

European Crime Prevention Award (ECPA)

Annex I – new version 2014

Please complete the template in English in compliance with the ECPA criteria contained in the RoP (Par.2 §3).

General information

1. Please specify your country.

Germany

2. Is this your country's ECPA entry or an additional project?

Additional project

3. What is the title of the project?

Action Programme "Secure life in old age" ("Sicher leben im Alter" – SiliA)

4. Who is responsible for the project? Contact details.

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5. Start date of the project (dd/mm/yyyy)? Is the project still running (Yes/No)?
If not, please provide the end date of the project.

Start: 11/2008; End: 02/2012.

6. Where can we find more information about the project? Please provide links to the project's website or online reports or publications (preferably in English).

A full project report (in German language) is available via

<http://www.dhpol.de/de/hochschule/Departments/silia.php>

The website also presents materials emerging from the project (e.g. training programme for nursing staff).

A summary (in German language) of the project is published in a German crime prevention journal:

Görge, T., Fisch, S., Kraus, B., Nägele, B. & Kotlenga, S. (2012).

Gefahrenbereiche inmitten einer „sicheren Zone“ des Lebens: Aktionsprogramm für mehr Sicherheit im Alter. *forum kriminalprävention*, 4/2012, 59–64.

7. Please give a **one page** description of the project (**Max. 600 words**)

Action Programme "Secure life in old age" ("Sicher leben im Alter" – SiliA)

The German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth had teamed up with German Police University (Deutsche Hochschule der Polizei) to implement the action programme "Secure life in old age" that ran from 2008 to 2012. This programme aimed to safeguard seniors against specific risks connected to a heightened vulnerability in later life.

The action programme focused on the following topics:

- Prevention of elder abuse in family caregiving
- Prevention of intimate partner violence in old age
- Prevention of property crime against senior citizens
- Raising health professionals' awareness to enhance the identification of unnatural deaths

Elder protection measures

In an effort to protect older persons, a variety of measures were prepared within the framework of this action programme. These include the drafting of information resources, such as a booklet entitled "Rate mal, wer dran ist?" ("Guess who's calling?"). As the title suggests, this booklet tells elderly persons how they can effectively protect themselves and their property from scams and con tricks.

Moreover, concrete assistance services to prevent intimate partner violence among older couples were also drafted within the framework of SiliA. This includes the readiness of shelters to accommodate older clients as well as training programmes for counsellors to identify the specific needs of elderly victims of domestic violence. These approaches have been piloted in several regions. One of them is the city of Hamburg where eight victim support counselling and assistance services have been retooled to specifically cater to elderly battered women.

Preventing elder abuse and neglect: The action programme also focused on the prevention of abuse and neglect in the context of home care. Approaches were prepared and field-tested in co-operation with six home care services in city of Essen. These measures included training programmes for in-home care nursing staff sensitizing them to topics of abuse and neglect in family caregiving and strengthening their capacity to handle such cases. These trainings were combined with efforts towards organizational development in in-home care nursing services.

The problem of undetected homicide in old age was discussed in an expert group that developed recommendations regarding autopsy and determination of cause of death.

I. The project shall focus on prevention and/or reduction of everyday crime and fear of crime within the theme.

8. How does the project contribute to crime prevention and/or to the reduction of crime or the fear of crime? (**Max. 150 words**)

The project safeguards seniors from crimes against property, such as theft and fraud, as well as from violence both within intimate partnerships and in family caregiving.

9. How is the project contributing to raising citizens' awareness of crime prevention? (**Max. 150 words**)

e.g. by drafting of information resources

II. The project shall have been evaluated and have achieved most or all of its objectives.¹

10. What was the reason for setting up the project? What problem(s) did it aim to tackle?

The overall aim of the project was protection of older people. While security in later life is generally high, there are specific fields of risk, such as abuse in caregiving and property offences targeted at the very old. The project focussed upon such areas of elevated risk.

11. Was the context analysed **before** the project was initiated? How, and by whom? Which data were used? (**Max. 150 words**)

The project and its selection of "zones of elevated risk" was based upon the study "Crime and violence in older people's lives", using multiple data sources (population surveys, surveys among nurses and family caregivers, interview data, police crime statistics).

12. What were the objective(s) of the project? Please, if applicable, distinguish between main and secondary objectives. (**Max. 150 words**)

Protection of older people; as well with a focus on the prevention of abuse and neglect in the context of home care

13. Did you build in internal goals to measure the performance of the project? If so, please describe at what stage of the project and how you measured

¹ For more information on evaluation, see Guidelines on the evaluation of crime prevention initiatives (EUCPN Toolbox No.3): <http://www.eucpn.org/library/results.asp?category=32&pubdate>

whether the project was moving in the planned direction. (**Max. 150 words**)

The project was subdivided into four components addressing the four specific risk and vulnerability topics mentioned above. The project outline provided a detailed work plan and schedule for each component. Progress was monitored in annual reports to the German Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth which funded the project. Measures were developed in close cooperation with relevant institutions, practitioners, and experts and their feedback was systematically taken into account.

14. Has there been a process evaluation? Who conducted the evaluation (internally or externally?) and what were the main results? (**max. 300 words**) - for more information on process evaluation, see EUCPN Toolbox No.3, p.9-10 & part 2 - section 2A

There has been an internal process evaluation of the project. It showed that while the project in general could be implemented as planned, a control group of nursing services receiving no training could not be recruited.

15. Has there been an outcome or impact evaluation? Who conducted the evaluation (internally or externally?), which data and evaluation method were used and what were the main results? (**Max. 300 words**) - for more information on outcome or impact evaluation, see EUCPN Toolbox No.3, p.7-9 & part 2 - section 2A

There has been an internal outcome evaluation of the training for nursing staff. It was conducted as a multi-step survey among participants and showed that nurses improved their knowledge and awareness of elder abuse in the family and felt more secure in handling relevant cases and intervening in favour of the older person.

III. The project shall, as far as possible, be innovative, involving new methods or new approaches.

16. How is the project innovative in its methods and/or approaches? (**Max. 150 words**)

The project is innovative in the sense that it tackles issues of security in old age based upon research analysing specific areas of heightened risk in later life. With regard to intimate partner violence in old age, abuse in family caregiving, and property crime against seniors, preventive approaches are hitherto scarce.

IV. The project shall be based on cooperation between partners, where possible.

18. Which partners or stakeholders were involved in the project and what was their involvement? (**Max. 200 words**)

It included the NGO "Zoom – Society for Prospective Developments" (Göttingen) as a partner throughout the project. Furthermore, partners came from nursing services, domestic violence services, victim services, and the project was supported by experts from diverse fields, including the police and judiciary.

V. The project shall be capable of replication in other Member States.

19. How and by whom is the project funded? (**Max. 150 words**)

Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Elderly, Women and Youth, Berlin

20. What were the costs of the project in terms of finances, material and human resources? (**Max. 150 words**)

The overall budget of the project was ca. 740,000 €. Human resources included 36 person months for researchers / project managers, additional staff costs (about 300,000 €) occurred with regard to coordination of certain project components, compensation for participating nursing services, trainers, and student employees.

21. Has a cost-benefit analysis been carried out? If so, describe the analysis, including how and by whom it was carried out and list the main findings of the analysis. (**Max. 150 words**)

A cost-benefit analysis has not been carried out.

22. Are there adjustments to be made to the project to ensure a successful replication in another Member State?

The realization of project components in other member states should be aware of national specifics regarding domestic violence services and organization of in-home eldercare.

23. How is the project relevant for other Member States? Please explain the European dimension of your project.

There is a growing older population in all member states. Security issues are closely linked to quality of life in old age. Intimate partner violence is not limited

to younger couples. In many European countries, a large proportion of care-dependent elderly is being care for by kin. Property offences targeting older persons are widespread in Europe; partially, they are committed as organized crime and trans-border crime.

Please provide a short general description of the project (abstract for inclusion in the conference booklet – **max. 150 words**).

The project was funded by the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth. It touched upon different types of risks in later life, including intimate partner violence, frauds and scams, undetected homicide cases, and abuse of older care recipients by family caregivers. Drawing upon a criminological model known as the Routine Activity Approach, it conceived of in-home nursing staff as possible guardians in domestic care settings. The project combined trainings for nursing staff with approaches to organizational development at the level of the home-care services. Domestic violence victim services were checked with regard to their adaptation and adaptability to specific needs of older battered women. The project produced awareness raising materials with regard to property offences against older persons and set up recommendations touching upon the problem of non-natural deaths remaining undetected among older persons.