



Health, Justice and Effective Protection for Women and Girls Victims of Domestic Violence and Gender-Based Violence in the Municipalities of Tirana and Kukës



Institute for Strategic Development (ISD)



Location

Tirana and Kukës



Implementing Period

August 2025 - July 2026



Total Budget

11,500 EUR



Funded by
the European Union



Gender Alliance for Development Center
Qendra Aleanca Gjimore për Zhvillim





THE CHALLENGE

Women and girls affected by domestic violence and gender-based violence (GBV), particularly those from marginalized communities, continue to face barriers in accessing protection mechanisms, support services and effective institutional responses. While legal and institutional frameworks are in place, challenges remain in coordination among local actors, public awareness of available services, and trust in reporting and referral mechanisms.



OUR RESPONSE

The project strengthened local coordinated referral mechanisms through multi-stakeholder capacity-building workshops, community awareness sessions and a targeted communication campaign. By combining institutional dialogue, community outreach and public awareness efforts, the project contributed to improving knowledge of rights, reporting procedures and available protection services while reinforcing institutional accountability.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



Direct Reach



131

direct beneficiaries reached through project activities in Tirana and Kukës.



123

women and girls (94%) directly engaged through institutional workshops and community information sessions.



8

men participated in institutional dialogue and awareness-raising activities



Representatives of municipalities, primary health care institutions, Coordinated Referral Mechanisms (CRM/MKR) and civil society organisations actively participated in project activities.



Capacity Building



2 multi-stakeholder capacity-building workshops

were organised with members of the CRM/MKR, municipal representatives, primary health care institutions and civil society organisations in Tirana and Kukës.



64 institutional representatives and civil society actors

strengthened their knowledge and practical understanding of the legal framework, referral procedures and coordinated responses to domestic and gender-based violence.



The workshops created a platform for inter-institutional dialogue

exchange of experiences and identification of practical measures to strengthen local referral and protection mechanisms.



2 community information sessions

were conducted with women and girls, with practical information on legal rights, reporting mechanisms and available support services.



Increased awareness among community members

regarding access to protection measures, institutional responsibilities and referral pathways for survivors of violence.



Increased awareness among community members

including women in difficult socio-economic conditions and members of minority communities, were successfully reached through targeted outreach efforts.



RESEARCH & EVIDENCE

- Institutional and community-level discussions facilitated the identification of operational challenges affecting referral and protection mechanisms at local level.
- Practical recommendations were generated through structured dialogue and participatory group work involving institutional and community stakeholders.
- Key lessons learned and opportunities for improving local coordination, accountability and service delivery were documented and discussed among relevant actors.



ADVOCACY & POLICY IMPACT

- Strengthened cooperation and dialogue among local institutions, health services, municipal structures, Coordinated Referral Mechanisms and civil society organisations.
- Increased attention to institutional accountability and coordinated responses to domestic and gender-based violence within local protection systems.
- Contributed to reinforcing local ownership and commitment towards improving referral pathways and survivor-centred support services.



AWARENESS RAISING & COMMUNICATION



7

Video messages



2

Animated videos



3

Infographics

- Seven awareness-raising video messages were produced and disseminated as part of the HERise campaign, promoting reporting, institutional accountability and community solidarity.
- Two animated educational videos were developed to explain reporting and referral mechanisms in an accessible and user-friendly format.
- Three awareness-raising infographics were developed to provide practical information on victims' rights, institutional responsibilities and referral procedures.
- The communication campaign contributed to strengthening public understanding of available protection mechanisms, survivors' rights and the importance of coordinated institutional responses to gender-based violence.
- Digital communication activities expanded outreach beyond the project's direct beneficiaries, generating significant online engagement and increasing the visibility of project messages among broader audiences.



IMPACT STORIES

“

The workshop provided a valuable opportunity to discuss practical challenges, exchange experiences with other institutions and strengthen cooperation within the referral mechanism. It reinforced the importance of coordinated action in supporting survivors of violence.

— Member of the Coordinated Referral Mechanism, Kukës



“

Before attending the session, I was not aware of all the services and protection mechanisms available for women experiencing violence. The discussion helped me better understand where to seek support and how institutions can help. I now feel more informed and confident to seek assistance if needed.

— Female participant, Community Information Session, Tirana



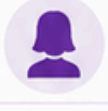


RESULTS AT A GLANCE



131

Direct beneficiaries reached



123

Women and girls reached



2

Capacity-building workshops conducted



64

Participants in institutional workshops



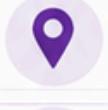
2

Community information sessions conducted



67

Participants in community sessions



2

Municipalities covered



2

CRM/MKR engaged



7

Awareness-raising videos produced



2

Animated educational videos developed



3

Awareness-raising infographics developed



20+

Institutions and organisations engaged



LESSONS LEARNED

1



Multi-stakeholder dialogue proved highly effective in strengthening coordination and accountability among institutions involved in GBV prevention and response.

2



Community awareness activities are most impactful when they provide practical information on rights, reporting mechanisms and available support services.

3



Testimonial-based and expert-led communication products generated stronger public engagement and helped promote reporting, reduce stigma and reinforce institutional responsibility.

4



Sustained cooperation between institutions, civil society and communities remains essential for strengthening local protection mechanisms and improving access to services for survivors of violence.



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