

EWHNET

European Women's Health Network



**Guide through Network Structures and Knowledge about Key
Persons for Policy Activities**

June 2001

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Guide through network structures and knowledge about key persons for policy activities

1. Preface

This presented guide gives an overview over structural knowledge useful for knotting lobbying relationships transnationally. In June 2000 at the conference in Lund, Sweden, EWHNET discussed for the first time about lobbying in the field of women and health. Peggy Maguiré from the European Institute of Women's Health (EIWH) in Dublin described very precisely how to manage effective communication and why, when and how to do lobbying (Peggy Maguiré: Effective Lobbying for non governmental organisations, in: Networking – Topics – Lobbying. An extended documentation of a transnational conference in Lund/Sweden, 2000, pp 8-13).

For EWHNET it makes sense to collect information about network structures in the member countries in order to make lobbying more effective. If a single NGO (non governmental organisation) from one country alone promotes an important issue on a political level it may be effective, but if many NGOs or networks, which means NGOs joined together, from different countries will formulate a common point of view, the action will be of greater impact.

With the guide EWHNET follows up on the country reports which have been produced in earlier project years. In these reports we offer an address list of projects working in the field of women's health. The idea of the address lists is to help in finding models of good practise in other countries and to offer know-how for interested NGOs which are independent from EWHNET.

Now we are going one step further and trying to bring networks in contact with each other. We are presupposing that network structures have political aims and are interested in lobbying. Furthermore we have tried to identify important key persons and pressure groups for lobbying in the countries so that transnational activities to give women's health a political voice can become easier, can be realised more often and hopefully can have a chance to win importance and political weight.

The topics on which the networks are working demonstrate a huge range of objectives, a great differentiation in the field of women's health. This guide will help its users to get in contact with the specific, topic-oriented organisational structures in the presented countries or so-called issue networks.

This guide will have more than one function: If one organisation or network plans to organise a new transnational project or a conference, other networks can help to bring relevant persons in contact with each other. We suppose that networks do have an actual overview over their special field and that actual political debates are well known in these networks. Therefore a guide like this can bring more transparency into the field of lobbying and will hopefully offer the opportunity to all of its users to become more effective in bringing women's health on the European agenda.

This material will be in progress all the time. Therefore we don't offer a print version, but present the material at the homepage of EWHNET. There we are able to actualise the material and to add new knowledge when our work will proceed in this field.

Unfortunately not all the nine member countries could take part and collect informations from their countries. Reasons have been time pressure, lack of money, and not to find a person who could do the work. The following countries took part:

Italy, Austria, the Netherlands, Sweden, Finland.

2. The Structure of the Guide

The information in this guide is arranged for every country separately. Firstly, you can find the networks and lobby groups in the field of women's health on the national level. We always questioned on the aims, the activities and political statements of the last years. The question about successes in lobbying have obviously been difficult to answer or have been asked unprecisely.

Then you will find regionally working networks and networks on special topics and specialists for lobbying in the countries.

You will find the questionnaire in Italian and English language in the chapter 9.

3. Background

The topic of women and health has long been unnoticed on the European political agenda. The European Women's Health Network (EWHNET) interconnects various projects in this field throughout Europe, promotes the visibility of women's health work and the strategies in this field, and establishes a platform for information as a prerequisite of mutual understanding and presentation of good practise.

In the proceeding work the members of EWHNET formulated a need for lobbying on a European level, at the same time they had to realize that they themselves often don't have the resources to do this work by their own. This was the starting point for a discussion what the next steps can be to meet the formulated needs and not to overload the projects. One aim of the network is to increase gender awareness in all areas of social policy especially in regard to health. Therefore new ways have to be opened up to realize this goal. We suppose that a topic will have more chances to be implemented on an European level, if many countries will underline the importance of the topic. Therefore transnational arrangements can help to bring topics and recommendations on the agenda. We hope that this guide will be helpful for NGOs in the political arena. We would like to get a feedback from users which experiences they had made.

This is a material in progress. We began with information from four countries and we hope, that EWHNET will be able in the future to complete this material with information from further countries.

We thank all members of EWHNET who did the work we present here: Dr. Joke Haafkens (The Netherlands), Prof. MD Birgitta Hovellius (Sweden), Dr. Kaisa Kauppinen (Finland), Laura Corradi and Giovanna Vingelli (Italy), Prof. Dr. Éva Rásky (Austria).

4. Network and Pressure Groups Structures in the The Netherlands. Networks in the Field of Women/Girls and Health

Dr. Joke Haafkens, University of Amsterdam

On a national level

1. Transact, Nationaal kenniscentrum voor seksespecifieke hulpverlening en seksueel misbruik

(National expert center for genderspecific care and sexual abuse).

Aims of the network:

Implementing genderspecific (mental) health care, by means of lobbying, providing information & advice, stimulating innovation & research, and training of professionals in the field.

Contact address:

Vinkenburgstraat 2a, 3500 BK Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Phone: + 31 30 232 6500/ fax: +31 30 232 6555, email: algemeen@transact.nl, website:

<http://www.transact.nl>

Topics of last 2 years:

migrant women, sexual and domestic violence, elderly women, child pornography, men's health care.

Successes:

documentation, fact sheets (see website: <http://www.transact.nl>)

Connections to European level:

EHWNET-member (inactive).

2. E-quality, experts in gender and ethnicity.

National expert center on gender and ethnicity. Joint organization of the Women's Movement, Departments of Women's Studies and Policy Institutions, international organizations, media etcetera.

Aims of the network:

To fight inequality based on gender and ethnicity by means of

- reorganizing the division of labour, care and income, power and influence in political organizations,
- improving the access to knowledge and information technology,
- monitoring the implications of a multicultural society on gender inequality,
- monitoring and influencing international developments in migration,
- lobbying.

Contact address:

P.O. Box 85808, 2508 CN Den Haag, The Netherlands. Phone: + 31 70 365 9777 / fax: +31 70 346 9047, email: info@e-quality.nl, website: <http://www.e-quality.nl>

Topics of last 2 years: consequences of extension of the European Union for women; diversity in work and care.

Successes:

documentation, also in English (see website: <http://www.e-quality.nl>)

Connections to European level:

links to many international institutions. Subdivision of E-quality: EU-quality is active on a European basis: international European - Dutch Emancipation.

3. Nederlandse Vrouwenraad

(NVR, Dutch Women's Council)

Association of 54 national women's organizations.

Aims of the network:

To promote women's participation in all fields of the society, including health care.

Contact address:

Louise de Colignystraat 44, 2595 SR Den Haag, The Netherlands.

Phone: + 31 70 346 9304 / fax: + 31 70 345 9346, email: nvr@vrouwen.net, website: <http://www.vrouwen.net/nvr/>

Connections to European level:

The NVR is represented by 2 delegates in the European women's lobby and the NVR is a member of the ECICW (European Council of the International Council of Women).

4. Dutch Foundation for Women and Health Research.

Aims of the network:

To improve the knowledge and research in the field of women and health. More specific: to improve quality of research; to disseminate information about women's health research and research-related activities; to improve and stimulate contact and cooperation between researchers, professionals in the field and patients/clients; to gear research activities in the field of women's health to one another.

Contact address:

AMC, Meibergdreef 15, Room J3-320, 1105 AZ Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Email: c.j.moerman@amc.uva.nl

Topics of last 2 years:

women and depression; women, limiting factors at the workplace and sick allowance.

Successes:

organization of an international conference on women and health (First International, Interdisciplinary Conference on Women and Health 'Realizing a Gender-Sensitive Health

Care', Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 1997) ; listing of Dutch researchers and their research topics in the field of women and health. See website: <http://www.eawhr.org>

Connections to European level:

European Association for Women and Health Research (EAWHR). Within this framework the second international conference on women and health has been organized (Edinburgh, Scotland, 1999). See website: <http://www.eawhr.org>

5. IIAV, International Information Center and Archives for the Women's Movement.

Expertise center for the information on the position of women and women's studies.

Aims of the network:

To collect, save and document the cultural heritage of women in the past and the present (among others journals, articles and ongoing research in health care).

Contact address:

Obiplein 4, 1094 RB Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
Website: <http://www.iiav.nl>

Topics of last 2 years:

Women and violence.

Connections to European level:

ATHENA (a higher education network of women and gender studies programmes at universities, research institutes and documentation centers in Europe); European Women's Thesaurus Maintenance and Development Group (8 women's libraries); NOVIB - violence program; UNESCO - women and gender unit; WINE (Women Information Network Europe).

6. Vrouwen.net (Women's net).

Aims of the network:

- To improve access to information which is important for women.
- To enhance and facilitate collaboration and communication between women's organizations.

The network communicates between women's organizations and publishes their activities, organizes discussion groups and mailing lists for the exchange of opinions, experiences and information in every field; and provides a forum for the publication of reports and news letters.

The network provides information about national and international activities on topics such as: health, violence, decision-making, girls, institutional mechanisms.

Contact address:

Website: <http://www.vrouwen.net>

Connections to European level:

connected to the APC's women's networking support program.

7. Vereniging van Nederlandse Vrouwelijke Artsen (Association of Dutch Female Doctors)

comprising 8 regional divisions.

Aims of the network:

- To contribute to the improvement of the position of female doctors, to achieve equal opportunities for male and female doctors.
- To contribute to the further development of gendersensitive health care.

Contact address:

Bureau VNVA, attn. Sascha de Boer. P.O. Box 8256, 3503 RG Utrecht, The Netherlands.
Phone: +31 30 247 4795 / fax: + 31 30 247 4439, email: vnvamail@vva.nl, website:
<http://www.vnva.nl>

Successes:

a special chair for gendersensitive health care at the Medical School, University of Nijmegen (Prof.dr. ALM Lagro-Janssen, general practitioner). Activities in the training of professionals and in research.

8. ZorgOnderzoek Nederland (ZON). (Program on gender and health).

Aims:

- To stimulate research and innovation in the field of health care and the implementation of the results in practice.
- To connect research and policy to health care and prevention in The Netherlands.

The organization is an intermediaire between the government and the researchers and/or practitioners in the field of health care and public health. It works mainly with money from the Ministry of Health. Within the program for special target groups, ZON has developed a specific program on genderspecific health and on sexual abuse and health.

The program is meant to support mainstreaming of gender issues in patient organizations, regional health care policy and quality assessment in health care. There is special attention for scientific health research and the integration of women's health care within the regular care system.

Contact address:

ZON MW, P.O. Box 93245, 2509 AE Den Haag, The Netherlands.
Phone: + 31 70 349 5111 / fax: + 31 70 349 5100, email: info@zonmw.nl, website:
<http://www.zonmw.nl>

Successes:

special assignment by the Ministry of Health to mainstream gender issues in health care.

9. Stichting Korrelatie (Foundation Correlation)

Aims of the network:

- To provide support, information and education in health care matters, such as anxiety, depression, homosexuality, living with a chronic disease, problems in child rearing, burnout, postnatal depression, grieve, trauma.
- To maintain a database of information about health, health care and wellbeing for the lay people and journalists, including all addresses of facilities that treat victims and perpetrators of domestic and sexual violence.

Contact address:

P.O. Box 9484, 3506 GL Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Phone: + 31 30 271 0100 / fax: + 31 30 272 4477, email: kantoor@korrelatie.nl

10. Overheidsinformatie over het emancipatiebeleid

(governmental information on the emancipation process)

Aims of the network:

To explore and use the possibilities of the internet to enhance the emancipation process.

Website for the improvement of emancipation through the use of the internet; a collaboration of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Work en the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

Contact address:

Website: <http://www.publiek-politiek.nl/emancipatie/>

On specific topics in the field of women/girls and health:

11. Federatie Vrouwenzelfhulp (Federation of women's self-help groups).

An association of independent organizations in the field of women's self-help.

Aims of the network:

- To inform lay people and professionals about these organizations.
- To offer support to these organizations by means of training and lobbying.

The association houses a great diversity of women's self help organizations on health problems, for instance menopause, gynaecological cancers, PMS, anorexia nervosa, fertility problems.

Contact address:

Nieuwegracht 24-a, 3512 LR Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Phone: + 31 30 236 8262 / fax: + 31 30 236 8242, email: fvzh@planet.nl, website:

<http://www.spin.nl>

12. Vrouwen en medicijngebruik (Women and medication use).

A volunteer organization for the prevention of dependence on the use of psychotropic drugs among women. They provide information and training and run self-help groups.

Contact address:

Bomanshof 6, 5611 NJ Eindhoven, The Netherlands.

Phone: + 31 40 212 1746 / fax: + 31 40 211 2179.

13. Stichting VIDO Nederland (Foundation of Women in the menopause, The Netherlands).

A volunteer organization for mutual support and advice to women going through menopause.

Contact address:

Nieuwegracht 24a, 3512 LR Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Phone: + 31 30 234 1142.

Individual experts, lobbyists, political activists:

Prof. Dr. A.L.M. Lagro-Janssen.

Department of General Practice and Social Medicine, UMC- St Radboud.
Geert Grooteplein 10, P.O. Box 9109, 6500 HB Nijmegen, The Netherlands.
Phone: + 31 24 323 7314, email: t.lagro-janssen@hsv.kun.nl

Expert on sex differences in morbidity, in cardiovascular diseases, in general practice. Active in making the teaching in the medical curriculum more gendersensitive.

Prof. Dr. A. Richters.

LUMC, Leiden, The Netherlands.
Phone: + 31 71 526 4449, email: j.m.richters@lumc.nl

Expert in mental health care, socio-cultural plurality, globalization, violence.

Prof. Dr. J. Van Mens- Verhulst. Utrecht University / University for Humanist Studies,
Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Phone: + 31 30 2534924, email: j.vanmens-verhulst@fss.uu.nl

Expert in feminist mental health care.

Prof. Dr. C.D.A. Brinkgreve.

Utrecht University, Capaciteitsgroep Communicatie, Zorg en Welzijn.
Heidelberglaan 2, 3594 CS Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Phone: + 31 30 253 1716, email: c.brinkgreve@fss.uu.nl

Expert in gender, family relations and health.

Dr. G. Noordenbos. Maastricht University, Maastricht, The Netherlands.

Phone: + 31 43 388 2325, email: greta.noordenbos@hag.unimaas.nl

Expert in eating disorders, women doctors and their careers.

5. Network- and Pressure Group Structures in Sweden

Prof. MD Birgitta Hovellius, University of Lund/Malmö

National level

1. Q Web Sweden

Q Web - in short

Q Web is built on the idea that the way to a better life and health for women goes through empowerment.

Q Web's overall aim is to promote women's health and equal rights and to ensure women control over sexuality and reproduction.

Aims:

The operational aims are

- to document projects on women's empowerment and health in Sweden and world-wide with focus on developing countries
- to disseminate information on ongoing local and global activities on gender and health
- to enhance contacts for short and long term exchange, interaction and co-operation
- to inspire joint actions for change

Areas of interest:

- Empowerment of Women - equal rights and opportunities for women in society and family
- Society and Women's Health - women's health in a cultural and social context
- Sexuality and Reproduction - sexual and reproductive health and rights
- Violence and Abuse - actions against domestic violence and sexual exploitation and abuse of girls and women
- Adolescents - teenage pregnancies, access to education and services on sexuality, fertility and
- gender issues

Why Web in Q Web?

In Sweden Q is a symbol for women's issues. It refers to the old-fashioned spelling "Quinna" for "kvinna" = woman. "Web" is short for Women's Empowerment Base, indicating that empowerment is both a means and an end in our work.

Q Web is co-ordinated by

Bam Björling, Executive Director, Stiftelsen Kvinnoforum, and Terra Femina, Int. Task Force on Women and Human Rights, kvinnoforum@kvinnoforum.se

Katarina Lindahl, Managing Director, RFSU, Swedish Association for Sex Education, and IPPF, Int. Planned Parenthood Federation, katarina_lindahl@rfsu.se

Anita Klum, Secretary General, Swedish NGO, Foundation for Human Rights, anita.klum@swehr.a.se

Love Nordenmark, Project Manager, lovno@kvinnoforum.se
Johanna Arkåsen, Project Assistant, webmaster and in charge of Q Web's database,
johar@kvinnoforum.se

Q Web is run as a project by Kvinnoforum in cooperation with RFSU, the Swedish Association for Sex Education.

The Foundation of Women's Forum:

Stiftelsen Kvinnoforum
Kungsgatan 65
S-111 22 Stockholm
Sweden
Tel:+46-8-200 800
Fax:+46-8-200 830

Registration for Q Web

Women and men in civil society; NGOs, networks and action groups are invited to join the communication network.

The registration does not involve any cost or obligation other than your attention and curiosity. You can use Q Web for approaching other fellow researchers, practitioners or activists working within your field, as well as to be available for them to contact you. Joining Q Web also means that you will continuously receive information on upcoming conferences, seminars, new literature etc concerning your areas of interest, via e-mail. You can also disseminate information on call for papers, upcoming events, questions etc to the other members by sending the information to us. We will forward the information to the relevant members. To join Q Web, go to the registration page.

Q Web is funded by:

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
The National Institute of Public Health

Information:

<http://www.qweb.kvinnoforum.se/>

2. The National Organization of Battered Women's Shelters in Sweden (The acronym in Swedish is ROKS)

ROKS is an independent non-profit feminist organization coordinating the work of Sweden's shelters for women subjected to violence from men they know. ROKS is not affiliated with any political party or religion.

ROKS works to prevent violence against women and to promote women's autonomy and equality in all areas of society.

ROKS believes that all forms of male sexual violence, i.e. sexual harassment, battering, rape, sexual abuse of girls, pornography, prostitution, ritual abuse and gynocide, are intimately connected and exist on a continuum of male violence and control. These forms of violence vary only by degree, not in kind.

In February 2001 ROKS arranged an international conference on prostitution and trafficking. The conference adopted a declaration:

Declaration of Stockholm

Practical advice for battered women (see homepage)

Information and contact:

<http://www.roks.se>

E-mail: info@roks.se

Mailing address: Box 19517, 104 32 STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

Phone number: 46-8-4429930, Telefax: 46-8-6127325

3. Ministry of Industry, Employment and Communications

Project SONJA 2001

Gender equality activities during Sweden's EU presidency

Equality between women and men is one of the issues that Sweden will be giving special priority during its presidency of the EU in January-June 2000. This preferential treatment is set out in the official presidency programme and will be reflected in a wide range of equality-related activities around the country. These will be gathered under the general heading of SONJA 2001, a project whose name represents the initials of the Swedish words for Coordination of and Information on National Gender Equality Activities during the presidential term.

At this site you will be able to find projects and activities arranged by different people and organisations around the country where English is the working language or interpreting will be provided. They include courses, conferences and seminars, presentations of research reports and theses, exhibitions and EU projects, etc.

The official presidency programme

As part of the official presidency programme, Sweden will be organizing three meetings in this field – an informal ministerial meeting on gender equality and social insurance in Norrköping on 21-23 January, a meeting of experts on the subject of men and gender equality in Örebro on 16 March and a meeting of experts on mainstreaming and approaches to gender equality work in Sigtuna on 16 May.

New Life

As part of the SONJA 2001 project we will also be issuing a new magazine from mid-January entitled New Life. Its theme will be “reconciling work and family life”. In the magazine we will be linking up with the various projects taking place around the country and providing background and facts about gender equality policy from both a Swedish and a European perspective. New Life will be published in Swedish and English. It will be distributed via social insurance offices to all who become parents in Sweden during the Swedish presidency.

From the mid of January you will be able to read the magazine here.

Information:

http://naring.regeringen.se/fragor/jamstalldhet/sonja2001/index_eng.htm

4. Ministry of Industry, Employment and Communications - Swedish Government Policy on Gender Equality

Equality between women and men in Sweden

Reports:

Report: Conference on Equal Pay and Economic Independence as a Basis for Gender Equality, Ministerial Conference in Stockholm 2–4 November 1999

Report: Seminar on a European Gender Institute, Stockholm June 1999

Swedish Government Policy on Gender Equality: Into the 21 st century

Gender Mainstreaming in Sweden

Shared Power - Women and Men in Decision-Making

Men and Equality

National Machinery for Equality between Women and Men

Violence against women, Summary of Government Bill 1997/98:55

Information:

http://www.naring.regeringen.se/fragor/jamstallldhet/in_english.htm

5. The National Board of Health and Welfare

Swedish Health and Medical Care Adaptation to Year 2000

Sexual abuse of Children. A survey of current knowledge

Violence against women

Sexual abuse of Children. Treatment - an overview

Sexual abuse of Children. Definition and incidence (pdf, 100, kB)

Sexual abuse of Children. Young sex offenders: A research overview (pdf, 62 kB)

Sexual abuse of Children. Causes and risks (pdf, 106 kB)

Sexual abuse of children. Young people who sexually offend (pdf, 107 kB)

Sexual abuse of children. Child sexuality and sexual behaviour (pdf, 110 kB)

Information:

<http://www.sos.se>

6. The National Institute of Public Health

About NIPH

The National Institute of Public Health, NIPH, (Swedish Folkhälsoinstitutet) was established in 1992. It is a state agency under the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs. It is similar to national government health departments in many countries, but operates at "arm's length" from the government of the day. It reports both to the Minister of Health and Social Affairs and to an independent Board of Directors.

The main tasks of the Institute are to promote health and prevent diseases. The strategic vision is to contribute to and facilitate equal opportunities for all good health.

In 2001, the National Institute of Public Health has decided that all their activities would be gender sensitive. A gender committee will be established.

Information:

<http://www.fhi.se/>

7. The Swedish Institute

The Swedish Institute (SI) is a public agency entrusted with disseminating knowledge abroad about Sweden and organizing exchanges with other countries in the spheres of culture, education, research and public life.

Information:

<http://www.si.se/eng/eindex.html>

8. The Equal Opportunities Ombudsman

The Equal Opportunities Ombudsman is charged with the duty of ensuring compliance with the provisions of the Equal Opportunities Act (Swedish Code of Statutes, SFS, 1991:433, as amended up to and including SFS 1994:292).

The Equal Opportunities Ombudsman is appointed by the Government and is head of the government authority bearing the same name. As with other government authorities, the Ombudsman has an independent status, which means that the office reaches its own decisions in all individual matters. Administratively, the office is under the auspices of the Ministry of Labour.

The original version of the Equal Opportunities Act, which entered into force on July 1 1980, prohibits sex discrimination in the labour market. The act requires that all employers, whether in the public or private sector, shall actively promote equal opportunities for men and women in the working environment. All employers with a minimum of ten employees are required to prepare an annual equal opportunities plan.

Information:

<http://www.jamombud.se/eng/index.htm>

9. Swedish Secretariat for Gender Research, Gothenburg University

The Secretariat's primary tasks are to:

- a) Gain a general overview of gender research in Sweden.
- b) Actively distribute research results both within and beyond the universities.
- c) Work to increase awareness of the significance of the gender perspective.
- d) Analyse the status and development opportunities of the gender perspective in all areas of study

The Secretariat's work takes on various forms: analyses/studies, distribution of information and influencing of public opinion. The Secretariat is based at Göteborg University and collaborates with the Women's History Collections at Göteborg University Library, which was delegated nation-wide responsibility in 1997 as a documentation centre for women's, gender and men's studies. The Secretariat and the Women's History Collections primarily work together on information distribution.

The Secretariat's journal Genus [Gender] is published four times a year, containing news and reports on gender research in Sweden, as well as interviews with researchers on ongoing or completed projects, and discussions on political decisions, surveys and reports relating to gender research. Other features include guest columnists, a debate page, a national calendar, notices on new literature, etc.

A special number of Genus is each year published in English. If you would like to receive the English edition of Genus, you can order it free of charge at the home-page.

The Swedish Secretariat for Gender Research has initiated several reports with the aim of providing an overview of gender research in Sweden, and analyses how research is distributed within various disciplines and faculties. The purpose of this is to identify areas in which it is particularly important to make efforts to promote gender research.

Contact:

Swedish Secretariat for Gender Research
Göteborg University, Box 200
SE405 30 Göteborg, Sweden
Tel +46 31-773 56 00, Fax +46 31-773 56 04
E-mail: sekretariat@genus.gu.se
Homepage: <http://www.genus.gu.se>

10. FEMDOK

Database for women and gender studies at the Department of Women's studies at Lund University

Information:

<http://www.genus.lu.se/cgi-bin/femdok/index.cgi>

11. KVINNSAM

Database for women and gender research at the Library for women and gender research at Gothenburg university.

Information:

<http://www.ub.gu.se/samlingar/kvinn/kvinnsam/>

12. Nora - Nordic journal of women's studies.

A scientific journal published by the Nordic association of gender and women research.

Contact:

e-mail: subscription@scup.no

13. The Nordic Institute for Women's studies and Gender Research (NIKK)

NIKK - the Nordic Institute for Women's Studies and Gender Research is an interdisciplinary Nordic research institution financed by the Nordic Council of Ministers. NIKK is also a forum for feminist, women's and men's, gender and equality research and activities in the Nordic countries.

Newsletters: NIKK publishes two newsletters; Nytt fra NIKK in Scandinavian languages and the English News from NIKK. Both are published twice a year. Subscriptions are free.

Information:

<http://www.nikk.uio.no>

14. The Q-library - The Nordic Virtual Library of Women's Studies and Gender Research

The Q-library or the Nordic Virtual Library of Women's Studies and Gender Research is a co-operation between women's libraries and archives in the Nordic countries.

The aim of the virtual library is to increase the visibility and availability of the resources to women's studies and gender research in the Nordic countries.

With financing from NORDINFO a project group has compiled a preparatory report in Scandinavian languages which contains an inventory of resources presently available on the Internet. It also contains recommendations for further, valuable, resources for the www. The main resources are presented at this site.

The Nordic Virtual Library of Women's Studies and Gender Research is a co-operation between women's libraries and archives in the Nordic countries. The aim of the virtual library is to increase the visibility and availability of the resources to women's studies and gender research in the Nordic countries. With financing from NORDINFO the project group has compiled a preparatory report "Ett nordiskt virtuellt kvinno- och könsforskningsbibliotek" (A Nordic Virtual Library of Women's Studies and Gender Research). The report contains an inventory of resources presently available on the Internet. It also contains recommendations for further, valuable, resources on www. The main resources are presented at this site.

Information:

http://www.nikk.uio.no/qbiblioteket/index_e.html

15. RFSU

The Swedish Association for Sex education, a pioneer for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

<http://www.rfsu.se/>

Regional networks

There are regional networks that do pressure group work in the field of women/girls and health at the medical faculties at the universities in Sweden (Umeå, Lund, Gothenburg, Stockholm, Linköping and Uppsala).

All counties in Sweden, responsible for the primary health care and hospital services, have decided that all official statistics related to persons should be disaggregated in terms of gender. This was seen as an important means for attaining a society providing equal opportunities for women and men. During the last decade, certain efforts were made in the counties to increase the percentage of women holding management and other positions of leadership.

During the last year (2000-2001), a series of gender-sensitive papers have been published in the Swedish Journal of Physicians (Läkartidningen; in Swedish). Title of the papers, authors and abstracts in English are given in an Appendix.

Local networks

In Sweden, women's liberation movements have been limited. Ad hoc activities have developed concerning certain women's matters such as abortion, prostitution, pornography and violence against women. On the other hand, women have tended to join organisations within political parties, resulting in women issues being incorporated into the agenda of the political parties. Most political parties in Sweden argue today for feminist perspectives in all decision-making. The political system has had a high degree of continuity. These circumstances have promoted a system in which women's issues and women's health problems have been integrated within existing family, social and health policies. One could argue that a greater number of independent gender-sensitive (feminist or profeminist) perspectives and debates on gender issues are needed in order to stimulate developments towards achieving shared power and shared responsibility. The official measures put forward to achieve such goals involve research on women's and gender issues, analysis of proposals and decisions at national, regional, county and municipal levels from a gender sensitive perspective in various political areas, use of experts and advisers on gender issues and training in gender issues at universities and colleges.

Appendix

Lakartidningen 2000 Nov 8;97(45):5126-7

[Gender perspective in medicine].

[Article in Swedish]

Johansson E

Department of Family medicine, Umea university and Mariehem Community Health Centre, Umea.

Lakartidningen 2000 Nov 15;97(46):5335-40

[The foundation of "feminine" and "masculine". Useful theories for the training of future physicians concerning the importance of gender].

[Article in Swedish]

Risberg G

Teg Community Health Centre, Umea.

A gender perspective on health and consultation is part of medical education today. Teaching about gender must not focus on differences between men and women as essential, biological, and unchangeable. The meaning of "feminine" and "masculine" is largely a social construction, i.e. the behavior and character of an individual are seldom determined by sex. Furthermore, women and men live under different conditions and have different positions in society. Medical students need to be aware of this and reflect upon the influence it may have on their professional role and practice. To achieve this awareness, knowledge about the construction of gender is needed. This article reviews relevant research in this field. The gender of the physician is used as a basis and illustration of this.

Lakartidningen 2001 Mar 14;98(11):1222-7

[Medicine has much to learn from gender studies].

[Article in Swedish]

Hammarstrom A

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The issues raised in this article and illustrated with examples from gender research indicate new directions for public health, taking multidisciplinary gender scholarship into account. The changing potential of a gendered public health can be summarized in the following issues: new research questions and research areas, making differences within the group of women/men visible, introducing power analyses, developing theoretical frameworks as well as problematizing masculinities. Medicine has much to learn from gender research, especially in relation to reflexive approaches as well as current epistemology.

Lakartidningen 2000 Dec 13;97(50):5927-30

[Climacteric--medicalization, minimalization or normalization]?

[Article in Swedish]

Hovellius B, Ekstrom H, Esseveld J, Landgren BM, Vinge E

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Women's experiences and ideas about the climacteric are not in accord with the biomedical model, in which the climacteric and the menopause are characterized as being a risk factor for various diseases and a cause of "estrogen deficiency", a hormonal disease which is assumed to persist during the rest of life. The biomedical model may lead to medicalization and pathologizing, increasing the subordination of women and making them dependent on the health care system. Women who use hormonal therapy during the climacteric have many characteristics differentiating them from women who do not use such therapy. Thus, epidemiological studies will be difficult to interpret with respect to the long term effects of hormonal therapy. It is argued that the consultation for women of middle-age should be characterized by a holistic view of the woman taking account of her gender identity, life conditions and life situation. Such a view should focus on the woman's own ideas as to diagnostic procedures, treatment and solutions. In view of the lack of knowledge about the pros and cons of hormonal therapy, women themselves should make the decision, and such decisions should be encouraged. Also, the efforts directed towards women's compliance to hormonal therapy can be questioned. Women's climacteric symptoms should neither be medicalized, pathologized or minimized.

Lakartidningen 2001 Mar 28;98(13):1524-8

[No title available].

[Article in Swedish]

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[Medline record in process]

Women are still, but to a lesser extent than twenty years ago, excluded as subjects of medical research on diseases that are prevalent among both men and women. To discover the basis on which women were excluded, the research ethics committee requested a written explanation. In all, 26 such project applications were identified during 1997-1999 (2% of the total number of applications during the period). Most researchers had more than one reason for exclusion. Qualitative analysis revealed that these explanations could be grouped into three categories, depending on whether women were excluded for scientific, historical or economic reasons. The scientific reasons correspond mainly to a lack of pertinent knowledge of the physiology and metabolism of women of childbearing age. Consequently, results lacked external validity. Perhaps the lack of knowledge of women's physiology and metabolism could be explained by a lack of female experimental animals in pre-clinical studies. One notes however a general concern not to harm women of childbearing age. The historical reasons underlie the tendency to repeat studies on former study populations that happened to be composed of men. Finally, tight research budgets restricted the participation of women but not of men. The Swedish Medical Research Council issued a policy document in 1998 to the effect that research ethics committees could require additional information concerning choice of study population. This study demonstrates an avoidable occurrence of gender bias in medical research.

Lakartidningen 2000 Nov 8;97(45):5130-2, 5135-6

[Gender in the brain. A critical scrutiny of the biological gender differences].

[Article in Swedish]

Hamberg K

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Down through history, biological arguments have often been used to legitimize a social gender order characterized by male supremacy. In the 1990's, a lively debate on the biological grounds of gender differences once again emerged in various fields. In the present article, the biological models used for explaining cognitive and behavioral gender differences are scrutinized, and recent research is discussed in light of history. These biological models emanate from theories about sex hormones, genetics and brain anatomy. Regarding the cognitive effects of sex hormones, no consensus has been reached, indicating a need for further research. Studies of relationships between genetics on the one hand and sexual orientation and behavior on the other are theoretically obscure and have thus far failed to prove a trustworthy connection. While there is indeed a difference in total brain size--men's brains are heavier than women's--it is not known whether this difference has any import beyond the fact that men have larger bodies. The existence of differences in brain lateralization and the size of the corpus callosum have been powerfully dismissed in several recent reviews. The design and interpretation of medical research in this field are still colored by gender-stereotyped preconceptions and expectations, which obstructs efforts to gain a solid understanding of the biological differences/similarities between men and women. The media's interest in publicizing research results on gender differences, irrespective of magnitude or practical significance, further alerts us to the importance of scientific reason. There exists a very real risk today that medical gender research may be reduced to research about differences. If this problem is not addressed, it might lead to the reinforcement of the gendered structures of society.

Lakartidningen 2000 Dec 6;97(49):5796-800

[Gynecologists about lesbian women--an interview study. There is a risk that lesbian women receive worse treatment].

[Article in Swedish]

Andersson D, Westerstahl A

Department of Family Medicine, Gothenburg university, Gothenburg
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Lesbian women as patients have reported a lack of professionalism and knowledge in medical care. This interview study focused on the gynecologist in consultation with lesbians, and included questions regarding the gynecologists' knowledge as well as feelings about lesbians and their health-related issues. The study's main conclusion is that gynecologists do not ask about their patient's sexual identity/behavior. They thereby risk offering misleading advice or inadequate treatment.

Lakartidningen 2000 Nov 22;97(47):5477-81

[Feministic research means that all research is political].

[Article in Swedish]

Forssen A, Carlstedt G

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The article is a review of different trends and epistemologies in women's studies/feminist research within the field of medicine. In the beginning of the 1980s, women's studies entered the field of medicine in the Nordic countries. They are now a part of the feminist research that has been established within most sciences both nationally and internationally. The gender power relation and its impact on health--first of all women's, but in extension also men's--has

been in focus. Moreover, science itself, its limits and possibilities, and the kind of knowledge it produces, is discussed. In this respect, feminist theory of science is a useful tool.

Lakartidningen 2001 Jan 17;98(3):177-81

[Large social inequalities behind women's risk of coronary disease. Unskilled work and family strains are crucial factors].

[Article in Swedish]

Wamala SP.

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There is a clear and consistent association between lower social economic position and increased risk for coronary heart disease (CHD). This association is even stronger in women than men. In the Stockholm Female Coronary Risk study, compared with executives/professionals, women with un/semiskilled occupations had a four-fold increased risk for developing CHD. Using similar comparisons, a three-fold increased risk for a poor CHD prognosis was observed after a 5-year follow-up. Family stress was an important factor contributing to the socioeconomic differences in women's cardiovascular health. Both family- and work-related factors should be considered in strategies geared to reducing social inequalities in women's cardiovascular health.

Lakartidningen 2001 Feb 28;98(9):968-70

[It's a myth that a higher percentage of female physicians result in lower status of the profession and lower salaries].

[Article in Swedish]

Evengard B.

Infektionskliniken/kliniskt bakteriologiskt laboratorium, Huddinge Universitetssjukhus.

Lakartidningen 2001 Apr 18;98(16):1930-3

[Article in Swedish]

Forssen A, Carlstedt G.

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Women often feel compelled to assume responsibility for the needs and wishes of others. This is of consequence to their own health. The concept "compulsive sensitivity" is used in this article to describe a work injury that can result when this demand is excessive and the trained sensitivity to the needs of others has come to dictate woman's way of being and acting. This kind of ill health is seen as a result of the gender division of labor that persists in our society. The article is based on qualitative research on women's work, health and ill health.

Lakartidningen 2001; 98: 2470-3

Kvinnlig könsstämpning möter den svenska vården. Könsstämpningen en av många former av kvinnodiskriminering i världen

Andersson C

Lakartidningen 2001; 98: 2463-8

Kvinnlig könsstymning - en företeelse av sammansatt natur

Andersson C

6. Networks and Pressure Groups in Finland

Dr. Kaisa Kauppinen, Institute for Occupational Health, Helsinki

1. Aktiivinen synnytys ry, Active childbirth

Aims:

Established since 1986 when women were concerned about care during pregnancy and birthing practices to become too technically oriented and routine; to allow women, children and families to create new culture for childbirth; to encourage women to take responsibility about themselves and to engage in birthing practices which satisfy personal wants about pregnancy and birthing; individuality and autonomy must be respected at maternity health care centres and birthing hospitals; instructions for childbirth ought to be superior and comprehensive; women must have continuity in care.

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nora_as@hotmail.com

<http://www.lapsiperhe.net/aktiivinensynnytys>

2. Ensi- ja turvakotien liitto ry, The Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters

Aims:

Founded in 1945 to safeguard the right of the child to a favourable growth environment and safe development, to provide support for parenthood and to prevent domestic violence.

Mother and child homes:

The work of the mother and child homes takes the form of preventive and corrective child welfare. It is designed to provide support for parenthood and to help families to manage independently. The shelters are service centres providing special support in times of crisis for actual or threatened victims of domestic violence and its perpetrators.

The Hold On Project: 1998-2002:

The aims of the project is to develop a system of care for pregnant substance abusers and families with small children. The objectives are to prevent and minimise damage to the unborn child by helping the mother to abstain from drugs and intoxicants during pregnancy; to encourage fruitful interaction between mother and baby and to promote the healthy development of infants in families in which the mother or both parents have substance-abuse problems.

The Oulunkylä Mother and Child Home is a special unit for the care of substance-abuse families with young children. It is a drop-in unit aiming to develop methods of reaching out to pregnant mothers with substance-abuse problems and persuading them to seek treatment.

Actions:

Training and consultation are provided for social welfare and health care workers on ways of encountering and supporting substance-abuse families, and particularly the mothers, with

small children and encouraging them to seek treatment. National meetings are organised for experts working with substance-abuse families with children. The meetings are a chance to pool experiences and develop professional skills.

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3. Helsingin diakonissalaitos, Helsinki Deaconess Institute

Aims:

The Helsinki Deaconess Institute is a foundation with traditions stretching over 130 years. The focus has mainly been on promoting women's well-being. Since the very beginning, health care, education and social work have been included in the models of operation. The activities are guided by Christian ethics.

The Drug Addiction Treatment Project:

This is a special project focused basically on women drug abusers. The share of women and those under 18 years of age has steadily been on the increase. A benchmark plan for special qualifications training of intoxicant medicine was created at the Clinic. The Clinic provides nation-wide advisory, crisis treatment and needs assessment services, as well as referrals of treatment for drug abusers of all ages, mostly women and their relatives. The Clinic has participated in the Pompidou programme, a European collection of information on drug treatment, organised by STAKES in Finland.

Contact information:

Ms. Pirkko Probst
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www.hdl.fi

4. Marttaliitto ry, The Martha Organisation

Aims:

The Martha Organisation is a Home Economics Extension Organisation which was founded in 1899 to promote women's health and quality of life in the home and in the society in large. The focus is on good atmosphere at home and on the healthy balance between the work and the family. It is a nation-wide organisation with more than 55,000 members and 1,600 local associations.

Special programmes:

Special programmes with immigrant women have been launched. There has been a Mama-project (est. 1960s), a prevention programme of breast cancer for women. Also special attention has been put on healthy exercise to prevent osteoporosis.

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FIN-00120 Helsinki
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www.marttaliitto.fi

5. Raiskauskriisikeskus Tukinainen, Rape Crisis Centre

Aims:

To provide support and guidance to women who have been raped or sexually assaulted and to those important ones in the lives of these women. The main purpose is to make violence directed at women visible and non-tolerable. The programme (est. 1993) offers educational and consultation interventions to people involved in helping women, to collaborate with police, social, health, and legal officials, and to influence public opinion and legislation as well as practices of justice and bureaucracy. All professionals are women who have education and experience called for in this work. The Centre has been a partner in two DAPHNE projects and is member of European Directory of NGO's and participates in European Guide on Models of Good Practice.

Working methods:

Crisis groups
Groups of important others
Groups to get on with life
Open evenings
Crisis meetings with a therapist
Free legal consultation
Free crisis line

Contact information:

Ms. Riitta Rajas
e-mail: office@tukinainen.kolumbus.fi
www.tukinainen.fi (in Finnish, Swedish and English)

6. Naiset yhdessä Irti Päihteistä ry, Women Together Against Drugs rf (WTAD)

Aims:

One of the principal aims is to make Finnish society knowledgeable about women's dependencies, recovering possibilities and new methods. The WTAD was first founded in 1921 to prevent women's different dependencies at an early stage by increasing women's self-esteem, independence and self-knowledge. It had a rehabilitation clinic for women 1988-91 which was the first of its kind in Scandinavia.

Main functions:

Education
Information
Open rehabilitation
Self-help groups/Novat
Workshops

Novat -programme:

Novat is an abbreviation of the Finnish words: Naisen omat vaatteet -women's own clothes. Novat groups are for women who have a need to make changes in their life situation, no matter what kind of dependence they have. The groups offer short therapy, self analysis and relaxation, originally developed by American sociologist (Dr. Jean Kirkpatric). Novat group is a closed self-help group in which a maximum of ten women meet every week during 12-18 month period. Group uses special material and progresses on 13 steps. Novat groups are free of charge.

International co-operation:

KSAN, Sweden
Women for Sobriety, Pennsylvania, USA.

Contact information:

Ms. Helena Palojärvi
e-mail: Naistenkartano@nic.fi
www.nic.fi/nyp

7. Naisten kymppi, The Original Women's Ten

Aims:

The Women's Ten is a big running/walking mass event in Helsinki in the spring. It was first organised in 1984 and in the beginning there were some 300 participants running. In 2000 there were more than 15,000 participants. The event is well organised but there is no time check, the participants are of all ages, the average age being 34 years.

Women have often been left out of the administration and organisation of sport activities which is also shown in the traditional concepts of femininity/masculinity. The competitiveness of sports is seen as unfamiliar to women.

Evaluation and research results:

The Women's Ten has been evaluated and studied. The results show that almost all participants felt that physical exercise increases self-esteem; for many the Women's Ten was a primary inspiration for continuous interest in sports: it has given initiative for several small running groups, e.g. at working places all over the country. Many received financial or material support from their employer for participating and exercising for the Women's Ten.

Contact information:

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Annankatu 8, 00120 Helsinki
www.naistenkymppi.fi
Dr. Mirja Kalliopuska
University of Helsinki, Dept. of Psychology, Finland.

8. STAKES, The National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health

NaisNet, Women and Families -research network on health and health services

The purpose of the multidisciplinary network is to help researchers to get together, and to function as a source for information, education, and personal as well as professional support between researchers in different research institutes and universities in Finland. International contacts to research institutes abroad will also be created. Network leader is Elina Hemminki, Research Professor at STAKES.

Network co-ordinator:

hanna.toiviainen@stakes.fi

STAKES

P.O. Box 220

FIN-00530 Helsinki, Finland

www.stakes.fi/naisnet

The Programme for Prevention of Prostitution and Violence Against Women (1988-2002)

The programme is financed by Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and is implemented by STAKES. The projects produce national action plans and good practices. An international seminar will be organised in October 23-24.2002 in Helsinki, Finland. The objectives of the project on violence against women are e.g. to strengthen the attitudes opposed to violence, to make violence visible, and to make the public aware of its extent and impact on the society, to reduce the incidence of violence against women, and to ensure that easily accessible services are available for the victims and the perpetrators.

Ongoing studies:

Globalising sex industry and trafficking & mobile prostitution at East boarder areas. In 1998 the STOP project was started to build up a network between the experts in Russia, Estonia, Sweden, Germany and Finland for monitoring, analysing and combating trafficking in women and children, financed by the European Union through the STOP-fund.

Programme manager:

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STAKES,

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www.stakes.fi/sexviolence

www.vakivalta.net

9. Suomen Mielenterveysseura ry, The Finnish Association for Mental Health

Aims:

The Association is a non-governmental, voluntary public health organisation. Its primary tasks are to serve as an expert organisation, as a service organisation and as a voluntary organisation for both professionals and lay people.

The functions:

The Association provides crisis and rehabilitation services and pilot projects, disseminates information about mental health issues, and acts as consultant to authorities. It also acts as an umbrella for its member mental health organisations, which carry out the same mission on a local level. In addition, it has a number of other local and national member organisations.

The OIVA -project:

The aim is to learn a new way of intervening to prevent domestic violence. Oiva (=fairly good) is a co-operation project being carried out in Helsinki. Its aim is to co-ordinate actions for stopping domestic violence and to develop a therapy model for men who have resorted to domestic violence. Domestic violence refers to destructive behaviour in family relationships and other intimate relationships. The typical victim is a woman in these relationships, e.g., a wife, a girl friend, a co-habitant partner, a mother, etc. It is the use of physical force, control and exploitive actions. Domestic violence is found in all age groups and in families on all levels of society.

One of the initiative of the Oiva project was to create a support network for men which consists of other men: a violent man often finds it difficult to attach himself to a woman-dominated care network.

The Oiva project model:

Initial idea: recognition of violence

Information

Motivation time

Group intervention

Follow-up

Contact information:

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e-mail: pirkko.lahti@mielenterveysseura.fi

Maistraatinportti 4 A, FIN-00240 HELSINKI

www.mielenterveysseura.fi

10. Väestöliitto, the Family Federation of Finland

Aims:

Väestöliitto is a non-governmental organisation specialising in population development, sexual health and family. It was founded in 1941 and has 25 member organisations in the fields of social affairs, health and population. All projects strive to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights and thought that this promote gender equality, balanced population development and the alleviation of poverty and exclusion.

Main projects:

"Acute help for those who have been raped"- project produce material for doctors who examine those who have been raped.

"The Open House" is a Sexual Health Clinic for adolescents, both girls and boys. In 2000, there were 784 visits by girls and 48 by boys. Adolescents under 18 can obtain flexible consultation free of charge on matters concerning adolescent development, intimate relationships and sexuality.

"The Sexual Health Clinic" has an appointment for women who have been sexually abused. The clinic actively participates in the development of new contraceptive methods and studies the sexual behaviour of young people as well as adult sexual problems.

"Development Co-operation" emphasises the importance of family planning, HIV/aids prevention, safe motherhood and the right to sexual education. Väestöliitto has several overseas development projects.

"Population Policy Survey" examines the values and attitudes related to family formation and population policies among Finnish men and women. It focuses on attitudes affecting fertility decisions, the perception of having (or not having) children, meanings given to family and parenthood, people's aspirations in life, and preferences and aspects in reconciling work and family.

Contact information:

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Dr. Ismo Söderling

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Iso Roobertink 20-22 A PL 849, 00101 Helsinki

www.vaestoliitto.fi

11. SETA ry, Organisation for Sexual Equality in Finland

Aims:

SETA is the national GLBP organisation of Finland, and has been working for sexual equality since 1974. SETA works as an umbrella organisation for its 19 member associations around Finland, and runs a Trans Support Centre in Helsinki.

Main functions:

There are various peer support groups for women where women can share their experiences, e.g. for bisexual women, adolescent lesbians, non-heterosexual mothers and transgendered women. Women call, e-mail or come to discuss topics like coming out, parenting, reproductive rights, problematic relationships, loneliness, confusion about sexual or gender identity, etc.

Contact information:

SETA ry,

Ms. Tiia Lampela

e-mail: tiia.lampela@helsinki.fi

Mr. Rainer Hiltunen

e-mail: rainer@seta.fi

www.seta.fi

12. Suomen Invalidiliitto, National Association of the Disabled in Finland

Aims:

The main task is to promote and support equal opportunities and oppose discrimination among people with mobility disabilities. The work involves awareness raising in the society,

regional activity, training and education, and counselling. The National Association has 156 local associations, with approx. 38,000 members.

Special projects on women:

There has been two special projects focused on women.

"The DEEP project: Disabled Women's Empowerment and Energy Project". **The** objective of the project was to promote the empowerment of disabled women and increase awareness among women in Finland, Sweden and Romania.

The goal during the first year (1999) was to train women as leaders of peer groups and to support establishing of peer groups around Finland. The themes of the training were:

Peer support

Femininity and disability

Empowerment and assertiveness

Group leader abilities

A resource guide for the peer groups was prepared based on these themes.

"Disabled Women and Violence" was the first study made on this topic in Finland. The participants of the study were 20 women, in the age category 30-68 years. There were cases of physical as well as psychological violence and intimidation. Recommendation for coping with violence were made. The study will continue .

Co-ordination of the project:

Ms. Auli Tynkkynen

e-mail: auli.tynkkynen@invalidiliitto.fi

Dr. Vappu Viemerö

e-mail: vviemero@abo.fi

Contact information:

www.invalidiliitto.fi

13. Promama ry, the Promama Association: the Mama programme for breast cancer screening in Finland

Aims:

Motivating women to carry out monthly Breast Self-examination (BSE), learning to know the breasts when normal at different ages and to self-refer to a physician if breast cancer symptoms occur. The Mama programme is a continuous, comprehensive programme for the early detection of breast cancer developed by Gisela Gästrin (in 1970s). The name was derived from the first letters of the two women's organisations the Martha Organisation and the Swedish Martha Association of Finland.

Mama Programme Strategy:

Group information

Individual one-on-one instructions

Screening positive women

Contact information:

ProMama Association

Ruusulankatu 19, FIN-00250 Helsinki

e-mail: promama@fimnet.fi
www.health.fi/mamaohjelma

14. Suomen Sydänliitto, the Finnish Heart Association

Aims:

The Finnish Heart Association works to prevent cardiovascular diseases and to develop treatment and rehabilitation. The association was established in 1955 as the first organisation of its kind in Europe. Cardiovascular diseases are a significant public health problem in Finland.

Special women's projects:

Cardiovascular diseases have been seen as typically male diseases, now more and more women are the victims. A new project will be started to identify the early symptoms of heart disease among women.

Main forms of operation:

Individual counselling (health, social security)
Small group activities: quit smoking, weight reducing, selfcare groups
Public lectures
Campaigns
Training
Expert meetings
Resuscitation training

Contact information:

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e-mail: tor.jungman@sydanliitto.fi
www.sydanliitto.fi

15. Kansallinen ikäohjelma, the National Programme on Ageing Workers (1998-2002)

Aims:

To support the labour market position of people over the age of 45 and to promote the kind of workplace development which strives to ensure that the working capacity of all age groups can be used in working life. The programme is based on a government resolution and co-ordinated by the Ministry of Labour.

Main methods:

The programme operates through legislative development, research, training and the publication on good practices.

Target groups:

The programme targets both the employed and the unemployed, both women and men. Women are an important target group because women's employment rate is high in Finland. However, they are concentrated on female-intensive fields with special work-related problems.

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Ms. Tuula Forsman

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www.ikaohjelma.net

16. Työssä jaksamisen ohjelma, A Finnish National Wellbeing at Work - programme (2000-2001)

Aims:

To promote people's wellbeing at work and their quality of life. The national Wellbeing at Work Programme is a governmental-sponsored project implemented by the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, in co-operation with the social partners. Also involved are representatives of sports organisations, the Church and entrepreneurs. The programme views wellbeing in very broad terms.

Action strategies:

Provision of information and promotion of good practice

Utilisation of research and commissioning new research

Implementation of practical development projects

Development of new legislation

Women as an important target group:

Research on women shows that stress has increased at female-dominated workplaces. Those over 45 years of age find their work capacity poor in relation to the physical and mental demands of their jobs. Besides the pressure at work, the need to reconcile work and family commitments produces a further strain on women, because most women in Finland work full-time. Part-time is less frequent than in other EU-countries. Working hours and working arrangements are heavily emphasized in the programme.

Contact information:

Ms. Tuulikki Petäjaniemi

Ministry of Labour

e-mail: tuulikki.petajaniemi@mol.fi

www.mol.fi/jaksamisohjelma

17. Työterveyslaitos, the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health (FIOH)

Aims:

The Institute is a research and specialist institute on occupational health and safety. The aim is a healthy worker in a healthy and safe workplace. The Institute was founded in 1945, and in 1978 it was nationalised under the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. It acts as a specialist institute of the WHO and the ILO in the field of occupational health. Multidisciplinary research and development projects strengthen its aims with the help of co-operation, funding, training and communication by promoting innovations and new practices that enhance health, competence and productivity in organisations. Annually, there are 180 on-going research projects.

Main functions:

Research

Services

Dissemination of information

Training and education

Special projects targeted on women:

a) Guidelines for assessing the risk and need for special maternity leave:

These guidelines are important for women working exposed to chemical, physical and biological agents harmful to the foetus or pregnancy. The aim is to advise health personnel in assessing the risk and need for special leave.

Project co-ordinator:

Dr. Helena Taskinen

e-mail: helena.taskinen@occuphealth.fi

b) Reproductive health of dental care personnel:

The aim is to investigate whether exposure of dental care personnel to acrylate compounds, mercury, ionising radiation, nitrous oxide and disinfectants is associated with an increased risk of spontaneous abortion or other adverse reproductive outcomes.

Contact person:

Ms. Marja-Liisa Lindbom

e-mail: marja-liisa.lindbom@occuphealth.fi

c) Working conditions and wellbeing in the Finnish social and health care services:

The aim was to define working conditions and wellbeing of the Finnish social and health care workers (mostly women) and to compare the situation between years 1992 and 1999. The main results show that being in a hurry was reported more than earlier and resorting to over-long working days had increased. A tenth of the respondents (mostly women) said that they had difficulties in performing their tasks and thought that they might have to leave their job before reaching the pension age of 65 years.

Contact persons:

Prof. Gustav Wickström

e-mail: gustav.wickstrom@occuphealth.fi

Ms. Marjukka Laine

e-mail: marjukka.laine@occuphealth.fi

d) The Estonian-Finnish Twinning project on Occupational Health and Equality is one part of the Estonian accession process into the membership of the European Union. The equality element is based on the new Community framework strategy on gender equality (2001-2005). The outcome of this element is better wellbeing at work, increase in gender equality and greater gender sensitivity in working life.

The following actions have been started:

Raising awareness

Development of comparable statistics, methodologies and standards

Capacity building

Creating a network of equality experts

Mapping the situation in Estonian workplaces from gender perspective.

Contacts persons:

Dr. Kaisa Kauppinen, FIOH

e-mail: kaisa.kauppinen@occuphealth.fi

Ms. Ulle-Marike Papp, Ministry of Social Affairs, Estonia
e-mail: ylle-marike.papp@sm.ee
www.sm.ee/Telematic/index.htm

e) Gender Equality, Work Organisation and Wellbeing:

The goal is to ensure gender equality, productivity and job satisfaction and to prevent marginalisation at work. The project promotes four specific issues:

Conducts research

Develops evaluation criteria on gender equality

Promotes equality plans and social auditing

Encourages innovative work time arrangements

Contact person:

Dr. Kaisa Kauppinen

e-mail: kaisa.kauppinen@occuphealth.fi

f) Violence towards women in St. Petersburg:

The purpose was to investigate the frequency, extent and nature of violence against women in St. Petersburg. The investigation utilised the previously conducted Finnish survey on violence against women by men. The questionnaire was modified for the use in St. Petersburg.

International Women and Management Institute in St. Petersburg and the Mental Health Association of Finland functioned as the collaborating agencies.

Contact person:

Dr. Kaisa Kauppinen

e-mail: kaisa.kauppinen@occuphealth.fi

g) Information-intensive work programme (2000-2004):

The aims is to bring a stronger human-centred orientation to the information society. The programme consists of 14 research and development projects which focus on information work from the following viewpoints:: health and functional capacity, usability and ergonomics, the organisation, management and culture.

Two projects focus specially on women and gender:

New work cultures, working time, family and social life

Knowledge-intensive work and gender

Programme director:

Research professor Mikko Härmä

e-mail:mikko.harma@occuphealth.fi

18. NCRB, A Network for crisis centres for women in the Russian Barents Region (and in the Barents region as a whole) - a joint Nordic-Russian Development and Research Project (1999-2001)

Aims:

To increase awareness of gender sensitive sexual and reproductive problems and those related to violence against women and children, in the spirit of zero tolerance of violence in all its forms. To increase institutional capacity of the crisis centres in the form of a collaborative approach and work culture.

Target group:

Women's Crisis centres in North West Russia

Research outcomes:

Normative and theoretical reflections, from the gender perspective, of on-going and alternative political and social developments

Research courses and case studies of problems and issues relevant to crisis centre problematics

Joint publication in winter 2002, for the closing conference, and articles, reports to be given out during the process

Training and Education

Contact information:

Project leader: Dr. Aino Saarinen

University of Oulu

e-mail: aino.saarinen@oulu.fi

Project Manager: Dr. Olga Liapounova, Pomor University, Arkhangelsk

e-mail: liapounova@pomorsu.ru

7. Guide through the Network - and Pressure Group Structures of the EWHNET-Member Country Italy

Laura Corradi and Giovanna Vingelli, University of Calabria

The compilation of the Questionnaire in June 2001 gave us the opportunity of re-establishing contacts and assessing changes after the ending of the Italian Country Report (project year 1999-2000).

Many developments occurred since then: new women's associations on health-related issues sprouted, and some of the pre-existing networks expanded. Exemple is the Andos – Associazione Nazionale Donne Operate al Seno (National Association of Women with Breast Surgery).

We found few networks at the national level: Italy remains a country where “lobbying” is not a well-established way of expressing *voice* – as in the white-anglo- tradition. Here we are witnessing the birth of two types of strucures: institutions on one hand (which are supposed to fulfill women's needs related to health) and autonomous groups working at the grass-roots level (often fulfilling women's needs far beyond institutional aims).

An exeption is represented by a network of groups supporting women with cancer: Europa Donna – which is born following the steps of the NBCC (National Breast Cancer Coalition) in the United States – having lobbying as a main activity. Moreover, there are regional networks on specific issues, mainly cancer, mental health, and multiple allergic disorders.

At a lobbying-expert level the main national experience on women's health is represented by a Task Force instituted by the former Ministry of Equal Opportunities, Prof. Laura Balbo: the “Working Group Objective 2001: a Health to Fit Women's Needs”. The Task Force became “Commissione Inter-ministeriale on Gender and Health” with a instituting law by decree (April 12, 2001).

Questionnaire Results

1. Is there a network/are there networks on a national level, which do pressure-group-work in the field of women/girls health?

1. “Commissione Interministeriale” on gender and health (network of experts emerging from the experience of the Ministry of Equal Opportunities Task Force)

Aims of the network:

to create a unified field of observation over the main pathologies prevalent among women and over different areas of medicine; to point out research biases against women, and the under - or over- evaluation of some factors influencing women’s health in medical research; to produce guidelines of intervention for a women-friendly health system.

Contact address (es):

erealena@tin.it; cardio@unimo.it; Irene.Fig0xL185ztalamanca@uniroma1.it; ceci@ermes.cba.unige.it; ballard@iss.it; romito@univ.trieste.it; 063212561@iol.it; anemgi@mclink.it; parodip@tin.it; daria.minucci@unipd.it; laura.corradi@unical.it

Topics of the last two years:

gender issues in prevention and care

Joint Activities:

participation in the setting of recommendations and guidelines
Are there explicit success that can be named? publication of reports on women’s health and illness.

What are the central demands?

A health to fit women’s needs

Connection to the European level?

Through EWHNET and WHO.

2. Andos¹ - National Association of Women With Breast Surgery

Aims of the network:

support and care for women who have been diagnosed with breast cancer and mastectomized.

Contact address (es):

Comitato Nazionale, Via Sforza n.35, 1 Clinica Chirurgica Università di Milano, tel. 02-55035591

¹ Andos was already listed in the Appendix of the Italian Country Report (project year 1999-2000) with 3 main location. Now the network counts on 67 sites all over the country and a web site: <http://www.andositalia.s5.com/> (see Appendix n. 4)

Comitato Esecutivo, Via Udine n. 6, Trieste, tel. E Fax: 040-364716
<http://www.andositalia.s5.com/>

Topics of the last two years:

Information; support center; social service; socio-cultural activities

Joint Activities:

Training center, 2 International Conferences, 18 national Conferences; scholarships; documentations (bi-monthly magazine "La Voce", booklets, videotapes)

Are there explicit success that can be named?

They created new professional figures and increased widely their activity and presence in Italy in a couple of years (see note)

What are the central demands?

Social assistance (bureaucratic, insurance, social security); health education

Connection to the European level:

They have international connections with the UICC/Reach to recovery association and the American Cancer Society

3. AIED²-Associazione Italiana per l'Educazione Demografica (Italian Association for Demographic Education)

Aims of the network:

To spread the idea of free and responsible procreation; to support events in order to improve quality of life and health; to promote a new culture of motherhood and birth; to control and support public service in the field of health information and prevention

Contact address (es):

AIED, Via Salaria 58, 00198 Roma, tel. 06 / 8840661 / 8553643, fax 85301120
<http://www.aied.it>

Topics of the last two years:

Information on youth sexuality, abortion and contraception.

Joint Activities:

Researche, conferences, documentation and workshops on the above topics. The web site offers an on-line FAQ service

Are there explicit success that can be named?

As a pressure group, they succeeded in changing some advertisement biased against women and in promoting awareness on contraception, AIDS and abortion.

What are the central demands?

Women's reproductive freedom; information on the above topics

² The network counts on 30 sites all over the country. See the web site: www.aied.it

4. CGIL Nazionale, Dipartimento Politiche della salute

Aims of the network:

Research and information on health and reproductive technologies

Contact address (es):

CGIL - Confederazione Nazionale, Corso d'Italia 25, 00198 Roma

Tel.: 06-847.61; Fax: 06-884.56.83

<http://www.cgil.it/org.politicasalute/home.htm>

Topics of the last two years/Joint Activities:

Conferences, seminars and workshops on reproductive rights

5. Il Melograno

Aims of the network:

information on maternity and birth

Contact address (es)³:

Via Giusti 10, 21013 Gallarate (VA) tel. 0331 / 701542 Fax: 0331 / 701542

<http://www.ilmelograno.org>

Topics of the last two years:

active parturition assistance at home; promoting natural products

Joint Activities:

Forum and seminars; library

Are there explicit success that can be named?

They established a methodology and a personalized approach to birth, with a professional attitude informed by the respect of each individuality and the diversity in each woman, her culture, her needs - without proposing a unique model

6. ALA Group. Associazione Nazionale Italiana Lotta Aids

Aims of the network:

preventing HIV-infections and STDS; monitoring prostitution and developing forms of intervention around migrating women and the issue of sex-slavery

³ There are 4 more sites in Italy:

Via Villa 12, Verona, tel 045 / 8300908; Via Saturnia 4A, Roma, tel 06 / 704.756.06; Viale della Vittoria 48, Ancona, tel 071 / 35333; opening in Como.

Contact address (es)⁴:

Via Taormina 36, 20159 Milano, tel. 02/6680.0672 fax 02/6880.158
<http://www.teledata.it/ala/index.html>

Topics of the last two years:

to help AIDS patients through sanitary, psychological and social treatments, into and out of the hospital; to help the families of Aids patients; to help HIV sieropositive people; to work out prevention plans on Aids directed to risk groups and the general population; to work on information and prevention about drug addiction; to work on HIV and Sexual Transmitted Diseases (STD) information and prevention, prostitution and designer drugs, using preventive mobile units;

Joint Activities:

training courses for voluntary service; organise conferences and meetings about Aids in Italy and abroad

Are there explicit success that can be named?

Part of the activities performed by A.L.A., particularly in Milano, is carried out in a convention with the National Health Service.

What are the central demands?

Domiciliary social-assistance and psychological support services for Aids patients and their families.

Connection to the European level?

A.L.A. organises meetings in Italy and all over Europe. All the meetings have been on the subject "Prevention in young age: a global strategy" and were attended by experts in prevention from seven countries of Europe: Italy, Romany, Hungary, Bulgary, Albania, Moldavia and Macedonia. Meetings are occasion of comparison for those countries that are still at the beginning in prevention about HIV/AIDS.

7. Europa Donna

Aims of the network:

To promote the dissemination and exchange of factual, up-to-date information on breast cancer throughout Europe; to emphasise the need for appropriate screening and early detection, to campaign for provision of optimal treatment, to ensure quality supportive care throughout and after treatment; to advocate appropriate training of health professionals, to acknowledge good practice and promote its development; to demand regular quality assessment of medical equipment

Contact address (es):

Europa Donna Breast Cancer Coalition, Via Beatrice d'Este 37, 20122 Milano

⁴ There are 6 more sites in Italy: Brescia (030-2807812); Borghetto (SV) (0182/971447-0347/5745626); Milano (02/89516464-89518046); Ravenna (0544/39465); Varese (0338-8775475 fax 0328-2180702); Verona (045/956311)

Joint Activities:

A Newsletter is published and an International Conference is held bi-annually

Connection to the European level?

The European breast cancer coalition currently involves membership from 19 countries

8. Safe, Forum per la Salute al Femminile

Aims of the network:

to network among all Italian associations promoting actions for women's health, and the improvement of the social, professional and family context.

Contact address (es):

** temporary address

Topics of the last two years:

Information campaigns and sensitises education and formation actions. It encourages prevention in scientific research and the respect of women's rights.

Joint Activities:

Conferences, documentation

Are there explicit success that can be named?

The Forum is activating a Coalition of Associations – each maintaining their autonomous existence, and going on in each one's specific activity

What are the central demands?

Connection to the European level?

Partnership with European and global organizations having common goals

9. Older Women's Network

Aims of the network:

creates opportunities for older women to develop their own voice in decision-making within their local communities, whether in the formulation of social and cultural programmes to meet their needs, or influencing policy relating to issues such as pensions, health, housing and education

Contact address (es):

Via del Serraglio 8, 06073 Corciano - PG, Italy Tel./Fax: +39 75 6979319

E-mail: own@krenet.it

Internet: <http://www.impnet.com/trasinet/own/>

Topics of the last two years:

Challenge the negative stereotypes of age, gender, race, disability and sexuality; Work across cultures and generations recognising that age is a life-cycle issue

Joint Activities:

Documentation, conferences, newsletter

Are there explicit success that can be named?

Contacts have been established between older women across the European Union as well as central and eastern Europe; a Help Desk service is offered by OWN Europe staff aimed at facilitating the use of new programmes and ICT (information communication technology)

What are the central demands?

Older women and social exclusion

Connection to the European level?

Similar groups in Europe and USA; supported by the European Commission

2. Are there regional networks that do pressure group work in the field of women/girls and health?

10. Trama di terre

Intercultural Center run by a private association of women (italians and migrants)

Aims of the network:

To create a mediation area that caters for a self-managed internal reception, literacy courses and Italian proficiency courses, and health and educational mediation; a communication and intercultural area

Contact address (es):

Via Aldrovandi 31,40026 Imola (Bologna), tel. & fax 0039 0542 28705
e-mail: trama.terre@fastmail.it

Topics of the last two years:

Counselling service and support for mothers and daughters in difficulty; literacy course for immigrant women. The course aims to provide relevant information on the health and welfare services of the city and on health education, in a way that promotes autonomous access to the services and an information exchange about sex and contraception.

Joint Activities:

Public shows, conferences and cultural events; after-school service; production of a monthly magazine, Le Monde-Il Mondo

Are there explicit success that can be named?

City's hall explicit recognition; the setting up of a small co-operative with liability to provide services (mediation, intercultural workshops, etc.).

What are the central demands?

Immigrant women social integration

11. Associazione Alma Terra

Aims of the network:

Four main areas of intervention: cultural mediation; economic empowerment; health; communication

Contact address (es):

Via Norberto Rosa 13/a, 10135 TORINO, tel. ++39 011 2464330
e-mail: alma@arpnet.it

Topics of the last two years:

In the field of women's health: health situation of immigrant women; care work

Joint Activities:

Workshops and seminars

Are there explicit success that can be named?

Creation of a cooperative of women (native and immigrant)

What are the central demands?

Immigrant women social integration

Connection to the European level?

Participation in the UE Program: Med-Urbs Migration

12. Coordinamento Regionale del Lazio per una nuova coscienza del parto e della nascita

It includes the associations: ARIS, Simonetta Tosi, Il Melograno, Artemide, Centro Maternità, Centro Studi Yoga, Gruppo Ostetriche Centro nascita, Las Parteras

Aims of the network:

Information on active child delivery

Contact address (es):

Via Sannio 61, Roma, tel. 0670476220

Connection to the European level?

Mipa - International Movement for Active Child-delivery

3) Are there networks on special topics in the field of women/girls and health, that do pressure group work?

There are no networks on special topics, but many associations, on a local level, operating in the field above (especially violence against women)

Medicalisation of women's complaint
Inappropriate care in the health system
Health situation of girls

13. Aba - Associazione per lo studio e la ricerca sull'anoressia e bulimia e i disordini alimentari

Aims:

to help people suffering of bulimia and anorexia

Activities:

Conferences and documents on the above topics

Contact:

Via Solferino 14, 20121 Milano, Tel. 02/29000226, Fax. 02/290006988

- Life situation of women and health

14. AED Femminismo

Aims:

prevention of violence, contractception, abortion, early detection and sexuality; international traffick of organs and primary prevention of cancer

Activities:

provides gynecological consultancy, advisory bureau, legal assistance. It is a resource center which produces and distributes information

Contact:

Passaggio Canonici Lateranensi, 22 - 24121 – Bergamo, Tel. 035/ 244337 Fax 035/ 235660

- Health situation of mothers

15. Associazione “Il Nido”

Aims:

to offer women a plece to manage motherhood in a natural and active way

Activities:

Conferences, workshops

Contact:

Via Nazario Sauro 6, 40121 Bologna, tel. 051 / 225046

– Violence against women/violence prevention

See appendix 4

– Elderly women

16. P. C. Associazione Prevenzione Climaterio

Aims:

Riunire donne in età menopausale. Informazione e prevenzione socio-sanitaria

Activities:

Incontri con medici e psicologi. Corsi di ginnastica preventiva

Contact:

Via T. Gori 58, 47100 Forlì, Tel. 0543 / 26221

– Mental health

17. Centro Autostima Donne

Aims:

to support people with depression problems

Activities:

Seminars, formation

Contact:

Via Consiglio 11 29100 Piacenza, Tel. 0523/338281

– Other

18. Eutopie

Aims:

informing and practicing those therapies geared to body-mind integration: holistic medicine, particularly non-Western ones, and those techniques recently developed in Art-therapy

Activities:

integration and correct use of allopathic medicine, natural medicine and techniques borrowed by traditional therapies; Body-lab, working on menopause and chronic diseases in

economically and socially disadvantaged contexts; Self-help Theatre Lab “Acting Out” meant to rescue psycho-social capacities.

Publication:

every six months: *Eutopie. Convergence between Science, Imagination and Art*

Contact:

Via Venini,46, 20127 – Milano, Telefono/fax (+39)02/26822995

<http://www.provincia.milano.it/associazioni/sdionigi/eutopie/heutopie.htm>

19. FORTE COME UNA DONNA, Centro a sostegno delle donne operate al seno

Contact:

c/o Istituto Fleming

Via Torino, 3 00184 Roma

tel. 06/483708, 06/483939; fax 06/4881954

20. FADOS, Federazione associazioni donne operate al seno

Contact:

Via San Mattia 12, 35121 Padova, tel. e fax 049/8752115

21. I.D.A. Iniziativa Donne Aids

Contact:

Via del Porto 17, 40122 Bologna

Via S. Mamolo 55 40136 Bologna Tel 051 / 581373 -

22. Luna e le Altre

Contact:

Largo Niccolò Cannella 00128 Roma

23. Movimento Donne Trieste per i Problemi Sociali

Contact:

C.so Saba 6 34131 Trieste Tel. 040 / 661004 - Fax 040 / 636022

24. Noi Donne Insieme

Contact:

Via Del Giglio 5 40133 Bologna Tel. 051 / 6195969

25. Psiche e Differenza/Differenze

Contact:

c/o Fondazione Cecchini Pace Istituto Transculturale per la Salute
Via Molino delle Armi 19 20123 Milano Tel. 02/58310299 - Fax 58311389
P.zza Gesù Maria 3, Napoli

Appendix 1: Methodology

We started by re-contacting groups who already answered to the EWHNET inquiry during the compilation of the last Country Report, which included about 30 women's associations. (See: European Women's Health Network, *Italian Country Report*, Appendix "Women's Health Centres in Italy", (edited by) Laura Corradi, 1999-2000.

Then we searched on the web. We found the following sites:

<http://www.andositalia.s5.com/>
<http://www.aied.it>
<http://www.ilmelograno.org>
<http://www.teledata.it/ala/index.html>
http://www.comune.firenze.it/servizi_publici/donne/paginerosa/regioni/b.htm
http://www.mandragola.com/tel_rosa
<http://www.women.it/luoghi/>
<http://orlando.women.it>
<http://www.mipaonline.com/>

A further step was taken by networking with the "Commissione Interministeriale" on women's health instituted by the Ministry of Equal Opportunities and composed by experts in different fields of women's health.

Dr. Terri Ballard, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, epidemiologist;
Dr. Giuseppina Boidi, ASL Genova 3, psychiatrist;
Prof. Adriana Ceci, Università di Bari, pediatrician;
Dr. Laura Corradi, Università della Calabria, sociologist of health;
Prof. Irene Figà Talamanca, Università di Roma, biologist;
Prof. Daria Minucci, Università di Padova, gynecologist;
Prof. Maria Grazia Modena, Policlinico di Modena, cardiologist;
Dr. Nadia Pallotta, Università di Roma, gastro-entgerologist;
Dr. Elvira Reale, ASL Napoli 1, philosopher of medicine;
Dr. Patrizia Romito, Università di Trieste, psychologist;
Dr. Paola Vinay, Associazione Prospecta, sociologist of gender.

We also inquired about the existence of national and regional women's networks around health-related issues by sending e-mail messages to three Italian Women's Studies which have been already instituted:

- University of Calabria;
- CIRSDe - Centro Interdipartimentale Ricerche e Studi delle Donne, Università di Torino;
- Women's Studies Group (Department of Philosophy, University of Rome 3).

Moreover we contacted women scholars and politicians who have been active on the issues of women's health in order to gather useful information on pressure-groups and lobbying activities at the national and regional level. Among them:

- the former Ministry of Equal Opportunities, Prof. Laura Balbo;
- the current President of the National Equal Opportunities Commission within the Government, Dr. Marina Piazza;
- the only woman president of a political party in Italy, Grazia Francescato (President of the Green Party);
- women elected in the Italian Parliament (Dr. Carla Rocchi, Senator; Dr. Laura Cima, Chamber Deputee).
- women sociologists and feminists active in the Italian academia - among whom Dr. Marina Bianchi, Università di Trento; Prof. Carmen Leccardi, Università di Milano - Bicocca; and Prof. Giovanna Vicarelli, Università di Ancona.
- feminists in the lesbian milieu - among whom Daniela Pellegrini (Casa delle Donne, Milano)

Appendix 2: List of new contacts.

The following list does not include the contacts made during the compilation of the Italian Country Report, project year 1999-2000.

Mailing List “Femminismi”

Associazione “Alma terra” – Imola (BO)

Telefono Rosa – Torino

EWL (European Women Lobby)

LEF Italia

Via Mentana 2b

I-00185 Roma

Tel/Fax: +39 06 4941491

Arcidonna

<http://www.arcidonna.com>

ArciLesbica

Segreteria Nazionale, Piazza di Porta Saragozza 2, Bologna

Tel. 051-6447054, Fax 051-644690

<http://www.women.it/arciles>

Emily Italia

<http://www.emily.it>

***Appendix 3: Associations of Women with Breast Surgery (Andos:
Associazione Nazionale Donne Operate al Seno)***

Appendix 4: List of local groups

List of local women's groups active in the field of prevention of violence against women and support to (physically or sexually) abused women

ABANO TERME

Telefono Donna

Piazza Caduti, 1
Tel 049.8245234

ANCONA

Donne e Giustizia

Via Cialdini, 23
Tel. 071.204680

AREZZO

Pronto Donna

Via Salvi Castellucci, 37
Tel 0575.354144

AVELLINO

Filo d'Arianna

Via Moretti e Silvati, 1
Tel 0825.32227

BARI

L.I.Vi.S

Via Sarriga Visconti, 199
Tel 080.5219441

BERGAMO

Comitato Provinciale contro la Violenza Sessuale

Via Martiri di Cefalonia, 6
Tel 035.232600

BOLOGNA

Casa delle Donne per non subire la Violenza

Vicolo Borchetta 6 (laterale di Str.
Maggiore)
Tel. 051-265700 - Fax 051-261765
Email: casadonn@orlando.women.it

BOLZANO

Casa Alloggi protetti Verein Haus

Casella Postale 103
Tel 0471.970350

BRESCIA

Casa delle Donne

Via San Faustino, 38
Tel 030.2400636

BRINDISI

Io Donna

Via Santa Chiara, 6/8
Tel 0831.522034

CAGLIARI

ADVOCATAE

Via Barcellona, 80
Tel 070.652675

CASERTA

Spazio Donna

Via Roma, 169
Tel 0823.354126

CATANIA

U.D.I.

Via Cantarella, 6
Tel 095.505372

CESENA

Telefono Donna

Piazza del Popolo, 9
Tel 0547.300800

CHIETI**Il filo di Arianna**

Via c. de Lollis, 23
Tel 0871.347999

COMO**Telefono Donna**

Via Grandi, 21
Tel 031.279355

COSENZA**Assoc. "Roberta Lanzino"**

Via Caloprese, 56
Tel 0984.36311

CREMA**Donne contro la violenza**

Via XX Settembre, 115
Tel 0373.80999

CUNEO**Telefono Donna**

Via C. Emanuele, 34
Tel 0171.631515

FAENZA**S.O.S Donna**

Via Laderchi, 3
Tel 0546.22611

FERRARA**U.D.I.**

Via Terranuova, 12/b
Tel 0532.247440

FIRENZE**Donne contro la violenza**

Via del Mezzetta, 1
Tel 055.602311

FORLI'**Filo Donna**

Via E. Curiel, 51
Tel/fax 0543552855

GENOVA**Centro Donne Maltrattate**

Via Cairoli, 14/7
Tel 010.2461716

GRADISCA D'ISONZO (GO)**U.D.I.**

Piazza Unità, 14
Tel 0481.960260

GROSSETO**Centro Pari Opportunità**

Via Oberdan, 14
Tel 0564.20027

IMOLA**Casa Amica**

Via Venturini Reparto 8
Tel 0542.604608

LAMEZIA TERME**Centro Lilith**

Salita Mazzei 21,
Tel 0968.201713

LATINA**Telefono Donna**

Via D'Azeglio, 19
Tel 0773.664165

LA SPEZIA**Telefono Donna**

Via Corridoni, 5
Tel 0187.703338

L'AQUILA
Donne Melusine c/o AIED
Via Annunziata 7
Tel 0862.65985

LECCO
Telefono Donna
Via Parini, 6
Tel 0341.363484

LIVORNO
Centro Donna
Via Largo Strozzi
Tel 0586.890053

MANTOVA
Telefono Rosa
Via Tassoni, 12
Tel 0376.225656

MERANO
Per le Donne contro la violenza
Corso Libertà, 184
Tel 0473.222335

MESSINA
CEDAV
Via Nina da Messina, 18
Tel 090.59018

MILANO
Casa delle Donne maltrattate
Via Piacenza, 14
Tel 02.55015519

MODENA
**Centro contro la violenza alle
donne**

Via del Gambero, 77
Tel 059.361050

MONZA
CADOM
Via Raiberti, 1/d
Tel 039.2301159

NAPOLI
Onda Rosa
Via Carducci, 29
Tel 081.426368

PADOVA
Centro Antiviolenza
Via Nazareth, 25
Tel 049.756909

PALERMO
U.D.I.
Via XX Settembre, 57
Tel 091.327973

PARMA
Centro Antiviolenza
Via dei Farnese, 23
Tel 0521.238885

PAVIA
Donne contro la violenza
Porta Pertusi, 6/a
Tel 0382.32136

PERUGIA
Telefono Donna
Via Podiani, 11
Tel 800861126 (n° verde)

PESCARA**Telefono Donna**

Via Modesto della Porta, 24
Tel 085.64535

REGGIO EMILIA**"NONDASOLA"**

Via Medaglie d'oro della Resistenza,
6/b
Tel 0522.332117

PIACENZA**Città delle donne**

Via Bertini, 4
Tel 0523.593333

RIVA DEL GARDA**Telefono Donna**

Via Grez, 44
Tel 0464.556000

PISA**Casa della donna**

Via Galli Tassi, 8
Tel 050.561628

ROMA**Telefono Rosa**

Viale Mazzini, 73
Tel 06.37518262-82

POTENZA**Telefono Donna**

Via Volontari del sangue, 1
Tel 0971.441114

SALERNO**Linea Rosa**

Piazza Veneto, 2
Tel 089.254242

PRATO**La Nara**

Via Migliorati, 16/a
Tel 0574.34472

SAN BENEDETTO DEL TRONTO**Centro Antiviolenza Donna**

Via dei Mille - Piscina Comunale
Tel 0735.583285

RAVENNA**Linea Rosa**

Via Garatoni, 12
Tel 0544.216316

SAVONA**Telefono Donna**

Via Sormano, 12
Tel 019.870065

RECANATI**Numero Donna**

c/o Municipio p.zza Leopardi
Tel 071.7587277

TORINO**Telefono Rosa**

Via Assietta 13/a
Tel 011.530666-5628314

TRENTO**Famiglie in Difficoltà**

Via S. Francesco d'Assisi, 10

Tel 0461.235008

TREVISO**Telefono Donna**

Via Canova, 44

Tel 0422.53022

TRIESTE**U.D.I.**

Piazza Duca degli Abruzzi, 3

Tel 040.367879

UDINE**Iotunoivoi****DONNEINSIEME**

Via Della Roggia 91

Tel. 0432/235163

Fax 0432/534740

ass.idi@infinito.it

VENEZIA**Centro Antiviolenza**

Via Garibaldi, 155/a

Tel 041.5349215

VERONA**Telefono Rosa**

Via Poiano 26

Poiano di Valpantena VR

Tel 045.550770

VICENZA**Telefono Rosa**

Tel 0444.321664

8. Guide through the Network - and Pressure Group Structures of the EWHNET-Member Austria

Prof. Dr. Éva Rásky, Karl-Franzens-University Graz, Austria

National level

1. Is there a network/are there networks on a national level, which do pressure-group-work in the field of women/girls and health?

1. Network of the Women's Health Centers in Austria

aims:

Information exchange, development of projects in women's health, lobbying at a governmental level

contact address (es):

Sylvia Groth M.A., Women's Health Center Graz, Brockmanngasse 48, A-8010 Graz. Phone: +43/316/837998, fax: +43/316/837998-25, email: frauen.gesundheit@fgz.co.at, Website: <http://www.fgz.co.at>

topics of the last two years:

networking, lobbying

joint activities (conferences, documentations, statements):

meetings, conferences, exchange of experiences, funding of proposals

Are there explicit successes that can be named?

Ongoing networking despite closing of three women health's centers in Austria in the last two years

What are the central demands?

Funding of the networking, lobbying for women's health, gender specific health services

Connections to the European level? If yes, which?

EWHNET, Dachverband der Frauengesundheitszentren.

2. Netzwerk österreichischer Mädchen- und Frauenberatungsstellen

aims:

networking, public awareness, lobbying

contact address (es):

Anneliese Erdemgil-Brandstätter, Stumpergasse 41-43/II/R3, A-1060 Vienna. Phone: +43/1/5953760, fax: +43/1/5953761, email: netzwerkfrauenberatungwien@magnet.at, Website: <http://www.telecom.at/femwien/netzwerk>

topics of the last two years:
lobbying, political statements

joint activities (conferences, documentations, statements):
campaigning for funding

Are there explicit successes that can be named?
National coordination of women's projects, networking

What are the central demands?
Necessity of women and girl-oriented services, hightening social status of women

3. DGE Dachverband für Vorbereitung auf Geburt und Elternschaft

aims:
lobbying, awareness, media work, continuing education, networking

contact address (es):
Marlies Haderspeck, phone: +43/316/392306, email: haderspe@kath-kirche-graz.at

topics of the last two years:
professional and legal status of the birth preparation workers and the midwives

joint activities (conferences, documentations, statements):
working groups prenatal diagnostics, postpartal depression.

Are there explicit successes that can be named?
Organisation of the conference 1997 in Graz „ins Leben begleiten“

What are the central demands?
Empowerment of becoming mothers and fathers for birth

Connections to the European level? If yes, which?
Member of ENCA (European Network of Childbirth Associations), contact person in Austria:
Mag. Edeltraud Voill, Nanaya, Zollergasse 37, A-1070 Wien. Phone: +43/1/523 17 11, fax:
+43/1/523 17 64, email: nanaya@xpoint.at, Website: <http://www.elternforum.at/nanaya/>
Europa-Büro der GfG: c/o Gesellschaft für Geburtsvorbereitung – Bundesverband e.V. (GfG),
Postfach 220106, D-40608 Düsseldorf. Phone: +49/211/252607, fax: +49/211/202919,
gfg@gfg-bv.de, Website: <http://www.gfg-bv.de>

4. Verein Autonome Österreichische Frauenhäuser (AÖF)

aims:
information and networking on all forms of violence against women and children

contact address (es):
Mag. Maria Rösslhumer, Bacherplatz 10/4, A-1050 Wien. Phone: +43/1/5440820, fax:
+43/1/54408(20)-24, email: aoef@xpoint.at, Website: <http://www.xpoint.at/users/aoef/>

topics of the last two years:

prevention, platform for discussion related to violence against women

joint activities (conferences, documentations, statements):

provides information on the issue of violence, provides international documents, information on research and on current events, education, networking

Are there explicit successes that can be named?

change in law to prevent violence in the family, violator legally required to leave the apartment (Betretungsverbot, Wegweisung, einstweilige Verfügung), austrianwide structure of centres to prevent violence in the family (Interventionsstellen gegen Gewalt in der Familie)

What are the central demands?

Information gathering, exchange information, networking, lobbying, strengthen the rights of marginalised women

Connections to the European level? If yes, which?

Europäische Informationsstelle gegen Gewalt WAVE (European network of non-governmental women's organisations working to combat violence against women and children). Contact: Verena Kaselitz, Birgit Appelt, phone: +43/1/5482720, fax: +43/1/548272027, Email: wave@xpoint.at, Website: <http://www.wave-network.org/>

5. Netzwerk der Interventionsstellen gegen Gewalt in der Familie

aims:

networking, information exchange

contact address (es):

Rosa Logar, Interventionsstelle gegen Gewalt in der Familie, Amerlingstraße 1/6, A-1060 Wien. Phone: +43/1/5853288, email: istwien@magnet.at

topics of the last two years:

networking, information exchange

What are the central demands?

Creating a database

Connections to the European level? If yes, which?

WAVE

Self help groups

6. La Leche Liga Österreich für stillende Mütter

aims:

counselling, information, support women to breastfeed their child

contact address (es):

Postfach, A-6240 Rattenberg, email: oliv@telecom.at, Website: <http://www.telecom.at/lalecheliga>

topics of the last two years:
information exchange

joint activities (conferences, documentations, statements):
Website

What are the central demands?
Support women to breastfeed their child

Connections to the European level? If yes, which?
La Leche League International

7. Österreichischer Bundesverband Frauenselbsthilfe nach Krebs

aims:
information for organisations and media, informations on new therapies for self help groups in Austria, cooperation with oncologists at the hospitals and in offices to optimise therapy, support and continuing education for group leaders, contact with European self help groups and networks

contact address (es):
Gerhilt Zlabinger, Hönigsberggasse 20, A-2540 Bad Vöslau. Phone and fax:
+43/2252/71593, email: g.zlabinger@frauenselbsthilfe-krebs.at, Website:
www.frauenselbsthilfe-krebs.at or www.bad-vöslau.at/fsh-krebs

topics of the last two years:
information, cooperation with health services in oncology

joint activities (conferences, documentations, statements):
Website

What are the central demands?
Brodening of knowledge of self help groups

National coordination of self help groups not explicitly focussing on women

8. SIGIS

aims:
information

contact address (es):
SIGIS - Service und Informationsstelle für Gesundheitsinitiativen und Selbsthilfegruppen
Selbsthilfegruppen im Gesundheits- und Sozialbereich, Fonds Gesundes Österreich,
Mariahilfer Straße 176/8, A-1150 Wien. Phone: +43/1/8950400, fax: +43/1/8950400-20,
email: gesundes.oesterreich@fgoe.org, Website: <http://www.fgoe.org>

topics of the last two years:

information exchange, counselling and support of self help networks, production of information material, public relation, organisation of conferences, ongoing education, contacting with self help groups in other countries

joint activities (conferences, documentations, statements):

no information on the Website

What are the central demands?

Information, networking

Connections to the European level? If yes, which?

No information on the Website

9. ArGe Selbsthilfe Österreich

aims:

information

contact address (es):

c/o Selbsthilfe Kärnten, Kempfstraße 23/3, Postfach 408, A-9021 Klagenfurt. Phone: +43/463/504871, fax: +43/463/504871-24, email: selbsthilfe.kaernten@aon.at, Website: <http://www.selbsthilfe-oesterreich.at>

What are the central demands?

networking

Health care workers

10. Berufsverband der geprüften Still- und Laktationsberaterinnen IBCLC (International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners)

aims:

continuing education in breastfeeding, lobbying for professional interest as lactation counsellors and lobbying for better knowledge in breastfeeding health professionals (midwives, nurses, doctors), information gathering in lactation

contact address (es):

Lindenstraße 20, A-2362 Biedermannsdorf. Phone & fax: +43/2236/72336, email: stillen@netway.at, Website: <http://www.stillen.at>

topics of the last two years:

information on health promotion through lactation

Connections to the European level? If yes, which?

Member of the „Verband Europäischer Laktationsberaterinnen (VELB)“, contact: Ilse Bichler, Steinfeldgasse 11, A-2511 Pfaffstätten. Phone & fax: +43/2252/46511, email: secretary.at@velb.org, Website: <http://www.velb.org>

11. Österreichisches Hebammen-Gremium, statutory Board of midwives

aims:

lobbying for professional interests of midwifery

contact address (es):

Renate Großbichler, Postfach 438, A-1060 Wien. Phone: +43/1/5971404, fax: +43/1/5971404, email: oehg@hebammen.at, grossbichler@hebammen.at, Website: <http://www.hebammen.at>

topics of the last two years:

better pay for home births, pre- partal and postpartal care by midwives

joint activities (conferences, documentations, statements):

international congress of midwives, Vienna 2002

Are there explicit successes that can be named?

increased cooperation with gynecologists, better contracting with health insurance

What are the central demands?

increased participation in intersectoral committees

Connections to the European level? If yes, which?

With other European Boards of Midwives

Regional networks

2. Are there regional networks that do pressure group work in the field of women/girls and health?

12. Frauengesundheit in der Region Oberkärnten

(working group of the women's health center Carinthia)

aims:

lobbying for women's health in the region

contact address (es):

Mag. Regina Steinhauser, Frauengesundheitszentrum Kärnten GmbH, Völkendorferstraße 23, A-9500 Villach. Phone: +43/4242/53055, fax: +43/4242/53055-15, email: fgz.steinhauser@fgz-kaernten.at, Website: <http://www.fgz-kaernten.at>.

topics of the last two years:

promotion of women's health in the region, discussions on tasks, clarifying the meaning of genderspecific health promotion and how to implement it in the region

What are the central demands?

Women's health center as a role model for genderspecific health promotion

13. Frauengesundheitsforum Graz und Graz Umgebung (Women's Health Forum)

aims:

I: 1996-1999 women's health experts from various sectors exchange information and contact.
II: group of women's health experts develops concept for and serves as advisory committee of women's health program in Graz concentrating on organisational development (gender health audit)

contact address (es):

Sylvia Groth M.A., Women's Health Center Graz, Brockmanngasse 48, A-8010 Graz. Phone: +43/316/837998, fax: +43/316/837998-25, email: frauen.gesundheit@fgz.co.at, Website: <http://www.fgz.co.at>

topics of the last two years:

women's health program

joint activities (conferences, documentations, statements):

folder and document

Are there explicit successes that can be named?

Political and financial support for women's health program

What are the central demands?

Sensitising for women's health issues in the city, policy development for gender oriented analysis and services

14. Thekla, Netzwerk der Grazer Frauen- und Mädchenberatungsstellen

aims:

lobbying, networking

contact address (es) for health topics:

Monika Vucsak, Women's Health Center Graz, Brockmanngasse 48, A-8010 Graz. Phone: +43/316/837998, fax: +43/316/837998-25, email: frauen.gesundheit@fgz.co.at, Website: <http://www.fgz.co.at>

Special topics

3. Are there networks on special topics in the field of women/girls and health, that do pressure group work?	Yes	No
--	-----	----

medicalisation of women's complaints	X 1*
osteoporosis	X 1*
hormone therapy	X 1*
Jugendgynäkologie	
inappropriate care in the health system	X 1*
hysterectomy	
myome	X 1*
breast cancer	X 2*
health situation of migrant women	X 1*
women's health research	
health situation of girls	X 1*
eating disorders	X 1*, X **
life-situation of women and health	X 1*
care for disabled persons	
women, work and health	
violence against women/violence prevention	X 3*
elderly women	
health situation of mothers	X 4*
reproductive health	X 1*
birth	X 4*
endometriosis	X, in planning
infertility (Kinderwunsch: WUKI-KIWU)	
abortion	
mental health	
chronically ill persons	
other	
health of prostitutes	
homeless women	

Please give more detailed information on the networks you named under 3.:

name of the network(s): (*1) Network of the Women's Health Centers in Austria, (*2) Österreichischer Bundesverband Frauenselbsthilfe nach Krebs, (*3) Verein Autonome Österreichische Frauenhäuser (AÖF) und Netzwerk der Interventionsstellen gegen Gewalt in der Familie, (*4) DGE Dachverband für Vorbereitung auf Geburt und Elternschaft
descriptions of these networks see above

name of the network: **

15. network eating disorders Carinthia

aims:

networking in the field of eating disorders

contact address (es):

Mag. Brigitte Janshoff, Mädchenzentrum Klagenfurt, Email:
maedchenzentrum.klagenfurt@aon.at, Homepage: www.maedchenzentrum.sid.at

Individual experts, lobbyists, political activists

3. In addition to the above, which individual expert(s), lobbyist(s), political activists is/are of importance in the field of women's health in your country? (e.g. in political parties, in important committees, in universities)

name:

Sylvia Groth M.A., Women's Health Center Graz, Brockmannngasse 48, A-8010 Graz. Phone:
+43/316/837998, fax: +43/316/837998-25, email: frauen.gesundheit@fgz.co.at, Website:
www.fgz.co.at

function:

director, Women's Health Center Graz

activities:

counselling, lobbying for women's health, networking, media outreach, website, model
women's health project (see: <http://www.fgz.co.at>).

name:

Univ. Prof. Dr. Beate Wimmer-Puchinger, Neutorgasse 15, A-1010 Wien., Phone:
+43/1/53114-85955, email: wib@kav.magwien.gv.at, Website:

<http://www.magwien.gv.at/frauengesundheit>

function:

Vienna women's health coordinator

activities:

implementation and documentation of the Viennese women's health programme

name:

Institut für Frauengesundheitsforschung, Semmelweis Frauenklinik, Univ. Prof. Dr. Beate
Wimmer-Puchinger, Bastiengasse 36, A-1180 Wien. Phone: +43/1/47615/5751. Website:
www.lbi.at/institut.asp?suchstring=34

Research topics:

health promotion in HIV-positive women and women with AIDS, prevention of violence
against women, prevention of drug dependency, women's health report of lower Austria.

name:

Univ. Prof. Dr. Margarethe Hochleitner, Institut für kardiologische Geschlechterforschung,
Innrain 66/II, A-6020 Innsbruck. Phone: +43/512/504-5710, fax +43/512/504-5719, email:
margarethe.hochleitner@tilak.or.at, barbara.sauer-oberlechner@tilak.or.at, Website:
www.lbi.at/institut.asp?suchstring=134

name:

Univ. Prof. Dr. Éva Rásky, Institute of Social Medicine and Epidemiology, Karl-Franzens University, Universitätsstraße 6/I, A-8010 Graz. Phone: +43/316/380-4396, fax: +43/316/380-9665, email: eva.rasky@kfunigraz.ac.at, Website: <http://www.kfunigraz.ac.at/ismwww>

name:

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Anita Rieder, Institut für Sozialmedizin, Alser Straße 21, A-1080 Wien. Phone: +43/1/4085681-88 or: +43/1/4277 64680, fax: +43/1/4088833, email: anita.schmeiser-rieder@univie.ac.at, Website: <http://univie.ac.at>

name:

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Marianne Ringler, Univ.-Klinik für Tiefenpsychologie und Psychotherapie, Währinger Gürtel 18-20, A-1090 Wien. Phone: +43/1/40400-3062, fax: +43/1/4066803, email: marianne.ringler@univie.ac.at, Website: <http://univie.ac.at>

name:

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Marianne Springer-Kremser, Univ.-Klinik für Tiefenpsychologie und Psychotherapie, Währinger Gürtel 18-20, A-1090 Wien. Phone: +43/1/40400-3061, fax: +43/1/4066803, marianne.springer-kremser@univie.ac.at, Website: <http://univie.ac.at>

Additional information

4. What additional information do you personally think of as important for understanding the structures in your country in regard to political activism and pressure group work?

Initiation of change happens traditionally by political decision top-down, rarely bottom-up and grass-roots. Therefore, there has been no need for networking and there is little networking. Networking does require special funding, at the project level it reduces the resources required for the respective activities. The report shows that in Austria there is an efficient network structure in child birth/motherhood and in violence against women with connections to other countries. One of these topics is a traditional topic in women's health and the other roots in the feminist movement.

Criteria for organisations selected for the Austrian report: Austrianwide networking including two regional networks focussing on issues of women's health providing an organisational base in a broad sense.

9. The Questionnaire

English version of the questionnaire

Guide Through the Network- and Pressure Group Structures of EWHNET-Member Countries

For EWHNET it makes sense to collect information about network structures in the member countries in order to make lobbying more effective. If a single NGO (non- governmental organisation) from one country alone promotes an important issue on a political level it may be effective, but if many NGOs or networks from different countries formulate a common point of view, the action would be of greater impact.

With the guide EWHNET follows up on the country reports which have been produced in earlier project years. In these reports we offer an address list of projects working in the field of women's health. The idea of the address lists is to help in finding models of good practise in other countries and to offer know-how for interested NGOs which are independent from EWHNET.

Now we are going one step further and trying to bring networks in contact with each other. We are presupposing that network structures have political aims and are interested in lobbying. Furthermore we have tried to identify important key persons for lobbying in the countries so that transnational activities to give women's health a political voice can become easier, can be realised more often and hopefully can have a chance to win importance and political weight.

The topics on which the networks are working demonstrate a huge range of objectives, a great differentiation in the field of women's health. This guide will help its users to get in contact with the specific, topic-oriented organisational structures in the presented countries or so-called issue networks.

This guide will have more than one function: If one organisation or network plans to organise a new transnational project or a conference, other networks can help to bring relevant persons in contact with each other. We suppose that networks do have an actual overview over their special field and that actual political debates are well known in these networks. Therefore a guide like this can bring more transparency into the field of lobbying and will hopefully offer the opportunity to all of its users to become more effective in bringing women's health on the European agenda.

1. Please describe your network which does pressure-group-work in the field of women/girls and health, on a national level?

Name of the network:.....

Aims of the network:.....

Contact address (es):.....

Topics of the last two years:.....

Joint activities (conferences, documentations, statements):.....

.....

Are there explicit successes that can be named?.....
What are the central demands?.....
Connections to the European level? If yes, which?.....

2. Please describe your regional network which does pressure group work in the field of women/girls and health?

Name of the network:.....
Aims of the network:.....
Contact address (es):.....
Topics of the last two years:.....
Joint activities (conferences, documentations, statements):.....
.....
.....

Are there explicit successes that can be named?.....
What are the central demands?.....

3. In addition to the above, which individual expert(s), lobbyist(s), political activists is/are of importance in the field of women's health in your country? (e.g. in political parties, on important committees, in universities)

Name:.....
Function:.....
Activities:.....

4. What additional information do you personally think of as important for understanding the structures in your country in regard to political activism and pressure group work?

.....
.....
.....

Italian version of the questionnaire (edited by Rosella Marasca)

Guida ai networks e ai gruppi di pressione dei Paesi membri del EWHNET

Durante l'anno di progettazione 1999/2000 fino ad oggi lavorare attraverso una rete di comunicazione in senso politico è diventato molto importante per l'EWHNET. A livello europeo i primi contatti si sono avuti con l'*European Women's Lobby* (EWL) e con l'*European Institute for Women's Health* (EIWH). A gennaio del 2001 i politici, aventi potere decisionale sul *New Public Health Programme*, sono stati indirizzati dai membri del EWHNET ad orientare il *Programme* verso gli aspetti del genere e verso le strutture di opposizione.

Per andare oltre in questa direzione, è molto importante avere una visione generale delle strutture di cooperazione e dei *networks* in ogni Paese membro del EWHNET. Ciò può

ampliare le basi già disponibili e le capacità di attività del *network* come gruppo di pressione, con lo scopo di informare

- le istituzioni politiche dei Paesi
- le istituzioni e i gruppi nel campo della salute delle donne
- le istituzioni politiche in Europa
- i media nei Paesi
- i media a livello europeo
- su EWHNET e le pubblicazioni di rilievo

1) C'è un *network*/ci sono *networks* a livello nazionale che realizzano lavori di gruppo di pressione nel campo delle donne/ragazze e della salute?

nome del *network*(s).....

scopi del *network*(s).....

indirizzi.....

argomenti degli ultimi due anni.....

attività collettive (conferenze, documentazioni, dichiarazioni).....

Esistono chiari successi che possono essere menzionati?.....

Quali sono le domande principali?.....

Connessioni a livello europeo? Se sì, quali?.....

2) Ci sono *networks* a livello regionale che lavorano come gruppi di pressione nel campo delle donne/ragazze e della salute?

nome del *network*(s).....

scopi del *network*(s).....

indirizzi.....

argomenti degli ultimi due anni.....

attività collettive(conferenze, documentazioni, dichiarazioni).....

Esistono chiari successi che possono essere menzionati?.....

Quali sono le domande principali?.....

3) Esistono *networks* che si occupano di speciali argomenti nel campo delle donne/ragazze e della salute, e che lavorano come gruppo di pressione? Sì

No

medicalizzazione dei disturbi delle donne

cure inappropriate nel sistema sanitario

condizione di salute delle donne migranti

ricerche sulla salute delle donne

condizione di salute delle ragazze

condizione di vita delle donne e della salute

donne, lavoro e salute

condizione di salute delle madri

violenza sulle donne/prevenzione alla violenza

donne anziane

salute riproduttiva

salute mentale

altro

Per favore si diano maggiori informazioni sui *networks* elencati nel punto 3:

nome del *network(s)*.....
scopi del *network(s)*.....
indirizzi.....
argomenti degli ultimi due anni.....
attività collettive (conferenze, documentazioni, dichiarazioni).....
Esistono chiari successi che possono essere menzionati?.....
Quali sono le domande principali?.....
Conessioni a livello europeo? Se sì, quali?.....

nome del *network(s)*.....
scopi del *network(s)*.....
indirizzi.....
argomenti degli ultimi due anni.....
attività collettive (conferenze, documentazioni, dichiarazioni).....
Esistono chiari successi che possono essere menzionati?.....
Quali sono le domande principali?.....
Conessioni a livello europeo? Se sì, quali?.....

In aggiunta a quanto sopra, quale/i singolo/i esperto/i, lobbista/i attivisti politici è/sono importanti nel campo della salute delle donne nel tuo Paese? (ad es. nei partiti politici, in importanti comitati, nelle università)

nome.....
funzione.....
attività.....

4) Quali ulteriori informazioni personalmente pensa siano importanti per capire le strutture della sua nazione riguardo all'attivismo politico e al lavoro del gruppo di pressione?