



The fight against **gender violence** in Latin America has been one of the *leitmotifs* of the EUROsociAL Programme in its contribution to increasing social cohesion in the region for two main reasons: on the one hand, due to the existence of **highly significant European experiences**; and on the other, due to the progressive positioning of the issue as one of the **public policy priorities on the agendas** of Latin American countries.

This line of work pursues a **comprehensive approach** to gender violence through the following: encouraging institutional coordination in the investigation of crimes and attention to victims of gender violence; supporting the development of coordination tools in the investigative stage for police forces and prosecutors, and all other stakeholders involved in providing direct attention and compensation to victims.

Working lines: This ambitious initiative is organised around three working principles:

- Investigation of crimes of gender violence
- Attention to victims
- Inter-institutional coordination

The identification of the institutional and policy priorities of the countries has revolved around all three, two or one of these principles. These initiatives aim to achieve tangible results and increase the effectiveness of the public policies adopted by the countries of the region over the last few years to combat gender violence.

Working for



Regional

- Approval of regional protocols through two networks:
 - AIAMP (20 countries): Regional protocol for gender-oriented investigation of crimes of violence against women committed in a domestic environment.
 - COMJIB (21 countries): Regional protocol of comprehensive attention to victims of gender-based violence.
- "Inter-institutional coordination mechanisms regarding gender-based violence" proposal submitted for consideration by both networks and at the level of the six countries participating in the action for intersectoral coordination from institutions in the justice and security sectors, and mechanisms to create more equal conditions for women in healthcare, education and social justice issues.

Panama

- Design and implementation of a protocol for gender-based violence crimes.
- Design and implementation of a protocol for police coordination.

Nicaragua

- Adaptation of the protocol for attending to victims and fiscal management of the Public Prosecutor's Office to the regional standard and the new national regulations regarding gender-based violence.
- Adaptation of the police action instruments according to the regional standard and the new national regulations regarding gender-based violence.

Brazil

- Design and implementation of a protocol for investigation of gender-based violence crimes and coordination with the police.

Costa Rica

- Design and implementation of a protocol for investigation of gender-based violence crimes and coordination with the police.

Paraguay

- Design and implementation of a protocol for investigation of gender-based violence crimes and coordination with the police.

Honduras

- Design and implementation of an inter-agency coordination protocol for attention to victims of gender-based violence.

Ecuador

- Design and implementation of recommendations on investigation of crimes involving gender-based violence integrated through internal instructions of the Public Prosecutor's Office.
- Design and implementation of an inter-agency coordination protocol.

Coordinating partner:



Operating partner:



PROGRAMA FINANCIADO
POR LA UNIÓN EUROPEA



Promoting a comprehensive approach to gender-based violence

Gender-based violence is a complex phenomenon that must be approached in a comprehensive fashion. In this sense, EUROsocial's line of action to fight gender-based violence involves the region's healthcare, security, employment and education agencies in an effort to solve a global problem in its various manifestations.

Due precisely to the range of the phenomenon and the need for a comprehensive approach, although the line of work against violence is progressing mostly in the justice area, EUROsocial actions have involved other thematic areas and other partners of the programme specialised in key sectors for the fight against violence, mainly the security and health areas.

One noteworthy example of this intersectoral nature is the initiative launched as a result of the approval of a Protocol for Combating Violence in Honduras supported by the Access to Law working line, the implementation of which will bring together, along with the partners of the action against violence, other partners of the programme .

The work of prosecutor's offices



The role of prosecutor's offices is vital in addressing gender-based violence. The AIAMP has approved a regional protocol with investigative guidelines

that take into account the specific nature of these crimes and the characteristics of the victims. In addition, proper assistance to women from the start of the investigation requires complementary treatment from other institutions which must work alongside the prosecutor's office and protect the victim. The articulation of an investigative protocol with assistance protocols in which other institutions collaborate guarantees coordination between investigators and assistance providers. The implementation of these protocols in the participating countries means adapting the general guidelines to the legal and institutional system of each country.

Numbers:

➤ 56 Participating Institutions
<http://goo.gl/FjycDD>

➤ 49 Latin American Institutions
<http://goo.gl/UzuWcY>

➤ 4 European Institutions
<http://goo.gl/yBxM5J>

➤ 215 Total Participants

➤ 5 Latin American Experts

➤ 7 European Experts

○ Approx. 3% Total Programme Spending

A story of change

A common challenge in both regions, working for identification and global response



Violence against women is a problem shared by Europe and Latin America. Prevalence in both regions is very similar: 22-23% and 25-26% respectively. The source is a common culture in which men are entitled to control women, even through violence.

Miguel Lorente, EUROsocial expert and ex-Delegate of the Government of Spain against gender violence highlights the actions of the programme in bringing justice and institutions closer to women, which involves an institutional positioning that also impacts social awareness about the severity of the problem. In this sense, the programme provides immediate results through education and practical tools to approach and identify the victims. In its second stage, it provides a global response and coordination with the agencies that must deal with the results of violence.

"Right now, we are increasing specific training in police, forensic, prosecutorial and judicial areas in order to identify gender-based violence in its multiple manifestations, often hidden behind stereotypes. This serves to improve identification of cases, increases the trust of victims when they seek justice so they can enjoy citizenship fully, and so that other women in the same situation follow their example".

Publications:



Mecanismos de coordinación interinstitucional en la lucha contra la violencia de género [Inter-agency coordination mechanism to fight gender-based violence] > <http://goo.gl/9hkVmk>

Protocolo regional para la investigación con perspectiva de género de los delitos de violencia contra las mujeres cometidos en el ámbito intrafamiliar [Regional protocol for gender-oriented investigation of crimes of violence against women committed in a domestic environment] > <http://goo.gl/Rin3VZ>

Protocolo regional de atención integral a las víctimas de violencia de género [Regional protocol of comprehensive attention to victims of gender-based violence] > <http://goo.gl/Hndm6u>



www.eurosocial-ii.eu

