



EUCPN
EUROPEAN CRIME PREVENTION NETWORK

1. Project title

The Spanish Nacional Police Units for Women and Family Affairs (UFAM)

2. Main theme

Specialized police units for the attention to gender based violence victims¹, as well as sexual and domestic violence. Under the Judicial police area the UFAM units encompasses the investigation of the offences together with the protection of the victims.

3. Project purpose and outcome (in two sentences)

-The establishment of specialized Units in the Spanish Police in order to improve the response in investigation of gender based violence and the protection of the victims.
-Gender perspective, victim centered focus and protection of the most vulnerable victims is considered as cornerstones of the project.

4. Project submitter (Member State), project leader(s) and project partner(s)

Project submitter (Member -State) – Spain
Project leader / Project partner(s)
Central Unit for Women and Family Affairs (UFAM)
Judicial Police General Commissariat
Directorate General for the Police of Spain

5. Links to the project's website or online reports/publications (preferably in English)

https://www.policia.es/es/colabora_ufam.php

The UFAM video is at your disposal in English language and deaf language at your request:
Cgpi.ufam.gabinete@policia.es

6. Short summary of the project (**max. 100 words**)

Although the first police units began to operate in the Spanish Police since 1980, in 2015 the UFAM

were created within the area of the Judicial Police.

The personnel of these units receive specialized training in gender based violence (aspects of police operations and psychosocial characteristics).
Police protection for victims of gender based violence is carried out in a comprehensive and personalized way (each victim is assigned a protective police officer from their first contact with the

¹ By Gender based violence we understand (according to Spanish legislation) violence against the female partner or former partner

national police).

These Units are present in all the National Police Stations in a number of 173 UFAM

7. Project description

The creation of the UFAM Units in the Spanish National Police is considered a good practice in the fight against gender based violence (in Spain gender violence is considered to be that which occurs within a partner or ex-partner relationship - Law 1/2004).

The strengths are:

- ✓ The existence of a procedural manual that regulates all police activity of the UFAM.
- ✓ Both investigation and protection are carried out within the same Unit.
- ✓ Close coordination and collaboration with other Institutions (judges, prosecutors, social services referral etc.)
- ✓ Staff are provided with specialized training
- ✓ Victim-centered approach, especially if they are vulnerable and gender perspective focus
- ✓ Comprehensive and personalized victim protection:
 - For the protection of victims a comprehensive monitoring automatized system (VIOGEN) is used: this tool allows the record of cases and the assessment of the risk of new violence.
 - The protection is adjusted to the specific risk. Women are protected even when they do not file a complaint.
 - Each victim is assigned a protective police officer who will be in charge of accompanying the victim throughout the process.
 - Victims and their daughters and sons receive police protection from the first moment.
 - The contact with persons with disabilities is facilitated, among others, through the use of easy-to-read material (act of information on rights, personalized security plans ...), SVisual System as support for people with hearing disabilities

8. Project objectives

To improve the response of the Spanish national Police in the investigation of gender based violence and in the protection of the victims.

9. Project outcome

- To position the Spanish national police as a referent in the treatment of violence against women.
- Specialized staff
- Complaints encouraged
- Vulnerable victims protected

10. Start and end project, timescales and key milestone dates

2015.

The project has a continuity in time and meets the objectives of the National Police Strategic Plan for the period 2021-2024

11. Funding (total budget and type of funding (e.g. ISEC, EUCPN Fund,...))

Directorate General for the Police

12. Evaluation

It doesn't exist an *ad hoc* evaluation, but the UFAM, as well as the rest of the police services, are subject to evaluations and audits by the Inspection of Services. On the other hand, the VioGén System performs periodically audits.

13. Contact details project

Central Unit for Women and Family Affairs (UFAM)

Judicial Police General Commissariat
Directorate General for the Police of Spain
cgpj.ufam.gabinete@policia.es