

## Transnational Partner Search 039/2009

<b><i>(Preliminary) Title of proposed project</i></b>	<b>Women Rough Sleepers &amp; Domestic Abuse</b>
<b><i>Call (Reference no., Funding Programme, link to the call text)</i></b>	2009 Calls for Proposals for Action Grants under the Daphne III programme  <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/daphne3/funding_daphne3_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/daphne3/funding_daphne3_en.htm</a>
<b><i>Deadline for submission</i></b>	Expected March-April 2010
<b><i>Deadline for expressions of interest from potential partners</i></b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> November 2009</b>
<b><i>Description of project idea, incl. theme and activities</i></b>	<p><b>Project Background:</b></p> <p>Rough Sleeping may be defined as: <i>People sleeping, or bedding down, in the open air (such as on the streets, or in doorways, parks or bus shelters); people in buildings or other places not designed for habitation (such as barns, sheds, car parks, cars, derelict boats, stations, etc...)</i> (DCLG, 2007)</p> <p>Rough Sleeping is a major issue across European Countries, especially in the current economic climate. However research undertaken in Shrewsbury &amp; Atcham local authority area by the University of Wolverhampton revealed that very little work has been done to understand the circumstances of women rough sleepers. It transpired that this was a 'hidden group' which is hard to reach and engage with. Over 60% of women classed as rough sleeping had suffered some form of domestic abuse and/or sexual violence. Clearly there are also health issues faced by living on the street and the fact that they are a marginalised group who face extreme risk of accelerated death rates, higher physical vulnerabilities, higher risk of sexual assault and issues that are worsened by stereotypes and prejudice.</p> <p>The agencies with which we have engaged with in the statutory sector, faith sectors and voluntary and community sectors understood little about the needs of women rough sleepers and provided no specific services in order to meet their needs and this is a pattern that is reflected across the UK (Kate, M., Singh, P., Southern, L. (2008) Women Rough Sleepers in Shrewsbury &amp; Atcham).</p> <p><b>Project aims:</b></p>

	<p>In partnership with various statutory and voluntary &amp; community sector agencies in the West Midlands region of the UK we wish to develop and contribute to a European funded project that will look in detail at the extent of the issues faced by women rough sleepers who have suffered domestic abuse/sexual violence, increasing the knowledge base in this subject area, capacity building for staff who provide services to women who suffer violence through knowledge transfer and raise the profile of this 'hidden' group.</p> <p><b>Potential Project Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Research into the <b>specific needs</b> of women rough sleepers, especially those who have suffered domestic violence / sexual violence and face other vulnerabilities;</li> <li>▪ Research into European wide <b>best practice</b> in helping and supporting women rough sleepers who have faced violence through effective engagement, empowerment and development of effective policies, strategies, mechanisms and services;</li> <li>▪ Creation of an online database of '<b>what works</b>' in dealing with this problem;</li> <li>▪ Workshops / conferences to <b>share 'cross-cultural' experiences and knowledge</b> in this field to develop effective strategy and policy;</li> <li>▪ <b>Development of guidelines</b> and <b>capacity building</b> for organisations that will assist in effectively engaging with and supporting women rough sleepers in order to effectively meet their specific needs;</li> <li>▪ And through <b>dissemination activities</b> increase understanding and knowledge of this marginalised group of women aimed at the general public, statutory organisations, faith organisations and voluntary and community sectors.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lead Organisation</b></p>	<p>The <b>University of Wolverhampton (UK)</b> will lead on this project hosted by the School of Law, Social Sciences and Communications.</p> <p>The School has undertaken a range of projects in the UK into applied social research into women rough sleepers, homelessness, sexual violence, domestic abuse and related areas and has delivered local, regional and national projects on behalf of central Government, statutory agencies and voluntary &amp; community sectors. The School is delivering a new undergraduate degree in Policing and offers a range of undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses. In particular the School has well established relationships with a wide range of practitioners in law enforcement and offers specialist training. In addition to this the School have worked with organisations who support victims of violence and with victims themselves.</p> <p>The University of Wolverhampton is currently delivering or has successfully delivered a number of EU Projects under FP5, FP6 and FP7 including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ FP5- WISER (ICT based), co-ordinated by the University of</li> </ul>

	<p>Wolverhampton;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ FP5- SHASEA (Environmental sustainability and agriculture in China);</li> <li>▪ FP6- Environment priority- BORASSUS project, coordinated by the University of Wolverhampton;</li> <li>▪ FP6- ICT priority – Critical Events in Evolving Networks (CREEN);</li> <li>▪ FP6- ICT priority- QALL-ME-(Question Answering Learning Technologies in a Multilingual and Multimodal Environment) and</li> <li>▪ The University is currently participating in an FP7- ICT priority – CYBEREMOTIONS project.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Other partners involved</i></b>	<i>To be determined</i>
<b><i>Describe the type of partners you are looking for and their expected roles in the project</i></b>	Universities, NGOs grass roots organisations delivering services, statutory agencies delivering local authority type services to client groups, training organisations, law enforcement agencies, etc.
<b><i>Financial conditions of participation?</i></b>	The European Commission will provide 80% of the total project budget. A maximum of €600,000 is available.
<b><i>Foreseen project duration</i></b>	12 or 24 months
<b><i>Contact</i></b>	<p>Interested organisations are asked to <b>e-mail</b> the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Contact details</li> <li>▪ Information about your organisation and what it does</li> <li>▪ Your experience in this field of work and how you feel you can contribute to this project</li> </ul> <p>This information can be <b>e-mailed</b> to:</p> <p>Sophie Lainé, European Policy Adviser</p> <p><a href="mailto:Sophie.laine@westmidlandsineurope.eu">Sophie.laine@westmidlandsineurope.eu</a></p>