

**2<sup>ND</sup> THREE MONTH REPORT OF ACTIVITIES**

**(APRIL – MAY – JUNE)**

**Date:** 30.07.2010

**Partner:** ROMANIA - University of Oradea

**Leader:** Monica Secui

**Months:** April - May - June 2010

Project with the Research Title:

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**An indirect harmful effect of violence: Victimizing the child and Re-victimizing the woman-mother through her child's exposure to violence against herself.**

*Sensitizing and creating awareness through research-product material, both transnational and differential according to the partner-context.*

**Instruction:** Please, for each month below fill in the subheadings accordingly:

**April 2010**

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*According to the work plan the following activities were conducted or are in progress:*

1. Continuation of collecting available studies and references related to the subject of the research (Please write the references so far):

**IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL DECLARATIONS AND CONVENTIONS**

- **United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime**  
*Includes a Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children.*  
[http://www.uncjin.org/Documents/Conventions/dcatoc/final\\_documents\\_2/convention\\_%20traff\\_eng.pdf](http://www.uncjin.org/Documents/Conventions/dcatoc/final_documents_2/convention_%20traff_eng.pdf)
- **United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security**  
*Security Council Resolution 1325 addresses violence against women during conflict and recognizes the importance of women's role in peace-building.*  
[http://www.un.org/events/res\\_1325e.pdf](http://www.un.org/events/res_1325e.pdf)
- **Millennium Declaration**  
*In this historic agreement, state parties to the Millennium Declaration pledged to combat violence against women and implement CEDAW to promote democracy and strengthen the rule of law, and strengthen respect for human rights.*

<http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.htm>

- **Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS**

*The Declaration of Commitment recognized the elimination of violence against women as key to the reduction of women's vulnerability to HIV/AIDS and set time-bound targets for nations to address HIV/AIDS-related issues.*

<http://www.un.org/ga/aids/docs/ares262.pdf>

- **Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court**

*The Rome Statute includes rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced sterilization, and other forms of sexual violence in its definitions of "crimes against humanity" and "war crimes."*

<http://www.un.org/law/icc/>

- **Council of Europe Recommendation Rec(2002) 5 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the protection of women against violence**

*The Council of Europe Recommendations reaffirm the commitment of member states to eliminating violence against women and set out a series of measures that member states must take to fulfill their obligation to ending all forms of violence against women.*

<https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=280915&Lang=en>

- **Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa**

*The Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa was adopted in 2003 and came into force on the 25th of November, 2005 after the necessary fifteen countries ratified it and made it into law. This protocol is a milestone in the protection and promotion of women's rights in African countries.*

[http://www.achpr.org/english/info/women\\_en.html](http://www.achpr.org/english/info/women_en.html)

- **United Nations Commission on Human Rights Resolution on Violence Against Women**

*The resolution addresses the impact of violence as a cause and consequence of HIV/AIDS, the need for women to have autonomy over their sexuality and control over matters related to their reproductive health and choices, and the need for the criminalization of marital rape. Available from the DAW website on the "Work of the Human Rights Council (2006 – present) and the Commission on Human Rights (until 2006)" regarding Violence Against Women.*

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/v-hrc.htm>

- **United Nations World Summit**

*States agreed to continue efforts to eradicate violence against women including addressing impunity for violence against women in situations of armed conflict.*

[http://www.un.org/ga/59/hl60\\_plenarymeeting.html](http://www.un.org/ga/59/hl60_plenarymeeting.html)

- **United Nations Security Council Resolution 1820 on Sexual Violence in Conflict**

*Security Council Resolution 1820 explicitly names sexual violence as a tactic of war and a grave security issue that has serious implications for peace and reconciliation. SCR 1820 complements SCR 1325 on women, peace, and security, and establishes UN procedures to monitor sexual violence in conflict.*

[http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/unsc\\_resolutions08.htm](http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/unsc_resolutions08.htm)

- **United Nations Human Rights Council Resolution on Violence Against Women**

*This general resolution on violence against women was adopted by consensus at the June 2009 Human Rights Council session (no. 11), and includes a call for further work on VAW from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.*

[http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/E/HRC/d\\_res\\_dec/A\\_HRC\\_11\\_L\\_5.pdf](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/E/HRC/d_res_dec/A_HRC_11_L_5.pdf)

- **Secretary-General's In-depth Study on Violence Against Women**

*A 2003 General Assembly resolution mandated the Secretary-General to prepare an in-depth study on violence against women. The Division for the Advancement of Women prepared the study with the participation of various NGOs and networks. The study includes an extensive recommendations section.*

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/SGstudyvaw.htm>

- **Secretary General’s “UNite to End Violence Against Women” Campaign**

*During the 2008 Commission on the Status of Women, Secretary General, Ban Ki Moon launched a UN-wide campaign to end all forms of violence against women. He pledged to keep women’s human rights central to the work of the UN and called on male leaders around the world to be ambassadors for this cause.*

<http://endviolence.un.org/>

- **Stop Rape NOW: UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict**

*The goal of UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict is to coordinate efforts by the UN system to improve coordination and accountability, amplify programming and advocacy, and support national efforts to prevent sexual violence in conflict and respond effectively to the needs of survivors.*

<http://www.stoprapenow.org/>

- **The UN Secretary-General’s Database on Violence Against Women**

*This online resource was launched in March 2009 in response to the UN General Assembly’s comprehensive resolution calling for an intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women. The database contains information from governments about the impact and effectiveness of policies and programs to combat violence against women and about the extent, nature, and consequences of all forms of violence against women.*

[www.un.org/esa/vawdatabase/](http://www.un.org/esa/vawdatabase/)

- **Special Rapporteur on Violence against women, its causes and consequences**

*This independent expert position was established in 1994 by the UN Commission on Human Rights to examine, report on, and make recommendations concerning violence against women. All rapporteur reports are available at the following website:*

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/women/rapporteur/>

- **UNIFEM Say NO to Violence Against Women campaign**

*In the first phase from 2007-2008, the Say NO Campaign collected more than 5 million signatures, including signatures from Heads of States and Ministers of 68 Governments and more than 600 Parliamentarians. This November, UNIFEM will launch the next phase of Say NO that will trigger, count and demonstrate actions taken by individuals, organizations and decision-makers towards ending violence against women and girls.*

<http://www.unifem.org/campaigns/vaw/>

- **UNIFEM Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women**

*The Trust Fund was established in 1996 by a General Assembly Resolution to identify and support local, national, regional and international initiatives to prevent and eliminate violence against women.*

[http://www.unifem.org/gender\\_issues/violence\\_against\\_women/trust\\_fund.php](http://www.unifem.org/gender_issues/violence_against_women/trust_fund.php)

## **INTERNATIONAL AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS AND RESOURCE WEBSITES:**

- End Violence Against Women: Information and Resources: <http://www.endvaw.org>

- Family Violence Prevention Fund: <http://endabuse.org>

- FEMNET – the African Women’s Development and Communication Network:

<http://www.femnet.or.ke>

- Global Women’s Activism: Selected Sites:

[http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/rr\\_gateway/research\\_guides/womens\\_studies/activism.shtml](http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/rr_gateway/research_guides/womens_studies/activism.shtml)

- International Center for Research on Women: <http://www.icrw.org>

- Isis Women’s International Cross-Cultural Exchange (ISIS WICCE):

<http://www.isis.or.ug/index.php>

- La Red Feminista Latinoamericana y del Caribe contra la Violencia Doméstica y Sexual:

<http://www.redfem.net>

- Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights: Stop Violence Against Women Web site:

<http://www.stopvaw.org>

- Toolkit to End Violence Against Women: <http://toolkit.ncjrs.org>

- United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM): <http://www.unifem.org>
- United Nations Development Program (UNDP): <http://www.undp.org>
- United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW):  
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw>
- United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women: <http://www.un-instraw.org>
- United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences: <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/women/rapporteur/>
- Women Against Violence Europe (WAVE): <http://www.wave-network.org/start.asp>
- Women Won't Wait: End HIV and Violence Against Women Now:  
[http://www.womenwontwait.org/index.php?option=com\\_frontpage&Itemid=1](http://www.womenwontwait.org/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1)
- World Health Organization (WHO) – Sexual Violence Research Initiative:  
<http://www.svri.org/>
- World Organization Against Torture (OMCT):  
<http://www.omct.org/index.php?id=EQL&lang=eng&PHPSESSID=e45340d721990d5517ed74be36014303>

### GENERAL RESEARCH AND RESOURCES:

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- Bunch, Charlotte, and Roxanna Carrillo. (1991) *Gender Violence: A Development and Human Rights Issue*. Center for Women's Global Leadership. Available in PDF: <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/globalcenter/publications/gender.pdf>
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<http://www.lse.ac.uk/Depts/global/Publications/Yearbooks/2003/2003Chapter6a.pdf>;

Part II-

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/Depts/global/Publications/Yearbooks/2003/2003Chapter6b.pdf>

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<http://www.rhrc.org/resources/steinitz.pdf>
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<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/women/rapporteur/annual.htm>
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[http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/violence/world\\_report/en/](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/world_report/en/);  
Chapter 4: "Violence by Intimate Partners":  
[http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/violence/global\\_campaign/en/chap4.pdf](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/global_campaign/en/chap4.pdf)  
Chapter 6: "Sexual Violence":  
[http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/violence/global\\_campaign/en/chap6.pdf](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/global_campaign/en/chap6.pdf)
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<http://www.who.int/gender/violence/multicountry/en/>
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<http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/16days/home.html>
- Amnesty International. (2004) *Activist Toolkit—Making Rights a Reality: The duty of states to address violence against women*. Available at Amnesty International Online Library: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/campaigns/stop-violence-against-women/activist-toolkit>
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## 2. Elaboration of the Data Report (Women's written testimonies and Reports). Results of the Analysis

Our activities respected the regulations in force in Romania – Law no. 544/2001 on free access to information of public interest and Law no.677/2001 on protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and free movement of these data – and the ethical standards of all categories of professionals who participate in the study. The materials we collected are statistical reports on the phenomenon of domestic violence, reports presented publicly on the Internet sites of some governmental agencies or non-governmental organizations, and also materials offered to us by our associated partners. In addition, we have proposed that the analysis of the official statements of women victims of domestic violence to be mediated by our collaborators, that is, those institutions that have become our partners in this project, namely, the Bihor County Police Inspectorate, the Smiles Association and the Bihor General Directorate of Social Assistance and Child Protection, the "Plopii fara sot" Centre and the Case management Department, so that the form of

presentation should fully respect the legal provisions in force at the level of our country. We emphasize that our cooperation with these experts, all having the necessary skills and training activities undertaken, as psychologists, social workers and sociologists was fruitful. We managed to cover the analysis of a number of 20 testimonies of mothers victims of domestic violence, seeking support and intervention from these institutions over the period 2010 (in case of the Bihor County Police Inspectorate), respectively, for the period 2007-2010 in case of the other institutions. We mention here that a major role in the content and discourse analyses of the testimonies was held by the research team of the University of Cyprus, who contributed with supporting materials sent to us by Professor Mary Koutselini and her assistant, Floria Valanidou.

3. Preparation of the Semi-structured Interviews with women (questions-themes included, translation of the questions-themes in the native language):

The interview guidelines, designed by the research team of the University of Cyprus and sent to us by the project director, Professor Mary Koutselini and her assistant, Floria Valanidou, was first translated by Professor Magda Danciu and Associate Professor Monica Secui, then submitted to the examination of the entire team of the University of Oradea, each theme and question being individually discussed and analyzed. After having consulted a corpus of literature related to the topic, we prepared a list with specific symptoms that might be associated to those children who were exposed to domestic violence against their mothers. A new section was introduced – The support network for mothers-victims of domestic violence - including the following questions:

- Who was on your side in difficult moments?
- Do you have knowledge of any institutions/organizations/foundations that could help people facing this kind of situations?
- Have you ever asked for any support from any of these?
- If yes, how satisfied were you of the support you got?

One of the reason for adding this section is that we wanted to provide our Associate Partners with details regarding the level at which their activities are known among their potential beneficiaries and whether they satisfactorily meet the requirements of the applicants.

4. Communication with GOs and NGOs associated in the project in order for us to be able to identify women – mothers victims of violence willing to participate in the interviews:

We have signed cooperation agreements with our new associate partners: the Smiles Association and the General Directorate of Social Assistance and Child Protection of Bihor, the "Plopii fara sot" Centre and the Case management Department. Also we have discussed a renewal of the agreement with the Bihor County Police Inspectorate and with National Prison Administration of Penitentiaries, Directorate of Social Reinstatement for a future cooperation as associate partners within our project.

**May 2010**

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*According to the work plan the following activities were conducted or are in progress:*

1. Harter's Instruments Translation and Validation:

Professor Magda Danciu provided the translation of the document from Romanian into English. Both English versions – the original and the one obtained by our successive translation from English into Romanian, then back to English – were submitted to a comparison to Associate Professor Claudia Leah, a member of the Department of English Studies, the Faculty of Letters, the University of Oradea whose expertise is English language. She volunteered to help with the examination of the two versions. Her observations allowed us to decide for the final Romanian form of the instruments, after consulting the members of the team. In order to proceed to the administration of the instruments we contacted the teachers in the school where they are to be implemented, selecting those teachers who agreed to cooperate in conducting the validation study.

2. Interviews with mothers – victims of violence:

In order to conduct the individual interviews, one of our and our partners' main concerns was to establish the conditions that facilitate our research team to have access to the potential participants. Based on the discussions with our partners, it was decided that the potential interview participants will be first contacted by our associate partner. The rule did not apply in those cases when the members of the research team had a direct access to mothers victims of domestic violence due to their professional activities as psychologists registered as entitled to free practice in the field. Consequently, our associate partners initiated the procedures of contacting the persons and providing them the first information on what the interview involves. They fixed the dates to meet the persons who agreed to be submitted to a discussion with the members of the research team, the interview being held either at the central offices of the respective institutions (the great majority) or at the team's offices at the University of Oradea. According to the information provided by our associate partners, the persons who accepted to be interviewed represent about 50% of the contacted persons, the percentage of refusal being rather high. There were persons who initially agreed to the meeting, even to the schedule, but they failed to show up and never contacted the liaising person, or other persons who kept on delaying setting a firm date and time for the interview, a situation which was explained as an eventual refusal to participate.

Once the date and time fixed, our associate partners informed the members of the research team on the issue. At each meeting of mother-victims and interviewer, there was also one member of the research team, sometimes a delegate of the partnering institution, attending the interview. During the first part of the meeting, the members of the research team presented the participants the special form devised in order to obtain their written consent to participate in research under the conditions of informed consent, that is, the form presented below. We mention that there was no situation in which, after being informed on the issues contained in the form, the person to refuse her participation to the interview. The members of the research team left it to the person how to have her testimony recorded: either an audio or a written record.

## Agreement to participate in research in terms of an informed consent

The aim of this approach/activity is to investigate indirect effects of domestic violence on mother through exposure to violence of her children. The research is carried out within the project „An indirect harmful effect of violence: Victimizing the child and Re-victimizing the woman-mother through her child’s exposure to violence against herself”, contract no. JLS/2008/DAP3/AG/1157–30-CE-03116350015, as part of the DAPHNE III project, supported by the European Community and calls for an international partnership. Its coordination is provided by the University of Cyprus, the University of Oradea being a partner. We mention that in agreement with the law 677 of November 21, 2001, updated in October 22, 2007, for protecting persons with regard to the processing of personal data and the free usage of such data, the University of Oradea is registered at the National Authority for Monitoring the data processing as a national operator of personal data – no. 6427. The operator representatives in the project, in cooperation with the research team, are responsible for compliance with data confidentiality and with informing the participant of the stage of the data processing. The data will be used for research, their presentation avoiding identification of the participants. Data processing and dissemination of results will be achieved in the period 2010-2020.

All the information circulated during the interview has a strictly confidential character and the participant may opt whether to accept or not an audio recording of the interview. The records are aimed at providing some extra accuracy of the research work and access to them is reserved for researchers. Any reference to any case is general nature, it refers to the objective data of the situation, there being ruled out any reference or transmission to others of any detail that may lead to an identification of the person concerned.

Does the participant/informant agree with the audio recording of interview?

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- Participation in this process/activity involves a meeting of an about one hour in order to achieve a semi-structured interview in which experts will address general and specific questions on domestic abuse and its potential effects.
  - The procedure implies no physical risks for participants/informants, the only potential discomfort being associated with some intense negative emotions caused by the remembrance of those unpleasant moments related to the abuse.
  - By consenting to contribute to this research, the participants may help other women in the same life condition as the ultimate aim of this approach/activity is to inform women who are facing similar situations and to help them avoid installation of some major problems at the level of their children.
  - The participation in this research is based on one’s informed consent; the informants are entitled to withdraw at any time of this activity.
  - For any questions regarding this research, the participants/informants have the right to address any member of the research team, directly or through the person/institution which has facilitated access to research. The representative of the research team from the University of Oradea is associate professor Monica Secui, PhD, tel. 0259/408213, email: [msecui@uoradea.ro](mailto:msecui@uoradea.ro)
  - The participants in this research get 50 RON in „SODEXO VIVA PASS social aid vouchers”, granted to each person as subsistence means.
  - Does the participant/informant agree to be contacted later by the research team members in the other stages of this research? \_\_\_\_\_

If you are 18 years old or more, if you understand what you have read above and if you agree to participate in these terms to this research, sign below.

Yes, I am aware of the terms and agree to participate in this research:

Name and surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**June 2010**

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***According to the work plan the following activities conducted or/ are in progress:***

1. Interviews with mothers – victims of violence and recording of data from the interviews:

We have to mention that owing to some difficulties encountered when trying to have access to the participants, the stage of interview was extended up to the month of June.

2. Starting the Content and Discourse Analysis of the Interviews:

The members of the research team completed the transcription of the data provided by the interviews and started the process of data analysis to be continued in July as well. We mention that working on content and discourse analysis of the interviews was facilitated by the support provided by the research team of the University of Cyprus due to the documents that they made available for us courtesy of Professor Mary Koutselini and her assistant, Floria Valanidou.

3. Harter's Scales - Self-Perception Profile for Children and Teachers Rating Scale

Both scales were used for two samples of children and their teachers, one of the samples consisting of 96 children aged between 8 and 11, the other one made up of 57 children aged between 9 and 11. The data analysis from the perspective of psychometric qualities/indices of the instruments is in full progress.

(Assoc. Prof. Monica Liana SECUI, leader of the team of the University of Oradea, Romania)