The Project description

The Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection (BM ASK) commissioned “Pro Senectute Austria”, the “Austrian Women’s Shelter Network - Information Centre Against Violence” (AÖ F) and the Department of Sociology at the University of Vienna to conduct regional workshops referring to the topic “violence against older people”.

The workshops focus lies on the development of a network of regional focal points for older people, that includes seniors’ organizations, doctors, victim support services, police, mobile services, guardianship courts, nursing homes etc. Contents of the workshops are different forms and circumstances of violence against older people as well as the obstacles and the difficulties in targeting specific assistance to deal with such incidents.

The aim of the workshops is to establish regional advisory expertise on violence against older people within the existing structures and to establish permanent, cross-organizational “regional forums”.

Why is it considered a good practice

Senior’s organizations are for the first time in this context now involved when counteracting different forms of violence.

The workshops are part of various measures to enhance the quality of life, which include awareness raising campaigns and basic research.

Timetable/duration of the project

2011 – 2013

Lessons learnt

The workshops show that the reduction of unreported cases is directly related to the intensity of the conscious treatment of this subject.

Relevance for the UNECE region

This project could illustrate a good example how to build a cross-organizational network at national level.

Location of the project

All Austrian provinces

Contact information, website

For further information see http://www.bmask.gv.at/siteEN/_Social_Affairs/Senior_Citizens/Violence_against_older_people/