian trainers to those from the five other countries.
4. Each country selected trainees, identified a suitable location for the training, contacted the tutors (lawyers, medical doctors, psychologists, etc), and looked for potential internships for the trainees.



- 5. Conduction of training.
- 6. Internship period.
- 7. Final ceremony to hand over the training certificates.

Development

A key factor for the success of many projects dealing with sex workers has been the direct involvement and contribution of active and former sex workers as peer educators. However, because no certification exists for the post of peer educator, this role in operational settings has not received the professional recognition that those working in extremely complex situations deserve. The training was carried out once in each of the six partner countries. Training comprised had four modules lasting around four days each, and a one-month internship for each trainee in an organisation or institution dealing with sex workers.

Participants

- ⊕ Sex workers were involved as trainees. In each of the six countries, around ten active and former sex workers were trained as peer educators.
- ⊕ The team consisted of lead trainers who developed the training methodology in Italy, two trainers in each of the five partner countries, and different tutors in the six countries.

Materials

Paper, pencils, pens, safer sex materials, brochures on legislation and health issues, etc.

Documentation

Guidelines for the training and subsequent reports.

EVALUATION

The sex workers gave their feedback at the end of the training. The evaluation appears in the FENARETE book along with methodology, guidelines and the evaluation of the six training programmes. The book is available at www.fenarete.org

⊕ The methodology was flexible enough to adapt to different national contexts and to other groups if required. Positive relationships among peers reduce defence mechanisms, allowing trust to be developed and opening communication channels.

⊖ Migrant sex workers are required to have legal status and good knowledge of the country's language, which limits the participation of many.

LESSONS LEARNED

Working together with colleagues from different countries in order to prepare a standard training course requires respecting each country's specific circumstances with regard to sex work and therefore different training strategies.



Examples of strategies which were developed for the promotion of safer sex practices aimed at clients of sex workers. These include those which seek to actively involve clients of sex workers in HIV/STI prevention efforts.

CAMPAIGNS FOR CLIENTS

Clients of sex workers come from all strata of society, and are far more numerous than sex workers. They often have non-commercial sex partners with whom they may not use condoms. Information about the clients of sex workers, if it is available in your country, will strengthen the argument that addressing the health needs of sex workers is relevant to community health, not only to a small minority group.¹⁷



0911/81 52 999

Target Clients of sex workers

Where Nuremberg | GERMANY

What A phone line which plays a recording to callers, the aim being to prevent HIV/STIs. The play is a dialogue between a sex worker and a client arguing about the use of condoms.

- The phone number appears in small advertisements in the same style used by sex workers to promote their services in daily newspapers, on the internet and in magazines, in the same sections where sex workers place their ads.
- Sex workers give their clients small cards listing the telephone number.

When Since 2003

Who The Public Health Service in Nuremberg and the NGO Cassandra e.V., a sex workers' organisation | <http://tinyurl.com/msyn28>

Why To raise awareness among sex workers' clients of safer sex practices, because of increasing demand for unprotected sex, but also to inform them about the services offered at the local public health service.

STEPS

1. Decision to target clients of sex workers with HIV/STI prevention messages – Due to constant demand for unprotected sexual services, organisations dealing with sex workers decided to develop a strategy targeting (potential) clients. The concept was developed by outreach workers from the Nuremberg Health Service and from Cassandra, as well as active and former sex workers.

2. Preparation – The dialogue was developed, as well as the message referring callers to the health service. Two actors – a man and a woman – played the two characters; a professional sound studio

was hired to record the 3-minute message. The small ads were prepared for appearance in a local newspaper, a regional magazine and a regional sex contact forum. An answering machine on which the message was saved was purchased to handle the phone calls.

Small cards, resembling business cards, were printed, with the message “YOUR service number” and the telephone number on one side, and “Without taboo?” (a reference to unprotected sex) on the other.

The cards were given to sex workers for them to hand to any clients requesting unprotected sex. The idea was that the sex worker could say, “No, I don't do that, but why don't you phone this number?”

3. Outreach work to inform sex workers about the campaign – Once all the different components were ready, the ads went live, and outreach workers from the Health Service and Cassandra started letting sex workers know about the campaign and distributing the cards to them.

Development

The person who calls the number hears a play in which a client tries to convince a sex worker to abstain from condom use. The sex worker explains, charmingly and articulately, why this isn't going to happen.

At the end, the caller finds out that it is a campaign by the local public health service, letting him know that he can get counselling and testing anonymously.

Sentences like “Nothing regarding sexuality is strange to us” or “Talk to us before it starts to burn”, aim to make men feel comfortable using counselling and other services offered. The recording is available in both German and Turkish. The Health Service in Nuremberg has the dialogue recorded on a CD-ROM which is distributed for free to organisations. Those wanting to adopt the idea simply need

“ **Client:** But I am clean, I can assure you!

Sex worker: (Laugh) You are some funny guy! How can I be sure? And don't play the fool. You know it has nothing to do with cleanliness, that you cannot get rid of illnesses with soap and water! Or perhaps you are one of those that have a health certificate in their pocket?! No and no, there is no deal. It is with a condom or not at all!

Client: OK, but I am healthy, I know that. Can't you make an exception just once, just for me?

Sex worker: 'One' exception is good. How can you be sure how many 'exceptions' I have been making lately? And that by doing so, I didn't catch anything? ”

Part of the dialogue

an answering machine on which the CD is saved, and to advertise their telephone number in local newspapers and other media. An English version is available in PDF format.

Participants

Ⓢ Sex workers from Cassandra e.V. were involved in conceiving and developing the project, in its evaluation and in distributing the cards.

Sex workers act as peer educators when they refer clients to the health service.

Ⓢ The team consisted of social workers, actors and outreach workers.

Materials

Ads in different media, small business cards.

Documentation

Statistics and reports.

EVALUATION

An evaluation was carried out by the Public Health Service of Nuremberg. There was a significant rise in the number of men using the service since the campaign began: while in 2000 only 12 men used

the service (1.5%), in 2006 males comprised 47% of the entire clientele (499 men). Sex workers gave their feedback during outreach.

⊕ This kind of action empowers sex workers and gives them back-up in arguments as well as somewhere to refer clients. They are not left alone with the problem.

Most sex workers welcomed the idea very much! In 2005, the Nuremberg Health Service and Cassandra received the Bavarian Health Promotion Prize for Good Practice with the phone play. Between 2003 and mid-2007, about 6,000 phone calls were made to the Nuremberg number. From 2005 onwards, the Public Health Services in Bremen, Kiel, Berlin, Bochum and Böblingen (Germany) and Linz (Austria) adopted the idea by using the already existing material or developed their own phone plays.

⊖ Funding: as no financial support has been received since 2007, the Nuremberg Health Service could no longer place ads in newspapers or on the Internet. Funding is very crucial for organisations to be able to hire a sound studio, to pay the actors, to advertise in the media on a regular and long-term basis, to buy an answering machine, and to print the cards. Appropriate technology should be used: an unsuitable answering machine cannot document how long the callers listened to the information so that the organisation can evaluate the campaign's effectiveness. Additionally, it cannot offer the message in different languages because of limited recording time available.

LESSONS LEARNED

There are different ways to reach clients of sex workers and it works when done simply and clearly.

CLIENTS, A CONDOM AT ALL COSTS!

Target Clients of sex workers, general public, and policy-makers

Where Lille | FRANCE

What A one-week local campaign around World AIDS Day. The campaign targeted clients of sex workers with safer sex messages. It involved posters on buses, ads in newspapers, and small cards for clients.

When December 2005, 2006 and 2007

Who Association GPAL-Entr'actes | www.entractes-gpal.org | and sex workers of Lille

Why Due to an alarming increase in clients requesting unprotected sex in exchange for more money, the idea was to raise awareness among the general public and the public authorities about the situation of sex workers, about violence and the risks of unsafe sex.

Moreover, the campaign aimed to improve client behaviour regarding safer sex practices and respect for sex workers. It also sought to empower sex workers when negotiating safer sex with their clients.

STEPS

1. Several reports of sex workers complaining about constant demands by clients for unsafe sex, and about violence on the street.
2. Decision on what to do about it, when and how to do it.
3. Mobilisation and meetings between the sex workers and the Entr'actes team to discuss the prevention messages to be spread; the choice of posters, visual media and cards to be distributed

to clients. **4.** Development of the campaign with a graphic design agency. **5.** Contact with various companies to display the posters and ads.

Participants

- ⊗ Clients were involved during individual conversations with sex workers.
- ⊗ The team consisted of sex workers and GPAL-Entr'actes project workers.

Materials

- Posters on public buses in Lille with the slogan: "Clients are everywhere"
- Ads in local independent newspapers
- Small cards given by sex workers to their clients, also used during negotiation, with the messages "I work safe"; "Without a condom I don't come".

Media

The campaign received significant media coverage. It was on local and regional TV channels, and there were articles in newspapers (Le Parisien and Libération) and interviews with sex workers about their work, their clients' demands and their wishes for better HIV/STI prevention.

EVALUATION

Some feedback was given by clients. GPAL-Entr'actes did a report based on outreach work, a questionnaire answered by sex workers, and discussions with sex workers.

- ⊕ Sex workers had the opportunity, over a whole week, to have their voices heard in the media. They gave several interviews, protected by anonymity. Sex workers felt supported in a difficult situation, namely, their demand for safer sex with their clients. The cards gave them the opportunity to negotiate from a better position, which empowered them and made it easier for them to say no to unsafe sex. The cards can be used all year round

and not only during the campaign. The campaign led to more discussions with clients about prevention and sex work.

⊖ Clients continue to request unsafe sex, despite three years of the campaign. Most of them were not really concerned about the empowerment of sex workers, except during individual conversations. The majority did not keep the cards because the message was too visible regarding sex work.

LESSONS LEARNED

The success of the last three years motivates the team and the sex workers to renew the action, again through media like buses and newspapers. Every year there are new visual media, with a different short message, powerful but not provocative.

The cards are no longer distributed to clients because they throw them away; instead, sex workers keep laminated cards which they show to their clients.



THE FAIRPLAY CAMPAIGN

Target Clients of sex workers

Where 11 different cities | GERMANY

What A campaign developed specially for the 2006 FIFA World Cup to address men as potential clients of sex workers. The campaign was carried out through street actions before and during the football matches, with people in condom costumes distributing condoms and postcards aimed at men bearing the messages “Don’t shoot an own goal” or “10 Golden Rules for Clients of Sex Workers” in several languages.

When July 2006

Who context | www.freiersein.de, who coordinated the campaign and trained the different local teams. Those local teams were composed of sex work organisations, NGOs, healthcare services and/or AIDS prevention organisations.

Why To encourage (potential) clients of sex workers to have greater respect for them and to practise safer sex. The idea was to take advantage of a very ‘male’ event in order to address a large number of men at once.

STEPS

1. Formation of teams – In each city where matches were to be held, the local sex work projects formed a team in order to carry out the actions, develop the condom costumes, and seek financial support locally. Funding was necessary to pay for the costumes, trainers and participants.

2. Training – Participants were trained by two trainers from context over a whole day, in each of the 11 elected cities. Good preparation

and training was essential for discussing and reflecting on issues like positive attitudes towards sexuality, clients and sex work in general.

The training was composed of a theory session and a practical one with role plays, in which all participants were able to rehearse how to approach the target, how to develop a conversation, and how to deal with difficult situations like drunk or aggressive men.

context received funding to print 300,000 postcards, and 500,000 condoms were donated to the campaign. They were then able to distribute these for free among the teams in the 11 cities.

3. Decision about where to do it, when and with whom – After the training, the local teams decided where to carry out the actions (in front of the football stadium and/or near a public viewing place), who would carry them out (who would wear condom costumes and who would simply distribute condoms and cards), and a timetable according to the number of football matches in the city and the number of people available.

4. Preparation and organisation of the action – The team met in one of the organisations' premises before the action, gathered the material for distribution, decided on the role of each member, carried out the action, and returned any remaining material to the organisation. Each action lasted around 4 hours, including preparation time.

Development

This was carried out around 40 times during the World Cup, mostly before matches, when the target group was still 'sober' and would react positively to the campaign. Since the World Cup it has been carried out mostly at night in local red light districts, during the day at central train stations, and at special events like cultural events.

Participants

⑥ (Potential) clients of sex workers were involved through short conversations and comments during the action.

⑥ The teams were composed of members of the participating local organisations (former sex workers, social workers, outreach workers, and volunteers).

Materials

Condom costumes, condoms, postcards listing the 10 Golden Rules for Clients of Sex Workers in different languages, big bags, and t-shirts and baseball caps bearing the logo.

Documentation

After the World Cup, context documented the campaign; reports were also written for the funders.

Media

TV and print media were involved during the World Cup, reporting on the campaign. However, media involvement ceased after the World Cup.

EVALUATION

The target group gave their opinion during the action. The action was evaluated by the teams, on local and national levels.





Fair Play

Don't shoot an own goal

To make sex with a sex worker more enjoyable and fun, keep the following guidelines in mind:

1. Politeness, respect and a pleasant appearance will open many doors – and more.
2. Alcohol may help you overcome your fears, but it also affects your ability to keep it up. In other words: The less you drink the more fun you'll have.
3. A man keeps his word. Be clear from the start about what you want and what it will cost. It prevents disappointment in the long run.
4. No means no. For example, tongue play while kissing is usually out of bounds. Every business has its limits.
5. With a condom, or with a condom – the choice is yours. Black, green, blue, ribbed or with pleasure bumps – take your pick. Not using a condom, however, is a major foul.
6. If you suspect violence or force is being used, what should you do? Don't try to be a hero. Find out where the nearest hotline is for sex workers, for example at www.freiersein.de.
7. Business is business – and not love, even if your time together was wonderful. That means: Stay cool and keep your feet on the ground.
8. Pressure doesn't help performance. Sometimes it just doesn't work. That's ok. Just relax and, when the time's right, give it another go.
9. When it comes to sex, there's no money-back guarantee. If you're not satisfied, talk about it. If you're smart, you won't lose your head. Whatever happens, don't demand your money back.
10. The neighbors want to get some sleep and are not interested in your sex life. Really.

You can get more information on fair play at www.freiersein.de

freiersein®



The campaign was a great success as it was very much accepted by the target group.

The action was pure fun, for both the target and the teams. Because the atmosphere was very party-like and relaxed, men talked and joked more easily about sexuality, safer sex and sex work. The condom costumes were effective and eye-catching. Many people wanted to be photographed and filmed with them. The funding received by the different teams, mainly from local health departments, showed that this kind of campaign is welcomed by those interested in doing effective HIV/STI prevention work. The activities carried out since the World Cup have a different quality but are as effective:

although there is no such party-like atmosphere men are still receptive, and sometimes more willing to exchange ideas or comments because they have more time available.



Shyness of team members: they have to be able to talk to men about sexuality, to joke around but at the same time to answer questions. Longer or more detailed conversations proved difficult.

The team members have to be prepared for a hard job, physically and psychologically, as the demands on them are varied, from walking around for several hours to having to answer lots of different questions. Therefore, the team members have to keep an eye on each other at all times during the action.

LESSONS LEARNED

This is a very positive and effective means of reaching clients of sex workers because it spreads serious messages in a fun way. The target group and the issues at stake can be approached easily and openly. Clients of sex workers feel they are being accepted, taken seriously, and respected as such.

Brothel and club owners and managers can also be approached and included in the action. They can, for instance, display the postcards in their premises, as it also enables them to show that they are concerned and that they are professional, while still having fun and a sense of humour.

The logo and the condom costumes were recognizable elements which facilitated approach and acceptance.

The action should be constantly evaluated in order to be further developed for other situations and environments, as this activity is well-suited to big events as well as generally throughout the year.

DON JUAN

Target Clients of sex workers

Where Zurich | SWITZERLAND

What A nationwide campaign for clients of sex workers which included:

- a face-to-face campaign on HIV/AIDS prevention with the distribution of condoms, gadgets, flyers and small posters on the streets near the red light districts
- a website where clients can get counselling: www.don-juan.ch
- the development of flyers and small cards in different languages.

When Since 2000

Who AIDS-Hilfe Switzerland | www.aids.ch

Why To help reduce the number of new HIV/STI infections among (heterosexual) clients of sex workers and to raise awareness of HIV/STI prevention among brothel, bar and club owners and managers.

STEPS

1. Pilot carried out in 1999, making initial contacts and distributing condoms to clients on the streets near sex work zones.
2. Development of flyers with the following themes: Lust for sex/sexuality without fear; Risks of HIV/AIDS; Love, lust and security; Safer sex secure; Men's most frequent questions; Information about the HIV test.
3. Development of gadgets and freebies such as matches, tapes, etc.
4. Development of website.

Development

The outreach work is mostly conducted at night. Because of the number of foreign clients, since 2007 the AIDS-Hilfe in Zurich has cultural mediators in their team. Frequency of outreach work

targeting clients of sex workers varies from town to town, according to funding and personnel available. The website www.don-juan.ch is translated into German, French and Italian. It offers counselling via e-mail; information on sexual practices, condoms and lubricants, HIV/AIDS and STIs; tips for clients; and links to several other organisations in Switzerland dealing with sex workers.

Participants

📍 Clients are contacted during outreach work; some get involved in short conversations, while others simply receive the material distributed.

📍 The outreach teams are composed of trained female and male educators. Depending on the town, up to six may be involved.

The collaborating partners are the Swiss Health Ministry and the NGOs Fleur de Pavé, Lausanne | www.infofet.ch/inst/fleur | and Aspasia, Geneva | www.aspasie.ch

Materials

Flyers, condoms, small posters, sachets of lubricant, gadgets, the Internet.

Documentation

AIDS-Hilfe Switzerland Annual Report.

EVALUATION

The Institute for Social and Health Prevention and AIDS-Hilfe Switzerland regularly evaluate the action. Clients provide feedback informally.

⊕ The results of the evaluation showed that directly approaching clients of sex workers is a very efficient strategy for HIV/STI prevention work. Around 5,000 men were reached by the action in 2007, 50% of whom were not Swiss. The website received around 150,000 visitors in 2007, 25% more than in 2006.

1 There are great gaps in knowledge among clients of sex workers regarding STIs and their transmission through oral sex. Every second client asks for unprotected oral sex and every fourth for unprotected vaginal and/or anal sex.

LESSONS LEARNED

There is a need for ongoing information campaigns targeting clients because of the huge demand for unsafe sex. Many of them believe that 'protection' is solely the responsibility of sex workers and that sex workers should therefore be regularly checked for STIs.

Managers and owners of establishments should be more involved in these information activities in order to reach clients more effectively.



WWW.WEB CLIENTE.COM

Target Clients of sex workers

Where Barcelona | SPAIN

What A website to inform sex workers' clients about issues related to sex work, such as legal matters, their rights, and HIV/STI prevention resources.

When Since December 2007

Who Àmbit Prevenció | Àmbit Dona | www.ambitprevencio.org

Why To offer confidential and anonymous services where clients can find answers; to promote respect for sex workers; and to obtain information about the needs, habits and sexual behaviour of sex workers' clients.

STEPS

1. Research – Analysis of the target population in terms of age, ethnic origin, sexual habits, and social and health-related behaviour. Additional analysis of media and websites dealing with prevention or information on HIV/AIDS, STIs and drug use. Finally, analysis of websites offering sexual services, with special blogs where clients and sex workers can exchange opinions.

2. Selection and development of website content – Needs were identified and content selected based on the results of the research. Decisions were made on style and layout of the site, illustrations, form, means of contact, display of questions and answers, and how to document social and health variables of the clients.

3. Creation of website – Technical staff produced and tested a draft website. Aesthetic and technical hitches were then corrected.

4. Pilot – After the testing period, the finished site was shown to users. They were asked about the clarity of the contents, the way different issues were presented with text and images, and the ease and use of interactive services. A group of 10 sex workers – male, female and transgender – were also asked to give their opinion on the website and to suggest any changes.

5. Launch of the site – The site was officially launched on 1 December 2007, World AIDS Day. It was publicised to clients, as well as associations such as NGOs and STI centres. The campaign was launched via e-mail, ads on the Internet, and printed cards.

6. Update and feedback – The contents are updated and clients’ questions answered every week.

Development

The aim of the site is to make sex workers’ clients aware of HIV and STI prevention as well as other relevant issues related to sexuality, health promotion, safer sex, sex work, and respect for sex workers. Other important issues are:

- Promoting safer sex practices, especially among clients of transgender sex workers.
- Giving information about HIV/AIDS and STIs, and referring clients to health centres.
- Informing clients about the legal framework of sex work, and its myths and stigmas.
- Informing clients about risky practices, prejudices, false beliefs, and drugs.
- Obtaining information about the habits and sexual behaviours of clients.
- Making clients aware of their role as agents in the fight against HIV and STIs.
- Offering a confidential and anonymous space where clients can solve their problems.
- Challenging stigma and promoting respect for people working in the sex industry, especially those in vulnerable situations.
- Research into the needs of clients and their sexual habits. This is carried out using a 14-point questionnaire which asks about sexual behaviour, drug use, perception of sex work, etc.

Publicising the website is an ongoing process. It is promoted through printed cards which are distributed by sex workers, and by NGOs and STI centres to users of their services. The site is advertised on various contact sites, on sites advertising male, female and transgender sex workers, and on Internet forums about sex work.

Participants

- ⑥ Clients provided feedback during the development of the site.
- ⑥ A group of 10 male, female and transgender sex workers, aged 18 – 50, nationals and migrants (Africans and Latin Americans), with both short- and long-term experience in sex work, gave feedback during development.
- ⑥ The team consisted of project workers from Àmbit Prevenció/Àmbit Dona.

Materials

Information on sexuality, sex work, legal issues within sex work, drugs, STI and HIV prevention.

Documentation

Annual report with results, evaluation and proposals.

Media

The site has been highlighted by local press, radio programs, and clients’ blogs.

EVALUATION

Evaluation by the target – sex workers’ clients – has been very positive, according to the number of times the site was visited, as well as the amount of questions asked by the clients and successfully answered by Àmbit Prevenció.

Evaluation is carried out by Àmbit Prevenció monthly through statistical data regarding the number of times the site was visited, which pages were consulted, the time of day/night, referring source, and the questions asked.

+ It is the first Spanish website for sex workers' clients created by an NGO.

It allows access to information, and guarantees the confidentiality of those accessing it.

It does not stigmatise sex workers or their clients. Once the website is online, maintenance and updates do not require high costs, and it has all the advantages of the Internet: people can access it anonymously, any time and free of charge.

- Lack of economic resources to maintain the site and difficulties in promoting it to the clients. There was no funding for the website in 2008, and the cost had to be carried by other projects of the organisation.

It is impossible to evaluate the effectiveness of the site or changes in clients; behaviour is based only on empirical data.

LESSONS LEARNED

Clients need to have easy access to information regarding issues related to sex work, in order to speak freely about their concerns and ask questions without being judged.

WWW. SEXHANDEL.NO

Target Clients of sex workers

Where Oslo | NORWAY

What www.sexhandel.no, a website targeting clients of sex workers

When Since January 2006

Who Reform, Resource Centre for Men
www.reform.no

Why To provide information on human trafficking and sex work, to open a dialogue with (potential) clients of sex workers, and to raise awareness about sex work

STEPS

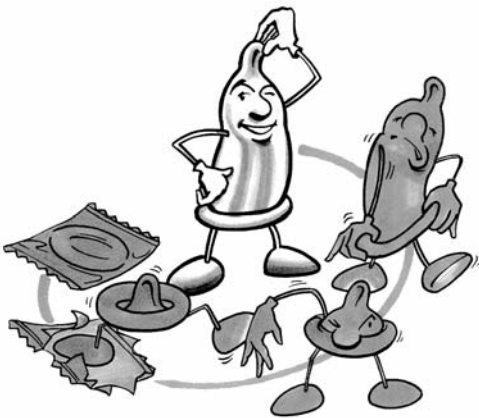
1. Creation and development of the idea. **2.** After funding was granted, a project manager was employed part-time and an advisory group was established. **3.** The website was designed and a hotline established for clients of sex workers.

Development

The website is funded by the Ministry of Children and Equality Affairs as part of a campaign to raise awareness of human trafficking. Initially Reform wanted to launch a counselling service for clients of sex workers who wanted to stop buying sexual services, but the government wanted a more general information project. The website is available in Norwegian and English.

Participants

⊕ Clients were not involved in the planning. However, the most important part of the website is the discussion forum, through which clients and others are involved in the daily discussions.



⑥ A project manager with a degree in social science oversees the project. The advisory group consists of academics, social services, an organisation representing sex workers' interests, police and local government.

Materials

Advertisements and flyers promoting the website.

Documentation

An annual report is produced by Reform.

Media

The project was discussed in the media. It was heavily criticised by feminist NGOs, who wanted to see the website shut down because they claim that the forum encourages prostitution.

EVALUATION

Evaluation is carried out by Reform and also by the Nordic Gender Institute's 'Prostitution in the Nordic Countries' mapping project. Reform's evaluation includes a questionnaire distributed to participants in the discussion forum.

⊕ Most participants value the opportunity to discuss different issues, mostly ethical, connected with the on-going debate on purchase of sexual services and to explain their reasons for doing so. It is an alternative to other (more sordid) websites where buying sex is discussed. From a more political point of view, it serves as a counterpart to legal control strategies.

⊖ A few participants feel that the website covertly aims to reduce purchase, that its overall idea is that prostitution should be reduced. Some found it judgmental.

LESSONS LEARNED

Very few men make use of the hotline provided. Many visit the forum, but only a few stick around. A space is needed where clients can discuss their reasons for buying sexual services. On one hand, the government's aim to reduce prostitution provided the opportunity to create this website, while on the other hand repressive measures limit an open discussion.



The manual presents diverse examples of successful campaigns aimed at increasing sex workers' human and labour rights. These allow others to engage and develop such activities on the local, national and European level.

ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS

Advocacy campaigns are developed to protect rights or change unfair, discriminatory or abusive treatment to fair, equal, and humane treatment; to improve services, gain eligibility for services or change the amount or quality of services to better meet the needs of an individual; to remove barriers which prevent full access to full participation in community life.¹⁸



SEX WORKERS LUST... FOR THEIR RIGHTS!

Target General public, NGOs, GOs, policy-makers, media, (migrant) sex workers

Where Innsbruck, Graz, Linz, Salzburg, Vienna | AUSTRIA

What A nationwide information campaign with 25 different events. The campaign was the result of a cooperation between several NGOs and coordinated media work nationwide.

When 2008

Who LEFÖ | www.lefoe.at

Why To deconstruct public and political assumptions linking sex work with victimisation and violence; to raise public awareness about double standards and ambiguity employed by society and political decision-makers; to advocate for the recognition and implementation of (migrant) sex workers' human rights; to promote the right to self-determination and a policy of social and political inclusion; to protect against exploitation, violence, discrimination and racism; to demand the equal treatment of sex workers and the recognition of sex work as a legitimate and regular occupation.

STEPS

1. Evaluation of the 2007 campaign – An evaluation was made of the first campaign in 2007, which included an analysis of the media reports and campaigns in Germany during the 2006 World Cup.

2. Preparation of the 2008 campaign – The organising team spent January and February 2008 preparing that year's campaign. This involved updating and improving the concept, sharing information and giving support to the cooperating network of NGOs, coordinating the events, developing the content of the brochure, and producing different products, such as the poster, brochure, and programme.

3. The campaign – The campaign began on 8 March, International Women's Day, in order to underline the fact that sex workers' rights are an integral and inseparable part of women's human rights. The symbolic end of the campaign was 2 June, the International Day for the Rights of Sex Workers, which has become a worldwide day of action for the recognition of sex work and sex workers' rights.

In June 2008 the European Football Championship took place in Austria and Switzerland under the slogan 'Expect Emotions'. In order to capitalise on the increased public and media attention and in anticipation of changes in sex workers' working conditions, the campaign was extended until the end of June.

4. The events – The basis of the campaign was distribution of information materials like posters, brochures and red umbrellas, and the website www.lustaufrechte.at which explained the aims of the campaign. The programme of events covered a number of towns.

The events were diverse: public conferences, exhibitions, street actions, film presentations, podium discussions, press conferences, workshops with and for sex workers, information events with concerts and performances.

The campaign finished with a cross-cultural event involving sex workers, supporters, sponsors, artists, a representative from the International Committee for the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe (ICRSE), and

Austrian and international guests. This event included a sex workers' photo exhibition entitled 'Sex work. My work'.

Workshops with sex workers took place on a regular basis and were stepped up in May and June. Streetwork was increased in June, due to the European Football Championship.

5. The media – The media played a very important role in highlighting the different events but also by delivering information about sex work and sex workers from a human rights perspective.

Development

Over the course of the campaign LEFÖ coordinated different events carried out by various organisations supportive of sex workers and their human, labour and migration rights.

The campaign delivered a wide range of events to encourage political discussion and reflection on the issue of sex work. At the same time it offered sex workers information, support and the potential to create and/or strengthen networks.

Over 20 events took place during the campaign and more than 20 cooperation partners were involved, who organised their own activities under LEFÖ's support. In Austria 6000 brochures and 1500 posters were distributed. The website was con-

stantly updated. More than 30 reports in different newspapers, radio shows, TV programmes, and magazines highlighted the campaign.

Participants

🌀 A PR officer from LEFÖ, together with the LEFÖ-TAMPEP team, coordinated the media information work, event organisation with the partner NGOs, photo exhibitions and workshops with (migrant) sex workers.

Materials

Posters, brochures, red umbrellas, badges, flyers, films, photos.

Documentation

Photos of the campaign can be viewed at www.lustaufrechte.at. A report of the campaign is available, as well as a brief video highlighting some of the campaign events.

Media

There was intense media work during the campaign. Press releases were sent out at least once a month and special attention was drawn to significant dates within the campaign such as 8 March and 2 June. TV, radio and print media interviews were conducted with a sex workers' organisation, the internet forum www.sexworker.at.

EVALUATION

The organising team of LEFÖ carried out an evaluation. Sex workers provided feedback informally, during the events and/or streetwork.

⊕ The participation of other organisations which do not normally address the issue of sex work, as well as new partners like the sex workers' organisation, was very positive and important in raising awareness of the situation and needs of (migrant) sex workers. The media reports were also very positive as most employed respectful language (e.g. 'sex workers'),



differentiated between sex work and trafficking, and gave balanced reports about the potential changes for sex workers caused by the Football Championship. The participation of sex workers, especially in the photo project and the final intercultural event, was an empowering aspect of the awareness-raising campaign. Some of the material was also used in Germany and Switzerland at certain events like 2 June.

1 In general, there was a lack of resources, including the necessary financial support. The involvement of other organisations required time for discussions, planning and organising, especially as they were located all over the country.

LESSONS LEARNED

For this sort of advocacy activity to be fully successful and effective, it is necessary to have significant involvement and participation of sex workers, to give the action credibility but above all to empower sex workers and improve self-esteem.

SEX WORK. MY WORK

Target Sex workers and general public

Where Vienna | AUSTRIA

What The exhibition 'Sex work. My Work', or The Lomography Project, was a presentation of photos taken by migrant sex workers, documenting their living and working conditions in Austria. The aim of the project was to enable sex workers to address the variety and complexity of sex work. The photos provided a way to show how sex work impacts on each individual. The method used was the lomographic technique.¹⁹

When May and June 2008

Who LEFÖ | www.lefoe.at | and different indoor sex industry establishments

Why To highlight the conflict between individual and public perception of a specific issue, by presenting different individual views of it. The aim of the photographic work was to increase women's self-confidence and to encourage their empowerment. In addition, the project sought to encourage women to present themselves as sex workers in public.

STEPS

1. In May 2008, cameras and films were made available to LEFÖ by the Lomographic Association of Vienna. **2.** Workshops with sex workers were organised, to introduce the campaign and its aims. **3.** Appointments were made for the photo shoots. **4.** Women from Romania, Slovakia, Bulgaria, and the Dominican Republic took pictures of their working environments. **5.** In June the photos were exhibited at the final event of the 'Sex workers lust ... for their rights!' campaign.



6. The photos were exhibited for a second time in September.

Development

It was interesting to see how the women, at first skeptical, got more and more excited about the project's idea, encouraged by the dynamics in the workshops. They enjoyed taking pictures of themselves and their work more than they had expected. Most participating women were present at the exhibition and it was good for them to get public recognition.

The project required two preparation workshops and eight photo shoot appointments.

Participants

⊗ Sex workers were involved throughout the process of the workshops and exhibition.

⊗ The team consisted of one cultural mediator and one apprentice.

Materials

Lomographic cameras, film.

Documentation

Photos, film, and the exhibition material.

Media

The media were not involved, in order to guarantee sex workers' anonymity.

EVALUATION

Sex workers provided feedback during the development of the project and while attending the exhibition. LEFÖ's project workers carried out an internal evaluation.

⊕ The project was hugely successful for the participating women and for the project workers, as it achieved its aims. The women's self-confidence was seen to increase and on many occasions they were encouraged to present themselves publicly as the artists and as sex workers.

⊖ In general, there was a lack of resources, including funding.

LESSONS LEARNED

It is essential to have sex workers involved during the planning, for them to understand the project's aims, and to guarantee their well-being during the development of the activities. This atmosphere is important in order to produce photos with a true, natural and realistic aesthetic.

YOUNG PEOPLE TALKING ABOUT SEX WORK

Target Young people, sex workers, and residents

Where Brussels | BELGIUM

What Production of a CD, and promotion of concerts, with songs composed by sex workers and young people, discussing sex work and migration.

When 2006 and 2007

Who Espace P... | www.espacep.be | CEDAS | www.cedas.be | and Jeremy Piollat, a composer and professional musician

Why To begin a dialogue between sex workers and young people living in Schaerbeek, a northern district of Brussels.

STEPS

1. Recruitment of young people interested in the project.
2. Search for funding.
3. Meetings between sex workers and young people.
4. Song-writing workshop.
5. Recording the music.
6. Printing the CD illustration and sleeve.
7. Production of a flyer giving information on the prostitution scene in the Schaerbeek quarter.
8. Producing 3,000 CDs.
9. Naming the group: 'The Tears of Schaerbeek'.
10. Performing the concerts.
11. Contact with radio and printed press.
12. Distribution of the CD.

Development

The group – sex workers and young people – met 2 to 3 times a week, over 5 months, in order to compose the songs under the supervision of a professional musician. The project was promoted via outreach work in the red light district, and by the local partner associations, youth groups (mainly Muslim) and the press.

The concerts took place at a local music festival. The themes were sex work, undocumented migrants, insecurity, and enrichment connected to multiculturalism.

Participants

Sex workers had meetings with the young people involved in the project; the young people saw the project from beginning to end as well as participating in the CD launch and the promotion of the concerts.


The team was comprised of project workers from Espace P... and CEDAS, and a musician who ran the workshops.

Materials


Musical instruments, recorders, CDs, computers to print the CDs, sleeves, activity reports.

EVALUATION

Evaluation was carried out by Espace P..., CEDAS, the participating sex workers and young people, and those involved in distributing the CD.

 This project opened dialogue between young people and sex workers. This led to a change in attitudes, to an acceptance of sex work and to discourse about tolerance.

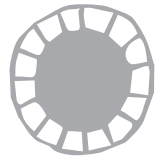
The inhabitants of Schaerbeek were made aware of service providers in the area and about different aspects of sex work.

 It was difficult to stick to the workshop schedule due to erratic attendance by sex workers and young people.

LESSONS LEARNED

Young people's attitudes can change when they are encouraged to participate in activities that have relevance to their lives and environment.

LOVE TAKES REFUGE WHEREVER IT CAN



Target General public, sex workers and their clients, NGOs and policy-makers

Where Brussels | BELGIUM

What Exhibitions, performances (recitals, concerts, theatre shows, tango classes) and public debates about sex work and those involved with it

When 2005

Who Espace P... | www.espacep.be | Project Rousseau, Culture and Democracy

Why To educate residents of the Schaerbeek quarter, a northern district of Brussels, about sex work; to foster a change in attitudes to sex work and sex workers; to improve relations in the area between residents and sex workers; to invite people to reflect and take part in dialogue stemming from the different artistic performances and presentations.

STEPS

1. Selection of 28 artists after a call for proposals.
2. Meetings between the artists and the sex workers.
3. Selection of locations for the exhibitions and events (exhibition halls, sex industry establishments, train station, etc.).
4. Setting up the exhibitions, the tango ballroom concert and the theatre show 'Body Object', in 11 different locations in Schaerbeek.
5. Publication of 1,000 copies of the programme of events, a poster and invitation flyers.
6. Press conference.

Development

It took a year to prepare and produce the event. It took place over three weeks and included different exhibitions, presentations and activities. The event received around 1,500 visitors.

Participants

Ⓒ Around 50 sex workers and 30 artists worked together to create the exhibits and performances. Two madams and one sex worker made their bars and workplaces available for the event.

Ⓒ The Espace P... team spent over a year working on the project with a graphic designer.

Materials

Material and accessories for assembling the exhibition. Programme of events, posters and flyers.

Media

Interviews were conducted and articles written, including one in Le Monde.

EVALUATION

The campaign was evaluated by the organising team and the visitors. Sex workers gave their feedback during the events.

⊕ The response and feedback from residents of the district, sex workers, policy-makers and the media were very positive. The general impression was that this type of event provided the opportunity to discuss issues which would otherwise be very difficult or almost impossible to do.

⊖ It was difficult to manage the timetable of the exhibitions because of the different professionals involved: sex workers, artists, project workers, etc. There were difficulties in maintaining the exhibits in public places because of bad weather and vandalism.

LESSONS LEARNED

This action should be repeated periodically, but more financial support is needed than was initially expected. For instance, a covered venue is required in case of bad weather, and the exhibits should be protected from vandalism.

FROM ONE REALITY TO ANOTHER

Target Sex workers, citizens of Brussels, policy-makers

Where Brussels | BELGIUM

What 10 programmes on Radio Panik (Brussels' free radio station), giving sex workers space to talk. Each programme had a different theme, which was based on a previously recorded interview with an expert on that theme. Sex workers and guests were then invited to Radio Panik's studio, where they discussed the issue at hand.

When 2006 and 2007

Who Espace P... | www.espacep.be | and Pléiade Nord

Why To give a different perspective on sex work in order to combat stigma.

STEPS

1. During outreach work, social workers of Espace P... and Pléiade Nord explained the radio project to sex workers and asked them to identify issues for discussion in the 10 programmes.
2. Different professionals with experience working with and for sex workers, such as medical doctors, lawyers, psychologists and social workers, gave recorded interviews. The specialists were chosen according to the different themes for discussion.
3. The 10 programmes were recorded at Radio Panik's studio.
4. During each programme, the interview was broadcast. Sex workers and the invited guests gave their reactions to each interview, based on their own reality and perspective.

Development

The themes chosen were: health and HIV in sex work; being a sex worker and a parent; status of sex workers in Belgium; emotional dependency; difficulties of street-based sex work; human trafficking; violence in sex work; transsexuality; young people in the sex industry.

Preparatory meetings were held in Espace P... 's office to select the themes, the specialists to be interviewed, and the guests. The guests invited to participate in the programmes had experience working with and for sex workers, such as project workers from NGOs and GOs, and doctors, lawyers and psychologists other than the ones already interviewed.

Five broadcasts were made in 2006 and five in 2007, each one lasting 60 minutes. They were aired once a month, and repeated the following week.

Participants

Ⓢ Several sex workers participated live on the air or in recorded interviews broadcast during the programme. Sex workers were informed through outreach of the date and time of each broadcast.

Ⓢ The team comprised one person from Radio Panik, a project worker from Espace P... and one from Pléiade Nord.

Materials

Radio Panik's recording studio

Documentation

The radio programmes are available online at: www.espacep.be



EVALUATION

The action was evaluated by the projects' teams and by sex workers.

+ The sex workers, the specialists and the participating guests gave very positive feedback. Sex workers found it very empowering to be able to speak openly, to discuss and give their opinion on matters regarding their work and lives.

- It was difficult to find a competent technician who had time available to help develop the programmes and oversee the broadcasts.

LESSONS LEARNED

Public awareness can be raised and the participation of sex workers can be enhanced through different communications tools. It is important to find a radio station with a long-distance broadcast antenna in order to reach a wider audience.

THEATRE COMEDY

Target The general public, policy-makers, feminists and sex workers

Where Brussels | BELGIUM

What A humorous play, about the origins of abolitionism, inspired by debates on trafficking in women which took place between 1924 and 1927. The play was written by the sociologist Jean-Michel Chaumont and staged by Adeline Rosenstein. It was accompanied by an exhibition of texts and photographs from the period.

When December 2006

Who Espace P... | www.espacep.be

Why To inform the general public about sex work and the abolitionist model of prostitution in Belgium; to combat stigma against sex workers; to increase public awareness about policy-makers who vote against laws protecting sex workers' human rights; to demonstrate that the conclusions of the 1927 study were manipulated to preserve morals; and to advocate recognition of sex work as an activity, without any moral judgement.

STEPS

1. Meeting with Jean-Michel Chaumont and Adeline Rosenstein.
2. Search for funding.
3. Recruitment of actors and preparatory meetings with them.
4. Weekly rehearsals.
5. Creation of puppets and accessories.
6. Set construction.
7. Promotion of the play through the media and Espace P... local networks.
8. Five shows at the Institute Saint Louis in December 2006.
9. Espace P...’s team managed the production of the play, the reservations, the door and the bar.

Development

The play was written after a year of research by Jean-Michel Chaumont. Meetings with participants took place in May and June, and the actors rehearsed every Sunday, from September to December.

Set construction and rehearsals were carried out at Espace P...’s premises. The actors worked in cooperation: they defined the different roles and helped each other during rehearsals. The Espace P... team members gave their time and experience in creating costumes, searching for suitable accessories, and developing and distributing 3,000 flyers to promote the play.

All five shows were sold out, which meant a total audience of 705. Each show lasted roughly 2 hours.

Participants

⊕ Two sex workers acted in the play; other sex workers attended the show.

⊕ The team consisted of the Espace P... team, social workers, Jean-Michel Chaumont (head of the project), Adeline Rosenstein (stage director), a dozen professional and amateur actors, technicians, the light and sound manager.

Materials

Props, costumes, puppets, set.

Documentation

A file explaining the origin of the project and archives collected by Jean-Michel Chaumont.

Media

The media were informed of the launch and covered the shows.

EVALUATION

The sex workers and the actors evaluated the play during its development and after the shows. Espace P... also carried out an evaluation.

⊕ The play was a total success. After each of the five shows debates were held with the audience, sex workers and Espace P... project workers.

⊖ It was quite difficult to mobilise sex workers to participate. It was difficult to coordinate rehearsal timetables with those involved (sex workers, actors, technicians). It was difficult to get funding and to reach the general public.

LESSONS LEARNED

A theatre play can be used to open a dialogue between the general public and sex workers on the issue of prostitution. A comedy can be an enriching experience which facilitates discussions using irony and humour.

SEX WORK: A TRANSNATIONAL PHENOMENON

Target Representatives of NGOs and GOs

Where Prague | CZECH REPUBLIC

What A seminar for representatives of NGOs and GOs from the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia, Poland, Germany and Austria.

When December 2001

Who LEFÖ, Vienna | www.lefoe.at | La Strada, Prague | www.strada.cz

Why To exchange experiences and to develop new strategies in responding to the internationalisation of prostitution.

STEPS

1. Cooperation partners were sought. **2.** Two meetings were held with the organising partners to define the content and the organisation of the seminar. **3.** The target groups were invited. **4.** Three days of seminars were held. Lecture titles included 'The internationalisation of sex work calls for international networking', 'Profiles of migrant and non-migrant sex workers, based on examples from CEE and Western European countries', 'Comparing the legal, health and social conditions among the countries', and 'Developments and tools in future cooperations'. Topics for the working groups included 'The phenomenon of internationalisation and its consequences for the working and living conditions of sex workers in CEE and Western European countries' and 'Which paths should we take and which tools do we need to improve cooperation?'

Participants

⊕ The participants attended input lectures, contributed with presentations and papers, and participated in three parallel working groups and in the plenary discussions.

⊕ The team was made up of project workers from LEFÖ and La Strada, supported by the Women's Department of the City of Vienna and the MILENA Network.

Evaluation

Evaluation was carried out by the organising team in a report published in German and English, including feedback from participants at the end of the seminar.

⊕ The seminar laid very positive foundations for further international cooperation between Eastern and Western Europe. The aim was that, through closer collaboration, sex workers in and from the participating countries would receive better support in the future.

⊖ Due to limited funding, participants had to pay for their own travel and accommodation.

LESSONS LEARNED

The sex industry is developing fast, and is characterised by high and transnational mobility. Cooperation on a European level is the only efficient and logical approach in order to cope with these changes and to fight the marginalisation and vulnerability of migrant sex workers in Europe.

ACTION AGAINST TRANSPHOBIA

Target General public, policy-makers, hospital staff and the transgender community

Where Paris | FRANCE

What Press conference, round tables, a gala evening, a street demonstration and an exhibition.

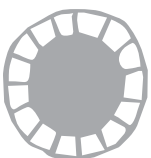
When June 2006

Who PASTT | La Baronne | www.associationlabaronne.numeriblog.fr

Why To raise awareness among different sectors of the population about stigma and discrimination against transgender people, including sex workers.

STEPS

- 1.** Discussions about increasing discrimination against transgender people in society in general, and specifically in hospitals.
- 2.** Planning of different events to draw attention to the problem.
- 3.** Formation of teams organising the different events.
- 4.** Decision about location, coordinators and facilitators, date and time.
- 5.** Participants invited to the press conference, round table discussions, gala evening and street demonstration.
- 6.** Preparation and organisation of the events and the information materials required.
- 7.** Development and distribution of press releases to the media, local networks, policy-makers, transgender community, and medical staff at different hospitals.



Development

The campaign lasted for one week. The press conference was the first event, serving to launch the campaign on transphobia. The round table discussions involved different stakeholders, including transgender people, policy-makers and medical doctors, and took place in different locations over the course of the week, in order to reach as many people as possible and to facilitate a greater discussion of the issue. The gala evening was a success and featured the Miss Trans contest. The association La Baronne organised the Night Against Transphobia, with presentations and music. An exhibition of paintings by transgender people was shown in an art gallery. At the weekend a street demonstration took place to honour all transgender victims of abuse and murder.

Participants

- ⊕ The events were planned and organised by a team which included transgender sex workers.
- ⊕ Project workers from the two organisations were responsible for the events.

Materials

‘STOP Transphobia’ flyer, press release, information on-line.

Media

The media were present at the press conference and publicised the events.

EVALUATION

Evaluation was carried out by PASTT and La Baronne.

- ⊕ The different events initiated discussions and raised awareness of violence and discrimination against transgender people. The street demonstration was joined by many people who wanted to show their opposition to violence, stigma and discrimination against transgender people, including sex workers.
- ⊖ It was quite difficult to raise awareness among policy-makers and ensure their participation.

LESSONS LEARNED

Different types of public events can be used to draw attention to issues of stigma and discrimination.



WOMEN'S (GOOD) CULTURAL ASSETS

Target Female street-based drug-using sex workers and residents

Where Hamburg | GERMANY

What Exhibition of writing, drawings, collages, and photos.

When June and July 2008

Who ragazza e.V. | www.ragazza-hamburg.de

Why To empower sex workers by giving them the opportunity to express themselves in different (artistic) media, to voice their feelings, experiences, life circumstances and hopes.

To inform residents of St. Georg, an area where drug-using street sex workers are active, about sex work. To change perceptions of and attitudes to (stigmatised and discriminated against) drug-using sex workers working in this area, where residents often complain and carry out negative campaigns against them.

STEPS

1. A BA student in Social Work developed the idea for the exhibition as her university final project. She presented it to ragazza, a NGO working with drug-using sex workers in St. Georg. **2.** Discussions were held between the student (who coordinated the project) and the ragazza team about carrying it out. **3.** An art gallery was found in the district willing and available to exhibit sex workers' work. **4.** Preparation of the necessary materials for the workshops in which sex workers would develop

their artwork. **5.** Presentation of the project to the target group during outreach work and counselling hours. **6.** Preparation of a structure and time schedule for the workshops. **7.** Sex workers given space and time to develop their artwork. **8.** Preparation of the exhibition and publicising of it to media, organisations and other interested parties. **9.** Preparation of the opening night with music and catering.

Development

A comfortable and inviting corner was installed in the big room at ragazza where women sit, drink coffee and talk to each other. It provided all the material they needed to draw, paint or write. This place was available for them during all opening hours of the counselling centre, over the course of four months. The artists could decide if they wanted to sign their work, or present it anonymously; if they wanted to sell their pieces or not; if they wanted to title them or not. The exhibition was then open to the public for three weeks.

Participants

⑥ 20 drug-using sex workers were involved in the project as artists.

⑥ The coordinator and the outreach and counselling team of ragazza collaborated on the project.

Materials

Paper, pencils, pens, canvas, acrylic and water colours, assorted coloured pens and pencils, glue, chalk, newspapers, erasers, scotch tape, and disposable cameras.

Documentation

The drawings, collages, and photos by the sex workers.

Media

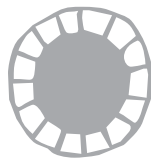
The media were invited to the opening of the exhibition.

+ Sex workers were fully involved in the project. It gave them the opportunity to reflect about their lives, to communicate in another medium, to share their feelings, and to speak out on issues that might otherwise be difficult for them to do.

- There could have been more events associated with the exhibition, such as discussion evenings or informal talks, for people to be able to exchange opinions further, but due to lack of funding and time availability of the ragazza team, this did not happen.

LESSONS LEARNED

At the opening night, the artists were at first quite shy. However, when they saw the interest and the admiration people had for their work, they very proudly presented themselves and interacted with the public. This sort of project is therefore a very interesting and useful way of giving a stigmatised target group space, credibility and empowerment. It can be a very engaging strategy in raising local awareness of the situation of sex workers, especially in a neighbourhood which tends to have a negative view of them.



FOR THE RIGHTS OF SEX WORKERS

Target Policy-makers and general public

Where Pordenone | ITALY

What A manifesto, printed on large posters, displayed on the streets and in other public places such as organisational premises and conferences.

When 2000

Who The Committee for the Civil Rights of Prostitutes | www.lucciole.org

Why Sex workers and their clients faced a difficult situation at that time, both targeted by criminalisation and repressive police measures. To demonstrate against this situation, the manifesto was used as an instrument for political action. It was signed by a large number of people and sent to parliamentarians and the appropriate ministers.

STEPS

1. Creation and development of text for poster.
2. Layout of poster.
3. Creation of a network prepared to take part in the campaign.
4. Printing of poster.
5. Press conference to draw attention to the action and launch poster campaign.
6. Publication of a petition in newspapers at local, regional and national levels.
7. Display of the manifesto poster on the streets and in other public spaces.
8. Call for signatures from other national associations, the general public, and European networks of organisations working with sex workers.
9. Signed manifesto sent to policy-makers at local, regional and national levels.

Development

Around that time there was a series of actions against street-based sex workers and their clients, undertaken by various Italian municipalities. A public manifesto was agreed on as the most appropriate action to be taken in opposition to this, to raise awareness among the general public and to call on policy-makers to end the repressive measures.

The manifesto campaign lasted three months, including initial preparations.

Participants

Several Italian intellectuals and artists, as well as a great many members of the public, signed the manifesto in Italy and across Europe.

The team was composed of members of the participating organisations (social and outreach workers, volunteers) working with sex workers and HIV/AIDS issues in different Italian cities.

Media

The media were invited to the press conference, at which a report on the results of the campaign was made available to them. The petition was also published on www.lucciole.org and other websites.

EVALUATION

An internal evaluation was made by the participating organisations.

The campaign was very much appreciated by other associations working in Italy for the rights of sex workers. Sex workers gave very positive feedback as it sent a clear and strong message in calling for their rights. The media played a very important role during the campaign in spreading the message nationwide, which made the action more effective.

Lack of funding was a serious problem which affected the widespread distribution of the manifesto. Policy-makers, as often happens, did not pay much attention to the campaign, despite the general public's appreciation of it. The campaign demonstrated the inability of policy-makers to draft legislation at the national level, thereby leaving it up to local administrators to make the decisions.

LESSONS LEARNED

The manifesto campaign has demonstrated that if there is a willingness to promote a political action that is concrete and strong on an issue such as human rights, it is possible to raise public awareness of social injustices and stigma, and thereby increase support from the general public.

THINGS ARE NOT ALWAYS AS THEY SEEM...

Target Policy-makers, media and service providers

Where Oslo | NORWAY

What A nationwide campaign about the realities of sex work. The campaign was carried out through the distribution of a book and a 'teaser'.

When April 2004

Who Pro Sentret | www.prosentret.no

Why To replace some of the myths around sex work with facts that illustrated the diversity of

sex work and sex workers. The campaign's aim was to fight stigma by presenting sex workers as more than just victims.

STEPS

1. Compilation of case studies and facts around sex work and sex workers. 2. Production of the book and teaser. 3. Distribution of the teaser and information about the campaign to policy-makers, the media and service providers. 4. Distribution of the book to policy-makers, the media and service providers. 5. Participation in round tables and other debate situations with the media.

Development

Funding for the campaign was secured by the participation of the project in a European competition called 'Ideas That Matter'. The book has repeatedly been given to policy-makers, the media, service providers, students and the general public, as a tool in calling for sex workers' rights.

Plans for the campaign began in spring 2003 and it was carried out in April 2004 over three weeks.

Participants

- ⊕ Sex workers were involved in development of the case studies.
- ⊕ The team consisted of personnel from Pro Sentret, including the coordinator, one evaluator, and two staff from COX, a communications company.

Materials

- 'Teaser': a sachet with a rubber band inside forming the outline of a condom, attached to a card bearing the message "Things are not always as they seem" and, on the reverse, "People have strong opinions about sex work. Everybody should hold them based on reality, not myths."
- A book (15 x 15 cm, 76 pages) illustrated with case studies of different sex workers,

with attractive images of sex workers in everyday situations (to create distance from the common stereotype of them as victims), and an information letter about the aims of the campaign. The book is available from Pro Sentret's website.

Media

A significant target of the campaign was the media. Due to its influence on public perceptions, the book included a chapter entitled 'Words Matter', describing frequent negative press coverage of sex work and the consequences of this. There was also a media debate on the campaign, which questioned whether the campaign was 'glorifying' or 'normalising' sex work.

EVALUATION

Evaluation was carried out through a questionnaire sent to policy-makers, the media and service providers. Pro Sentret did an official evaluation of the campaign.

⊕ As hoped for, the campaign triggered an intense debate in the media. Most respondents to the evaluation questionnaire said that they were confronted with their own prejudices and that they gained more knowledge and awareness of sex work issues.

⊖ The evaluation questionnaire received very little feedback: of the 160 sent out, only 22 were returned.

LESSONS LEARNED

Changing attitudes is a long term project. Despite the fact that respondents now had facts from a different perspective, only a minority declared that their attitude towards sex work and sex workers had really changed. Questionnaires sent via e-mail have very limited results, as they are so impersonal.



HUMAN RIGHTS, NOT VIOLENCE!

Target Sex workers and general public

Where Bratislava | SLOVAKIA

What A campaign to raise awareness among policy-makers and the general public about the vulnerable situation of sex workers. The campaign included a survey on violence against outdoor sex workers in Bratislava, petition activities, postcard distribution, press conference, and an information campaign aimed at local authorities.

When November and December 2007

Who C.A. Odysseus | www.odysseus.org | SWAN (Sex Workers' Rights Advocacy Network) | www.swannet.org

Why The campaign was set up in opposition to increasing violence against street-based sex workers. Its main event, the press conference, took place on 17 December, the International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers.

STEPS

1. Development of a questionnaire to collect data on violence against sex workers. **2.** Completion of the questionnaires with street-based sex workers. **3.** Creation of postcards and distribution in local pubs. **4.** Collection of petition signatures calling for better investigation of violence against sex workers. **5.** Press conference to present the survey

results and the aims of the campaign. **6.** Circulation of formal letters presenting the survey results to local authorities (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Health, etc).

Development

The campaign was produced by C.A. Odysseus and other members of the SWAN network, who planned the main strategies of the campaign, and the collection of petition signatures. The next steps, including the postcard distribution, were planned by C.A. Odysseus in cooperation with Boomerang Media.

Participants

☉ Sex workers answered the questionnaires about their experiences of violence and about police behaviour in this context. They were also signatories of the petition.

☉ The team was composed of C.A. Odysseus project workers and SWAN consultants. The general public were involved in signing the petition, after receiving information through the media and the distribution of the postcard.

Documentation

Postcards and survey outcomes.

Media

The media publicised the campaign. A press release was issued on 1 December 2007, World AIDS Day. On 17 December 2007 a press conference was held on the campaign and the results of the survey.

EVALUATION

Sex workers provided feedback during the survey and when signing the petition. Comments from the general public were added to the online petition and the press reports. An evaluation report was made for SWAN and the Global Fund for Women, who funded the action.

+ As the first ever public advocacy campaign for sex workers' rights in Slovakia, it received significant interest from the media and the general public. The positive outcome was in part because the campaign managed to present data in the form of survey results, which afforded it legitimacy.

⊖ There was no direct involvement of sex workers in organising the action, nor were they willing to speak to the media.

LESSONS LEARNED

Interest from the general public and the media can only be maintained if they are provided with updated and reliable data, including graphics, tables and, where possible, proposed solutions. Sex workers need encouragement if they are to participate more.

LUMI-FASHION

Target Residents, small businessmen and street-based sex workers

Where Madrid | SPAIN

What A catwalk was set up in a central square in the city for a fashion show. Director Fernando León de Aranoa donated clothes from his film *Princesas* (Princesses), the story of two street-based sex workers in Madrid. Clothes by new local designer Roberto Navazo were also shown.

When June 2008

Who Hetaira Association | www.colectivohetaira.org

Why Over the course of just a few months, the University district, in the centre of Madrid, a traditional area of work for street-based sex workers, was transformed from one of the most overlooked to one of the most fashionable places in the city. This process began when the Council backed the initiative of an influential state agency which began buying all the buildings to transform them into shopping centres. Their further intention was to 'clean the streets' of sex workers, without taking into consideration residents, community organisations, or the sex workers themselves.

With the fashion show, Hetaira wanted to raise awareness, seek peaceful coexistence between the different inhabitants of the district, and facilitate negotiations among them.

STEPS

1. Creation and development of the idea; contact made with Fernando León de Aranoa.
2. The director donated the clothes for the fashion show.
3. Support obtained from residents and other organisations in the district.
4. Discussions held with local sex workers to explain the action and to invite them to participate in the fashion show.
5. Information on the action distributed through various networks.
6. Celebrities invited to present the show and model the clothes.
7. Publicity spread through the media.
8. Rehearsal.
9. Staging of the fashion show.

Development

The idea for the fashion show was taken from the Brazilian experience of DASPU | www.daspu.com.br a sex workers' fashion label whose clothes are modelled by sex workers themselves. The label was created by the sex workers' organisation Davida | www.davida.org.br

It was important to publicise the action widely through the community, including among sex workers, in order to organise it and gain support. The fashion show took place in the afternoon, and lasted two hours. The event took almost two months to organise.

Participants

Ⓢ Sex workers were involved in the preparatory meetings and in organising the event.

Ⓢ The team consisted of project workers from Hetaira, with support from the residents' association, other NGOs working with sex workers in the area – Fundación Triángulo | www.fundaciontriangulo.es and COGAM | www.cogam.org – and ConSentido, a sex business in the district.

Materials

Red carpet, flyers, condoms, backstage area, banner, music, public address system.

MEDIA

There was a great deal of coverage from the media (print and TV), including live broadcasts.

EVALUATION

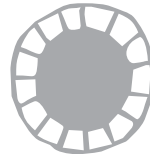
Evaluation was carried out by Hetaira, the supporting organisation, and by the sex workers.

⊕ Many of the sex workers had taken part in the film *Princesas*, which increased their interest in participating in the event. Furthermore, the fashion show was pivotal in empowering sex workers working in the area because it was an overt act against the City Council's decision. The fashion show brought together residents, sex workers and organisations around a common problem, but it also brought fun and joy to those involved.

⊖ Negotiations were not easy. It was difficult to obtain permission from the City Council for the fashion show.

LESSONS LEARNED

Public space was used in a new way, a way that improved relations between local sex workers and other residents. It was also a very important action for street sex workers achieving public recognition.



SAUCEPAN BANGING

Target General public, the media and policy-makers

Where Madrid | SPAIN

What A street demonstration, which consisted of saucepan banging at the Plaza de la Villa, in front of the Council of Madrid.

When July 2007

Who Hetaira Association | www.colectivoHetaira.org

Why To protest against traffic closures around the Casa de Campo, a park where sex workers traditionally work; to protest police harassment; and to demand a place where sex workers can work safely.

STEPS

1. Meetings with sex workers once a week, over the course of one month, to organise the demonstration.
2. Letters sent requesting a meeting with the mayor of Madrid, which were never answered.
3. Meeting with sex workers to make masks for the demonstration, for those who didn't want to show their faces in public.
4. Participants made themselves available to the media before, during and after the demonstration due to anticipation of interest.

Development

In late June 2007, the police began closing some of the street entrances to Casa de Campo. Sex workers became anxious as this resulted in fewer clients. Some days later, the area was almost entirely closed to traffic, with the exception of one street, where women continued working. Many sex workers decided to work elsewhere in the city, or went to other towns. Those who remained in Madrid demanded a place where they could work safely. Since then, working on Madrid's streets became increasingly difficult, while police harassment in Casa de Campo rose considerably. It took one month to organise the demonstration.

Participants

- ⊕ Sex workers were involved in planning the demonstration, making the masks and taking part in the event.
- ⊕ The team consisted of project and outreach workers from Hetaira and the NGO Médicos del Mundo.

Materials

Masks; flyers distributed on 28 June (Gay Pride Day), and through local networks.

Media

A few days before the demonstration, a press release was sent out, which was met with great interest. The demonstration was fully covered by the media.

EVALUATION

Hetaira Association carried out an internal evaluation.

⊕ The resulting solidarity among all sex workers, regardless of legal status, was hugely beneficial to their empowerment and self-esteem. This was demonstrated by the large number of participants. At the same time, the demonstration made the general public aware of sex workers and their issues.

Sex workers saw that their actions can lead to change, and that they do not have to resign themselves to council policies.

⊖ There was only a small amount of support from other organisations, and the limited time for the demonstration – just one hour – required a very tight schedule.

LESSONS LEARNED

Although concrete achievements were not made, Hetaira gained the trust of sex workers, by supporting them at a difficult time and with regards to a complicated issue. Hetaira should have tried harder to enlist broader social support. However, this was not possible because of the limited time available.

MISCELLANEOUS

A collection of different aspects of work with sex workers: examples of good practice regarding drop-in and counselling centres for sex workers, development of information materials, and different training formats, including those for sex workers and cultural mediators.



CENTRE ESPAÇO PESSOA

Target Street-based sex workers

Where Porto | PORTUGAL

What A counselling centre offering social, psychological and medical support for street sex workers, including those using drugs. Contact is made with the target group through outreach work by its mobile unit, which covers Porto and surrounding areas (Sé, Santo Ildefonso and Bonfim). Espaço Pessoa aims to promote: (drug-using) sex workers' quality of life; harm reduction, HIV/STI prevention and social inclusion; outreach and support for street sex workers; access to services; and social and cultural activities. The centre offers laundry facilities, showers, clothes and food.

When Since 1997

Who APF | Associação para o Planeamento da Família (Association for Family Planning | www.apf.pt) | Projecto Espaço Pessoa | Centro de Encontro e Apoio a Prostitutas(os) do Porto

Why To meet the needs of street-based sex workers, including those using drugs; to combat their social exclusion; to let them know of services available to them; to support them in seeking alternatives; to make the general public and policy-makers aware of their circumstances and needs; and to campaign for the rights of (drug-using) sex workers.

STEPS

1. Familiarisation with the target population – The first task was to undertake research and mapping of the prostitution scene, the areas where sex work took place, the sex worker population, their living and working conditions, their reasons for working in the sex industry, and other aspects of sex work.

2. Needs assessment – After the mapping, a needs assessment of the target group was conducted. This took four months. It was carried out through outreach work by a multidisciplinary team of sex workers (known as social mediators), social workers, psychologists and nurses.

The main objective of the assessment was to gain knowledge about the needs of the sex workers with regard to legal, social and health issues. What was important at this point was to observe the level of risk they were exposed to in terms of health, social exclusion and violence. The information collected was used as the basis for intervention models for outreach activities and a support centre.

This initial work was backed up by weekly meetings, attended by sex workers and project workers. Sex workers themselves were able to participate from the beginning: they were involved in the planning and development phases, in discussions of how the project was to be structured and the counselling centre designed. As a result of their inclusion the project workers developed more effective strategies, in relation to the context and the needs of the target group.

3. Planning and structuring the intervention – Apart from the abovementioned initial group, the planning was also based on the experience of APF, the local association for family planning. Funding from the Town Hall of Porto made it possible to set up the service and its activities, creating a local support network for (drug-using) sex workers.

It is of fundamental importance that the activities correspond to sex workers' needs. Their participation in all phases of the activity will determine the quality of the result.

4. Implementation – The mapping and assessment resulted in the establishment of a counselling centre – Espaço Pessoa (Person’s Space) – and regular outreach activities in Porto and neighbouring towns.

- The counselling centre includes medical and social services, psychological support, peer education (support provided by sex workers), social and cultural activities, laundry facilities, showers and a bathroom.
- The street outreach work involves contact with (drug-using) sex workers, circulation of information on rights, HIV/AIDS and STI prevention, harm reduction, distribution of condoms, lubricants and syringes, and referral to the counselling centre and to other support organisations. Daily outreach activities also enable project workers to conduct an ongoing analysis of the situation of (drug-using) sex workers and their needs.

Development

Espaço Pessoa was created in the context of a city programme on health and safety, aiming to consolidate existing outreach projects and implement new ones according to the needs of the target group, based on respect and empowerment. Espaço Pessoa is open to and provides support to those who wish to work in the sex industry and for those who wish to leave it.

Participants

- ⊕ Sex workers were involved in the planning and set-up of activities in the counselling centre; in the weekly team meetings; and in training activities, as both trainers and as trainees. The Espaço Pessoa team employs a sex worker as a social mediator.
- ⊕ The multidisciplinary team comprises a coordinator, social workers and assistants, nurses, psychologists and trainers (social educators).

Materials

Condoms, sterile injecting equipment.

Documentation

Evaluation questionnaire, specific questionnaires for each service, reports on the individual development of each service user, record of contacts with other organisations, monthly plan for each service, internal and external evaluation reports, and outreach diary.

EVALUATION

Evaluations are conducted internally by the APF and externally by the Institute of Social Security, the Institute of Drugs and Drug Dependency and the National Association of Pharmacies.

⊕ A diverse range of social and medical services is offered, covering most of the needs of (drug-using) sex workers. Work is carried out in partnership in order to offer appropriate support.

- Outreach activities and the counselling centre are coordinated and complement one another.
- The activities cover a wide geographical area and may be expanded should sex work environments move.
- Due to successful operation of both the outreach activities and the counselling centre, they became a recognised and important reference point for the target group.

⊖ The mobility of the target group – street-based sex workers, including those using drugs – makes intervention quite difficult, and demands consistency and perseverance.

- There is little recognition of the problems and requirements of the target group, which means a general lack of mediation for their needs and rights.

LESSONS LEARNED

- The operation of Espaço Pessoa, a centre whose users have access to multiple services, allow for support to be adapted according to needs.
- The daily outreach work and the intervention strategies used by Espaço Pessoa and the Institute of Drugs and Drug Dependency have given project workers insight into the dynamics, structure and needs of the group regarding their health and HIV/STIs, as well as their living and working conditions. Project workers are familiar with the vulnerability, exclusion and poverty of individual service users as well as the group in general.

DANISH CENTRES OF PROSTITUTION

Target Women and men working in sex work

Where Århus, Odense and Copenhagen | DENMARK

What Counselling centres in the three biggest cities in Denmark, which act as a bridge between social and healthcare services that have contact with sex workers; develop training for local council staff working with sex workers; provide support to sex workers on safer sex practices, money management, legal, social and personal issues; offer psychological counselling; and offer an anonymous telephone and Internet hotline for sex workers and their clients.

When Since 2005

Who Danish Centre of Prostitution
www.servicestyrelsen.dk

Why The National Action Plan for Prostitution affords female and male sex workers the right to access medical and social support.

STEPS

1. Development of a strategy plan for outreach activities; mapping of the prostitution scene in the three cities; development of information material for distribution during outreach.
2. Commencement of outreach activities in massage parlours in the three cities in order to gain an overview of the situation and to conduct a needs assessment.
3. Outreach work for female sex workers providing escort services.
4. Outreach work aimed especially at Thai sex workers, the biggest migrant group among sex workers.
5. Outreach work aimed at male sex workers active on the Internet.

Development

The first centre opened in Århus. After a while, more social workers were employed, two more centres were opened and different sex worker populations were targeted.

The three centres became part of the National Action Plan against Human Trafficking, which includes work with undocumented female and male sex workers.

Participants

⑥ Female and male sex workers were contacted by social workers during outreach work, offering safer sex supplies and social and psychological support.

⑥ The team consisted of social workers specialising in sexual health and social support.

All services offered by the centres are anonymous, confidential, free of charge and voluntary.

Materials


Condoms; lubricants; information on STI prevention, how to pay tax, clinics offering anonymous STI testing; and support for personal problems.

Media

As part of the National Board of Social Services the centres often appear in the media, but the anonymity of sex workers is always guaranteed.

EVALUATION

Sex workers frequently provide feedback during outreach or in the counselling centres. The centres are evaluated in official annual reports and by an external company.

 Ongoing outreach work in the three cities allowed contact with a high number of female and male sex workers, and as a result a great deal of their social and medical needs were met.


The location of the centres in Denmark's three biggest cities allows an overview of sex workers' living and working conditions, their needs and mobility in the country. By using the same strategies and methodology, it is possible to compare data and to have reliable and updated information and needs assessments.

LESSONS LEARNED

Due to female and male sex workers' mobility and isolated living and working conditions, ongoing outreach activities are crucial in order to contact them.

VULNERABLE POPULATION

Bucharest | Romania

 In addition to mobile outreach units, ARAS (Romanian Association Against AIDS) runs two drop-in centres which offer free services for vulnerable populations (sex workers, IDUs, homeless people). The services offered are primary medical assistance, social and psychological assistance, harm reduction services (needle and syringe distribution, condoms, lubricants), voluntary counselling and testing for HIV, HBV, HCV. Both centres are located in Bucharest, far away from each other in order to reach as many people as possible. The teams are multidisciplinary, composed of medical doctors, social workers, psychologists and peer educators, working both in outreach activities and in the drop-in centres.

CLUB UNDERPASS

Target Female street-based sex workers

Where Bratislava | SLOVAKIA

What Low-threshold club for sex workers

When December 2003 to December 2007

Who C.A. Odysseus | www.odysseus.org

Why The club served as a safe space within the red light district, enabling sex workers to spend time the way they wanted to before, during and after work.

STEPS

1. Identifying a suitable location – After making the decision to establish a club for sex workers, Odysseus staff began looking for an appropriate place, close to the street where sex workers work. The minimal requirements were: at least 10m², secure door, electricity, proximity to red light district, toilets, and opportunity to decorate the place according to sex workers' needs.

2. Raising money for furniture – The club received some funding from ETP Slovakia, the only national NGO to support the enterprise. The remaining funding came from private Slovak foundations or international ones. Consideration needed to be given to the decoration and furniture in the club. The image of the club changed several times during those four years, in response to the needs of sex workers and others using it. It is best to install furniture and other surfaces which can be easily cleaned and disinfected.

"I made a lot of friends there, in the club. Before, we just stood on the street and sometimes fought with each other. Now I understand that we can help each other and I know some of the girls better..."



3. Promoting the launch of the club to sex workers

– This was announced in various ways: small cards were distributed by outreach workers detailing the club's location and activities; information was published in a local monthly magazine; sex workers were personally invited by phone; and sex workers passed the information on to their colleagues.

4. Involvement of the target group and development of activities – At the beginning of the project sex workers were asked what they wanted and needed. After the club had been in operation for a year and a half, two sex workers were involved as peer educators and employees. Different types of activities came into being with the help of sex workers: second-hand clothes, shoes and cosmetics; self-help groups for sex workers; IT training; English language courses; preparation of information and educational materials; and planning new strategies for the club's future.

5. Closure of the club – In 2007, shortly after celebrating its fourth birthday, Club Underpass had to be closed due to lack of funding.

Development

The club, located on Vajnorská Street, opened in response to the insufficient time available for sex workers' problems to be addressed during outreach. The aim was to provide a space for sex workers which could meet their needs. This space was also intended to be used for advocacy activities and to encourage the development of self-help groups. Sex workers were continually asked to identify their needs and staff looked for ways to meet them.

However, the most significant step in the short history of the club was the fact that sex workers worked in it. It was therefore very important to choose the right people for the role of peer educators. Both of them were well-known in the sex worker community and they knew the background and working conditions of the area in which the club was situated. Thanks to their experience and research in the summer of 2007, the opening hours of the club were extended: originally it was open from 7pm to 11pm, but during the summer its opening hours were from 7pm to 3am. The aim was to establish contact with as many sex workers as possible and offer them the opportunity to relax in the early morning hours, after their work.



“When will you open the club again? Winter without you is going to be hard...”

Participants

- ⊕ Sex workers were involved as service users and as staff.
- ⊕ The team consisted of C.A. Odyssey project workers.

Materials

Safer sex supplies, coffee, tea, newspapers, clothes, C.A. Odyssey information and educational materials.

Documentation

Statistics, shift reports, photo documentation.

Media

The media were not directly involved, but there were some reports about the club's activities.

EVALUATION

Evaluation was carried out by the Club Underpass project coordinator, social workers, and sex workers involved in running the club.

- ⊕ The club was regularly visited by sex workers. It was the only place where they could talk freely about positive and negative experiences in their work. Club Underpass made a significant contribution to the promotion of sex workers' human rights and reintegrated sex workers into society.

- ⊖ The project was difficult to raise funds for, because it related to sex work. Funding was quite limited and therefore only some of the target group's needs were met. The club had no toilets, no tap water and no beds. Most of the service users were drug-using sex workers, and the club did not cover their everyday needs such as a place to sleep, to wash clothes or to take a shower.

LESSONS LEARNED

The club constituted an 'upgrade' in social outreach work undertaken in Slovakia. However, it did not reflect the real needs of sex workers. It was unable to be a long-lasting project in Slovakia because of the difficulty in attracting financial support. The evaluation showed that Club Underpass benefited sex workers in numerous ways. The main ones were empowering them and increasing their self-esteem, and offering them a place to spend time with their colleagues. In addition there were practical advantages: they were able to buy condoms and get hot or cold drinks and something to eat, which was especially important for those who were homeless.

Thanks to the safe space Club Underpass offered sex workers, C.A. Odyssey gained better knowledge of sex workers' working and living conditions as well as their needs and problems. This knowledge was put to good use in advocacy work, which benefited not only street-based sex workers in contact with C.A. Odyssey, but also to those working indoors or in other towns.

MEETING FOR A CUP OF TEA...

Target Female sex workers from North Africa

Where Marseille | FRANCE

What An informal opportunity over North African tea to talk about HIV/STI prevention in sex work, healthcare in general, community, family, and the migration process.

When Since January 2008

Who Autres Regards | www.autresregards.org

Why To offer an open and informal space for female sex workers from North Africa to talk and exchange experiences of issues such as migration and sex work, as street outreach does not easily allow for such discussions to take place.

By opening this space up to them, the aim was to foster community and solidarity among them, along with enhancing their trust in the social workers.

STEPS

1. Confirming the lack of a suitable meeting place for this target group. **2.** Discussions with them about the need and desire for a more informal space to talk about themselves. **3.** Preparation of the first meeting by structuring aims, developments and expected results. **4.** Setting a date for the first meeting. **5.** Informing the women about the meeting. **6.** Holding the first meeting.

Development

The project workers and service users prepared the tea. One of the project workers took on the role of moderator, introducing the other team members

and asking the service users to introduce themselves. The moderator focused on a specific theme, previously chosen by the women, and invited them to discuss it and to speak freely. Before the end of the meeting, the moderator asked the women which theme they would like to discuss next time. The meetings are held once a month, and last two hours.

Participants

⊕ The sex workers are involved continuously: the more confident ones propose themes to be discussed, but all of them actively participate in the debates. One of them will likely soon assume the role of moderator.

⊕ The outreach team of Autres Regards comprises a nurse, a cultural mediator and a health promotion moderator.

Materials

Mint tea, North African cakes, condoms, dildos, other harm reduction tools. No written materials were used, because most of the service users cannot read.

EVALUATION

Sex workers gave feedback during the meetings and the regular counselling hours. The project workers involved carried out an internal evaluation report.

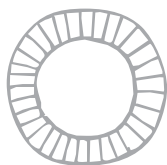
⊕ The sex workers had the opportunity to openly discuss subjects like family, migration, sex work and HIV/STI prevention, which they were unlikely to be able to discuss so freely elsewhere. They built up new and more confident relationships with one another, which led to the development of a group dynamic.

⊖ The project workers had difficulties using written materials, even those available in Arabic, because the women could not read well or at all. The group was smaller than expected

(4 – 5 women as opposed to the anticipated 9 – 10). The project workers observed the service users' hesitance to speak in front of each other about personal subjects, sex work and HIV/STI prevention issues.

LESSONS LEARNED

In order to make contact with a North African community, it is important to have a 'key informant' or a peer educator, who can moderate and pass on information about the planned activity. Although quite a closed community, North Africans do not talk with each other about issues like work, HIV/STI prevention, or personal matters. Those taking on the role of moderator should have some training on group moderation. This kind of activity requires consistency, perseverance and time.



PUTTANOPOLY

Target General public and sex workers

Where Pordenone | ITALY

What Board game about sex work

When 2003

Who Comitato per i Diritti Civili delle Prostitute | www.lucciole.org

Why In this game, role playing is used to make the general public aware of sex workers' life stories and working conditions. The game can also be used in workshops for sex workers, especially those with less experience.

STEPS

1. Conception – The idea was to create a game in which participants would have an active role as a sex worker. The game would enable the general public to see things from the sex worker's perspective. It would show how rapid changes within the sex industry, such as migration and policies, impact on (migrant) sex workers' living and working conditions.

2. Drafting the structure and graphics – With the help of peer educators and outreach workers, workshops were held with sex workers to discuss all the aspects of the game's contents: what should be included and which profiles should be chosen. The idea was to experience different situations within sex work while travelling across a board made up of 69 spaces. Up to eight people can play, all in the role of migrant sex workers. Each one begins with an identity card outlining her profile and life story.

Each 'sex worker' starts the game penniless with a 'slavery contract' requiring her to pay up to 90% of her earnings to her controller. Rather than buy property, the women jump from controllers to police stations to hospitals, while trying not to get killed. If the dice roll in their favour, they net a week's earnings – up to 5,000 euros – in one go, win a trip to work in Amsterdam or are rescued by an enamoured client.

All the stops along the way were based on typical events occurring on the streets where women work

"Everything in the game is true. The aim is to give people an idea of what prostitutes are up against in Italy."

Daniela Mannu,
co-creator of Puttanopoly



and in their lives as sex workers, particularly migrant sex workers.

After the structure was decided, a graphic designer drafted the board including the illustrations and accessories such as cards and explanatory notes.

3. Trialling the game – After trying out the game, it was decided to eliminate profiles which were not clear enough. Because the game’s structure was similar to that of Monopoly – also dealing with money – it was called Puttanopoly (‘putta’ meaning ‘prostitute’), or Whoresville.

4. Design and printing – A great deal of work was put into improving and making adjustments to the game so that it would flow more smoothly. After a year of experimentation with many players and incorporating many changes, the game was ready for final design and printing.

Development

The game focuses on the specific case of migrant women because they are deemed to be the ones most likely to suffer discrimination and to be exploited by criminals. The game’s principal aim is to denounce the criminal aspects that adversely affect the lives of many young foreign women, who in addition meet with the near-total indifference from the general public.

Puttanopoly gives visibility to projects for the empowerment of sex workers, harm reduction projects, and street work outreach projects, so that players are made fully aware of options for support and immediate rescue from criminal exploitation. This aspect has proven to be an important one, especially when the game is played by young, still inexperienced sex workers.

The idea arose in Bologna during an exhibition called Code Red Sex Work by the Slovenian artist Tadey Pogacar. Spectators were invited to assume roles and were able to do so convincingly.

From this role playing came the idea to create and develop a board game that would serve to inform the public about the lives and struggles of sex workers.

Participants

🌀 Outreach workers and peer educators compiled the profiles of the game’s characters. Later on, many sex workers took part in the game during training for peer educators.

🌀 Students, feminists, and activists were interested in the game. It was played at the Social Forum of Florence, Sun Splash Reggae Festival, and Sexyshock’s May Day event.

🌀 The team consisted of outreach workers and peer educators from the Comitato per i Diritti Civili delle Prostitute; a graphic designer also contributed.

Materials

Paper, board, doll shoes, dice.

Documentation

There is a limited number of 1,000 printed copies. The game is sold online at www.puttanopoly.com

Media

The media were involved during the launch and promotion and through the Internet.

✚ There was massive worldwide feedback from the media, and sales requests from a number of countries.

● Puttanopoly was incorporated into academic courses: at a British university it was used in a Masters course on Italian culture, and some school-teachers used Puttanopoly in their lessons.

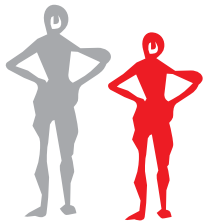
● The idea of a board game on social issues led to the creation of a similar game on drug abuse by a drugs agency, while a famous Italian cartoonist created a similar one on immigration.

– There was a lack of funding and no-one to translate the game into languages other than Italian, and to distribute it throughout Europe.

- The Comitato per i Diritti Civili delle Prostitute tried to copyright Puttanopoly but this was refused. The Minister of Internal Affairs and the Department of Trade Registration said it could not be done because the game's title makes reference to immoral behaviour – sex work.

LESSONS LEARNED

Issues affecting daily life can be turned into an effective means of communication.



FOR MIMI AND ANY

Target Female sex workers

Where Sofia | BULGARIA

What Nine booklets with information for female sex workers, both indoor- and outdoor-based. The booklets feature two main characters, sex workers named Mimi and Any. The series For Mimi and Any includes the titles: 'On the road', 'AIDS?', 'Condoms and lubricants', 'STI', 'Contraception', 'For women', 'On the highway', 'Guidebook for clients', and 'Small book about...'

When Since 2001

Who HESED | Health and Social Development Foundation | www.hesed.bg

Why To provide appropriate information materials to increase sex workers' knowledge and raise their awareness of safer sex practices. Furthermore, for sex workers to recognise the importance of healthcare and to become more self-confident and independent, through increasing their self-esteem.

STEPS

1. Assessment of sex workers' general knowledge of health and other issues connected to sex work.
2. Selecting target group – indoor or outdoor sex workers – and adapting the themes according to context.
3. Drafting the text.
4. Designing the booklets.
5. Distributing pilot copies among sex workers for preliminary feedback.
6. Final edits and layout; printing of the materials.

Development

Some of the booklets are presented as comics, in which information is delivered through stories about the experiences of Mimi and Any, along with other sex workers. The objective of using the comic book format was to present serious information in a more realistic and informal way, but also to reach as many sex workers as possible given varying levels of literacy.

Participants

– Sex workers were involved as advisers in their capacity as experts and recipients of the materials. All nine draft versions were shown to sex workers, who gave feedback on the contents and design during outreach contact. Project workers ascertained whether they understood the information, whether the language used was appropriate, whether they found the content interesting, whether they felt it looked nice, what changes were

still needed, whether they liked the product as a whole, and any other improvements they would like to see.

⦿ The team consisted of the outreach team, psychologists, social workers, a graphic designer, and specialists, such as medical doctors, who advised on the contents of the booklets.

EVALUATION

Sex workers gave feedback during the development process of the materials. An official evaluation was carried out by the project workers. A final report was written for the funders, outlining the process.

⊕ The materials were given a simple and attractive format in order to catch the eye of the target group. Some of the booklets, aimed at illiterate sex workers, take the form of comic books. This format helps to focus attention on relevant topics related to their work and their daily lives.

LESSONS LEARNED

Attention should be paid to what kind of booklets are given to whom. In some cases the materials may turn out to be too simple or too complicated for the individuals receiving them.

High-quality booklets are very expensive and require secure funding. It's worth the effort because distributing quality resources shows respect to those receiving them.

TRANSWORLD CALENDAR

Target General public and transgender sex workers

Where Paris | FRANCE

What A 2007 calendar featuring a photograph of a transgender person for each month

When In 2006

Who PASTT association

Why To increase the visibility of transgender people, particularly sex workers.

STEPS

1. Finding transgender people willing to pose as models. **2.** Production of the photos. **3.** Selection of photos to go in the calendar, month by month. **4.** Preparation of a draft version. **5.** Final edition and printing. **6.** Distribution.

Development

The calendar aimed to empower and increase the self-esteem of transgender sex workers, but also to send a message on safer sex and using condoms.

Participants


⦿ The team was composed of transgender employees and volunteers from PASTT, who took part in the entire process of creating, developing and producing the calendar.

EVALUATION

PASTT gave an evaluation in its annual report.

⊕ Transgender people liked the calendar project very much as it challenged stigma against them. It also raised awareness of safer sex among transgender sex workers. The calendar was mainly distributed to the transgender community, but

also to organisations and institutions dealing with the group, as well as during conferences and other public events.

 Very few people outside the transgender community bought the calendar, because often, men who visit transgender sex workers are married.

LESSONS LEARNED

The project was very effective for transgender visibility, but it was not lucrative.

SPOTLIGHT ON SEX WORKERS' RIGHTS

Target Hungarian sex workers working in Austria

Where Budapest | HUNGARY and Vienna | AUSTRIA

What A brochure for Hungarian sex workers giving information on legal, health, and social issues, focusing on the rights of (Hungarian) sex workers living and working in Austria

When 2006

Who MPEE, The Association of Hungarian Prostitutes | www.prostitualtak.hu | LEFÖ | www.lefoe.at

Why Because of the high number of Hungarian sex workers in Austria and their high mobility between these two border countries, insight was needed into their situation. They needed support and empowerment in the form of information about their rights and the services available to them in both countries.

STEPS



1. Outreach activities found that there was a lack of information for Hungarian sex workers and therefore the decision was made to produce a joint brochure.
2. To plan the brochure, MPEE and LEFÖ met several times to develop the concept, and to agree on the project management and timetable.
3. Outreach workers carried out a mapping of the sex work scene and a needs assessment, gave out information about the brochure and contacted peer educators.
4. Workshops conducted with sex workers solicited more ideas for the brochure, in alignment with their needs and expectations.
5. Production and distribution of the brochure.

Development

Issues arising during outreach activities provided the basis for the workshops, and in turn the workshops were the basis for the conception of the brochure.

In order to carry out the needs assessment and promote the workshops, there was a series of specific outreach activities in Austria and Hungary. In Austria outreach was carried out in Vienna, in other towns, and at the border area. In Hungary outreach was done mainly in Budapest. Four focus groups were held with sex workers. The creation, development and production of the brochure took a year. The brochure is available in the Hungarian language.

Participants

-  Sex workers' questions and problems provided the foundation for the brochure.
-  The team consisted of project workers from LEFÖ (Austria), Together Educational Foundation (Hungary), and MPEE, The Association of Hungarian Prostitutes (Hungary).

Materials

TAMPEP information materials.

Documentation

The brochure “The rights of sex workers” and a final report.

EVALUATION

Sex workers gave their opinions during the process. After the brochure was printed and distributed, sex workers gave feedback on it.

An official evaluation was carried out by the MPEE and LEFÖ teams.

+ The outreach work and focus groups achieved their aims. The brochure proved useful to the target group as it fully met their needs and expectations, and is a good basis for further brochures in other languages for other nationalities.

- Ensuring continuity with the target group due to their high mobility was very difficult. Because of this, the original timeframe had to be revised.

LESSONS LEARNED

Outreach carried out with cultural mediators proved to be the most efficient way to make contact with (migrant) sex workers.

Collaboration between organisations from two neighbouring countries can be very efficient when targeting the same mobile group. Exchanges between the project partners at meetings served to increase their knowledge of relevant sex work issues in both the origin and destination countries.

LEFÖ introduced a monthly meeting point for Hungarian sex workers in Vienna, the ‘Spotlight Café’.

INTOXI MAGAZINE

Target (Drug-using) sex workers

Where Bratislava | SLOVAKIA

What A monthly magazine aimed at drug users and (drug-using) sex workers

When Since 2002

Who C.A. Odysseus | www.odysseus.org

Why The magazine serves as a communication and educational channel, enabling Odysseus to provide sex workers and drug users with information important for their lives and their work.

STEPS

1. Discussion and decisions on themes for each month's edition.
2. Assignment of different topics to team members.
3. Writing the articles.
4. Evaluation of articles written and suggestions made.
5. Layout, editing and printing of the magazine.

Development

The aim is to inform the target group about any (new) subject relevant to them, for instance, descriptions of aggressive clients. Articles about sex work, social support and drug use are included in every issue. The magazine is distributed for free during outreach activities. Information for the magazine is gathered through outreach activities and through sex workers' articles.



Participants

⊕ (Drug-using) sex workers both read and write the articles.

⊕ The team is made up of C.A. Odysseus social workers.

Materials

The magazine itself, and occasional gifts such as badges, lubricants, postcards, condoms.

EVALUATION

The magazine is evaluated by drug users and (drug-using) sex workers through comments about past editions or suggestions for future issues. An official evaluation is carried out by Intoxi's coordinator.

⊕ Intoxi Magazine has become a favourite communication tool among sex workers, as well as a way for the target group to share information. It is also effective in promoting solidarity and group cooperation when, for instance, it gives out information on aggressive clients. The magazine's archive is an important source of information for research, as it traces changes and developments in the sex work scene, as well as sex workers' opinions about their circumstances.

⊖ Drug users and (drug-using) sex workers write articles only occasionally.

LESSONS LEARNED

The strategy of including the target group – sex workers and drug users – in the project needs to be better thought out, in order to increase their participation in making the magazine.

Interventions using diverse and interconnected tools can contribute to harm reduction in vulnerable groups.

ABOUT HIV AND AIDS

Target Migrant sex workers

Where Ljubljana | SLOVENIA

What Information campaign on HIV/AIDS using a brochure and a hotline.

The brochure was written in four languages – English, Serbian, Russian and Slovenian – providing information on HIV/AIDS, ways of transmission, how to protect oneself, safer sex, free of charge and anonymous counselling and voluntary testing available at the STI Clinic, and other support organisations in Slovenia.

A hotline in three languages – English, Serbian and Russian – offered anonymous counselling on HIV/AIDS. The hotline was largely promoted through the brochure.

When 2005 and 2006

Who Robert James Frascino AIDS Foundation | www.concertedeffort.org

Why Migrant sex workers had little information on HIV/STI.

STEPS

1. Research into the circumstances and needs of migrant sex workers. **2.** Development and translation of the brochure. **3.** Distribution of the brochure and condoms during outreach work and counselling hours. **4.** Development of

communication strategies to reach migrant sex workers through specific channels such as bar managers and controllers.

Participants

- ⊕ Sex workers were invited to give feedback on the brochure and to distribute it among their colleagues.
- ⊕ The cooperating partners were the Robert James Frascino AIDS Foundation, CARS, Slovenian Organisation of Migration, Slovenian Philanthropy Centre for Health Promotion, Medical Clinic for Undocumented Persons, NGOs, Clinic for Infectious Diseases, Institute for Public Health, and the Centre for Foreigners.

EVALUATION

Migrant sex workers gave their comments on the brochure and the hotline during outreach and counselling hours at the STI Clinic and other agencies. The National Institute of Public Health carried out an official evaluation.

⊕ The brochure was a very important tool in promoting safer sex, services available to migrant sex workers, and in particular the hotline. Because it was available in four languages, it was possible to reach a greater number of migrant sex workers. The hotline gave them a secure channel to get information.

⊖ A lack of ongoing funding prevented the further development of information materials for migrant sex workers.

LESSONS LEARNED

Interventions have to be relevant and tailored to the specific needs of the target group, and it is possible to achieve very positive results through collaboration between NGOs and different public institutions.



COUNSELLING VIA CHAT ROOMS

Target Male and transgender sex workers

Where Madrid | SPAIN

What www.sindudas.org | A website in Spanish, English and Portuguese targeting male and transgender sex workers, and providing information and advice on social, medical and legal issues. The service is also offered three hours daily, from Monday to Friday, in Internet chat rooms where male and transgender sex workers offer their services.

When Since 2006

Who Fundación Triángulo | www.sindudas.org | www.fundaciontriangulo.es

Why To reach male and transgender sex workers who advertise solely on the Internet and would otherwise be impossible to contact.

STEPS

1. Analysis of the information needs of the target group and the best way to reach them.
2. Site design and development of content for the website.
3. Collaboration agreement signed between the NGO and the Internet portal.
4. Launch of the website.

Development

Since the site's launch, it has been essential to check and answer e-mails from the target group daily, in order to respond immediately to their needs and queries, and to maintain credibility of the site. Other services offered are referrals to other organisations and institutions across Spain, and short animated films on health issues.

Participants

- ⊕ Sex workers took part in the creation and evaluation of the content and form of the site, the written information and the short animated films. They were the ones who translated the text into the different languages.
- ⊕ The team consisted of two social workers from Fundación Triángulo who had worked previously in sex work and specialised in issues related to HIV/AIDS and STIs. They were backed up by a specialist in informatics, a graphic designer, and volunteers.

Materials

Written information on health, social and legal issues, short animated films, and flyers promoting the site, which are distributed in saunas, bars and private flats where male and transgender sex workers are active.

EVALUATION

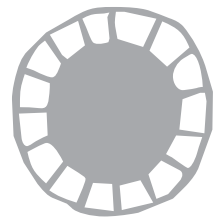
Evaluation is carried out by the project workers and by staff from the public institution funding the programme. The target group evaluates the activity continuously, giving feedback and comments.

⊕ The site respects male and transgender sex workers' activities and, by doing so, dignifies their work. The anonymity of the site and the chat rooms enables effective contact with both sex workers and their clients.

⊖ Constant observation and attention are required in order to respond immediately to rapid changes in virtual environments, particularly the chat rooms. This is not always possible due to lack of personnel or funding.

LESSONS LEARNED

It is necessary to have a global view of the circumstances and working conditions of male and transgender sex workers, and to work in multiple settings, because to work in only one way, such as electronically, limits the action and distorts its image. Work needs to be carried out in all environments where male and transgender sex workers are active, in order to more effectively give out information on services available and other issues.



FOR YOUR WORK AND HEALTH

Target Female Sex Workers

Where Madrid | SPAIN

What A booklet with information on HIV and STI prevention for women working in the sex industry

When Since 1998

Who Hetaira Association | www.colectivohetaira.org

Why There was no printed material available about these issues when sex workers asked questions or expressed concerns.

STEPS

1. Draft of the guide in comic book format.
2. Research carried out on its contents.
3. Consensus reached with the sex workers on vocabulary to be used in the guide, and how explanations were to be given, to ensure full understanding of the issues.
4. Text written in accordance with this; guide edited.
5. Selection of photos to be included.
6. Layout and printing of the guide.

Development

The guide is an ongoing project for health promotion. It is adjusted and updated to meet sex workers' needs. It was first published in Spanish, and a few years later was translated into English and Romanian. The guide is distributed on the streets, during outreach activities, and at the counselling centre. It is also used every time a sex worker asks a question related to health. The guide includes addresses of health centres in Madrid specialising in HIV and STIs.

Participants

- ⑥ Sex workers were involved in the development of the guide. They use it to circulate health promotion information among their colleagues.
- ⑥ The team is composed of project workers from Hetaira.

Materials

The guide is used to provide explanations alongside the distribution of male condoms and demonstration with a latex vagina to show how to use a female condom.

EVALUATION

Sex workers give comments about the guide and about their needs, concerns and interests, during outreach and counselling hours. Hetaira project workers conduct internal annual evaluations about the results of the use of their material.

⊕ The guide gives information and facilitates contact with sex workers; some of them are also involved in developing further editions of it. Feedback from sex workers shows that the guide is very useful for them to learn and be informed about their work, their health, what they should prioritise and what to avoid.

⊖ Difficulties have been experienced in finding sufficient funding to print new editions as well as to translate the guide into other languages, which is desirable due to an increase in migrant sex workers.

LESSONS LEARNED

Information material can be adapted to meet the needs of the target group, and they can participate in the planning and development of such materials.



LANGUAGE COURSE FOR MIGRANT SEX WORKERS

Target Bulgarian, Romanian, Polish, Slovak, and Czech female sex workers

Where Alkmaar | THE NETHERLANDS

What Dutch language course for women working in window prostitution

When November 2003 to July 2004

Who TAMPEP International Foundation
www.tampep.eu

Why To teach sex workers the Dutch language and thus improve their ability to communicate in their environment.

STEPS

1. Letting sex workers know about the possibility of a language course – Sex workers were asked by outreach workers and cultural mediators, during their regular fieldwork, about their interest in participating in a language course.

2. Language selected – Following the consultations, it was decided that Dutch would be the language taught (the choice was between Dutch and English). Given that the majority of sex workers locally were from Central and Eastern Europe, it was decided that they would be the only ones invited to participate.

3. Selection of teaching institute – The ROC Institute, a college for vocational training, was approached and teachers were selected.

4. Teachers trained on sex work issues – The selected teachers were trained on issues such as sex work, migration, and the specifics of the sex work setting.

5. Sex business owners were approached for support and assistance in finding premises – The sex business owners were informed about the course and were enthusiastic about cooperating.

6. Selection of students – The sex workers were informed about the contents and about expectations. They were asked to consider whether they had enough time and motivation to follow the course and to do the homework; they were asked if they would rather have lessons near where they worked or at the teaching institute; they were informed about the advantages of the course and its requirements (good attendance, homework).

7. Evaluating participants' knowledge of the Dutch language – Decisions were made to divide participants into two groups, beginners and advanced learners, and that lessons would take place in the premises made available by the sex business owners. The owners also offered to supply a flip chart, a portable TV and a cassette recorder. The teachers were assisted by the cultural mediators in designing the courses.

8. Delivery of the course – 40 women expressed interest and readiness to follow the course. The first two lessons were spent evaluating their knowledge of the Dutch language and setting and agreeing ground rules for the course: no latecomers, more than three absences would result in exclusion from the course, etc.

9. Celebration at the end of the course by handing out diplomas – The graduation ceremony was attended by 18 graduates, two teachers, the head of the ROC Institute, the two TAMPEP cultural mediators, a representative from the BLinN (Bonded Labour in the Netherlands) project and a representative of the sex business owners. The graduates were handed two certificates, one issued by the teaching institute and, the other by the organiser as a certificate of participation in a European programme on vocational training for sex workers.

Development

The course took careful attention and planning. Preparation took three months and was divided into different phases. Most of the work around the organisation, the execution and the evaluation was undertaken by the two TAMPEP cultural mediators who had served as the contacts for the ROC Institute, the teachers, the participating sex workers, the sex business owners and the BLinN project.

The objective is to empower sex workers through engaging activities. This will give them a chance to take their lives into their own hands again.

ROC, the teaching institute in Alkmaar, had been identified, approached, selected and sensitised around issues of sex work. Conversations were held about what was needed in order to select two teachers with the appropriate qualities. After their selection, they were trained on sex work issues, migrants in the sex industry, labour migration, trafficking in women, the specifics of the sex work scene, and life in CEE countries. The eight-month course was concretely planned:

- Frequency: two-hour lessons held once a week
- Location: in the red light district

- Techniques of teaching: multimedia and active participation
- Graduation ceremony: certificates to be handed out.

As expected, during the course the number of participants diminished. This was due to the fact that some women moved (or were moved) to other locations for sex work in the Netherlands or abroad; some decided to return to their home country; some found the course too time-consuming; and some, in anticipation of changes in Alkmaar's sex work policy, went into hiding and did not dare to attend the course. However, most women attended lessons regularly and did their homework. During the course the two cultural mediators maintained continuous contact with the teachers and the sex workers, monitored weekly attendance, evaluated the progress of learning and mediated (small) conflicts.

Participants

④ 40 sex workers participated in the language course. They decided on the language, time of the lessons (5 – 7pm), frequency, and location.

④ The team consisted of TAMPEP outreach workers and cultural mediators targeting Eastern European women, and teachers from ROC, the teaching institute in Alkmaar.

Materials

Learning manuals from the teaching institute.

Documentation

Report in the form of a book, Gender Street: A transnational initiative on social and labour inclusion for trafficked women and migrant sex workers.

Book by TAMPEP and BLinN: 'Met de oog op de toekomst, de praktijk van scholing voor slachtoffers van mensenhandel'.

EVALUATION

An evaluation was carried out by the teachers, by the TAMPEP cultural mediators, and by the Equal programme. The target group provided very positive feedback during and after the course.

+ The language course improved sex workers' ability to communicate. It was intended to empower them and increase their independence while in the Netherlands. At the same time, knowledge of the Dutch language could also be useful in their home countries. It was positive to see an official teaching institute delivering the course to a group of sex workers, and this contributed to lowering the stigma affecting this group.

- The high mobility of the sex workers and the unstable situation of the sex industry are very difficult factors to deal with and can have negative consequences. For example, some of the Bulgarian and Romanian sex workers had to leave the course without finishing it because they were no longer allowed to work in the Netherlands.

LESSONS LEARNED

A language course is an excellent opportunity for migrant sex workers to gain control over their working situation and thus gain autonomy and increased self-esteem. They also gain the ability to communicate with their clients, controllers, and others in their environment, which is empowering for them.

After the completion of the course, two sex workers enrolled at the teaching institute to continue lessons.



REFLECTING ON WOMEN'S MIGRATION

Target Cultural mediators

Where Vienna | AUSTRIA

What Eight vocational training seminars for cultural mediators working in the area of sex work and trafficking in women. The thematic blocks were: sensitisation and self-reflection: background and meaning of cultural mediation | counselling and social work: understanding the situation of migrant sex workers and victims of trafficking | transferring knowledge | the legal aspects of migration | violence in the socio-political context: causes and structures of relations of violence | between dependency and self-determination: physical and psychological reactions.

When 2000 and 2001

Who LEFÖ | www.lefoe.at

Why To reflect on the structural and political backgrounds of migration so that cultural mediators recognise different approaches in addition to their own ones.

The seminars aimed to teach cultural mediators to recognise structural violence in migration; cooperate with existing support services, networks and professionals; reflect on clichés about social work; recognise prejudices, including being aware of and deconstructing their own ones; develop awareness; recognise the socio-political context and the complex situation of migrant sex workers and victims of trafficking; reconsider their own views on social work and the transfer of specialised professional knowledge.

STEPS

1. Plans drawn up for the training, requirements and timetable.
2. Definition of the concept and search for speakers, trainers and moderators.
3. Location chosen.
4. Search for trainees: circulation of information on the training among NGOs, institutions and social work courses.
5. Delivery of the seminars.

Development

The concept of the training was developed in cooperation with the expert speakers and the trainers. LEFÖ subsequently produced a document with guidelines for delivering short training sessions for cultural mediators working at women's centres and in communities.

Participants

- ⑥ The cultural mediators were migrants themselves and some had experienced violence. They provided input for the training and had a central role in its development.
- ⑥ The team consisted of LEFÖ's cultural mediators working with migrant sex workers and victims of trafficking, and trainers and moderators from the Im Kontext Institute.

Documentation

A report was made by the Im Kontext Institute; handouts were given to the participants.

EVALUATION

Evaluation was carried out by LEFÖ, Im Kontext Institute, the speakers and the participants.

⊕ It was the first time that such innovative vocational training was implemented in this field. Members of various professions were involved at a practical level, e.g. regarding health, psychology and legal issues, which proved very valuable for the training series.

⊖ The participants felt that the vocational training blocks, each lasting just one day, were too short for them to address the different issues in sufficient depth. They also felt that there should have been more time available for personal questions and exchange between the participants.

LESSONS LEARNED

Because of the high number of migrants among sex workers and victims of trafficking, vocational training for migrants as cultural mediators is fundamental in responding to the needs of the target group and ensuring effective practice of social work.



STEP BY STEP

Target Social workers

Where Tatabány, Nyíregyháza and Kecskemét | HUNGARY

What Training for social workers working with homeless people, who encounter sex workers on streets and roads

When 2006 and 2007

Who Sex Education Foundation

Why In Hungary there are only two NGOs dealing with sex workers, and governmental institutions provide no social or financial support for sex workers.

By collaborating with organisations active in similar areas, better support can be offered to sex workers.

STEPS

1. Planning of training. **2.** Decisions taken on issues to be covered in the training. **3.** Decision on timetable. **4.** Inviting speakers and trainers. **5.** Mobilisation of people interested in attending the training. **6.** Carrying out the training.

Development

The Sex Education Foundation carried out the training for project workers of 15 NGOs, members of a national network of organisations dealing with homeless people, active in Tatabány, Nyíregyháza and Kecskemét.

The aim of the training was to provide social workers with information on the realities of sex work, living and working conditions of sex workers, labour migration, the legal framework on sex work and migration, access to health and social support, HIV/STI prevention, and safer sex. This background information would enable outreach and social workers from other areas to better understand and deal with those working in the sex industry, and provide more appropriate support to them. The training was held over the course of one week in each of the three towns.

Participants

⊕ The team involved project workers from the different organisations as collaborating partners, trainers and moderators.

Documentation

The FENARETE Manual on Peer Education within the Area of Prostitution served as one of the base materials for the training | www.fenarete.org

EVALUATION

The trainees provided feedback through a questionnaire at the end of the training. The organising team wrote a final evaluation report.

⊕ The collaboration with organisations for homeless people gave staff a better overview of the living and working conditions of sex workers working outdoors.

By increasing the number of social workers knowledgeable about sex work, sex workers will receive better and more competent support from social organisations.

⊖ Despite the training, the practical use of the knowledge acquired will depend solely on the efforts of the NGOs and the project workers themselves, because there is no funding guaranteed for work with sex workers in Hungary.

LESSONS LEARNED

It can be very useful and effective to collaborate with organisations from other fields which nonetheless share the same aims. Sex workers' needs are not recognised by official institutions and therefore support for this group is dependent upon voluntary work.

SEX WORK, LAW AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Target Students of university courses in medical and public health

Where Szczecin | POLAND

What Educational, advocacy and awareness-raising training, and a role play competition to illustrate the realities of sex work and the working conditions of sex workers.

When December 2007

Who TADA Association | www.tada.pl | Pomeranian Medical University | www.pam.szczecin.pl

Why In response to recurring negative social attitudes towards sex work and sex workers.

STEPS

1. Identification of the needs and problems of sex workers. The main issues were stigma; unwillingness of institutions to work with (migrant) sex workers; and the unequal social position of Polish and migrant sex workers in terms of access

to medical services. **2.** Actions suggested: raising awareness among healthcare providers about the needs of sex workers; instigating a change in social attitudes through a campaign targeting social workers and local authorities, including a change in health insurance policy. **3.** Conduction of an information campaign aimed at future policy-makers: today's students of medical and public health.

Development

In order to ascertain students' knowledge of and attitudes towards sex work, TADA and the Medical University prepared a questionnaire which was distributed to medical public health students. The results confirmed that the students had no knowledge about the law on sex work and the impact of marginalisation and criminalisation on sex workers' living and working conditions. In response to this, TADA informed them about the legal framework on migration and sex work, and about public health with regard to sex work, and provided some historical and international background to sex work.

After going through the different subjects, the students took part in a competition called 'Sex Work, Law and Public Health'. The students were divided into groups and competed to see who was best at interpreting the role plays. The plays consisted of a dialogue between a sex worker and a person with no experience of the sex industry, who argued about sex work using arguments based on advocacy, emotions and morality.

This final event was held on 17 December, the International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers. The entire project – conception, training and competition – took 2 months.

Participants

⊕ Sex workers were directly involved in the planning by identifying the main problems and possible solutions. They were involved indirectly as beneficiaries of the campaign.

⊕ TADA's project workers prepared the training materials and the questionnaire. Professionals from the Medical University were involved in the development and the implementation of the project.

Materials

Leaflets, brochures for sex workers, Powerpoint presentations on 'working as a sex worker and working with sex workers, and the Declaration of Sex Workers' Rights (Brussels 2005).

Documentation

Questionnaires, psychodrama screenplays and evaluation form. The whole campaign can be seen on SWAN's website at www.swannet.org/en/node/779

Media

A press release was prepared to publicise the competition and give background information on sex work issues, including the Declaration of Sex Workers' Rights.

EVALUATION

The activity was evaluated by students through a questionnaire.

⊕ The students said that the training enabled them to see sex work from a different perspective. As such, the training succeeded in its aim: raising awareness among those liable to be influential in the future. The role play method used for the competition was a great success because it allowed the students to confront realistic arguments and discussions.

LESSONS LEARNED

A limited number of people can be involved. Therefore the idea is to not only address university students, but also those studying for social work qualifications, on a regional and national level. Good cooperation is necessary in advance before entering the academic field.





SEX WORK AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Elena Reynaga

Argentinian sex worker

President of AMMAR
Sex Workers' Organisation of Argentina

Chair of REDTRASEX
Latin American and Caribbean Network of Sex Workers

Speech at the plenary session at the
17th International AIDS Conference in Mexico
August 2008

So we demand the following:

- Abolish all legislation that criminalises sex work.
- Investigate and condemn violence, abuse and the murder of sex workers.
- Oppose red-light districts that force us into ghettos and promote violence and discrimination.
- Abolish mandatory HIV testing. Abolish the sanitary control card among sex workers.
- Promote voluntary, free and confidential testing including pre and post-test counselling.
- Ensure universal access to prevention, testing, treatment and high-quality care.
- Provide access to healthcare among migrant and mobile sex workers.
- Provide access to friendly integral healthcare services, without stigma and without discrimination.
- Ensure the availability of resources for community-based organisations. No more intermediary organisations.

But above and beyond all this, we want sex work to be recognised as 'work'.

We want to be free to do, free to make mistakes and free to learn.

Free to decide what we, as sex workers, need.

Free from repression – this is the best way to build an effective response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Sex workers are not the problem; we are part of the solution.

RECOMMENDATIONS

These recommendations are the result of years of experience in the field working with and for sex workers. They were collected and developed by all the member organisations of the TAMPEP network.



- Ensure dissemination of voluntary (initiated by the service user or provider) HIV and STI counselling, testing and treatment good practice protocols to all healthcare providers working with sex workers. Explore how bad practices can be constructively challenged through training programmes developed by community-based organisations and sex workers.
- Develop training programmes and good practice guidelines for mapping, analysing and establishing the configuration of sex work settings and appropriate service delivery.
- Develop training and good practice guidance for negotiating with gatekeepers, both controllers and managers, to enhance service providers' understanding and ability to successfully negotiate access to sex workers in both 'public' and 'hidden' sex work settings.
- Develop good practice guidance for promoting safer sex and attitudinal change amongst clients of sex workers.
- Develop training and empowerment programmes for sex workers to improve their negotiating skills with clients and managers.
- Develop campaigns to influence clients' behaviour and attitudes in relation to sex workers and their responsibilities around HIV and STI prevention.
- Develop personal safety and crime reporting guidelines for sex workers, projects and law enforcement agencies.
- Develop training programmes appropriate and tailored to law enforcement agencies.
- Develop cooperation and partnerships between service providers, especially those working with vulnerable young people.
- Develop good practice guidelines for conflict resolution and mediation. Prepare a procedure for dealing with complaints, so that sex workers know their concerns will be taken seriously and dealt with effectively.
- Develop awareness and anti-discrimination training programmes for law enforcement officers, health professionals and social service providers in relation to working with both migrant and national sex workers.
- Develop a skill-set for sex work projects in recording and writing up processes and good practice guidelines and protocols in simple and user-friendly formats.
- Ensure all sex work pilot projects have a minimum of three years' funding to enable the services to be established, implemented and evaluated. Short-term funding does not allow for trust to be built up between sex workers and service providers, nor for any meaningful evaluation.
- Develop local and national networks of sex work projects and those working directly with sex workers to facilitate sharing knowledge and good practice and sustain regional networks to facilitate international exchange.





Recommended

⬆️ **Empowerment, dignity, respect and a non-judgmental attitude** must be part of every activity for and with sex workers.

⬆️ **The involvement of sex workers should be a rule.** Their involvement may differ depending on context and task, for instance in planning services, campaigns and training, in peer activity, in peer work, etc. If sex workers are not involved from the beginning, they must be informed beforehand about what you are going to do and why. Make sure sex workers are kept informed about upcoming campaigns, developments and outcomes.

⬆️ **Have a well-structured and realistic plan, whatever you do.** You should have a structure including how you work, when you work, where you work, and with whom you work. But mainly, you must know *why* you are doing what you are doing.

⬆️ **Always have something to offer.** Your services should be useful to sex workers. If possible, offer something warm when it is cold and something cool and/or refreshing when it is hot. Be flexible.

⬆️ **Sex workers' lives do not revolve only around sex work!** STIs, laws and violence are not the only things you can talk about with sex workers. For instance, you can talk about life in general, pets, gardening ... the list is endless.

⬆️ **Always evaluate your work and ensure that needs assessment is ongoing.** Basic data and reliable needs assessment and mapping are very important in order to have a better picture of the environment, working conditions, needs of sex workers, and barriers they encounter in accessing health and social services.

⬆️ **Incorporate policy analysis into your work.** Remember that you are not operated in a vacuum when you conduct outreach or social work.

⬆️ **Networking and cooperation are essential for advocacy.** Participate and strengthen your local, national and international networks. Make sure there is coordination and cooperation between potential human resources and expertise. Advocacy campaigns should link in with long-term activities. Be sure to identify your key informants before launching advocacy campaigns. Awareness should be raised among key agents of sex workers' health, labour, migration and human rights.

⬆️ **Guarantee ongoing work and a trustworthy service.** The regularity of activities and the continuity of services offered are essential for the efficiency and effectiveness of your work. To make sure you build trust-based relationships, ensure consistency and long-term interventions. For instance, use mobile units with regular healthcare facilities in localities where sex workers have no access to health services.

⬆️ **Confidentiality and anonymity are a must!** Even in places where sex workers are not criminalised, wider social stigma continues to exist. Sex workers won't trust you unless they can be assured that the information they provide is kept safe, and won't be passed on to anyone else without very good reason.

⬆️ **Have a media strategy.** Be confident about the issues you want to discuss. Present them in a clear, concise and objective manner to avoid misunderstandings. Be careful with any personal information given to the media. Negotiate to review the article before printed.

⬆️ **Respect sex workers' privacy and local codes.**

⬆️ **Respect sex workers' right to say no, even to you!**

⬆️ **Respect sex workers' choices!** You can offer them possibilities and alternatives, but the last word is theirs!

⬆️ **Take good care of your peers.**

⬆️ **Take good care of your staff.**

⬆️ **Be sensitive to the cultural context.** Cultural mediators should be an integral part of the staff team when working with migrant sex workers.

⬆️ **Empower sex workers.** Study and explore what empowerment really means in practice.





Be aware!

- ➔ ... that things may not always be as they seem.
- ➔ ... that you should not strengthen pre-existing stereotypes. For example, if you are using old clichés in campaigns, do so carefully and tactfully.
- ➔ ... that you might be criticised. Be prepared for the potential consequences of raising issues which challenge official policies in your area or your country.
- ➔ ... when co-operating with the police, politicians, and the media. Try to find trustworthy contacts.
- ➔ ... when doing a needs assessment: you should be able to respond to the needs as comprehensively and effectively as possible.
- ➔ ... of the diversity amongst sex workers!
- ➔ ... of building your project on a sustainable basis. Be realistic about your expectations and motivations. Be aware of the limits of your own work.
- ➔ ... of the impact of law enforcement and controllers on the living and working conditions of sex workers. Be aware of all external factors combined!
- ➔ ... of cultural differences and sensitivities.
- ➔ ... of your goals. Clarify what you are doing, why you are doing it, and what you are aiming for. Make sure you have a clear message. Carefully analyse the field and the actual needs of sex workers when carrying out your project.
- ➔ ... of identifying the proper stakeholders.
- ➔ ... of your own attitudes towards clients and organisers/managers of the sex industry. Not all clients and managers wish to harm or exploit sex workers.
- ➔ ... assume nothing. Check out with sex workers the reality of their working conditions.
- ➔ Be sure that the language and the concepts you use are non-judgmental.
- ➔ Be prepared to change your plans according to changes in the environment.



Avoid!

- ⚠ Never break the trust of sex workers! Do not do things without their permission!
- ⚠ Never abuse sex workers for your own purposes (to get funding, to get information, etc.).
- ⚠ Never go to the public or publish your statistics without evaluating the consequences for sex workers.
- ⚠ Never interrupt sex workers' work. Do not interfere or break the rules of their business.
- ⚠ Never conduct outreach work or go to meet sex workers in the company of police officers.
- ⚠ Never conduct outreach work or go to meet sex workers in the company of journalists without having asked sex workers' permission beforehand.
- ⚠ Do not organise your work, or run campaigns in conflict with the interests of sex workers. Bear in mind that sex workers are not a homogenous group.
- ⚠ Do not be too visible and conspicuous when doing outreach work. It might jeopardise the anonymity of sex workers. Many sex workers wish to work unnoticed in their environment.
- ⚠ Do not patronise or lecture sex workers or their clients.
- ⚠ Do not create dependency of sex workers on social workers, organisations or any sort of services.
- ⚠ Do not try to limit sex workers' choices!

LITERATURE

Last updated August 2009



COMPREHENSIVE SEX WORK RESOURCES

Making Sex Work Safe

Published by NSWP (Network of Sex Work Projects) in 1997. Available in English.
www.nswp.org/safety/msws/index.html

Hustling for Health

Developing Services for Sex Workers in Europe
Developed by EUROPAP and TAMPEP in 1998
The handbook can be downloaded in English and Spanish.
<http://tinyurl.com/mb1m3q>

Practical guidelines for delivering health services to sex workers

Developed by EUROPAP in 2003
The guidelines can be downloaded in Danish, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and Swedish.
www.nswp.org/pdf/EUROPAP-GUIDE-EN.PDF

Practical guidelines for delivering health services to sex workers

Developed by the Correlation Network in 2008
<http://tinyurl.com/ma83p9>

WHO Toolkit for Targeted HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care in Sex Work Settings

www.who.int/hiv/topics/vct/sw_toolkit/en/

METHODS OF REACHING OUT TO AND ENGAGING WITH SEX WORKERS

Sex workers self-organising

ICRSE (International Committee on the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe)
The 'Declaration of the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe' can be downloaded in Albanian, Bulgarian, Czech, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Kyrgyz, Macedonian,

Norwegian, Russian, Serbian, Slovenian and Spanish.
<http://tinyurl.com/24dvh6>

The 'Sex Workers in Europe Manifesto' can be downloaded in English, Bulgarian, French, German, Greek, Italian, Russian, Slovenian and Spanish.
<http://tinyurl.com/lwcmd4>

Support and Advice for Escorts
www.saafe.info/

Beyond Tolerance and Compassion for the Recognition of Rights

The document can be downloaded in English and Italian.
www.tampep.com/documents.asp?section=positionpapers

Participation & empowerment of sex workers

Participation & Empowerment in HIV/AIDS Programming – Policy briefing No. 2

The briefing can be downloaded in English, French and Spanish.
www.aidsalliance.org/sw9754.asp

Sex Work, HIV/AIDS and Human Rights in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia

The document can be downloaded in English.
<http://tinyurl.com/krd17h>

Guide to Participatory Production of Resources for HIV Prevention among Vulnerable Populations

The document can be downloaded in English.
www.aidsalliance.org/sw21318.asp

The Augusta's Way series

The CD-ROM can be ordered from the TAMPEP website.
www.tampep.com/cdrom.asp?section=cdrom1

SWAN (Sex Workers' Rights Advocacy Network in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia)

developed a Media & Advocacy Manual
<http://swannet.org/node/1241>

SWAN newsletters:
www.swannet.org/en/taxonomy/term/16

Cultural mediation & peer education TAMPEP

Three training manuals can be downloaded from
<http://tinyurl.com/ldar7r>

- Cultural Mediators in the Area of Prostitution: Transnational Training Manual (English)
- Manuale del Corso di Formazione per Mediatori Culturali (Italian)

- Peer-Educator's Manual. Course of Prevention and Hygiene (Albanian, English, Dutch, Italian, Polish, Russian and Spanish)

Puttanopoly

A board game developed by and with migrant sex workers in Italy, available in Italian.

Comitato per i Diritti delle Prostitute (Committee for the Civil Rights of Prostitutes)
www.puttanopoly.com/

Outreach services

Services in the Window: A Manual for Interventions in the World of Migrant Prostitution

The manual can be downloaded in English, Italian and Russian.

<http://transnet.exclusion.net/handbook/>

Good Practice Guidance for Outreach to Sex Workers and Working with Migrant Sex Workers

The UK Network of Sex Work Projects (UKNSWP). Available in English.

www.uknswp.org/resources.asp

SAFER SEX, CONDOM USE, HIV & STI PREVENTION

Sex work specific resources

Condoms & Lubricants | When the condom bursts | Contraception & Pregnancy

The leaflets are available on the TAMPEP CD-ROM, Volume II, resource in Albanian, Bulgarian, Czech, English, Estonian, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Thai and Ukrainian. The CD-ROM can be ordered from the TAMPEP website.

www.tampep.eu/cdrom.asp?section=cdrom2

Is Everything OK?

A primarily pictorial guide to female reproductive health. The leaflet is available on the TAMPEP CD-ROM, Volume II, resource in Bulgarian, English, German, Hungarian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Spanish and Thai. The CD-ROM can be ordered from the TAMPEP website.

www.tampep.eu/cdrom.asp?section=cdrom2

Resources that can be adapted

Steps to Making Sex Safer

The newsletter can be downloaded in English
www.aidsaction.info/pdf/aa15.pdf

HIV PREVENTION, COUNSELLING, TESTING & TREATMENT

HIV & AIDS

The leaflet is available on the TAMPEP CD-ROM, Volume II, in Albanian, Bulgarian, Czech, English, Estonian, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Thai and Ukrainian. The CD-ROM can be ordered from the TAMPEP website

www.tampep.eu/cdrom.asp?section=cdrom2

See also **Making Sex Work Safe, Hustling for Health and WHO toolkit.**

HIV counselling & testing

HIV Testing: A Practical Approach

The guide can be read in English.

<http://www.aidsaction.info/ht/index.html>

Let's talk about HIV counselling and testing:

Tools to build NGO/CBO capacity to mobilise communities for HIV counselling and testing.

The toolkit can be downloaded in English.

www.aidsalliance.org/sw37361.asp

Voluntary counselling and testing – Emerging approaches from Asia and Eastern Europe

The document can be downloaded in English.

www.aidsalliance.org/sw7433.asp

HIV treatment

Handbook on access to HIV/AIDS treatment – A collection of information, tools and resources for NGOs, CBOs and PLWHA groups

The handbook can be downloaded in English, French and Spanish.

www.aidsalliance.org/sw7421.asp

STI PREVENTION, TESTING & TREATMENT

HEPATITIS

The leaflets are available on the TAMPEP CD-ROM, Volume II, in Albanian, Bulgarian, Czech, English, Estonian, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Thai and Ukrainian. The CD-ROM can be ordered from the TAMPEP website.

www.tampep.eu/cdrom.asp?section=cdrom2

See also **Making Sex Work Safe, Hustling for Health and WHO toolkit.**

DRUG HARM REDUCTION

Safer Drug Use

The leaflet is available on the TAMPEP CD-ROM, Volume II, in Albanian, Bulgarian, Czech, English, Estonian, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Thai and Ukrainian. The CD-ROM can be ordered from the TAMPEP website.

www.tampep.eu/cdrom.asp?section=cdrom2

See also **Making Sex Work Safe, Hustling for Health and WHO toolkit**.

PERSONAL SAFETY AND CRIME REPORTING

Protect Yourself: Advice on Work and Personal Security

The leaflet is available on the TAMPEP CD-ROM, Volume II, in Albanian, Bulgarian, Czech, English, Estonian, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Thai and Ukrainian. The CD-ROM can be ordered from the TAMPEP website.

www.tampep.eu/cdrom.asp?section=cdrom2

Tueta dhe Shoget e Saj

A safety at work comic strip booklet produced for Albanian migrant sex workers in Italy. The booklet is available on the TAMPEP CD-ROM, Volume I, in Albanian.

The CD-ROM can be ordered from the TAMPEP website
www.tampep.eu/cdrom.asp?section=cdrom1

SCOT-PEP (Scottish Prostitutes Education Project)

www.scot-pep.org.uk

Remote Reporting Scheme

www.lbp.police.uk/takecontrol

Protect Yourself: a personal safety handbook for sex workers

The personal safety handbook can be downloaded in English. www.scot-pep.org.uk/safety.html

Sex work, Violence and HIV

A guide for programmes with sex workers.

<http://tinyurl.com/mc366o>

Good Practice Guidance: Ugly Mugs and Dodgy Punters

The guidance can be downloaded in English.

www.uknswp.org/resources/GPG1.pdf

See also **Making Sex Work Safe, Hustling for Health and WHO toolkit**.

NEGOTIATING SKILLS WITH CLIENTS & MANAGERS

Fair Play

A postcard was developed and can be downloaded in English, German and Spanish.

www.freiersein.de/index.php/fairplay

See also **Making Sex Work Safe, Hustling for Health and WHO toolkit**.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

City and Prostitution: the Mestre service

The report can be downloaded in English, Italian and Russian. Select language then chapter 4.

<http://transnet.exclusion.net/handbook/>

Living and working in areas of street sex work

A report from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, in collaboration with Staffordshire, Loughborough and Strathclyde Universities. The report can be downloaded in English.

www.jrf.org.uk/bookshop/eBooks/9781861348678.pdf

SUPPORT TO MOVE ON FROM SEX WORK

FENARETE

The handbook can be downloaded in English, French, Hungarian, Italian, Lithuanian, Romanian and Russian.

www.fenarete.org/index_eng_1024.html

Gender Street Project

The report can be downloaded in English.

<http://tinyurl.com/kpe8mg>

Safe Exit Handbook

SETH (Safe Exit Tower Hamlets)

The handbook can be downloaded in English.

<http://tinyurl.com/nabq8r>

La Strada, European Network against Trafficking in Women – facts & practices

The book can be downloaded in English.

<http://tinyurl.com/mlkp89>

Stolen Smiles

A report from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. The document can be downloaded in English.

www.lshtm.ac.uk/hpu/docs/StolenSmiles.pdf

Anti-trafficking

Human Trafficking – Our Response: Manual for Peer Education

The Red Cross of Serbia and Astra have produced a manual that can be downloaded in English.

www.astra.org.yu/en/pdf/istrzivanje6.pdf

Things to Know Before You Go

Zi Teng, Hong Kong. The handbook can be downloaded in English.

www.ziteng.org.hk/pub/dl_e.html

Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women, Thailand

www.gaatw.org

YOUNG PEOPLE

Barnardo's SECOS Project

(Sexually Exploited Children Outreach Services)

www.barnardos.org.uk/secos.htm

See also **Safe Exit Handbook** which has a chapter on young people, and **Human Trafficking – Our Response: Manual for Peer Education**.

MALE & TRANSGENDER SEX WORKERS

Hormones, Silicone, Breast Development, Transformation-Operation & Epilation, STI, AIDS & Hepatitis B

The leaflets are available on the TAMPEP CD-ROM, Volume II, in English, Portuguese and Spanish. The CD-ROM can be ordered from the TAMPEP website.

www.tampep.eu/cdrom.asp?section=cdrom2

The Working Men Project

The WMP (London, UK) has a website in English, French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish.

www.wmplondon.org.uk

HIV prevention and testing

www.wmplondon.org.uk/hiv.htm

Condoms and their proper use

www.wmplondon.org.uk/condoms.htm

Is Sex Work For You? A Brief Guide

SW5 (London, UK). The leaflet can be downloaded in English.

www.sw5.info/is_sex_work_for_you_leaflet.pdf

See also the **Safe Exit Handbook** above, which has a chapter on male sex workers.

USEFUL TAMPEP RESOURCES

TAMPEP CD-ROMs

The CD-ROMs can be ordered from the website.

www.tampep.eu/cdrom.asp?section=cdrom

TAMPEP leaflets

TAMPEP has developed a wide range of information and educational materials. The leaflets are available in 19 languages.

www.tampep.com/documents.asp?section=resources

TAMPEP Philosophy and Methodology

The document can be downloaded in English.

<http://tinyurl.com/lzj636>

TAMPEP Position Papers on Migration and Sex Work and on Trafficking in Women

The position papers can be downloaded in English and Italian.

www.tampep.com/documents.asp?section=positionpapers

Policies on Sex Work and Health

Joint EUROPAP/TAMPEP briefing paper

<http://tinyurl.com/l15tzb>

OTHER POTENTIALLY USEFUL RESOURCES

Health and Safety Guidelines for Brothels

WorkCover, New South Wales Government

The guidelines can be downloaded in English.

www.nswp.org/pdf/AUOHS-BROTHELS.PDF

A Guide on Occupational Health and Safety in The New Zealand Sex Industry

Department of Labour, New Zealand Government

The guide can be downloaded in English.

www.osh.dol.govt.nz/order/catalogue/235.shtml

Recommendations for improving accessibility and quality of care for migrants in the European Union

Conference on 'Health and Migration in the EU:

Better Health for All in an Inclusive Society'

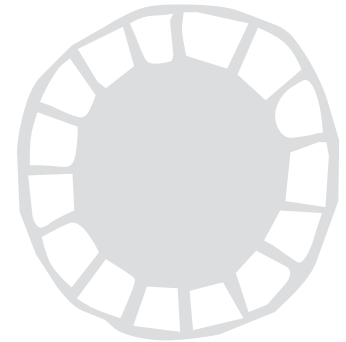
Conference, Lisbon, 2007.

<http://tinyurl.com/ljg03m>

ENDNOTES



- 1 <http://tinyurl.com/p88p6l>
- 2 Good Practices on Health and Migration in the EU, Document of the 'Health and Migration in the EU: Better health for all in an inclusive society' conference, September 2007
- 3 WHO HIV/AIDS sex work toolkit www.who.int/hiv/topics/vct/sw_toolkit/en/
- 4 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, in Good Practices on Health and Migration in the EU, Lisbon, September 2007.
- 5 Practical guidelines for delivering health services to sex workers, Correlation Network, 2008
- 6 Hustling for Health, EUROPAP and TAMPEP, 1998
- 7 Practical guidelines for delivering health services to sex workers, Correlation Network, 2008
- 8 *ibid*
- 9 *ibid*
- 10 Hustling for Health, EUROPAP and TAMPEP, 1998
- 11 Practical guidelines for delivering health services to sex workers, Correlation Network, 2008
- 12 Hustling for Health, EUROPAP and TAMPEP, 1998
- 13 Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime, United Nations, 2000
<http://tinyurl.com/lupmk7>
- 14 *ibid*
- 15 Hustling for Health, EUROPAP and TAMPEP, 1998
- 16 *ibid*
- 17 *ibid*
- 18 Washington Protection & Advocacy System
<http://tinyurl.com/n4khch>
- 19 Lomography emphasises casual, snapshot photography, a technique to document everyday life. Characteristics such as over-saturated colours, off-kilter exposure, blurring, 'happy accidents', and alternative film processing are often considered part of the 'Lomographic Technique'.
www.jpgmag.com/stories/2271



TAMPEP RESOURCES

Last updated August 2009



TAMPEP General Documents

- Flyer on aims of project and network members | English, German
- Position Paper on Trafficking | English
- Beyond Tolerance and Compassion for the Recognition of Rights | English, Italian
- Position Paper on Migration and Sex Work | English, Italian
- Policies on Sex Work & Health | English, German

TAMPEP Training Manuals for Outreach Workers

- Cultural Mediators in the Area of Prostitution | Transnational Training Manual | Leonardo da Vinci Programme, December 1998 – April 2001 | English
- Peer-Educator's Manual | Course of Prevention and Hygiene | Albanian, Dutch, English, Italian, Polish, Russian, Spanish
- Manuale del Corso di Formazione per Mediatori Culturali | Italian

Information for Female Sex Workers | TAMPEP CD-Roms 1 & 2

- Flyers on: Condoms & Lubricants | When the condom bursts or slips off | Viral Hepatitis | HIV & AIDS | Contraception & Pregnancy | Protect yourself | Safer drug use | Sexually Transmitted Infections | Albanian, Bulgarian, Czech, English, Estonian, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Thai, Ukrainian

Information for Transgender Sex Workers

- Flyers on: Hormones, silicone, breast development, transformation-operation & epilation | STI, AIDS & Hepatitis B | English, Portuguese, Spanish

Leaflets and booklets

- Augusta's Way, Safe Sex comic-strip with general information | Augusta's Way, Security comic-strip | Augusta's Way, Sabrina Peer Educator comic strip | English
- Love & Care for Myself | booklets and poster | Albanian, English, Polish, Russian, Spanish
- Teuta dhe Shoget e Saj, comic-strip on security at work | Albanian
- L'AIDS, il virus HIV, la Siero-positività e il Sistema Immunitario | Italian
- Everything OK? | Bulgarian, English, German, Hungarian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Thai
- Dichos & Diretes | Spanish
- Dicas & Jeitinhos | Portuguese

Books and Reports

- Health, Migration, Sex Work: The Experience of TAMPEP | TAMPEP International Foundation, 1999 | English

- TAMPEP Final Reports | 1993 until 2007 | English, German, Italian
- Series of reports on: Institutional Strengthening and Support for HIV Prevention Activities | European Overview of HIV and Sex Work | National Reports on HIV and Sex Work from Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Ukraine | Gap Analysis of Service Provision to Sex Workers in Europe | Skills, Training and Good Practice Tools | TAMPEP International Foundation, 2007 | English

Manuals produced as a result of common projects

- Hustling for Health, Developing Services for Sex Workers in Europe | In collaboration with Europap, 1998 | English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish
- Services in the Window: a Manual for Interventions in the World of Migrant Prostitution | Assunta Signorelli & Mariangela Treppete, 2001 | A Transnet project collaboration between Comitato per i Diritti Civili delle Prostitute (Italy), TAMPEP International Foundation (Netherlands), International Network for the Fight against Social Exclusion, ExclusionNet, Azienda Servizi Sanitari No 1 Triestina (Italy), Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims of Ioannina (Greece) | www.lucciole.org | English, Italian
- Professional Training for Peer Educators in Prostitution | A 2004 FENARETE project collaboration between Comitato per i Diritti Civili delle Prostitute (Italy), Autres Regards (France), Amnesty for Women (Germany), Lithuanian AIDS Centre (Lithuania), TAMPEP International Foundation (Netherlands), La Strada (Poland), TADA (Poland) | www.fenarete.org | English, French, Hungarian, Italian, Romanian
- Gender Street, a transnational initiative on social and labour inclusion for trafficked women and migrant sex workers | A 2004 Equal programme collaboration between Progetto Strada (Italy), Life (Italy), TAMPEP International Foundation (Netherlands), BLinN (Netherlands), Sila/LEFOE (Austria) | English
- Met het oog op de toekomst, De praktijk van schooling voor slachtoffers van mensenhandel, 2005 | A collaboration between TAMPEP International Foundation (Netherlands), BLinN (Bonded Labour in Nederland) | Dutch
- Resources for Sex Workers' Health & Rights, a collection of resources by and for sex workers and sex workers' rights advocates to further the health and rights of sex workers | A collaboration between the International Committee on the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe (ICRSE) and the TAMPEP Project | All the resources are drawn from actions and tools developed across Europe | The resources are available on CD-Rom and at www.sexworkeurope.org and www.tampep.eu | English, French, Russian, Spanish

TAMPEP 8 resources

- **Sex Work in Europe** | a mapping of the prostitution scene in 25 European countries | English
- **Sex Work, Migration and Health** | a report on the intersections of legislations and policies regarding sex work, migration and health in Europe | English
- **Work Safe in Sex Work** | a European Manual on Good Practices in Work with and for Sex Workers | English
- www.services4sexworkers.eu | an online directory of services for sex workers across Europe | English, French, Russian



WORK SAFE IN SEX WORK

A European Manual
on Good Practices
in Work with and
for Sex Workers

Work is Lust...

SexarbeiterInnen



TAMPEP

