

Portugal

Monitoring Training Report

DIS-CONNECTED:

DISABILITY-BASED CONNECTED

FACILITIES AND PROGRAMMES

FOR PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE

AGAINST WOMEN AND

CHILDREN

101049690- DIS-CONNECTED

Disability-based connected facilities and programmes for prevention of violence against women and children (101049690 – CERV-2021-DAPHNE)

PORTUGAL: Monitoring Training Report

DATE 27.01.2025

FENACERCI



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Information on the monitoring training

The monitoring trainings in the DIS-CONNECTED project are designed for professionals, practitioners, service providers, and supporters to enhance their capacity to prevent, identify early, report, and protect women and children with disabilities from violence. These trainings draw on the Monitoring Methodology, Training Handbook, and Monitoring Toolkit developed under work packages 2 and 3, which have been translated and adapted to the national context and the specific types of services or institutions to be monitored in each country.

The training aims to introduce the framework of international human rights law, highlighting the specific rights of women and children with mental and/or psychosocial disabilities, as well as States' obligations, including freedom from torture or ill-treatment and the right to community living. It also seeks to provide information on the specific forms of abuse faced by these groups, familiarise participants with human rights monitoring methodologies, and equip them with practical guidance for monitoring and preparing for visits to relevant institutions or settings.

The training content includes understanding abuse in institutional settings, legal norms and standards, principles of human rights monitoring, case studies and group work, and best practices for monitoring and evaluation.

Specific information about your event:

The DIS-CONNECTED project Monitoring Training, organised by FENACERCI it was held online (zoom) on **January 14, 2025, from 09:30 to 17:00** and brought together a total of **39 participants** (including organizers, speakers and participants).

During the day, we had 4 presentations by professionals from different areas, with the following agenda:

Welcome and brief introduction to the project

Joaquim Pequicho e Sónia Rodrigues - FENACERCI

Assessment of knowledge prior to the training

Topic 1: Identifying situations of abuse in institutional environments

Ana Lopes – CERCIAG (a)

- ✓ Definition and types of abuse
- ✓ Signs and symptoms of abuse in children and women with disabilities
- ✓ Impact of abuse on victims
- ✓ Interactive exercises (case studies)

- (a) She has a degree in Social Work, a specialization in Justice and Social Reintegration and certifications in Gender Equality and Domestic Violence, Victim Support Technician and Internal Audits. Since 2018, she has been the coordinator of the CERCIAAG Shelter (Águeda), a specific temporary shelter for women victims of violence with disabilities.

Topic 2: Padrões e normas jurídicas

Elisabete Brasil – FEM (b)

- ✓ International human rights framework
- ✓ National legislation and regulations
- ✓ Reporting mechanisms and legal obligations
- ✓ Interactive exercises

- (b) She is a lawyer, researcher and trainer in the field of violence against women and domestic violence, as well as providing technical supervision in this area, both in care facilities and in the reception of women and children. She is an expert for EIGE - European Institute for Gender Equality in the area of Domestic Violence and President of the Board of FEM - Feministas em Movimento - Associação.

Topic 3: Prevenção da Violência no Ciclo de Vida no setor da saúde

Daniela Machado - Unidade Local de Saúde do Algarve (c)

- ✓ Sharing operating models and current practices on violence prevention in the health sector
- ✓ Challenges and opportunities for collaboration between disability organizations and the health sector

- (c) Specialist in Clinical and Health Psychology and Community Psychology by the Portuguese Psychologists' Association, she was Coordinator of the National Program for the Prevention of Violence in the Life Cycle of the Directorate-General of Health (DGS). She is a trainer and has participated in working groups and projects in the area of violence prevention.
She is currently a clinical and health psychologist at the Algarve Local Health Unit.

Topic 4: Presentation of the Monitoring Methodology developed under the DIS-CONNECTED project

Patrícia Neca – FENACERCI (d)

- ✓ DIS-CONNECTED project framework
- ✓ Description of the monitoring methodology proposed as part of the project
- ✓ Final considerations on the importance of monitoring in the context of organizations

- (d) She holds a PhD in Psychology and is a lecturer at the Higher Institute of Social and Political Sciences (ISCSP) of the University of Lisbon, where she is a member of the Disability and Human Rights Observatory (ODDH/ISCSP) and the Interdisciplinary Center for Gender Studies (CIEG). She has been working with Fenacerci since 2023.

Evaluation of post-training knowledge

Closing and feedback



Sónia Rodrigues - FENACERCI

- ✓ Summary of the main points
- ✓ Collection of feedback forms
- ✓ Final considerations

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| How many participants attended | 39 total (34 excluding the organization and speakers) |
| Their general background | <p>Professionals from intellectual disability support organizations (Executive officers, psychologist, social educator, social worker, occupational therapist); project officers; physiotherapist; Victim Support officer; special education teacher; professionals from the Portuguese Social Security; Technical Coordinator of a Center for Victims of Domestic Violence.</p> <p>Apart from the speaker Elisabete Brasil, there were no other legal experts present.</p> |
| Breakdown by age | Information is not available (unfortunately we didn't ask this question on the registration form) |
| Gender | 6 Male + 33 Female |
| Disability | 4 (2 Male + 2 Female) |

Evaluations forms

The training evaluation forms were based on the questions included in the training handbook and submitted on the “FreeOnlineSurveys” app, frequently used by FENACERCI to produce all the surveys. The pre and post training evaluation forms were shared with all the participants in two ways: link and QR Code.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| 1st evaluation form Pre-training | 22 answers in total | https://freeonlinesurveys.com/s/61LSlugm |  |
| 2nd evaluation form Post-training | 27 answers in total | https://freeonlinesurveys.com/s/509ZpNbS |  |

Summary of the pre- and post-training feedback

1st evaluation form: Pre-training

The survey was launched before the training modules began. A total of **22 participants** answered the **11 questions** of the **pre-training form**.

To the question 1 “Legal norms and standards for the protection of women and children in institutions”, 45% answered they had basic knowledge and 36% intermediate knowledge. On the topic of “Signs and symptoms of abuse in women and children with disabilities” (question 2), 55% of those surveyed, indicated having intermediate knowledge.

The topics “Mechanisms for reporting abuse in institutional environments” (question 3) and “Good monitoring and evaluation practices in institutional environments” (question 5) are well understood by the participants.

The majority of participants have basic and intermediate knowledge on “Trauma-informed care practices” (question 4).

When asked about “What are your main expectations of this training?” some participants answered:

- ✓ Acquire tools for prevention and early identification of situations of violence. Take appropriate action in identified and/or reported situations;
- ✓ That more comprehensive and functional methodologies be created.

A few participants informed they received training on these topics (eg. Training on a European programme to frontline professionals; Training on risk signaling and prevention of gender-based violence against girls and women with intellectual disabilities; The organisation has been investing in training to empower teams).

A total of 64% feel confident in their ability to identify and react to situations of abuse in institutional environments.

When it comes to describe their previous experience in monitoring or evaluating services for women and children with disabilities, one person indicated having accompanied one case to hospital; another said since the organisation has a specific response in this area, its practices meet the needs and expectations of the people they support; and another highlighted that her/his organisation has annual monitoring intervention carried out with the supported people.

In the question: “Identify the specific challenges you have faced or expect to face in this role”, the answers were “*The situation was analysed at the hospital and at the time (it was many years ago) I felt that I lacked more knowledge on the subject in order to be able to better support the person.*” Liaising with services such as the Public Prosecutor's Office and the change of mentality of the police forces, that are not trained to deal with people with intellectual disabilities, were also comments made as challenges.

Regarding expectations for this training, the question asked about additional topics or issues the participants would like to see covered (question 11): legislation; how to get victims of violence with disabilities to reach support services and how they should be supported.

2nd evaluation form: Post-training

The second survey was launched after the training was over. A total of **27 participants** answered the **11 questions** of the **post-training form**.

Making a relative comparison between the answers to the first 5 questions in the first survey and in the second, the participants felt they had better knowledge, in relation to the following topics: “Legal norms and standards for the protection of women and children in institutions”; “Signs and symptoms of abuse in women and children with disabilities”; “Mechanisms for reporting abuse in institutional environment”; “Trauma-informed care practices”; “Good monitoring and evaluation practices in institutional environments”.

The participants felt more confident in their ability to identify and respond to situations of abuse in institutional settings (67% feel confident and 27% very confident).

Out of 27 answers to the post-training evaluation form, 59% answered the training met their expectations.

When asked about what the most useful aspects of this training were, the participants answered:

- ✓ The legal part.
- ✓ The information about the various projects in the area, as well as the associated legal information. Taking greater ownership of this information allows them to act assertively and effectively in preventing or dealing with situations of violence should the need arise.
- ✓ Sharing good practices between institutions to improve intervention in the field of violence.
- ✓ All the aspects covered were very important and useful.

In terms of what could be improved the participants referred:

- ✓ More interaction.
- ✓ Promote greater reflection on practical examples and ways of acting.
- ✓ New training courses on the subject to deepen technical knowledge.
- ✓ A face-to-face debate could be an improvement for the future

The participants also agree that the content was useful to apply it on their professional activity and to identify and prevent situations of abuse and violence.

“We already have defined procedures for identifying and intervening in situations of violence, but all procedures can be improved, so training and information are always an asset so that we can work on continuously improving procedures.”

“Yes, the training was very important for clarifying and deepening some aspects inherent to intervention in the area of violence.”

To the question “Is there additional training or resources that can support you in your work?” answers were positive and one in particular that highlighted having training of victim support.

The persons with Intellectual Disabilities that participated at the training, are very active in their Organisations, 3 of which are part of the self-representatives group. All of them said informally that violence prevention is very important and that this topic is often discussed at their meetings.

After the training concluded, the project team shared the EU survey link, allowing participants to provide their feedback on the platform.

Annexes

Please find the PPTs, list of participants, the agenda and the feedback forms in this folder: [D3.2 Training of criminal justice and support professionals](#)

Violência - conceito

VIOÊNCIA (OMS)

Uso de força física ou poder, em ameaça ou na prática, contra si próprio, outra pessoa ou contra um grupo ou comunidade que resulte ou possa resultar em sofrimento, morte, dano psicológico, desenvolvimento prejudicado ou privação.

Violência juvenil
Violência institucional
Violência doméstica
Violência de gênero
Violência no trabalho
Crimes de ódio

DIS-CONNECTE
Relatório Nacional

Conclusões...

Vítimas com deficiência consideradas como "invisíveis", porque se assume que, estando sujeitas a violência, geralmente **não a denunciam (ou reportada por terceiros)**.

DIS-CONNECTE: SERVIÇOS E PROGRAMAS PARA A PREVENÇÃO DA VIOLÊNCIA CONTRA MULHERES E CRIANÇAS COM DEFICIÊNCIA INTELECTUAL E PSICOSSOCIAL EM PORTUGAL

Metodologia de Monitorizaçã

▪ Ferramentas para identificar e prevenir a exploração, a violência e o abuso...

▪ PRINCÍPIOS orientadores....

- Proteger entrevistados de retaliações por falarem com os elementos das equipas de monitorização
- Acompanhamento regular das organizações
- Independência de entidades governamentais
- Cruzar informações (entrevistas, observação, análise de documentos) ...
- Assegurar a confidencialidade de informação recolhida

