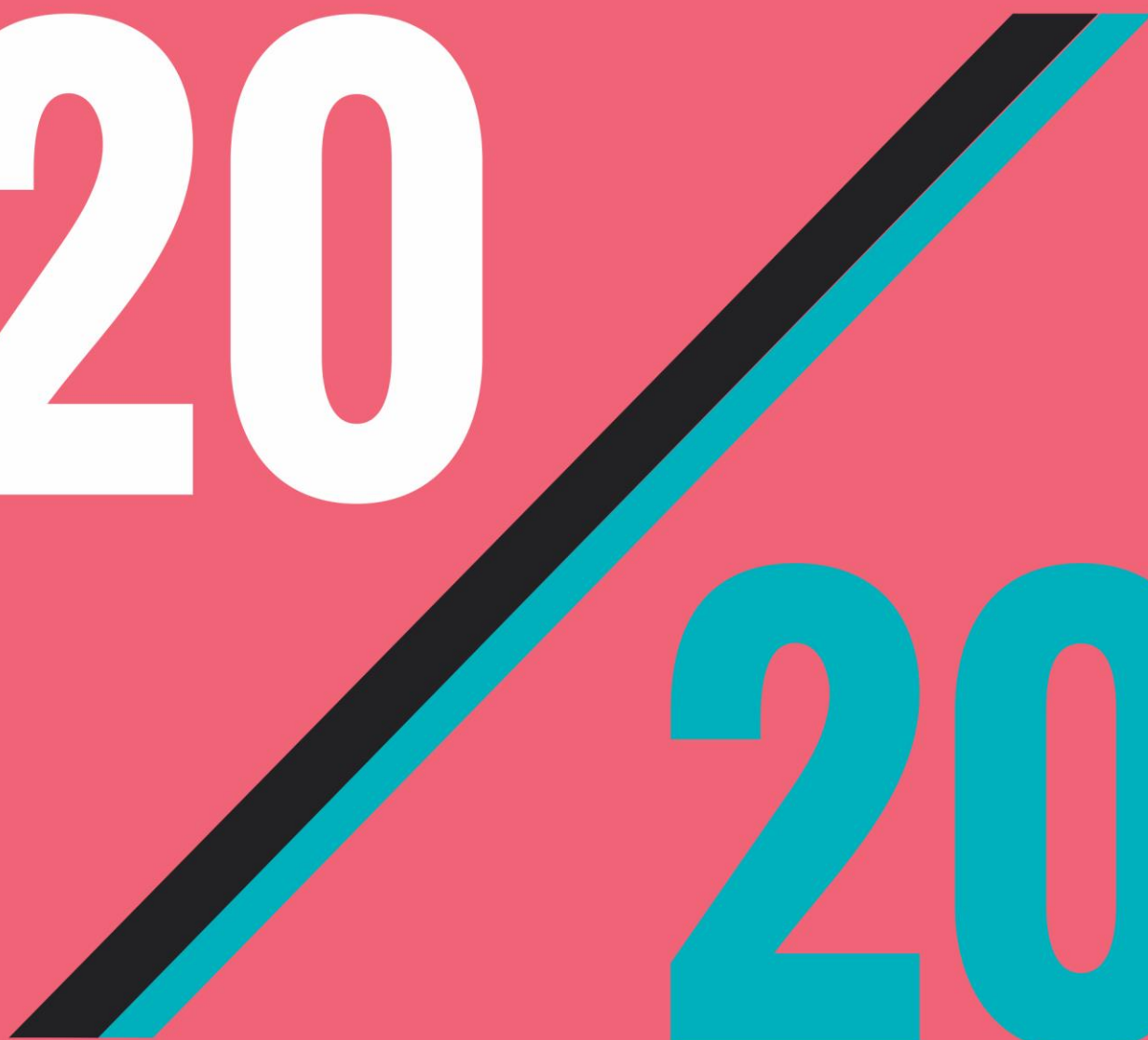


ANNUAL REPORT

National Network to End Violence Against Women
and Domestic Violence

20



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Introduction in the context of a pandemic

2020 is the year that marked the global health crisis caused by the virus COVID-19, which surrounded the whole world. A year that was full of challenges for all of us, and the state of emergency was a shock for the legal system in the country.

Humanitarian crises can vary in their scale, duration and cause. But what they have in common is that they prevent people from meeting the basic needs for a quality life. This health crisis has highlighted inequalities in society, especially when it comes to access to health services and dignified work and income.

In R. of North Macedonia, the Government declared a state of emergency on March 18th, 2020, for the entire country in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. During the state of emergency, the Government adopted decisions and measures to deal with the pandemic. The adopted measures were aimed at alleviating the health, social and economic crisis, which may deepen because of the state of emergency. However, a particularly vulnerable category that was completely excluded from the measures and recommendations were the victims of domestic violence, i.e., women and children who are at increased risk of domestic violence. In the first month of the state of emergency (March 2020), there was no increase in reporting cases of domestic violence in institutions (police stations and centers for social work). Due to the physical presence of the perpetrators, women were not able to call the help and support lines or report the violence. Many women were afraid to seek health care and medical attention because of the risk of infection with COVID-19. Many women did not want to leave the violent surroundings and be placed in centers for victims of domestic violence and shelters for fear of infection with COVID-19. Women were afraid to report violence and leave home for fear of losing their job (if employed) after the end of government measures, or if unemployed, there was a fear of low employment opportunities and achieving economic independence after the end of the state of emergency due to the expected economic crisis. Furthermore, the welfare centers were operational on a part-time and work-from-home basis, meaning that they only provided telephone help and counselling.

Curfews encouraged abusers in the home, and due to the absence of systemic support, women had to sacrifice either their economic independence or their mental health, taking care of children and working from home. The reduced capacity of health facilities further limited access to health services for the less privileged and often stigmatized, and where there were health services, there was often illegal billing.



State institutions were slow to adapt to the new situation, especially in the first months of the pandemic. That is the reason why civil society organizations had and still have a particularly important role in dealing with the pandemic. The National Network to End Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence recognized the increased risk of violence in the home and alerted institutions to take protective measures. Furthermore, we have opened help and support lines for women victims and provide financial assistance through food and hygiene packages, covering monthly rent and overheads. The most significant thing is that we managed to maintain contact with the victims and provide them with the necessary psychological help and support, free legal aid and lawyer's representation, as well as assistance in exercising their rights to social protection.

However, the general conclusion remains that this pandemic year brought to the surface all the shortcomings of the system that should provide protection and support to women victims of violence.

We, as a team, gave our contribution in dealing with the pandemic and its consequences in the best way we knew and were able to. We are proud that even in such a difficult year we achieved remarkable successes, and we look forward to the next year.

Finally, we would like to thank all the international organizations, foundations, and embassies with which the National Network works, who from the very beginning gave us unreserved support, which concerned both the network team and the needs of our users.

The team of the National Network Against Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence

The National Network to End Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence - "Voice against Violence" implemented the following projects in 2020:

"On the way to EU: Prevention of violence against women in the Republic of Macedonia", the aim of which is an improved dialogue with decision-makers to improve the legal framework and system for the protection and support of women from all forms of violence, as well as increased participation and visibility of women's organizations in the EU accession process with improved access to relevant data on the various forms of gender-based violence. The project is supported by the **Swedish foundation Kvina til Kvina**, who have been supporting the work of the National Network since 2015.

"Institutionalization of quality services for rehabilitation and integration of women victims of violence" aimed at improving the quality of rehabilitation and reintegration services for survivors of gender-based violence and domestic violence. Support for women victims to leave the violent environment and their greater independence; Quality proposals for secondary legislation and programs for victims, based on evidence; improved skills for service providers working with women victims and, a strengthened and formalized regional network for dealing with violence against women in accordance with EU standards. **The project is implemented in partnership with 6 organizations from the Western Balkans: Autonomous Women's Center (Serbia), Kosovo Women's Network (Kosovo), United Women Foundation (BiH), Center for Women's Rights (Montenegro), Albanian Network Against Violence Against Women and Alliance for a gender perspective (Albania) and is supported by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA).**

"Housing for women victims of domestic violence who have left a violent surrounding", the purpose of which is to develop a comprehensive system for the reintegration and rehabilitation of women and children victims of violence, which will allow leaving the violent surroundings as well as psychological and economic empowerment, and in the direction of independence and full integration into society of women victims of violence without the risk of returning to the violent surrounding, and specific goals are: To encourage women to report violence by enabling comprehensive support for reintegration and rehabilitation; to reduce the risk of homelessness by providing temporary housing to women and children victims of domestic violence who have left the violent surroundings and don't own their homes; to reduce the risk of future violence through economic and psychological empowerment of women victims and their independence and full integration as active members of society. The project is supported by the city of Skopje and the Open Society Macedonia Foundation.

“Establishing a national counseling Helpline for positive parenting” whose purpose is to provide support to parents and other persons who participate in the process of raising children in solving the dilemmas and challenges they face every day. The Helpline is staffed by trained operators and is available from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The project is financially supported **by UNICEF.**

“Help and support for victims of domestic violence in a post-crisis period” aimed at improving the protection system, access to information and direct help and support for victims of domestic violence in a post-crisis period, and the specific objectives are: informing and providing specialized services and direct assistance to victims of domestic violence in North Macedonia in the post-crisis period, Providing adequate opportunities for employment and economic empowerment of victims of domestic violence in North Macedonia in the post-crisis period, Improving the system of protection for victims of domestic violence by adopting special measures for victims of domestic violence in the post-crisis period. This project is supported by the **Government of the Republic of North Macedonia - General Secretariat.**

“Emergency grant for domestic violence service providers for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis”, the purpose of which is to directly aid and support to organizations that work with victims of domestic violence and secure empowerment and independence of these organizations. The overall grant is aimed at providing technical support to an organization that provides services to empower women victims of violence through computer skills training and individual and group soft skills counseling with a professional career counselor. This project is supported by the **German foundation Filia die frauenstiftung.**

“Support for the establishment and strengthening of a regional platform of civil society organizations” aimed at strengthening women's organizations, including those working with women from marginalized groups at the regional level. This project is in its second year of implementation. The purpose of the platform is to strengthen the women's voice, including women's organizations that work with and represent women from threatened marginalized groups, at the regional level. By doing so, it is expected to strengthen the capacities of women's organizations or networks as a means of supporting women's civic engagement in monitoring and reporting on the Istanbul Convention and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). **The platform is managed by the European Network Against Violence (WAVE), and includes organizations from Albania, Kosovo, Turkey, Kosovo, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and North Macedonia.**

“Support of the Women's Intervention Fund in the time of COVID-19” whose purpose is financial support of the Women's Intervention Fund in the direction of direct assistance and support to women victims of domestic violence who want to leave the violent surroundings or have already left it. The project provided humanitarian food packages, hygiene and medicines as well as support for initiating legal proceedings in courts. In addition, the goal is to implement a campaign to raise public awareness of the need to support women victims of violence. This project is supported by the **Embassy of the Kingdom of Great Britain in the Republic of North Macedonia.**

“Support to victims of domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic” whose purpose is direct support to support women victims of domestic violence who want to leave the violent surroundings or have already left it. This project also provided humanitarian packages for food, hygiene and medicine as well as support for initiating legal proceedings in courts. In addition, the goal of this project is to provide services from a social worker for the exercise of social protection rights, psychological support from and counseling by a psychologist, as well as legal information and counseling by a legal advisor. This project is supported by the **Mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe - office in the Republic of North Macedonia.**



DIRECT ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT TO WOMEN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

2020


At the beginning of 2020, the team of the National Network hired three service providers: social worker, legal advisor and psychologist/psychotherapist who provided direct help and support to women victims of gender-based and domestic violence. Namely, the Network opened the first Counseling Center for help and support of women and children victims of gender-based and domestic violence. The services were provided at the national level.

The social worker provides help and support in realizing social protection rights, and is engaged in the Counseling Center for women and children victims of gender-based and domestic violence. After the initial interview, the social worker assesses the current situation of the woman and her children (if any), their needs, and informs the woman about the possibilities for realizing her social and health care rights. If necessary, the social worker accompanies the victim to other institutions in order to exercise social, child and health protection rights. Also, the social worker makes an assessment of the level of education and skills of the victim, and according to the assessment, together with the victim, she identifies appropriate programs for improving skills and education. In addition, according to the existing employment measures in the Employment Agency of R. North Macedonia, the social worker in cooperation with the career counselor helps the victim to find employment. Consultations with the social worker can be scheduled at 075 255-154, every day from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or by e-mail: sovetuvaliste@glasprotivnasilstvo.org.mk

The legal advisor is responsible for direct contacts and meetings with the users and assesses their legal problems and needs. In consultation with the victim, he determines what his priorities are and what should be done first. On her behalf, the legal advisor prepares various submissions, requests and objections to relevant institutions. Furthermore, the legal advisor also provides advice on further legal actions that the client can take in order to protect her rights in accordance with legal regulations. It is also available to clients for other types of correspondence (telephone/internet) in the direction of urgent counseling and taking legal actions. After a final assessment of the client's legal needs and problems, the legal advisor makes a recommendation for the use of further services by a lawyer.

The legal assistance provided by the National Network also includes representation in court proceedings. The **lawyer** with whom the National Network cooperates handles the cases with a high degree of confidentiality and is at the disposal of the client for whom she is hired. The lawyer on behalf of the client (after a duly signed power of attorney) represents and defends her interests before the competent courts (primary, appellate, supreme, and administrative courts), public prosecutor's office, ombudsman and will accompany her, if necessary, to competent state administrative bodies (police, social work centers, etc.).

A meeting with the legal adviser can be scheduled at 075 304 802, every day from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or by e-mail: pravnapomos@glasprotivnasilstvo.org.mk



The psychotherapist provides psychological help and support. Through individual continuous sessions, it is possible for women who want to break the cycle of violence, to leave or if they have already left a violent partner, to empower themselves, to overcome the traumas they have survived and to change their way of life.

The process of help and support is achieved by holding regular individual meetings with a dynamic that best suits the user. At the meetings, topics that are important for women are discussed, skills and knowledge are acquired to improve self-esteem and self-confidence, new ways of functioning are learned through which women will be able to live actively and with dignity, to choose partners who will respond to her needs and with whom she will be able to develop intimate relationships based on respect and support.

Through the conversations with the psychotherapist, information will be obtained about the nature and origin of the violence, about the possibilities of dealing with and getting out of the circle of violence, restoring the feeling of security, as well as encouraging and directing the client to learn more about herself and work on her own. advancement and development.

Psychological counseling is especially necessary at the beginning, but it is equally important to exist throughout the recovery period of the victim, who faces new challenges arising from the new living environment, new workplace, as well as informing her about all rights and obligations which she has, with the aim of her readiness for a completely independent life, with the complete exclusion of the risk of returning to the violent environment or falling into a new violent relationship. Changing your self-image and increasing your self-esteem is a key factor in preventing violence and getting out of the role of a victim. You can schedule a meeting with the psychotherapist at 075 255 154, every day from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or by e-mail: sovetuvaliste@glasprotivnasilstvo.org.mk

In March 2020, with the support of the city of Skopje, a House for open housing for women victims of violence was opened.

This is a pilot project, and this type of service is the first of its kind in the Western Balkans. The main goal of the project is the rehabilitation and reintegration of women victims of domestic violence who have left the violent environment and their complete empowerment for an independent life. With a series of planned activities and in a situation of satisfied existential needs, the beneficiaries and their children will be ready to face new challenges more easily, outside of the violent environment and without the risk of homelessness.



The House for open housing is a form of supported living for women victims of domestic violence and is part of the model for reintegration and rehabilitation of women victims of domestic violence. The House is intended for women victims of domestic violence who have left the violent environment and their children. The House can accommodate women victims of

domestic violence who are at risk of homelessness, cannot stay in the homes of the extended family, do not have the financial ability to provide safe housing for themselves and their children, are not employed or have very low incomes.

Women victims who are accommodated in the House are not at risk of violence from the partner who committed the violence, that is, they are divorced or separated, and the risk of violence has been overcome before being placed in the House.

The House for open housing provides housing from 6 to 24 months, where the beneficiaries and their children have access to separate sleeping rooms and common areas such as kitchen, dining room and living room. With the stay in the House, all overhead costs, food costs, personal hygiene, children's school needs, treatment costs, as well as costs for court processes and legal services are covered. During the stay, the beneficiaries receive counseling and support for the exercise of social rights, continuous individual and group counseling with a psychologist/psychotherapist, legal counseling and mentoring and employment assistance.

You can read more about the House for open housing [here](#).

Mentoring for acquiring skills for easier employment.

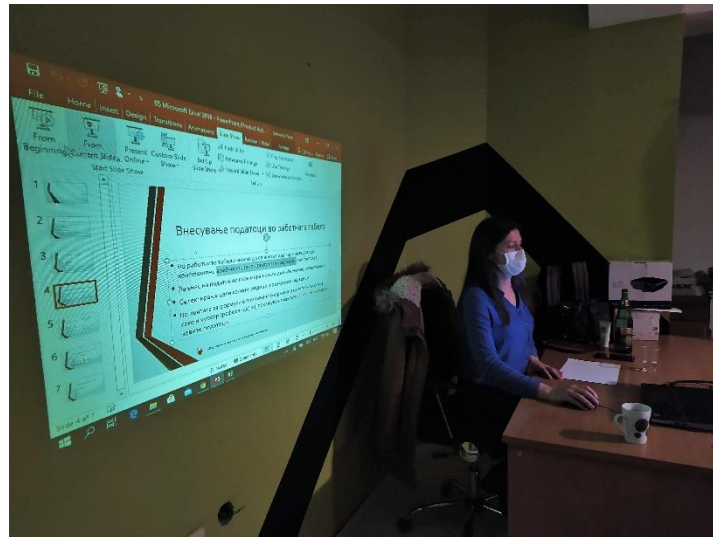
In the last two months of 2020, trainings were organized to strengthen "soft" skills among women victims of domestic violence, with the aim of making them more competitive in the labor market. Three trainings were held on for 21 women, on



different topics: Preparing a short resume, preparing for an interview and strengthening communication skills, improving computer skills (Microsoft Office, Internet, social media) and Managing a family budget.

All participants in the trainings had the opportunity to attend individual counseling with the career counselor and discuss their work potentials and motivation for professional advancement.

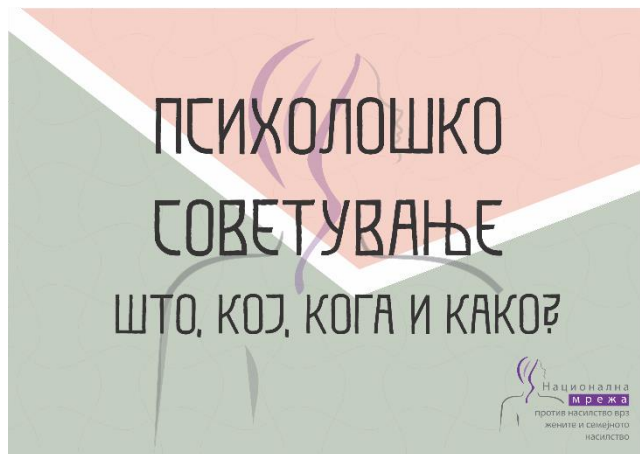
This activity was the first to start the implementation of the program for the economic empowerment of women who survived some form of gender-based and family violence, which will be implemented next year.



Services provided in the period January - December

Within the Counseling Center for help and support of women and children victims of gender-based and family violence during 2020, i.e. since the opening of the Counseling Center in February 2020, a total of **1,128 services were provided to 122 women, 1 transgender person and 152 child victims of gender-based and domestic violence.**

Of the services provided, 826 services were provided by the social worker, 187 services were provided by a psychologist/psychotherapist, and the legal advisor provided 115 services.



These services were provided in conditions of a health crisis, which is why a large part of them were conducted by phone and online. Therefore, the services were available at the national level. Many service users, apart from various forms of violence, were facing economic and social risks, which is why they were additionally supported through the Women's

Intervention Fund (details below).

During 2020 that is, from the opening of the House for Open Housing in March 2020 until the end of the year, **3 women who left the violent environment were accommodated, together with their children, who were 8 in number.** All beneficiaries received counseling and support for exercising social rights, as well as health insurance, inclusion of children in the education system, or in a preschool institution according to the age of the children. During their stay in the house, they regularly worked with a psychologist/psychotherapist in group meetings, but also individual meetings according to their individual needs.

ДО КОГА ЌЕ ТРПИШ?

Ако си жена жртва на насилство побарај помош во
Национална мрежа против насилство врз жените и
семејно насилство

Психолошка помош: [075 255 154](tel:075255154)

Советување за права од социјална заштита: [071 324 223](tel:071324223)

Правна помош: [071 464 019](tel:071464019)

емаил: coordinator@glasprotivnasilstvo.org.mk

Фејсбук: [Национална мрежа против насилство
врз жените и семејно насилство](#)



Women's Intervention Fund

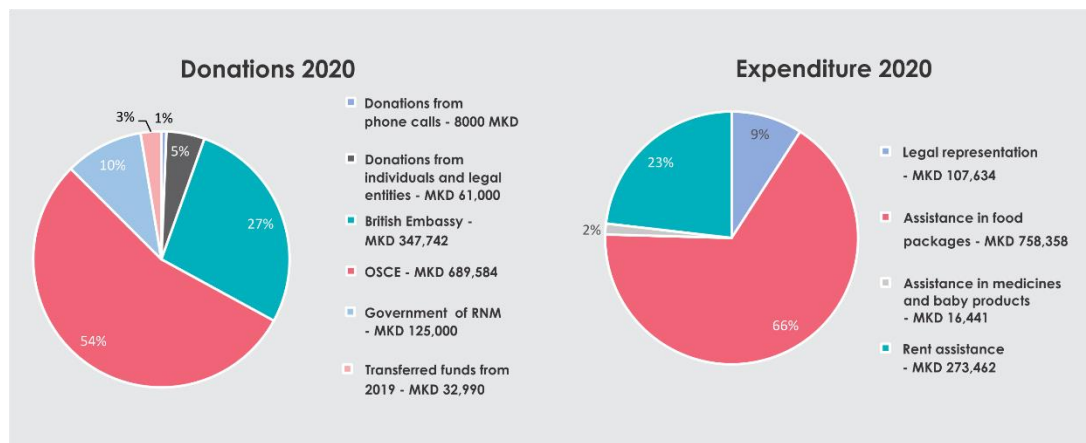
In response to the health crisis that began in March 2020, many donors decided to direct their funds to provide direct assistance to various vulnerable categories of citizens. The national network received support from two donor organizations (the British Embassy in Skopje, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, OSCE) and the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia for the Women's Intervention Fund. In addition, funds were received through donations from individuals, legal entities and through telephone calls.

The financial assistance that was provided through the Women's Intervention Fund was aimed at providing financial and material assistance to women victims of violence by paying rent, utilities, medical documentation for injuries caused by violence, assistance with the costs of a lawyer in legal proceedings, but also packages with food and hygiene products and products for babies and children, as well as medicines and therapies.

The funds from the Fund were available to all women who survived violence and who left a violent environment or need support to leave a violent environment; are materially unsecured or at social risk or are at risk of homelessness.

In 2020 in the Women's Intervention Fund there was an inflow of 1,264,316 MKD, of which 107,634 MKD were spent on legal representation, 273,462 MKD on rent assistance, 758,358 MKD for assistance in food packages and, assistance in medicine and baby products 16,441 MKD. Through the Intervention Fund, 252 packages of food and hygiene products were awarded to women victims of violence, 10 packages of baby products and 20 sets of school supplies. Also, for 10 female victims, 29 monthly rents were covered in total, as overhead costs.

Below is a view of the inflow and outflow for the entire year.



**ДОКОЛКУ СТЕ ЖЕНА КОЈА ПРЕЖИВЕЛА
НЕКАКВА ФОРМА НА СЕМЕЈНО ИЛИ
ИНТИМНО ПАРТНЕРСКО НАСИЛСТВО, СТЕ ВО
СОЦИЈАЛЕН РИЗИК И ИМАТЕ ПОТРЕБА ОД:**

- материјална помош за храна и хигиенски производи;
- материјална помош за производи за бебиња и деца;
- финансиска помош за покривање на режиски трошоци (струја, вода, парно, ТВ и интернет, кирија);
- финансиска помош за ангажирање адвокат за судски постапки;
- финансиска помош за медицински прегледи и извештаи за повреди настанати како резултат на преживеаното насилство;
- финансиска помош за набавка на лекови и терапија

Јавете ни се на телефон 02/609-0066 или пишете ни на емаил: coordinator@glasprotivnasilstvo.org.mk и на Фејсбук: **Национална Мрежа Против Насилство врз Жените и Семејно Насилство** <https://www.facebook.com/glasprotivnasilstvo> за да добиете помош преку **Интервентниот Женски Фонд**.



**Ако сте жртва која преживеала семејно или
интимно-партнерско насилство, сакате да ја
напуштите насилната средина, но сте во
социјален ризик, побарајте помош преку
Интервентниот женски фонд за:**

- Помош при ангажирање на правник и адвокат за судски постапки произлезени од насилството;
- Помош за медицински извештаи за повреди настанати за време на насилството;
- Набавка на лекови и терапија;
- Материјална помош во форма на пакети со храна и хигиенски производи, како и производи за бебиња и деца;
- Материјална помош за покривање на трошоците за струја, вода, парно, интернет, кирија и т.н.

Побарајте нè на:

Тел: 02/609-0066

Емаил: coordinator@glasprotivnasilstvo.org.mk

Фејсбук: **Национална мрежа против насилство врз жените и семејно насилство**



Организација за безбедност и соработка во Европа
Мисија во Скопје



Helpline for positive parenting

In order to provide help to parents and guardians in our country, in their realization of the parental role, and thus to support the correct growth and development of children, in partnership with UNICEF we opened the free National Helpline for Positive Parenting.

The phone line for positive parenting 075/230-530 is open every working day from 15:00 to 20:00. It provides anonymous, confidential, free and easily accessible help and support for parents, caregivers and guardians of children of all ages, those planning to become parents or caregivers, those with a partner, single parents and anyone interested to learn more about parenting.



By calling the line, users can receive advice from the operators engaged on the line in order to: improve the parent-child relationship; support and tools to build parenting skills and confidence; help to better understand your own parenting style; comprehensive targeted counseling and daily monitoring of the achieved progress together with the

operators; advising parents and guardians on raising children in a safe and caring family environment; practical advice for adequately responding to the behavioral and emotional needs or changes in the child (from birth to adolescence), but also how to adequately respond to everyday challenges, thereby contributing to the prevention of unwanted development in the parent-child relationship, as and prevention and protection from all forms of violence against children.

JOINT ACTIVITIES WITH RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

2020

The National Network is recognized by relevant stakeholders as a key actor in the fight to end violence against women and the promotion of national legislation in this area. The network team is part of the working groups - formed within the relevant institutions, with the aim of amendments and additions to the existing legal solutions, as well as the preparation of new ones, in the direction of successful implementation of the Istanbul Convention. In addition, the Network team is also involved in consultative meetings and working meetings organized by national institutions and the international community. What happened during 2020 is presented in the section that follows.

Participation in the 1st meeting of the working group for the creation of the second National Action Plan for the implementation of UN Resolution 1325 - Women, peace and security



At the end of February, at the invitation of the Ministry of Defense, a representative from the Network attended the first meeting of the inter-institutional working group for the preparation of the National Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security. After the meeting, together with the organizations from the Platform for Gender Equality, proposals and activities to be incorporated into this document were prepared and sent to the Ministry of Defense.

Memorandums of Agreement with the Employment Agency and the Inter-Municipal Center for Social Work of the City of Skopje

During February and early March 2020, working meetings were held with the Inter-Municipal Center for Social Work of the City of Skopje and the Employment Agency of R. North Macedonia, in order to present the assistance and support services for women and children victims of gender-based and family violence that began to be provided by the National Network at the beginning of this year. The purpose of the meetings was to establish cooperation with these institutions in the direction of ensuring advanced and comprehensive protection of women and child victims. The working meetings resulted in the signing of Memorandums of Cooperation with the two institutions.

Workshop with representatives from the UNDP office in Skopje and the coordinators for equal opportunities within 15 municipalities and presidents of the municipal councils

In April, an online workshop was held with representatives from the UNDP office in Skopje and the coordinators for equal opportunities and the presidents of municipal councils from 15 municipalities. The aim of this workshop was to increase the awareness and knowledge of municipal representatives about their role in protection from domestic violence, the risks of domestic violence in a pandemic, the available support for victims of violence and the importance of sharing information in order to encourage victims to report the violence and ask for help. After the workshop, informative materials were shared with contacts from existing and available services for help and support of victims of violence, managed by the Ministry of Justice and civil society organizations. All municipalities shared this information on their web pages and Facebook profiles and thereby enabled greater awareness among the population about the possibilities of reporting domestic violence.



Coordination meetings with representatives of the Technical Government of RNM

On April 29th, 2020, the first coordination meeting was held with representatives of the Technical Government of R. North Macedonia, namely: Deputy Prime Minister Mila Carovska and Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Policy, Sanela Shkrielj.

At this initial meeting, future steps that can be taken to ensure adequate protection for women and children exposed or at risk of experiencing violence were discussed. At the coordination meeting, which was attended by a representative from the National Network against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, as well as representatives from the Macedonian Platform Against Poverty, HERA, Glasen Tekstilec and the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, it was agreed that every Monday, Wednesday and Friday would be held this type of meeting, where omissions will be reported by the regional units of the Ministry of Social Affairs - Centers for Social Work, NGOs will be informed about the steps taken by the Ministry of Social Affairs, and according to the submitted letters for inappropriate and unprofessional behavior.

A total of 14 coordination meetings were held, the purpose of which was to monitor the work of institutions in providing services for women and children victims of violence, consultations on how to improve access to services and the overall protection of victims during the pandemic.

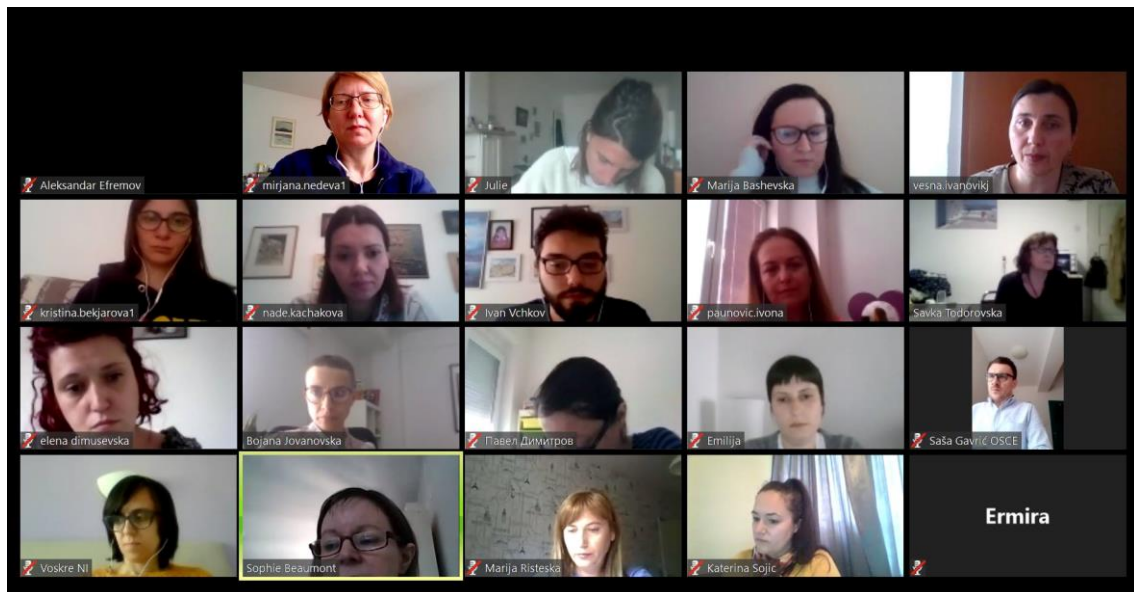
2020

Meetings with representatives of UNFPA and UN WOMEN - North Macedonia

During the period of the state of emergency, meetings were held with representatives from the offices of UNFPA and UN WOMEN in Skopje on the possibilities of joint contribution to improve access to services for all women, especially women in poverty, women from rural areas, women belonging to the marginalized communities, women with disabilities during the pandemic.

At these meetings, the Network team presented the help and support services for women and children victims of gender-based and domestic violence that they provide within the framework of the newly opened counseling center, as well as the biggest challenges faced by women victims during the health crisis of COVID-19.

Joint steps to be taken for improved protection of victims were discussed.



Work meeting with representatives of the Technical Government of R. North Macedonia

The team from the executive office of the Network prepared a Protocol for health care and safe accommodation for victims of domestic violence in centers for victims of domestic violence (shelters) and other centers that provide housing services in a situation of health crisis or pandemic. At the working meeting, the Protocol was presented to the Additional Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Policy and the current Deputy Prime Minister. Both agreed that the adoption of this document is important for this health crisis, and that the protocol itself is applicable not only for this, but also for potential future health crises. The work meeting concluded that the Protocol should be submitted to the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy for consideration and adoption. By the end of 2020, this Protocol had not yet been adopted.

Coordination meetings with the Minister of Labor and Social Policy



After the appointment of the new Minister of Labor and Social Policy, Jagoda Shahpaska, the National Network team requested a meeting in order to present the activities and agree on the next steps. At the meeting, a discussion was opened about the text of the new Law on prevention and protection from violence against women and domestic violence,

which was withdrawn from the parliamentary procedure, although before the start of the pandemic, the working group harmonized the text with all the recommendations from the public hearings, and the Government adopted. The changes that were made meant a regression of the text, so the Network team immediately sent information to the other members of the work group. Several more meetings followed with Minister Shahpaska and representatives from the competent departments in the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, and the final result was the finalization of the text of the new law and the continuation of the next steps.



ADVOCACY AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

2020

Some of the activities that took place in 2020 are part of the advocacy process for advancing the right to help, support and protection of women who survive some form of gender-based or domestic violence. The planned activities from the annual Advocacy Strategy were fully implemented, and documents were prepared with proposed solutions for the advancement of laws and policies, which were used as advocacy tools at the meetings organized by the Network.

Advocacy for the adoption of the new draft Law on prevention and protection from violence against women and domestic violence

After the text of the draft Law on prevention and protection from violence against women and domestic violence was finalized, the Network team held work meetings with relevant stakeholders in order to present the provisions of the law and their importance for the promotion of protection of women victims. Namely, the executive director of the Network was a member of the work group for the preparation of the law, in which process, together with members from other civil society organizations, they advocated for specific issues and their inclusion in the text of the law. From there arose the need to clearly present why these provisions are significant, and in the direction of their acceptance and adoption by the assembly.

A large number of individual meetings were held with female parliamentarians, at which it was agreed that it would be best to organize a joint meeting with all members of the Club of Women Parliamentarians. This meeting was held on December 3rd on the ZOOM online platform. Minister of Justice Bojan Maricic also attended the meeting. In addition to the discussion of the draft law on prevention and protection of violence against women and domestic violence, and its immediate adoption, the importance of harmonizing the legislation in the direction of the full implementation of the Istanbul Convention, i.e. the necessary changes that should be suffered the Criminal Code.



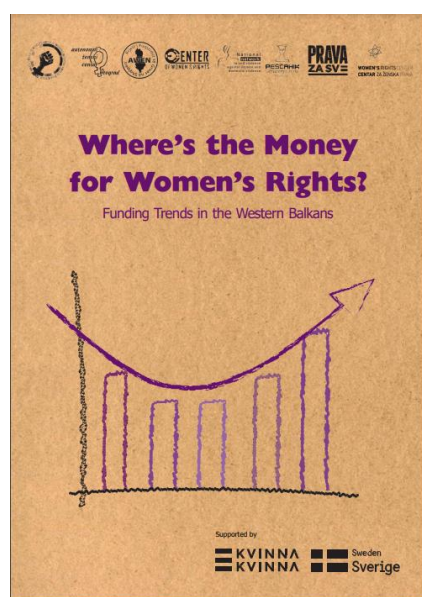
Work meetings were also organized with the forums and unions of women from political parties that have their representatives in the Assembly of North Macedonia, where the dilemmas arising from the different interpretation of the legal provisions were discussed.

It is important to note that all these meetings ended with conclusions that this law is needed, and its adoption should be a priority in the period that follows.

Following the proposal of the Commission for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, on December 15th, a public hearing was held on the Draft Law on the Prevention and Protection of Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, to which the Executive Director of the Network, Elena Dimushevska, was invited as a speaker. The president of the Commission, the Minister of Internal Affairs and the Minister of Labor and Social Policy gave introductory speeches at the hearing, and in addition to the MPs, representatives from NGOs, relevant institutions, and academics were present.

Where is the money for women's rights? - Financing trends in the Western Balkans

The research was conducted in 2019 in six countries from the Western Balkans, by 8 women's organizations (including the National Network against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence), led by the Kosovo Women's Network, and supported by The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation. It includes interviews with 71 donors and 241 different civil society organizations.



The research findings were promoted at a **public internet event**, among more than 100 attendees on June 9, where the executive director of the network, Elena Dimushevska, shared some of the achievements of women's civil society organizations in North Macedonia. Some of these include the ratification of the Istanbul Convention in 2017 and the adoption of the new Abortion Law in 2019. She also emphasized that women's civil society organizations play a key role in providing specialized services for women victims of domestic and gender-based violence. You can read more about the report at the following [link](#).

Input to the State Progress Report

In February, the National Network team prepared written input for the progress report of R. North Macedonia for the period from March 2019 to March 2020. The document was delivered to the Delegation of the EU in North Macedonia and to Mrs. Sophie Beaumont, responsible person for gender equality in EUD Skopje. Furthermore, the document was sent to the European Commission - General Directorate for Enlargement and Neighborhood, the responsible person for North Macedonia and Kosovo, Mrs. Eviola Prifti in Brussels. The document is comprehensive and provides an overview of the situation with gender-based violence and domestic violence for this reporting period. One of the biggest problems mentioned in the document is that so far, the change in legislation has not changed the status of women victims of gender-based violence, despite international recommendations and the ratification of the Istanbul Convention. Not prioritizing the issue of violence against women was one of the most significant concerns expressed about the current situation in the State. Part of the recommendations and information was included in the annual report on the State's progress in the EU enlargement process covered in Chapter 23 - justice and fundamental rights, which was published in October 2020.

In addition, the network also contributed to the preparation of the Shadow Report on Chapter 23 for the period April 2019 and March 2020, prepared and published by the European Policy Institute-Skopje (EPI), considering the comments and opinions of the 23 network members.

2020

Guidelines of the Platform for Strengthening Civil Society to better support women and girls victims of violence during COVID-19


Starting from May 2020, the Civil Society Empowerment Platform launched the third year of the EU-UN women's programme, "Implementing norms, changing minds". This program advocates against gender-based discrimination and violence against women in the Western Balkans and Turkey, with a significant focus on marginalized groups of women.

This year the project is focused on one specific challenge, identified by all partners of the Platform (CSSP) in the first phase of the program: the serious gaps in providing services for women victims of sexual violence in the region. All nine partners in seven partner countries will focus on developing guidelines to better identify the needs of victims by service providers engaged in these services.



Насоки на Платформата за јакнење на граѓанското општество¹ за подобра поддршка на жените и девојчињата жртви на насилство за време на пандемијата на КОВИД-19

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures of national governments to prevent the spread of the corona virus had a strong impact on the health of the population, the economy and public services. Since March 2020, when the World Health Organization declared a state of pandemic, governments in the Western Balkans and Turkey have introduced measures against the spread of the infection (closing certain businesses and restricting the movement of people) in response to the crisis. The pandemic and these measures have only deepened already existing gender differences rooted in patriarchal structures and cultures, and the burden of this crisis has almost fallen on the backs of women.



Violence against women increased during the emergency measures and quarantines declared by governments in the Western Balkans and Turkey, and their access to support services became very limited. Furthermore, as a result of the pandemic, many women's organizations have faced the loss of staff, reduced capacity and financial resources. Some of the services were temporarily closed, while some of the organizations continued to work dedicated to better support by launching new services.

The following differences were identified by these support networks: forced incarceration, reduced mobility and increased control by the abuser, and as a consequence, difficult access to shelters and care centers; some helplines and violence reporting lines were operating with limited resources; non-existence of protocols for the reception of female victims in foster care centers, while respecting the health measures to protect against the transmission of the virus; limited resources for the operation of care centers and the lack of rapid health care for victims of violence.

For a better response to the needs of women victims of violence and guaranteed adequate support, in the context of the fear of a new wave of COVID-19, the partners of the Platform, women's organizations from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey, have prepared a set of guidelines in all languages, to support national governments and services in times of crisis.

The guidelines are available at the following [link](#).

Recommendations to Governments, donors and civil society organizations - Dealing with violence against women and domestic violence in the Western Balkans during and after the health crisis with COVID-19

The specific circumstances of the COVID-19 crisis have significantly increased the risks of violence against women and children, making homes unsafe for those facing domestic violence and vulnerable to various forms of violence, and causing very severe and sometimes fatal consequences. Such as: increasing number of reported cases of domestic violence, increasing number of women and children suffering from domestic violence and in need of shelter and safe housing, femicides, and loss of jobs and income mostly for women in need of financial assistance and employment. An increasing number of cases of domestic violence were recorded in the official records of the institutions and in the reports of the Social Security Administration and are available in studies on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the labor market. The consequences continue to multiply as the pandemic continues to abate.



The document includes an overview of actions and steps for the protection of women and child victims taken by governments and competent institutions, activities carried out by women's civil society organizations to support and protect women and children victims of domestic violence during the COVID pandemic, as well as recommendations for post-crisis measures and next steps to be taken by the Governments.

Seven organizations from the Western Balkans were involved in the preparation of this document: Autonomous Women's Center (Serbia), Kosovo Women's Network (Kosovo), United Women Foundation (BiH), Center for Women's Rights (Montenegro), Albanian Network Against Violence Against Women, Alliance for a Gender Perspective (Albania) and the National Network against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (North Macedonia).

The document is available at the following [link](#).

Joint letter to the Secretary-General of the United Nations

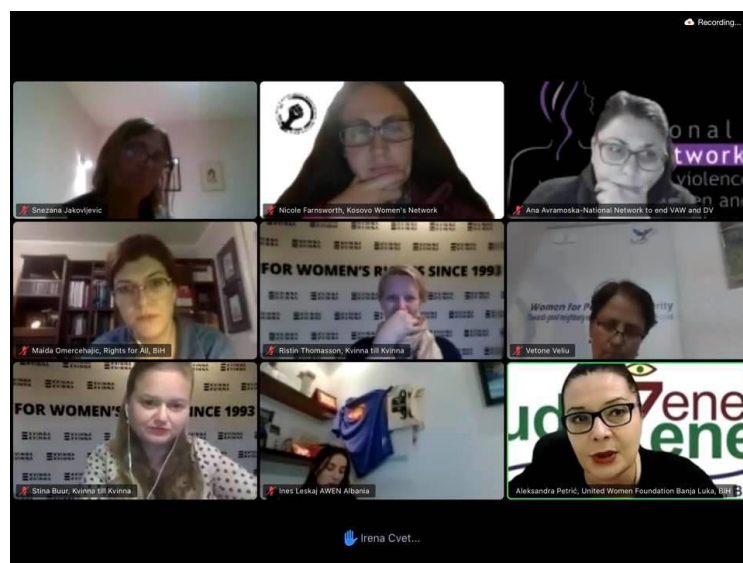
On October 30th, a joint letter signed by more than 230 organizations from the Western Balkans was sent to Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations: Achim Steiner, Administrator, UNDP; Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, UN Deputy Secretary-General and Executive Director of UNWOMEN; Dubravka Simonovic, Special Rapporteur on violence against women; Mirjana Spoljaric Eger, Director, UNDP Regional Office for Europe; UNDP Assistant Administrator: Alija El-Yasir, UN Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia. The purpose of the letter was to open a constructive dialogue on issues and challenges faced by women's civil society organizations, in the direction of better cooperation with UN agencies.

Challenges of women's civil society organizations (CSOs) that were covered by the letter are:

- WCSOs should be treated as equal partners and experts, recognizing, and respecting their expertise in their daily work, especially in the implementation of projects and programs supported by the UN;
- WCSOs should be properly consulted and heard during the initial design of all new programs implemented in the Western Balkans;
- WCSOs should be involved with expertise in all legal and other processes that include dialogue with governments, building relations between the government and civil society and thereby providing important political support and visibility to CSOs, especially in processes led and/or initiated by the UN;
- UN reports should give appropriate recognition and authorship to the WCSOs that were involved in the activities, regardless of whether they are researches, analyzes and publications or reports on the work done for a certain period of time. WCSOs should be recognized by the name of the involved experts and the name of the organization;
- Greater efforts should be made to strongly encourage UN agency staff to contract with WCSOs, rather than individual experts, thus recognizing WCSOs' expertise and providing much-needed resources;
- The UN should create and implement a policy of "non-competition" for financial resources with CSOs (this means applying to large funds such as the EU IPA, etc.)

Advocacy Week in Brussels

With the support and partnership of the Kvinna til Kvinna Foundation and women's civil society organizations from the Western Balkans (Serbia, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Albania) this year in November again meetings were held for representation before relevant international bodies for improvement and promotion of gender equality in the process of accession of the countries of the Western Balkans to the European Union. The meetings were held online on the ZOOM Platform and were successfully implemented. One of the most important meetings was held in the European Commission-General Directorate for Enlargement and Neighborhood, with the responsible person for North Macedonia and Kosovo, Mrs. Eviola Prifti, in which meetings were held about the current situation in the State related to violence against women, domestic violence as and the availability of services provided by the State. In addition, related to the issue of the situation with COVID-19 and violence against women, two documents with policy proposals were prepared, namely: the first with a short policy proposal for **"Due diligence is not a political will, but a priority principle that must be respected"** is with recommendations for the immediate adoption of the new Law on various forms of violence against women and domestic violence and the establishment of an independent body to monitor the implementation of the National Action Plan (2018-2023) and the second **"Violence against Women and COVID-19"** which explains the reduced capacity of already non-functional institutions and the role of CSOs in the pandemic. Both documents were shared at the meetings and sent to the European Commission-General Directorate for Enlargement and Neighbourhood, the responsible person for North Macedonia and Kosovo, Mrs. Eviola Prifti.



Request to the Government of RNM to supplement the decision on banning the movement of citizens throughout the entire territory of the state

In accordance with the declared state of emergency in the country and the increased risk of domestic violence, the National Network prepared a request to supplement the decision of 04.06.2020 (36th session of the RNM Government) on the ban on the movement of citizens in the entire territory of the country. Namely, during the curfew, there should be exceptions from sanctions for women victims and their children who leave the home due to a threat and direct risk of violence. In the request, it is also stated that during the time limit on the movement of citizens in case of violence in the home, after a report, the perpetrators of domestic violence should be removed from the home and appropriate sanctions should be taken against them (detention, initiation of temporary protection measures etc.) which are aimed at protecting the victim from future violence in the home. The request was sent on April 9th and the next day the Ministry of Internal Affairs announced that victims of domestic violence can leave their homes during the curfew and seek help at the nearest police station or health facility. We did not receive an answer to the second part of the request. The entire request is available at the following [link](#).



ДО:
ВЛАДА НА РЕПУБЛИКА СЕВЕРНА МАКЕДОНИЈА

ПРЕДМЕТ: Барање за дополнување на одлуката за забрана за движење на граѓаните во целата територија на државата

ВРСКА: дополнување на одлуката за забрана за движење на граѓаните од 06.04.2020 година (36-та седница на Влада на РСМ)

Request to the Government of RNM for the adoption of emergency measures for the protection of women and children victims of domestic violence for the duration of the state of emergency

The Government of the Republic of North Macedonia on March 18th, 2020 declared a state of emergency on the territory of the state due to the situation with COVID-19 and prevention of the spread of the corona virus. After the declaration of the state of emergency, as of April 9th, 2020, 15 sessions of the Government were held, where new decisions and measures were taken daily to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic in R. North Macedonia. The measures were carried out from several aspects, and were aimed at alleviating the health, social and economic crisis that is continuous for the citizens of RNM, as well as reducing the consequences that will appear after the end of the crisis. Special categories of citizens that were covered by the measures, or may be an exception to them, are persons aged 67, persons under 18, persons with disabilities, persons engaged in agriculture, as well as employees of pharmacies, restaurants and cafes that carry out deliveries of food, and beneficiaries of maternity leave. These groups of citizens were excluded according to certain risks that make them more vulnerable to the corona virus, but also other risks, especially social and economic risks. However, **a specially vulnerable category that was completely left out of the measures and recommendations are the victims of domestic violence, that is, women and children who are at high risk of domestic violence.** Apart from the notification of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy addressed to the victims of gender-based violence and domestic violence, where numbers for reporting violence are mentioned, no emergency measures were pronounced or proposed for this particularly vulnerable category of citizens. This document proposed measures for immediate adoption of which



ДО:
ВЛАДА НА РЕПУБЛИКА СЕВЕРНА МАКЕДОНИЈА

ПРЕДМЕТ: Барање за изрекување на итни мерки за заштита на жените и децата жртви на семејно насилство додека трае вонредната состојба

Содржина на документот:

1. Вовед
2. Ризик фактори за зголемување на семејното насилство
3. Ризик фактор за пријавување на насилство
4. Предлог итни мерки за заштита на жените и децата жртви на семејно насилство во услови на криза

would have enabled the protection of the victims of domestic violence in the conditions of this crisis, but also would have prepared the system of protection for dealing with cases of domestic violence after the end of the crisis. **The document pointed out the risks that are specific to domestic violence and gave a**

comprehensive proposal for immediate measures to deal with it. The request was submitted to the technical Government on 13th of April 2020. The entire document can be viewed at the following [link](#).

Overview of emergency measures and steps taken to protect women and children victims of domestic violence by the Government and competent institutions

The National Network received a response from the RNM Government that the request has been forwarded for review and further action to the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Justice, with the aim of submitting an appropriate proposal with specific measures that will be considered at the next meeting of the Main Coordination Crisis Headquarters scheduled for 15th of April 2020.

Apart from the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, the National Network was not contacted by any other ministry or institution, regarding the submitted requests and the notification received from the Main Coordination Crisis Headquarters.

This document "[Overview of emergency measures and steps taken for the protection of women and children victims of domestic violence by the Government and competent institutions](#)" contains the proposed emergency measures and steps taken by institutions in the period from 14th of April 2020 to 15th of May 2020, as well as the following steps to be taken.



Итна мерка	Одговор од Влада/ Надлежна институција	Заклучоци/ Идни чекори
1. Во текот на полицискиот час треба да има исклучоци од санкции за жени жртви и нивните деца кои го напуштаат домот поради закана и директен ризик од насилство. (поднесено барање на 09.04.2020)	Министерството за внатрешни работи објави соопштение каде известува дека нема да бидат санкционирани лицата кои сакаат да пријават кривично дело или на кои им е потребна помош поради извршено насилство ³ . За истото имаше објава и на ФБ профилот на МВР. Покрај МВР, единствено МТСП ја сподели оваа информација.	Информацијата треба да стои како банер на веб-страниците на МВР, МТСП, МЗ, МОН и Влада на РСМ, сите општини, а Министерот за внатрешни работи да се обрати до граѓаните/граѓанките и да ја сподели оваа информација, како и да охрабри пријавување.
2. Во текот на временското ограничување на движењето на граѓаните во случај на насилство во домот, по пријава сторителите на семејно насилство да бидат отстранети од истиот и да се преземаат соодветни санкции против нив (приведување, покренување на привремени мерки за заштита и др.) сè со цел да се заштити жртвата од идно насилство во својот дом. (поднесено барање на 09.04.2020)	МТСП и МВР координирано постапуваат и преземаат конкретни мерки за заштита на жртвите согласно законските надлежности за итно и должно постапување и Протокол за меѓусебната соработка на надлежните институции и здруженија за заштита и спречување од семејното насилство . Воедно известуваме дека МТСП и МВР преку своите служби координирано постапуваат во случај на семејно насилство и за време на полициски час и со другите надлежни институции кои постапуваат во случај на семејно насилство. Стручните лица од центрите за социјална работа имаат дозвола за непречено движење и за време на полициски час, со цел жртвите да ја добијат потребната заштита и поддршка. По остварената комуникација со МВР, известуваме дека ќе биде доставен допис до сите полициски станици по однос на постапувањето на полициските службеници во случај на пријава и постапување на жртвите на семејно насилство. (одговор од МТСП од 16.04.2020)	МВР и МТСП да споделат информација за број на поднесени барања за изрекување на привремени мерки за заштита од семејно насилство и број на изречени привремени мерки (информацијата да биде поделена по град, вид на поднесена/изречена мерка, пол на жртвата).
3. Линиите за пријавување насилство (СОС линии, МВР и ЦСР, граѓански организации) и линиите за помош и поддршка да работат преку	Нема одговор	Итно развивање на нови и иновативни начини за пријавување на семејно и интимно партнерско насилство кои ќе можат да се

³ https://mvr.gov.mk/vest/117167?fbclid=IwAR22dRPTvDTbxfyH_G93_i2vY21o4t2oqHkt-1l3qy7-U8A14Ez6BfNWK0

March 8th - March for women's rights, "You are not to blame"

For the fourth year in a row on March 8th, together with the Gender Equality Platform and women's rights activists, with respect for women's past victories for gender equality, but aware of the social phenomena and systemic flaws that threaten our existence as free, equal, dignified and safe citizens of our society, a March for women's rights was organized under the slogan "You are not guilty!". Inspired by the [Public Room case](#), this march was dedicated to victims of any type of gender-based violence, celebrating every struggle, every resistance, every voice. At Filip the Second Square, we read the Proclamation on Women's Rights, which called for the introduction of comprehensive sexual education in North Macedonia, as well as adequate, timely and efficient prevention, protection and support for victims of gender-based violence, from all institutions that are part of the system for the protection and strict sanctioning of any violent behavior. More about the event at the following [link](#).



Rapid analysis of the measures taken and proposed to deal with the impact of the epidemic from a gender perspective "Covid 19 and gender

In cooperation and partnership, with the organizations that contribute to the advancement of gender policies jointly - the Center for Research and Policy Making, Radar, EHO - Shtip, Glasen Textilec, Rural Coalition, Movement against Handicap "Polio Plus", the second edition of Quick Analysis was prepared of the measures taken and proposed to deal with the impact of the epidemic from a gender perspective "Covid 19 and gender was prepared.

This analysis presents the recommendations for mitigating the consequences of the covid-19 pandemic crisis from a gender perspective and aims to reduce the gender gap in the measures taken by the Government.

More about the analysis at the following [link](#).

Request to the new Government of RNM - Reforms for the promotion of gender equality

Bearing in mind the state of gender equality in the country and the need for its further and continuous improvement, as well as knowing the directions in which equality is advanced in democratic societies around the world and the aspirations of our country to be part of international communities that, among other things, base their values and principles of gender equality; **The Platform for Gender Equality** as a network of 23 organizations, including the National Network, in July submitted a request to the new Government of the Republic of North Macedonia to include several priority reforms and recommendations for the advancement of gender equality in its program, you can read them on the following [link](#).

September 28th – World Safe Abortion Day



On this day, organizations from all over the world come together with one common request – to immediately ensure safe and legal abortion. The health crisis caused by the covid-19 pandemic has increased the risk of sexual violence and unavailable contraception for millions of women and limited their access to safe abortion. Quarantine measures have caused clinics to close or operate with limited capacity. Women from countries with restrictive abortion laws were unable to travel to neighboring countries with liberal laws to have an abortion because borders were closed while hospital access was limited,

making termination of pregnancy an obstacle course or impossible mission for millions of women.

The Platform for Gender Equality submitted a letter calling on the Ministry of Health of the Republic of North Macedonia:

- to adopt medical protocols for the application of medical abortion;
- to ensure the availability of drugs for medical abortion equally for hospitals and gynecological offices in primary health care;
- to enable continuous and unhindered access to safe abortion services during the pandemic crisis regardless of the type of measures restricting movement or access to health facilities that would be enacted in the future in order to prevent the spread of covid-19. You can read more about the letter at the following [link](#).



**ANALYSIS,
RESEARCH AND
PUBLICATIONS**

2020

Recommendations for improving employment opportunities for women victims of domestic violence

The purpose of this analysis is to provide recommendations for improving employment opportunities for women victims of domestic violence. Through the analysis of legal opportunities, obligations and recommendations from international documents, and analysis of active employment measures through the operational plans of the RNM Employment Agency, the document draws conclusions that identify challenges in employment opportunities for this vulnerable category of citizens. The methodological framework is based on the analysis of existing international documents, national legislation and national strategies, relevant research related to the economic challenges of women victims of domestic violence and information and data obtained through requests for public information sent to the Employment Agency of the RNM, and in connection with the utilization of measures and programs in the period from 01.01.2015 to 06.30.2020.

**Препораки за
унапредување
на можностите
за вработување
на жени жртви на
семејно насилство**

НАЦИОНАЛНА МРЕЖА
ПРОТИВ НАСИЛСТВО
ВРЗ ЖЕНИ И СЕМЕЈНО
НАСИЛСТВО
Декември 2020

An analysis was made of the programs and measures included in the operational plans of the Employment Agency, as well as the criteria that the applicants should meet, in the direction of their utilization. In addition, data and findings from the "Analysis of the economic challenges faced by women victims of domestic violence who have left a violent environment" were used, which was carried out by the National Network against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence in 2019.

The entire analysis is available at the following [link](#).

Gender analysis of the Work Program of the Government of R. North Macedonia

The analysis provides an overview of whether and to what extent the Government's Work Program for 2020-2024 includes the gender aspect in the planned activities for the next 4 years. In order to better understand the context of gender equality and the political will to promote gender equality, the analysis also takes into account the pre-election programs of majority political parties SDSM and DUI, which are leading the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia for the second term.



It is commendable that gender equality is increasingly recognized as important for the progress of RNM and as a goal without which the state cannot have successful European integration, as well as good governance and functional democracy.

In the cycle of the last two early elections 2017/2020, there is an increase in the goals related to gender equality in the pre-election programs, which shows that political parties are starting to slowly show interest in reducing the social and gender gap between women and men. However, this does not confirm that the work of the Government in the past three years was fully focused on promoting gender equality, because some of the pre-election goals were not

implemented at all during the 3-year mandate of the SDSM-DUI coalition.

You can read the entire text of the analysis at the following [link](#).

Progress Report of R. North Macedonia during the implementation of the National action plan for the implementation of the Istanbul Convention

The purpose of this report is to evaluate the state's progress in implementing the activities and fulfilling the indicators established in the National Action Plan (NAP) for the Implementation of the Istanbul Convention for the period of 2018-2020. The research showed that the institutions that are in charge of the implementation of the NAP are not transparent enough in the implementation of the activities - **not all ministries include civil society organizations in the implementation of the activities, and the answers that were received from the ministries were incomplete, i.e. mostly general and imprecise.**

The general impression from the responses of the competent institutions for the implementation of the NAP is that compliance with the standards of the Convention is not a priority issue for the state, especially not in crisis conditions. Worryingly weak implementation of activities aimed at prevention of violence against women and domestic violence is observed.

ИЗВЕШТАЈ
ЗА НАПРЕДОКОТ НА Р.
СЕВЕРНА МАКЕДОНИЈА
ПРИ СПРОВЕДУВАЊЕТО НА
НАЦИОНАЛНИОТ АКЦИСКИ
ПЛАН ЗА
ИМПЛЕМЕНТАЦИЈА НА
ИСТАНБУЛСКАТА
КОНВЕНЦИЈА
октомври 2018 - октомври 2020

Национална мрежа против
насилство врз жени и
семејно насилство

It is necessary to revise the overall NAP and propose deadlines for implementation that will correspond to the real situation. In addition, according to the revised NAP, the competent institutions should prepare operational plans for 2021.

The establishment of a mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the NAP (establishment of a special body for monitoring the implementation) is of key importance for the advancement of the system of prevention and protection against gender-based violence.

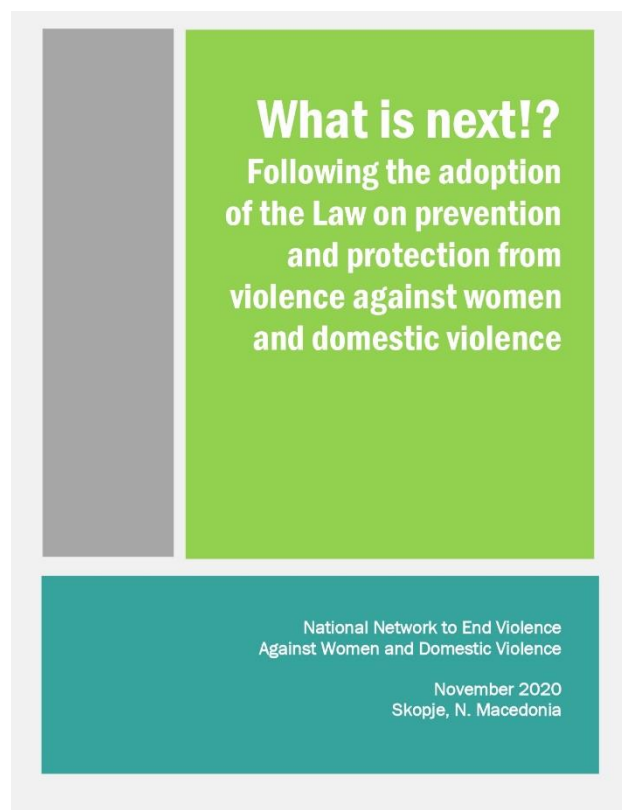
The entire report is available at the following [link](#).

What is next - after the adoption of the Law on prevention and protection against violence against women and domestic violence?

The Republic of North Macedonia took an important step in the implementation of the Istanbul Convention with the preparation of a new Law on prevention and protection from violence against women and domestic violence. The law is expected to be adopted in January 2021 and will be the first law to address all forms of violence against women, including gender-based violence and domestic violence.

This document lists the necessary steps that should be taken in the next 6 months after the adoption of the Law, in order to successfully implement the processes related to the reintegration and rehabilitation of women victims of violence and domestic violence.

The document is available at this [link](#).



Submission of the thematic report to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, Ms. Dubravka Simonović

The National Network Against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence sent a report to the United Nations special rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, Ms. Dubravka Simonović, which is part of the thematic report that was presented to the Human Rights Council of the UN in June 2021, and addresses the responsibility of states for the crime and prosecution of rape as well as systematic violations of human rights and the manifestation of gender-based violence against women, in accordance with international human rights standards.

The purpose of this report is to collect as much information as possible on the criminalization and prosecution of rape and thereby support and encourage the process of aligning national criminal laws and systems and practice with international standards on rape and sexual violence both in peacetime and during conflicts.

In his report, the Special Rapporteur intends to provide recommendations to States and other stakeholders on key international human rights standards that should be integrated into national criminal justice responses in order to bring them into line with accepted international standards; to ensure access to justice and support for rape victims; to break the cycle of impunity; and to prosecute perpetrators, ensuring that they are not protected by hidden domestic norms that are still part of criminal law or criminal procedure.

[Link to report – SRVAW-submission-framework National Network to end VAW and DV-North Macedonia.](#)

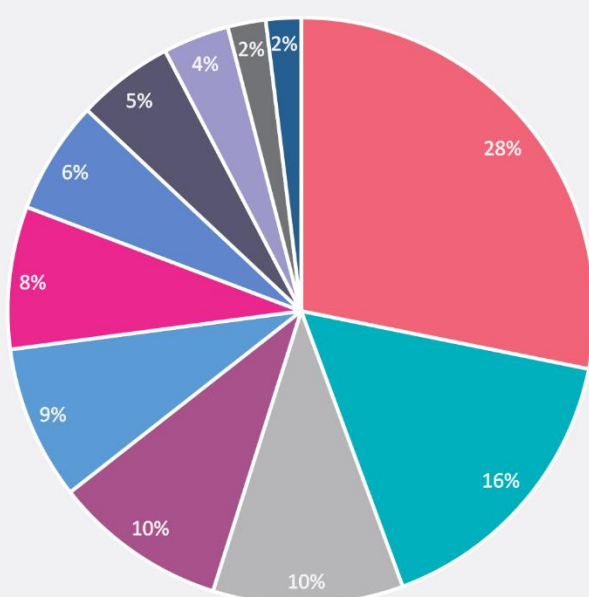
2020

Financial report for 2020

Breakdown of incomes by projects in 2020

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Name of project</i>	<i>Income by projects</i>	<i>%</i>
ADA	"Institutionalizing Quality Rehabilitation and Integration Services for Violence Survivors"	2.685.975 MKD	28%
Kvinna til kvinna	"On the Road to the EU: Ending Violence against Women in Republic of Macedonia"	1.546.225 MKD	16%
City of Skopje	"Housing for women victims of domestic violence who have left the violent environment"	1.000.000 MKD	10%
OSCE Mission	"Support to the Victims of Domestic Violence at the time of COVID-19 Pandemics"	911.338 MKD	10%
Government of RNM	"Assistance and Support of Victims of Domestic Violence at Time of Crisis"	810.000 MKD	9%
UNICEF	"Establishment of National Helpline for Positive Parenting Counselling"	749.200 MKD	8%
Filia	"Urgent Reponse Grant for Domestic Violence Service Providers during Covid-19 Crisis"	594.222 MKD	6%
FOSM	"Housing for women victims of domestic violence"	508.058 MKD	5%
British Embassy	"Women's Intervention Fund"	347.742 MKD	4%
Municipality og Gazi Baba	"Initiative for Establishing Councelling Centers for Women and Children Victims of Domestic Violence"	200.000 MKD	2%
WAVE	"Support the establishment and strengthening of regional platforms of civil society organizations"	184.200 MKD	2%

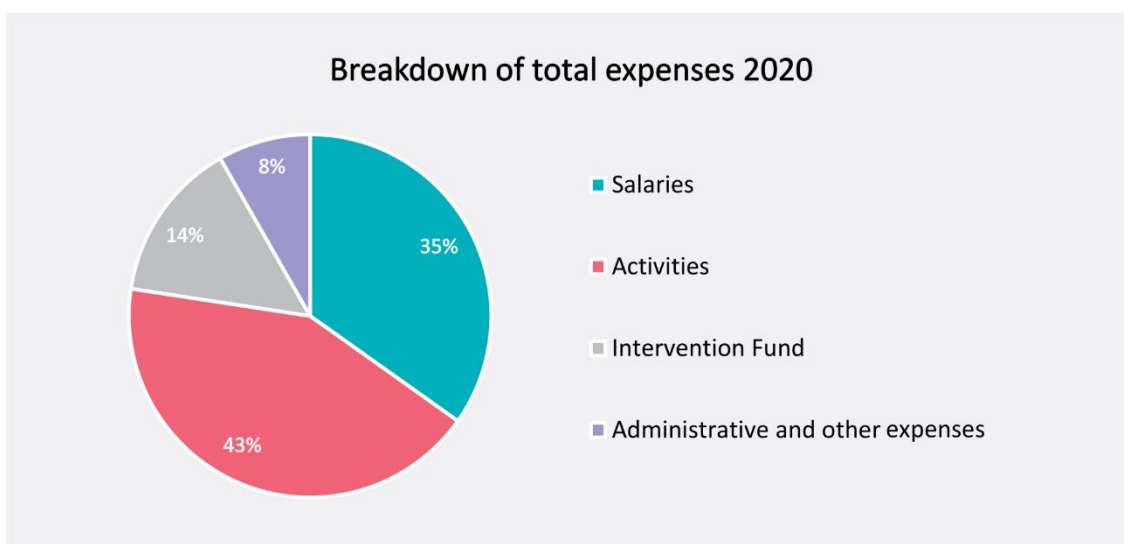
Income by projects 2020



- ADA-"Institutionalizing Quality Rehabilitation and Integration Services for Violence Survivors"
- KtK-"On the Road to the EU: Ending Violence against Women in Republic of Macedonia"
- City of Skopje-"Housing for women victims of domestic violence who have left the violent environment"
- OSCE Mission-"Support to the Victims of Domestic Violence at the time of COVID-19 Pandemics"
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- WAVE-"Support the establishment and strengthening of regional platforms of civil society organizations"

Breakdown of total expenses 2020

<i>Category</i>	<i>Breakdown of total expenses</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Salaries	2.881.174 MKD	35%
Activities	3.437.661 MKD	43%
Intervention Fund	1.157.583 MKD	14%
Administrative and other expenses	667.009 MKD	8%



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Executive office

Elena Dimushevskva – Executive Director

Silvana Ivanovska – Finance Manager

Ana Avramoska Nushkova – Project Coordinator

Maja Balshikjevska – Project Coordinator

Service providers

Cvetanka Kamcheva Zlateva – House for open housing
Manager/ Social Worker

Rosana Bogatinova – Legal Advisor

Daniela Mitreska – Psychologist



DONORS



ГРАД СКОПЈЕ



QYTETI I SHKUPIT



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British Embassy
Skopje



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