



FINAL REPORT

OCTOBER 2002

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Title
Final Report

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c/o AMOC/DHV

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Many organisations, projects and individuals have contributed to the developments of the ENMP in the past two years.

First of all, thanks to the enthusiastic members of the ENMP, who collaborated and provided knowledge, useful remarks and comments. They gathered information, produced reports and articles, contacted other agencies and contributed to the different network activities. A complete list of members can be found in the appendix of this report.

Invaluable work and support is given by the Regional co-ordinators, Panagiotis Damaskos (South), Rene Akeret (Central Europe) and Justin Gaffney (North). Their input and motivation has been an essential part of the network and they fulfilled their role to our entire satisfaction.

The local network in Amsterdam, the National Network in the Netherlands as well as the German Network (AKSD) provided practical support and gave important and useful suggestions for the further development of the project.

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Finally, gratitudes go to the European Commission, the Dutch Aids Fund in Amsterdam and the big spender Foundation in Hamburg for providing financial support.

Amsterdam, October 2002

Katrin Schiffer,
European co-ordinator

1. Preface

In 1997 the AMOC/DHV Foundation launched the European Network Male Prostitution (ENMP), with partners from 19 different countries, financed by the European Commission and the Dutch Aids Fund. The ENMP started its second phase in November 2000. The network now consists of eighteen different agencies, engaged in the fields of HIV and STI prevention with male sex workers.

OUR BACKGROUND

- In the majority of countries, male sex work is a non-issue, ignored by policy makers, funders and service providers. Influencing factors such as migration (especially from Eastern Europe) and mobility make it increasingly necessary to exchange information across the borders and to develop specific strategies and services, which target the specific needs of male sex workers.
- Male sex workers are confronted with specific problems and various forms of discrimination. The taboo on homosexuality and prostitution leads to further marginalisation.
- Experience shows that specific service provision for male sex workers is the exception rather than the rule. Many services have contact with male sex workers, but do not recognise their specific needs or even acknowledge their identity as sex workers. The perceived small number of boys and young men selling sex to men, and the taboos on male sex work, combined with the difficulties of receiving funding, discourage agencies from developing specific services in this field. Therefore agencies need to be informed in order to become more aware of the needs of male sex workers, who might use their services as well.
- Each country and region has specific issues and problems unique to its location. Prostitution itself, as well as service provision, is influenced by the socio-economic context of each country. This makes it necessary to develop specific methods, focusing on the national and local needs.
- Networking needs to be developed at national and regional levels in order to stimulate mutual support and improve service provision for male sex workers.
- Male sex workers are a heterogeneous group with different needs. Agencies need to develop different services in order to reach different groups. Cooperation at local and national levels is required and other services should be involved and informed as well (e.g. gay organisations, services for people living with HIV and AIDS, services for young people, drug users, homeless people, etc.).

OUR AIMS

- Further development of the National, Regional and European Network within the field of male sex work
- Development of a European platform of knowledge and expertise within the field of male sex work
- Development of specific HIV and STI prevention strategies and models of good practice, conforming to the needs and lifestyle of the target group
- Sensitising service providers, policy makers and funders concerning male sex work (at National, Regional and European levels)
- Development and support of better access to medical and social services for male sex workers
- Development of specific activities at National, Regional and European levels
- Development of political statements for service providers and National and European governments
- Development and implementation of 'model' projects and activities

HOW IS THE NETWORK ORGANISED?

The division into Regional groups is one of the most important changes within the Network. By changing the structure of the Network, we increased the involvement and the commitment of each individual partner. The similarities between the countries created intensive and effective forms of cooperation and mutual support within the regions. Each group developed specific working plans, based on the specific needs within their region:

Southern Europe

Regional coordination: Panagiotis Damaskos (Greece)

Participants: Spain, Portugal, France, Italy

Central and Eastern Europe

Regional coordination: Rene Akeret (Switzerland)

Participants: Austria, Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands, Romania and Poland

Northern Europe

Regional coordination: Justin Gaffney (United Kingdom)

Participants: Ireland, Denmark, Norway, Finland and Sweden

2. Objectives

HIV AND STI PREVENTION

The development, implementation and evaluation of appropriate HIV and STI prevention strategies are important objectives of the ENMP. We are aware of the fact that we are dealing with different groups in different living and working conditions and with different needs. Intervention strategies should therefore be planned thoroughly and be as specific as possible.

Specific and effective

We advise service providers to carry out a needs assessment before implementing new strategies, focusing on the following issues:

- Situation of the target group
- Health behaviour/health risks
- Environment (the scene, clients, society)
- Funding possibilities
- Partners/networks

The following questions need to be answered

- What is the health problem you want to tackle?
- What is your target group? – be specific!
- What is causing the health problem?
 - behavioural determinants (skills, attitudes, knowledge)
 - social conditions
- What are your targets?

We advise using the so-called S.M.A.R.T. formula¹, whilst developing specific interventions for the target group

- “Specific – Make clear what exactly you are doing
- Measurable – Define beforehand what you aim to achieve
- Ambitious – Explain that your project will have a certain value
- Realistic – Do not promise to change the whole world
- Time-related – Define clear framework with a start and end”²

Different approaches

The different projects within the ENMP are experienced in different areas and offer services to different groups. As there are only a few service providers which offer specific services to male sex workers, we have a wide range of experience. Our partners work in the field of:

- Support to male and female sex workers
- Support to drug users
- HIV and STI prevention and sexual health
- Specific services for gay men
- Support to people living with HIV and Aids
- Public health

In our meetings and publications, we gather and discuss different models and strategies. This means that we can benefit from each others’ experience and work with new strategies which have already been implemented successfully in other cities.

Integrative approach

Safe sex behaviour is influenced by the following factors:

- Knowledge and attitude
- Individual situation (living and working conditions)
- Personal skills

Prevention workers should make sure that all these factors form part of an intervention. It is not enough to provide hard information on HIV, STI and the ways of transmission. We need to be aware that living and working conditions, for example illegality, homelessness or drug use, have a strong influence on the (safe sex) behaviour of male sex workers. A successful prevention strategy is also based on the skills of the individual, e.g., negotiation skills, which stimulate their sex partners to use condoms.

1) Report: Training for agencies considering, planning or implementing services for male sex workers, SMART and PREFFI Model, ENMP 2002

2) Bröring & Pierpoint, Male Prostitution in Europe – Training Guide for health and social workers who deal with (foreign) male sex workers, European Project AIDS & Mobility, 1998

NETWORKING

Migration and mobility have a strong influence on local and national prostitution scenes. This applies to both female and male sex work. As a consequence, we need to be aware of the socio-economic infrastructure and policy in other countries. Factors such as poverty or repression in one country might lead to an increasing number of migrants and sex workers in another country. Exchange of information and experience and networking will help to create an overview and better understanding regarding developments in the field.

In the past years, we repeatedly stressed the need for exchange between the different agencies in the field of male sex work. The following levels need to be distinguished:

■ *Networking at local level*

It is essential to develop a local network of agencies, which are willing to provide services to male sex workers. This particularly applies to cities with no specific service provision for MSW. Common activities and services can be planned and practical support can be offered.

■ *Networking at national level*

A national network is contributing to the idea of a national platform. Service providers from all over the country come together and work on the development and improvement of services. Common strategies and activities are being developed and the network can formulate ideas, statements and demands and present them as a platform to politicians and policy makers.

■ *Networking at regional level*

Networking at national level is not always sufficient and international networking is not always useful. Neighbouring countries can share many different issues, as they have a similar background, similar problems and a similar language.

The ENMP started work in 3 regional groups in 2000. The network itself became too big to guarantee an effective exchange, responding to the needs of the different partners. The model of regional networking seemed to work well, as was emphasised by all partner organisations during the last evaluation.

In addition, we have other examples where national networking expanded towards regional networking. For many years, the national network of MSW projects in Germany (AKSD) has included projects from Switzerland, Austria and the Netherlands. The national network in the Netherlands started to invite Flemish projects in Belgium and became the Dutch-Flemish network.

■ *Networking at international level*

Due to the increasing number of migrants, it became increasingly important to have a broader exchange between different countries within Europe. The ENMP enables 19 different countries to share information and knowledge, to develop and implement new strategies and interventions and to contribute to the idea of a platform of expertise, supporting agencies and male sex workers within Europe.

PRACTICAL SUPPORT

Male sex work is a non-issue in most countries. Therefore, there are only a small number of agencies, which has experience in providing services to male sex workers. The ENMP provided practical support to:

- Agencies which are willing to start activities and intervention in the field of male sex work, but need support and training in doing so.
- Agencies which already provide services to male sex workers (e.g. projects for youngsters, drug users...), without identifying them as such, not being aware of the specific needs of the group.
- Agencies which want to start a specific activity (e.g. peer support) for the target group and look for support and advice from other projects, and which already have built up experience in this specific area.
- Agencies which are fairly experienced, but are in need of professional exchange with other agencies in order to improve existing service provision.

Some of the network partners are more experienced than others and can provide a wide range of services to male sex workers. Others are just starting and trying to receive funding for the development of local activities. During the meeting, we had fruitful discussions which were strongly based on the equality of each participant. The exchange during the meetings, in combination with bilateral visits, contributed to the idea of mutual support and stimulated cooperation on a practical level.

Moreover we are frequently approached by our indirect network (agencies from outside the network) for sup-

port, advice and training. This part has become increasingly important over the last two years and we will start specific activities next year, which will guarantee the stronger involvement of these agencies and a broader impact of the network.

DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION

Due to the increasing need for information, we decided to gather and summarise different kinds of experiences and present them to a broader public. We therefore developed and distributed the following information materials:

- **Newsletter (4 editions in 2 years)**
With updated information regarding the ENMP and contributions from network members and other fellow organisations.
- **Information leaflet**
With brief information regarding the background and the objectives
- **Website: www.enmp.org or www.maleprostitution.org**
With updated information, country reports from each country, contact addresses in each country, publications in pdf-files, possibility to subscribe to the ENMP mailing list and links
- **Manual 'Tips, tricks and models of good practice for service providers considering planning or implementing services for male sex workers'**
With contributions from network partners and other colleagues
- **Interim and Final Report**
Progress Report on the developments of the network

Besides these materials, we were invited to several international and national conferences. We provided oral and poster presentations and the facilitation of training workshops. Last but not least, we promoted and contributed to national and local initiatives, e.g. by supporting the organisation of national conferences and symposia on the issue of male sex work.

MISSION STATEMENT

Due to the increasing impact of the network in the past years, it was necessary to develop a clear point of view regarding the following issues:

- **Civil rights and legal issues**
The following questions need to be discussed:
Which prostitution policy does the ENMP stand for? Is prostitution a profession and how would legalization affect the working and living conditions of sex workers? Is prostitution a profession which needs to be regulated or does regulation limit the rights of sex workers?
- **Migration/human rights**
Focus on the specific situation and needs of migrant male sex workers. How do migrant male sex workers influence the local, national and European sex industry? What rights do migrant sex workers need? What role do cultural mediators play within the practical work?
- **Service provision**
The following questions need to be discussed:
Do service providers offer appropriate services, which meet the needs of male sex workers, or do they mainly follow their own agenda (e.g. public health versus individual needs)? What role should peers play within organizations offering services for male sex workers? To what extent can and should service providers promote the interests of male sex workers?

During the last General Meeting in Amsterdam, we started to discuss the 3 issues in different working groups. Due to the lack of time, we agreed to continue this process at the next meeting. In the end, we hope that each working group will be able to present a mission statement, which will be accepted by all network members.

3. Methods

GENERAL MEETINGS

All partners of the ENMP came together in two General Meetings, one at the very beginning of the project and one at the end. The General Meetings gave the opportunity to:

- Fix and fine tune general and regional working plans
- Exchange information with all partners
- Discuss new developments and policies at a broader European level
- Evaluate activities, interventions and developments within the whole network

1st General Meeting³

The 1st General Meeting took place in Amsterdam from 1 - 3 February 2001. The meeting focused strongly on the development of the regional groups. The programme of the meeting followed the following structure:

- Introduction of the participants
The participants were requested to introduce themselves, in accordance with the first part of the completed questionnaire. This made it easier to compare the different projects with each other and enabled us to limit the time of the introduction round.

This part of the meeting should be considered as quite important. The participants had the opportunity to inform each other about the practical work within their project and had time to get to know each other in a quite informal way.

- Specific presentations
Specific issues were presented to the network, in order to inform them about specific developments and activities in the different countries. The following issues were presented:
 - Gerhard Schlagheck:
The German Network for Male Sex Work Projects and its developments
 - Justin Gaffney:
Male Sex Workers Meeting in Budapest
 - Eberhard Schatz
AC Company – A European Network for mobile drug users
 - Jan Visser
Legalisation of prostitution in the Netherlands
- Presentation of the ENMP 2000 and the General Working Plan
The European coordinator presented the outlines, aims and the structure of the renewed project. The general working plan was discussed and approved. It was agreed that the working plan will be implemented within the different regional groups and will be specified by the regional working plan and the specific activities.
- Meeting within the regional groups
The main points within the meeting were discussed within the regional groups. Each group followed the same structure, which was discussed beforehand with the 3 Regional coordinators. The regional groups followed the following structure:
Interview of each participant in accordance with the second part of the completed questionnaire (service provision, aims of the project, ways of funding, networking, needs, expectations)
Inventory of specific issues (problems, needs, ways of cooperation, methods, planned activities)
- Reports from the different Regional groups
The outcomes of each group were presented afterwards within the plenary. Each Regional co-ordinator summarised the information and discussion within a common structure. This made it easier to compare the situation between the different Regional groups.
- Evaluation
The evaluation of the first General Meeting brought some fairly positive reactions. The participants stressed the need for further cooperation with Eastern European countries. The meeting itself was inspiring. The possibility to share knowledge was considered to be supportive for the practical work. The development of common ideas and activities were described as one of the main aims of the network.

The involvement of new partners was approved by all participants. The newcomers gave new input and their contribution was seen as very positive and inspiring.

The division into the regional groups was viewed as very effective and successful. All participants stressed the need for further cooperation within these groups. The development of specific working plans and activities were considered particularly important.

2nd General Meeting⁴

The 2nd General Meeting was held in Amsterdam from 5 - 8 September 2002. It was used to exchange information within the whole network and to evaluate the activities of the network over the past two years.

The meeting was structured as followed:

- Introduction of the participants
 - All participants introduced themselves and gave a short summary about the developments within their country.
- Specific presentations
 - Cees van der Meer:
 - Male sex worker in Amsterdam – the view of local government
 - Ronald Berends
 - Male sex work in the context of HIV prevention
 - Rene Akeret, Justin Gaffney and Panagiotis Damaskos
 - Reports from the regional coordinators
 - Marieke van Doorninck
 - Prostitution in the Netherlands
 - Justin Gaffney
 - Pilot survey
 - Pjer Vriens & Bart Vandenbrouke
 - Internet Survey
 - Frank ten Horn
 - Website ENMP
- Report from the European Coordinator
 - Update regarding current activities
 - Evaluation of the regional groups
 - Sex workers involvement
 - Problems and obstacles within the ENMP
 - New project proposal
 - Future perspectives after 2003
- Working groups
 - In the past two years, it became obvious that the ENMP needs to develop a mission statement, in which the network lays down its ideas and principles regarding male sex work. To pinpoint these ideas, the network needs to discuss statements. We agreed to use part of the meeting in Amsterdam to start this process and we organised three workshops on different issues:
 - Working group 1: Civil right and legal issues. Facilitator: Marieke van Doorninck, policy worker at the Mr A. de Graaf Stichting in Amsterdam.
 - Working group 2: Migration/Human right Issues. Facilitator: Nel van Beelen, policy worker at the European Project AIDS & Mobility
 - Working group 3: Service provision. Facilitator: Pjer Vriens, outreach worker for male sex workers at Municipal Health Centre in Amsterdam

We knew that the workshops would stimulate discussion and raise a lot of questions. The three facilitators prepared inspiring workshops and the outcomes created a good basis for our future work. Due to the lack of time, we will continue the workshops and we are happy that all the facilitators agreed to supervise this process during the next General Meeting.

- Evaluation
 - All participants evaluated the network and gave their opinion on the following issues:
 - Impact of the network for project members

4) K. Schiffer, *Report of the 2nd General Meeting of the European Network Male Prostitution, ENMP, 2002*

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- Impact for the network for non-members
 - Communication
 - Structure of the network
 - Issues and activities of the network
 - Organisation and leadership
 - Problems and obstacles
 - Future wishes and ideas
 - Last General Meeting

REGIONAL MEETINGS

The division into regional groups was one of the most important changes within the network. Each group developed specific working plans, based on the specific needs within the region.

The network was divided as followed:

Southern Europe

Regional coordination: Greece

Participants: Spain, Portugal, France, Italy

Central- and Eastern Europe

Regional coordination: Switzerland

Participants: Austria, Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands, Romania, Poland, Bulgaria

Northern Europe

Regional coordination: United Kingdom

Participants: Ireland, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden

Central and Eastern European group

The Central and Eastern European region can be divided as followed:

- Western countries (e.g. Germany, Switzerland, Belgium and the Netherlands):
 - Quite specific services for the group of male sex workers.
 - Migrants from Central and Eastern Europe with different backgrounds and specific needs
- Eastern countries, like Poland, Romania and Bulgaria:
 - No structural and specific services at the moment
 - Need in support and training

Besides these major differences, the group identified common key issues, which are discussed by using and learning from each others' knowledge and experience:

- Exclusion of male sex workers (e.g. lack of access to medical services)
- New forms of prostitution (Internet) - development of new intervention strategies

South European group

Male sex work is identified as an issue, but France and Spain (with one MSW Project) are the only countries offering specific services to male sex workers. However, some countries might be able to develop services in the near future. As there is a lack of experience and knowledge in this area, training and networking at national and local levels needs to be supported and developed.

North European group

All countries do have services for sex workers and quite well developed health services, which can also be accessed by male sex workers. The socio-economic infrastructure within these countries is satisfactory, but does not always meet the specific needs of male sex workers. This applies especially to the Scandinavian countries, in which the term prostitution is indissolubly connected with the emancipation of or violence against women.

Besides these general findings, the northern region agreed to focus on the following key issues:

- Networking
- Advice and support
- Youth prostitution

The regional groups carried out different activities (Internet Survey, Training, Needs Assessment,...) and discussed various issues important to the region. The members of the network were familiar with this new structure and the overall evaluation was positive:

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- Development of regional groups led to a more specific approach and to effective cooperation within the regions
 - Increasing effectiveness, impact and practical relevance
 - Increasing responsibility and contribution of each participant
 - Development of a 'regional group feeling' and an increasing commitment towards the other participants within the group

Some group members mentioned the lack of exchange at a broader European level (between the regional groups). It was therefore important to meet all network members during the two General Meetings.

COORDINATION MEETING

Two coordination meetings were held, in which the three regional coordinators and the European coordinator came together to discuss recent developments and fine-tune the different activities of the network and the regional groups.

Both meetings were very important as they guaranteed the exchange and mutual support between the regional groups.

BILATERAL VISITS

The partners of the ENMP could organise a bilateral visit to other partners in the network. The experience of the last project phase has already shown that this kind of exchange is highly appreciated by the network members, as it gives them the opportunity to experience other realities and ways of working.

PRESENTATION OF THE ENMP

The ENMP was presented during a number of European and national conferences, which gave us the opportunity to discuss the issue of male sex work in a broader context. Furthermore we were able to establish useful contacts with agencies considering, planning or already implementing services for male sex workers. Meanwhile the ENMP is seen as a platform of expertise in the field of male sex work. Agencies are contacting us for information or advice in the further development of their services. Moreover we have often been approached by male sex workers requesting information and support, which we referred directly to the national coordinators in question.

In this context we have to stress the meaning of our website (www.enmp.org and www.maleprostitution.org), which has been visited regularly by interested parties. We have received many positive responses and requests for subscriptions to our mailing list.

Our newsletter has been distributed by post, e-mails and is available as a PDF-file through our website. We produced 4 editions in all and the experience showed that the newsletter is a very useful medium to keep a broader network informed about the developments of the network and male prostitution in general.

NETWORKING

Networking is an essential issue within the ENMP. We promote and stimulate networking at different levels:

Networking within the ENMP

Due to the exchange and cooperation within the ENMP, it was possible to establish several bilateral cooperation contacts (e.g. between Germany and Poland, Spain and Portugal). These contacts were often broadened by organising an exchange visit and by planning specific actions.

Networking at regional level

The regional group discussed and worked on specific issues which were relevant to the different partners. Furthermore activities were planned and implemented.

Networking at national level

The ENMP has promoted national networking from the very start. A number of countries have established a national network for male sex work (e.g. Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, The Netherlands, Spain), while others have other forms of exchange (e.g. Nordic network between Sweden, Finland, Norway, Denmark).

Networking with other European network projects

We were able to establish intensive cooperation with other European networks in recent years (e.g. EUROPAP, TAMPEP, Aids & Mobility,...):

Together with EUROPAP we organised the 'European Conference on Sex Work and Health in a Changing Europe' in January 2002, which proved to be a successful way of cooperation.⁵ Our colleague George Bröring

5) For detailed information see chapter 5: Network activities in this Manual or contact the website of EUROPAP: <http://www.europap.net>

(European Project Aids & Mobility) and Wim Zuilhof (Schorer Stichting, Amsterdam) facilitated the training for service providers which we organised in Southern Europe⁶. Last but not least, we continued our practical cooperation with our Polish colleague, Hanka Mongard, from TAMPEP in Amsterdam. We do outreach work in some hustler bars in Amsterdam and her support makes it easier for us to keep in touch with the Polish group of male sex workers⁷.

Involvement of the indirect network

Over the past two years we saw the increasing involvement of other projects and colleagues. We invited local representatives and associated projects to our network meetings. We organised a training course in Southern Europe, which was attended by a group of approximately 20 people, 15 of whom were not directly linked to the network (no network partners).

Furthermore we have frequently been contacted by other agencies with requests for support and advice. In the coming year we will focus on the stronger involvement of these agencies which will also lead to an increasing impact of the ENMP.

4. Regional Reports

NORTHERN EUROPEAN REGION

The Northern Regional group of the ENMP held its final regional meeting during the last General Meeting of the Network in Amsterdam on 6 September 2002. This meeting was used to reflect on the activities of the region in the past two years, establish a timeframe in which to complete the region's work programme and identify work to be continued or new areas of work for the extra year's funding for the Network.

Present

Justin Gaffney (JG)	United Kingdom	Regional Coordinator
Claus Lautrup (CL)	Denmark	National Coordinator
Minna Huovinen (MH)	Iceland	National Coordinator
Mick Quinlan (MQ)	Ireland	National Coordinator
Niklas Eriksson (NE)	Sweden	National Coordinator

Apologies

Liv Jessen (LJ)	Norway	National Coordinator
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Outcomes

Contributions towards the developing ENMP Manual of Good Practice Guidelines:

- JG – guidelines for outreach with men who sell sex; CL – Youth Prostitution (will include the Danish attitude towards prostitution in general); NE – Glossary of terms related to male sex work; and MQ – Establishing a national network
- Database on research – articles (English text only) to JG by 28.09.2002, mid October ready for inclusion on the website
- Survey
- Involvement of male sex workers – pursue funding for establishing sex worker network

What worked well

- Smaller groups, easier to link to local activities (e.g. regional meetings often linked to national events)
- More in-depth discussions
- Developed regional identity
- Better division of labour amongst the wider network (regional groups took lead on specific issues)
- Support from partners with male sex worker specific (MSW) projects for the partners without specific projects – raises the issues, helps to sensitise the issue
- Enriched by partners' different theoretical approaches to the phenomenon of male sex work
- Each partner brings different skills/knowledge base (e.g. health, social work, policy, etc.), which create a more representative regional group

Problems

- Loose sight of some of the different cultural issues because other network partners (e.g. southern countries) not included

-
- Activities focused around meetings, big gap between meetings due to other commitments, meaning national (and regional) coordinators let ENMP slip from their agendas, deadlines never met!
 - Not sure that the regional groups are appropriate. Are groupings correct? Some northern countries (those without services/political support for the development of services, such as Sweden) are more similar to southern countries

In general it was felt that the regional groups within the Network had worked very well, and all partners agreed to continue the final year of the existing Network within this structural framework.

Future Activities

- Regional meeting/Conference – Stockholm 25 April 2003 (Friday)
 - 'Regulation, unionisation and control – male sex work in context within Northern Europe'
 - Speakers: Swedish model of criminalisation of sex workers customers; organisation of sex workers in unions; sex worker activist; migration issue (Spain); Dutch policies – full spectrum of opinions (?Marieke van Doorninck)
 - Format: sex worker (or ex-sex worker) presents with professional, first day or morning
 - Small workshops on subsequent days or afternoon, facilitated by national coordinators, with ground rules

ACTION - Start to book venue (NE) and seek national funding to support conference; start to book speakers (JG); think about participants to be funded by regional (all).

Next General Meeting (Jan 03) to plan practical elements of meeting, title for workshops, who will facilitate which workshop, etc.

Research database – complete database entry and link to ENMP website

- ACTION – all partners to send articles to Justin by 28.09.2002, data entry complete end of October 2002
- Sex worker meeting – Northern Region to organise, but pan Network participation. Using some of the previous sex work participants (from Budapest Seminar), training model as developed in Budapest.
- ACTION – JG & Ralph Gion Fröhlich to seek funding from UNAIDS and EYF. Once secured, practical elements of organising training (selection of participants, training venue, etc., to be organised).
- ENMP website – need to update country reports, and start to develop regional news pages.
- ACTION – all partners to update country reports and email to JG by end of October, include useful web-links for professionals and MSW within own country. Justin to liaise with Frank re: update in November 2002

Next meeting of the Northern Regional Group will be during the next General Meeting in Amsterdam, in January 2003.

CENTRAL EUROPEAN REGION

1st Regional meeting: 1 to 4 February 2001 in Hamburg/Germany

2nd Regional meeting: 13 to 16 September 2001 in Bucharest/Romania

3rd Regional meeting: 31 January to 3 February 2002 in Brussels/Belgium

Developments

Despite some personal changes for some members, our group continued to work very efficiently together. During the whole period the group dynamic was very good and commitment was very high. The feedback after every meeting clearly showed the importance and need for exchanging information about local and national developments in the field of male sex work at an international level. The evaluation showed a high acceptance of the European and regional coordinators and their (preparation) work.

All meetings were very well organised by the local organisations and the regional coordinator. We very much appreciated the opportunity to see the relevant local projects during our meetings. It gave us a good idea about local conditions and settings. Each country carried out its "homework" well from one meeting to the other, even under sometimes difficult (personal or economic) situations. This made it possible to make a great deal of progress on the specific topics during the regional meetings.

1st meeting

In the first meeting we studied the specific data our group wants to collect in the international survey. We cleared many points of the questionnaire. We also decided on our contributions to the 1st edition of the newsletter and the website of the ENMP.

We worked on three major topics:

- Taboo and stigmas of male sex work
- Mobility and migration of male sex workers
- New ways of prostitution (Internet)

Taboo and stigmas

Exchange was productive and intensive and a specific working plan was developed. There are still great regional differences concerning pictures, "ideologies" and cultural behaviour. However, common issues were the marginalisation of male sex workers in all societies and the taboo of male sex work and homosexuality, which also may lead to significant problems finding enough financial resources in their country.

Mobility and migration of male sex workers

Gathering information about the countries of origin of working boys in every country and their organisation was the first step of this topic. The differences between the countries are enormous although there is clear evidence that the number of boys from Eastern countries working in Western Europe is increasing very fast. There has been no evidence of organised trafficking of boys. Details of the results can be looked up in the minutes of this meeting.

We included the "difficult to reach groups" in our discussion and shared experience and models of good practice.

Internet survey

We discovered that the number of boys working on the Internet is increasing rapidly. On the other hand, there is very little data available. Another factor is that most service providers did not yet have any working experience with that group or have any adequate data about them. All the members of the group expressed the need to study developments on the web more closely.

We therefore agreed to make this the most important issue in our group in the near future. The methods and needs have been discussed and we have worked out a specific working plan. Each country agreed to invest a significant number of hours in an analysis of the relevant national sites and chat rooms.

2nd meeting

The technical issues like the questionnaire, newsletter, website and manual were discussed first. We then continued to discuss the stigmas and taboos surrounding male sex work.

Internet survey

We discussed the results we had obtained so far and agreed that this study will be presented at the World Aids Congress 2002 in Barcelona, Spain. The regional coordinator wrote the abstract that was finally approved as a poster presentation.

Each country agreed to write a report about the local results and send it to our Dutch member, who agreed to coordinate this survey.

Mobility and migration

The situation of migrants as well as (prostitution) laws is currently undergoing many changes all over Europe. For this reason, each country agreed to look more closely at the issue and write a report about the national and local levels. An important result of the discussion was the emphasis on the need and importance of further networking with institutions dealing with migrants.

3rd meeting

We had a very positive discussion regarding all the required technical issues. We then went on to look at the future involvement of male sex workers in our meetings. For various reasons (late period of involvement, different needs, risking the very positive group dynamic etc.) we decided not to include MSW in the last general meeting. There then followed a brief evaluation of the EUROPAP/ENMP conference in Milton Keynes held in January 2002. The outcome was seen as very positive and we felt that the integration of the topic male sex work (and workers) had been very successful.

Internet survey

Following the close observation of boys selling sex on the Internet, we discussed the results of the different countries and adapted our working plan. Our Dutch member, Pjer Vriens, wrote a specific report "about men selling sex to men through the Internet" which incorporated all the local results. He also agreed to design the poster presentation.

Migration and mobility

We discussed the issues: "How can we develop alternative services and support for our target group" and "how to advocate for the rights of migrants". We agreed to make an inventory about organisations which deal with migrants and to observe the "anti-trafficking" movement.

Future plans

After an evaluation held at the last general meeting in Amsterdam, our group decided to organise a seminar on "Street work on the Internet" in the next period of our project. The main aim is to support service providers with relevant know-how and enable them to start concrete action/projects on the web afterwards. Furthermore we agreed that the complex "Migration and mobility" will remain another important topic which we will continue to include in our regional activities.

Problems

In some countries male sex work is still not seen as an important issue for efficient HIV/Aids prevention. Our Austrian partner did not succeed in finding sufficient financial resources and will therefore leave our network. Poland and Romania, on the other hand, started small projects with MSW within their organisations. However, the conditions between Eastern and Western projects remain very different. An extension of the network with more Eastern European countries like Russia and Hungary would be highly appreciated since significant numbers of boys from these countries work in Western Europe.

SOUTHERN EUROPEAN REGION

The group

Regional coordination:

- Greece (Hellenic Centre for Infectious Diseases Control)

Participants:

- France (RUBIS A.R.A.P.)
- Italy (PARSEC)
- Portugal (ABRACO Associacao de Apoio a Pessoas com VIH/SIDA)
- Spain (Cruz Roja Juventud-Departemento Central)

Meetings

The first meeting of the group took place during the 1st General Meeting held in Amsterdam between 1 and 3 February 2001. During this meeting the group presented the factors affecting the practical work and the specific problems and needs within the region. The group then had three regional meetings:

- Lisbon 19-22 April 2001
- Athens 27-30 September 2001
- Athens 5-7 March 2002

In the 2nd General Meeting held in Amsterdam from 5-6 September 2002, the group met to evaluate its work and to decide on future activities

Specific problems, needs and issues within the region

Although each participating country has specific issues and problems, the group identified the following specific problems within the region⁸:

- Migration
 - Different groups in the different countries
 - Poor access to social and medical services
 - Cultural and peer mediation
- Lack of funding
- Lack of national networking
- Lack of experience
- Negative climate towards gays and sex workers
- Big investment versus small group

Specific needs were also pointed out⁹:

- Increase of knowledge and experience, regarding the target group

8) 1st General Meeting Report, ENMP 2001

9) 1st General Meeting Report, ENMP 2001

-
- Dissemination of information among the target group
 - Sensitise service providers
 - Money
 - Improve the networking
 - Political support
 - Transfer of knowledge

In identifying the specific problems and needs within the region, the Southern European Group decided to focus on the following issues:

- Development of activities/projects in the field of male sex work
- Need assessment in the participating countries
- Sensitizing other service providers
- Networking at national and local levels
- Training for trainers

Development of political statements

In the first regional meeting a discussion developed on the theoretical background of the organizations¹⁰. The group agreed with the following points:

- An effective and appropriate intervention strategy is based on specific background information, knowledge regarding the needs of the group, and a specific working philosophy (more or less defined).
- The practical work cannot be separated from a political background philosophy. The development of political demands and statements supports and contributes to the practical work.
- The European Network should support service providers in their practical work and develop general statements and main principles regarding the human rights of male sex workers in Europe.
- The network therefore needs to improve cooperation with other service providers at local, national, regional and European levels (especially with gay organisations, services for drug users, services for youngsters...).

Activities¹¹

- Needs assessment
- Training

Other activities

The members of the Group contributed various articles to the newsletters¹². Because of new migration legislation in Italy, Greece, Spain and Portugal, these four countries decided to write a joint article in the newsletter comparing the new legislation and the consequences for migrant male sex workers.

Activities in the countries

Apart from the joint activities in the Regional Group, the countries developed activities in their own regions in the framework of ENMP. National and local networks were developed and cooperation with other organizations and projects has been improved. See Spain's report about creating a network and Italy's report about establishing a Drop-in Centre in ENMP-Manual. The work of ENMP was also presented in conferences and meetings in the different countries (e.g. Greece)

Obstacles

Financial limitations

- Within the Network

In the case of the training, not all the activities could be covered by the ENMP budget. Fundraising was necessary. The travel costs had to be paid by the participants and the days of the training were limited.
- Within the projects

Due to financial limitations, most Southern European countries are not able to develop and carry out basic services for male sex workers. Fundraising is still a demand of the Southern European Group countries.

Communication

Although all the members worked very enthusiastically during the meetings, communication outside the meetings is not yet completely satisfactory and there must be some improvement. Deadlines were very hard to keep. E-mails were not answered consistently, although the group had decided to answer each e-mail even with a simple confirmation that the message had been received.

Time and investment of the participants

Although the participants are motivated and they consider the activities within the ENMP to be very important, their first priority is the practical work within their own organisations. For the work within the ENMP they have to invest extra time and energy without being paid for it.

Evaluation

The Southern European Group changed its composition many times. Apart from France and Greece, the other countries changed their national coordinator at least once. Consequently at each meeting, the group had to face a new person and to begin a new cooperation. In one case this caused a few problems on account of the group's working process and timetable.

Despite these problems a real commitment has developed in the group so that each new person was able to integrate in the group and the work very quickly. The meetings were very important not only for following up the work and planning the next steps, but also for strengthening relationships among the members and developing a group identity which favourably influenced the cooperation.

Future activities

The group evaluated the training course in Athens very positively and decided to organise a follow up training. The demand for a follow up was obvious also from the participants' evaluation of the last training.

This time the training will have to focus on more specific issues:

- Methodology in the work with MSW;
- Particular issues on field work,
- Indoor-outreach work (bars, saunas etc).

In this way the training can be addressed to both service providers already working with MSW and those developing a project. The training should last at least 4-5 days. The group feels that the involvement of sex workers as trainers would be very valuable.

5. Network activities

CONFERENCE SEX WORK AND HEALTH IN A CHANGING EUROPE

Organised by the European Network for HIV/STD Prevention in Prostitution (EUROPAP) together with the European Network Male Prostitution (ENMP) and held in Milton Keynes, UK, from 18 – 20 January 2002.

One hundred and seventy three people attended from 39 different countries and with many different backgrounds including sex work, health care, social work, research and activism. We were delighted that so many people were able to attend from outside the European Union, including 15 from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, sponsored by the International Harm Reduction Development Programme, and a further eight from outside Europe sponsored by the British Academy, UNAIDS and MamaCash.

The result was a lively and interesting meeting, which we hope will have stimulated ongoing debate and discussions. Some of the presentations were based on chapters from a book that EUROPAP hopes to publish at the end of this year.

INTERNET SURVEY¹³

Service providers have observed an increasing number of young men selling sex to men through the Internet. This issue has been discussed several times within the European Network Male Prostitution (ENMP). However, no data and information has been available regarding this new phenomenon and we did not know how to approach MSW on the Internet. Therefore, the members of the Central and Eastern European group of the ENMP agreed to carry out a survey in order to gain some insight into this new development.

The survey started at the beginning of October 2001. Each country prepared a report and this present paper summarises the outcomes and conclusions of the survey, carried out in the different countries of the region.

Aims

The survey aimed to gather information about men selling sex to men on the Internet. We wanted to chart where and how MSWs actually contact their customers, how service providers could approach them and if they would be interested in interventions through the Internet.

13) Pjer Vriens & Bart Vandenbroucke: Manual - Tips, tricks and models of good practice for service providers considering, planning and implementing services for male sex workers, ENMP 2002

General Methods

The survey started at the beginning of October 2001 and was implemented in 6 different countries within Europe (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Poland, Switzerland and the Netherlands). The first months were used for orientation and observation on the web, carried out by one "outreach worker on the net" in each country. Chat rooms, dating boards, newsgroups and gay websites were visited, in order to map out the commercial male sex market on the Internet. In January 2002 we started to approach MSW actively. A short questionnaire was developed, so that we could receive comparable information from MSWs themselves in all countries. We agreed beforehand that each country should invest approximately 75 hours.

General outcomes of the survey

Where to find MSWs on the Internet?

More than half of the respondents use gay chat rooms and gay dating boards. Escort services and private homepages seem to be used less, but cannot be dismissed!¹⁴

Method

The method did develop during the survey. In most participating countries only a handful of questionnaires were returned. Belgium received most questionnaires back and in this case the outreach worker did use a mail-form. We could try using this method in countries which have not yet been surveyed to try and gain more information from the MSWs themselves. Many of the MSWs put their mobile phone number on the net as well, and in future it might be useful to use SMS messages to contact them. As service providers we have to develop new methods for reaching MSW on the Internet. We therefore need to experiment with new strategies in the future.

Changing Internet

Most of the countries indicated the rapid development and changing importance of sites on the Internet. Service providers must be creative in dealing with this changeability and a presence on the Internet in a structured way is advised¹⁵. In that case, a great deal of time will have to be invested. For the distribution of information concerning MSWs, the Internet is definitely the medium of the future and should therefore be taken into consideration.¹⁶

Our Offer

To contact MSWs on the web it is necessary to offer information and support. Specific needs of the MSWs need to be mapped out and appropriate services need to be developed in order to meet these needs. A number of MSWs showed an interest in receiving information regarding STIs and practical information, although there was less interest in social assistance and consultation.

Outreach

Some MSWs work on the Internet and in other ways (bars, clubs, streets). Others work exclusively on the World Wide Web¹⁷ and can only be approached through the Internet. Different target groups need different approaches. Outreach on the Internet cannot replace outreach work on the streets¹⁸.

Cultural differences

In most of the European countries the Internet is already an important communication medium. Access to the Internet is comparatively low in many Eastern European countries. In the Netherlands, for example, the percentage of households with their own access to Internet has increased enormously over the last few years and the Internet has become very popular especially among gay people. In Bulgaria MSWs are worried about confidentiality and do not easily identify themselves as MSW¹⁹. Each country needs to develop its own individual method, based on the national realities on the Internet and the cultural differences within the target group.

Different cultures

MSWs from different cultures were found on the World Wide Web, for example in the Netherlands other nationalities (US, Belgian and German), and even Romanian and Moroccan MSWs were present. This also means that service providers need to provide language and cultural specific information through the Internet in the future.

Recommendations

Service providers must develop new strategies to contact and maintain contacts with MSWs. We need to invent new methods for reaching MSWs on the Internet. We need to experiment with new strategies, invest time in following the changes on the Internet and contacting the MSWs themselves. This survey is just the

start of a new development for service providers working with MSWs, the start of outreach work on the Internet.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT²⁰

Lack of specific services in the field of male sex work is an important issue in the countries belonging to the Southern European Group. Of the five participating countries, only France has already developed services focusing on sex workers, while Spain has set up a project in Asturias targeting male sex workers. The special services being developed in the five countries must be compared with the needs of the target group and the services already offered. For this reason the Southern European Group agreed to carry out a needs assessment on two different levels.

1. Assessment of already existing services.

- A questionnaire was prepared and addressed to as many services as possible such as:
- Sex workers projects
- Gay organisations
- Services for drug users
- Services for people living with HIV/AIDS
- Youth services
- Services for homeless people
- Services for migrants and migrant organisations

The questionnaire helped us to discover which agencies already had contacts with male sex workers and what specific services were offered to the group.

An additional effect of the questionnaire was to distribute information about the ENMP and to sensitize organisations for cooperation at national level.

- The questionnaire focused on the following key issues:
- Basic information about the organisation
- Services offered (specific services for male sex workers)
- Needs of the target group
- Migration and mobility issues
- Interest in national networking

2. Gather information about male sex workers in the Southern European countries.

Due to the lack of specific services, it was fairly difficult to establish permanent contacts with male sex workers. Projects experienced problems with receiving information from the target group itself. Therefore they tried to use their informal contacts with male sex workers and the relevant background information which already exists. It was decided that each country should describe the situation of male sex workers using this information. Detailed guidelines were prepared so that the reports could be compared.

Conclusion

- In the Southern European region, there seems to be a general lack of specific services targeting male sex workers.
- Many services have male sex workers as clients without being in the position to meet their needs in matters of male prostitution.
- The agencies interviewed did express great interest in the issue of male sex work and a desire for networking at national level.
- Based on the reports from the five countries, we are able to sketch the profile of a male sex worker in the Southern European Region. He is a young man, migrant, coming from a low socio-economic background, identifies himself as heterosexual, lives on his own, works on the street without a pimp and sometimes negotiates the use of condoms with the client.
- New projects must take into account the specific needs of male sex workers. Important factors seem to be their legal status in the country in the case of immigrants, the acceptance of their sexual orientation, the development of a professional consciousness, development of negotiation skills, improvement of living and working conditions, promotion of HIV/STI prevention methods, information and access to health and social services, drug services.
- The assessment does not aim to replace any survey. Based on the experience of the participating projects and on background information, we have tried to illustrate the position of male sex workers in the Southern European Region. Therefore not much information (such as escort work, working through Internet, "high level" prostitution, etc.) could be collected.

TRAINING²¹

The European Network Male Prostitution (ENMP) identified the needs of male sex workers and service providers in the different countries and regions. A lack of experience and specific service provision has been observed in Southern Europe, where only a small number of organisations offer services to male sex workers. Training for service providers was organised in order to support projects in their (future) work in the field of male sex work. The training was organised and carried out by the Southern European region of the ENMP.

Aims of the training

The training programme was based on the needs of the participants. As far as the ENMP has been able to identify the gaps within Southern Europe, the following major areas of needs were found:

- Sensitising health workers and service providers regarding their own attitudes towards male sex work
- Creating awareness about the issue of male sex work
- Improving knowledge about the phenomenon of male sex work
- Developing proper skills in approaching and working with male sex workers

Expected results

- Better insight into the phenomenon of male prostitution
- Better knowledge about the specific needs of male sex workers
- Better skills for approaching male sex workers
- Better awareness of own attitudes towards male sex work
- Ideas for the implementation of services (within specific working conditions, within the local setting)

Selection and profile of the participants

The members of the SEG agreed that it would be useful to organise training for themselves together with different service providers within their own country/city. This approach will enable them to organise national and local network meeting at a later stage and to initiate projects and activities for male sex workers in cooperation with these services.

The participants of the training were approached and selected by the National coordinators of the ENMP in Southern Europe (Italy, Spain, Portugal, France, Greece). Most of the participants were selected at a local level, but some coordinators have chosen to invite colleagues from other cities within their country as well.

The quality of training is strongly influenced by the selection of the participants and to what extent the programme corresponds to their specific needs. Therefore the following participant's profile has been developed:

- Participants represent an organisation or an agency and do not participate as individuals
- The organisation/project is considering, planning or implementing services for male sex workers
- Participants are motivated to share experiences and learn new skills
- Participants are willing to participate in an active way
- Participants have good active and passive English skills

Planning of the training

The training itself was planned and organised in different steps. The idea and the aims of the training and the participants profile were pinpointed during the meetings of the SEG. A registration form was designed and the potential participants were asked to describe what kind of organisation they work for, whom they target, in which area they would like to be trained and why they would like to attend the training course.

Due to budgetary problems, the ENMP was not able to cover all the costs of the training. It was agreed that the ENMP would cover the training and subsistence costs of the participants. The participants themselves had to cover their own travel costs.

Georg Bröring of the European Project Aids & Mobility and Wim Zuilhof of the Schorer Stichting Amsterdam were asked to fulfil the role of trainer. Both of them are highly experienced in this field, having facilitated two training courses in 1998 (Vienna and Berlin), which focused on social and health workers dealing with male prostitutes²². Both of them agreed and compiled a training programme, based on the ideas of the SEG and the individual registration forms of the participants.

The training itself took place in Athens and our regional coordinator Panagiotis Damaskos organised and managed all the local arrangements, including the hotel, the meeting venue and the restaurants.

Outcomes

During the discussions of the training, several issues and support needs were highlighted. In one of the last exercises (Developing priorities), the group gathered support needs. It was agreed that the ENMP would

involve these issues in its future working plan in order to support the projects in their practical work. The following support needs had been listed:

- **Materials**
 - Update of the Travel Guide
 - Gathering and providing materials in different languages and from different countries (translation of German MSW leaflet into other languages)
 - Development of specific materials and leaflets for male sex workers (regarding health issues, laws and regulations, local realities)
 - Development of Manuals and Guidelines for projects working in this field
 - Development of a bibliography

- **Training**
 - Specific and practically-oriented in-depth training (e.g. how to deal with violence?)
 - Training: funding and lobby
 - PR strategy training
 - Training for trainers
 - Training organised and facilitated by male sex workers for male sex workers
 - Outreach training
 - Training for local governments, police officers, social workers and health workers in order to sensitise them for the needs of male sex workers
 - Continuous training at a local or national level
 - Training seminar on sex tourism

- **Networking (International, national and local networking):**
 - Exchange of information & experience
 - Study visits and job shadowing
 - Practical cooperation between the countries (e.g. Portugal and Spain) and at national and local level
 - Developing common aims and strategies
 - Mutual support (e.g. Germany ? Bulgaria)
 - Local networking in order to improve local service provision on a practical level
 - Political lobby

PILOT SURVEY

Location of the Pilot

European Network Male Prostitution (ENMP) – pilot survey co-ordination based at Working Men Project (WMP), St Mary's NHS Trust Hospital, with participating centres in Germany (Basis-Projekt, Hamburg – NGO) and France (Rubis ARAP, Nimes – NGO).

Brief Summary of the Pilot

The initial European Network Male Prostitution (ENMP 1997 – 1999) identified migration was a little understood and under researched phenomenon amongst men selling sex across Europe.

The Network suggested three strands of migrant sex workers:

- Those men who migrate from one European country, and end up selling sex in another European country (e.g. East to West)
- Those men who arrive from outside the EC (extra continental) and find themselves involved in selling sex within Europe
- Those men originating within Europe, and migrating within the continent in order to find or vary their sex work, working environment

It was felt that a strategic approach was required to learn more about each of these groups of sex workers, 'chart' their progression and try to establish factors and co-factors contributing to this phenomenon. During the first general meeting of the ENMP 2000 (Feb 2000) the concept of a survey approach was agreed and partners discussed the types of information and data which needed to be collated, and the methodology to be used to acquire this data. The questionnaire has since been developed and discussed within the regional working groups, and the Regional co-ordinators have agreed that it would be of academic value to involve a research institute at this early stage, to validate the questionnaire as a survey tool, advise on the data collection and

analysis, and assist with its administration. A partnership was established with Dr Anthony Pryce & team, from the Department of Applied Behavioural & Biological Sciences at City University, London.

Aims of the Survey

- To explore and document the migration phenomena
- To identify factors which influence migration of male sex workers, and entry into sex work
- To identify specific problems and cultural challenges for migrant male sex workers

Methods Used to Conduct the Pilot Survey

A survey style questionnaire was developed by the Network partners from Nov'2000 until Nov'2001. The areas to be addressed within the survey were agreed during the first General Meeting of the Network, then specific questions around these concepts were developed and refined during the resulting first Regional Meeting, and finalised by the Regional co-ordinators. The questionnaire was designed to be administered by way of a structured interview technique, and questions were developed with this in mind.

The questionnaire (survey tool) was refined by the team at City University, Dr Elaine Stewart and Zoe Dowling, under the supervision of Dr Anthony Pryce. Modifications were made to some of the questions and changes made to the layout, so as to assist in the coding of responses at the analysis stage.

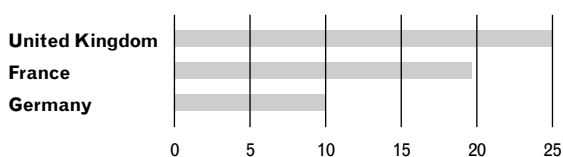
The pilot ran in three centres, one from each of the regional groups across the Network : London (Northern), Hamburg (Central) and Nimes (Southern), from January to April 2002. A two week data collection reference frame was used in each centre. Originally it had been intended to collect the data within the same time period at each centre (to assist with charting migration between each centre), but due to staffing problems and other complications, this was not possible.

The questionnaires were completed by semi-structured interviewed technique at each of the centres. However, within London, data was collected from more than one project, and one of the three projects involved in completing questionnaires gave the survey directly to the sex worker to complete, which often results in collection of incomplete data sets. In Hamburg, the questions which asked about the concept of abused and harassment related to the selling of sex caused some difficulty for the staff of the project conducting the interviews, which restricted the number of questionnaires they were able to complete.

The questionnaires were sealed in envelopes upon completion, in front of the respondent (the sex worker), and then returned to the co-ordinating centre in London. These were then forwarded to the team at City University, and after data entry into an Excel spreadsheet, they were analysed using the social statistics package SPSS.

Results

Figure 1 shows the total number of questionnaires completed within the pilot phase, across the three Regional centres. A total of 54 questionnaires were completed and included in the data set.



Analysis

Funding has been secured from the Commission for in-depth analysis of the pilot project during the next year of the Network. It is hoped that detailed analysis of the data set will inform recommendations to present a business case for future funding options to develop the survey.

It is not possible at this time to present more in-depth analysis of the pilot findings, but a full report on this can be expected in March 2003.

6. Limitations

SPONTANEOUS ENTHUSIASM VERSUS REALITY AT HOME

During meetings we tended to overestimate the time and energy we might have left during our practical work at home. Our meetings resulted in the development of some great plans and deadlines, many of which were hard

to keep for most of us, as some of us did not realise how much time and energy all of this would take. The enthusiasm of the ENMP partners was the reason that we managed to work and organise some fantastic activities. However, after these two active years, we have become much more realistic.

LACK OF COMMUNICATION

Communication has been an important key issue within the network. Due to the distance between the project partners, we depend on a fluent communication through e-mail and telephone. However, the different working fields of the partners and times of pressure have not always been congenial to smooth communication.

LACK OF FUNDING

Some of the project partners had to deal with financial problems and threats of serious cutbacks in their budgets. Others do not even receive funding for their activities within the field of male sex work. This leads to insufficient service provision and frustration. Future efforts of the network will therefore focus on a stronger lobby, in order to receive local and national funding for the projects in question.

7. Future perspectives

The ENMP III will start in December 2002. After an official break of one month, we will have the opportunity to continue our work for 1 more year (December 2002 till December 2003). We will keep the current structure and continue our work within the regional groups, as this seemed to be overall accepted.

We hope to be able to involve more members from Central and Eastern Europe, by approaching other funders like SOROS and UNAIDS.

1st General Meeting

In our first General Meeting at the beginning (January 2003), we will discuss some overall issues like the development of a mission statement. We will also continue our work within the regional working groups and develop a specific regional working plan.

Regional groups

Each regional group will develop a specific network meeting or training, which will be focused on the activities and outcomes of the last year:

- Training for service providers
Organised by the Southern European region and to be held in Spain between 28 and 31 May 2003
- Conference on legal issues and policy
Organised by the Northern European region and to be held in Stockholm between 24 and 27 April 2003
- Internet training/symposium
Organised by the Central and Eastern European region and to be held between 26 and 29 June 2003

The regional network meetings also involve colleagues from outside the network and each meeting will be organised and financed for approximately 20 persons. More people can be invited as soon as there is additional funding.

Pilot survey

The pilot survey among male sex workers, which was carried out in the last project phase, will be analysed and evaluated by a survey co-ordinator (Working Men's Project, London) and a survey assistant (City University in London). They will develop follow-up research, which might be carried out by all participating countries within the network.

Coordinators Meeting

A coordination meeting for the 3 regional coordinators and the European coordinator will be held in order to fine-tune the activities within the different regions and to discuss the developments of the project.

Bilateral visits

Participating partners will have the opportunity to visit other project partners, in order to offer practical support or training. Participation in international conferences or training will also be supported. Relevant guest speakers from outside the network might be invited to the network meetings.

2nd General Meeting

The 2nd General Meeting (approx. October 2003) will be used for analysing and evaluating the developments and activities of the network.

8. Conclusion

I would like to take this opportunity to glance back at the year 2002 and express my gratitude to all those, who contributed in the past year to the further development of the ENMP. Many activities have taken place in this year and without the enthusiastic support of all the network members, colleagues from other organisations and networks (e.g. EUROPAP, TAMPEP, European Project AIDS & Mobility,...), we would not have been able to succeed.

The network has been in existence since 1997 and has developed from a forum, in which agencies and service providers could exchange information, into a platform of expertise, by providing advice and assistance and organising activities in the field of male sex work.

Our future efforts will mainly focus on the following issues:

- Stronger involvement of the indirect network (Increasing impact of the network)
- Involvement of partners in Central and Eastern Europe (approach of additional funders)
- Support of service providers, in order to develop services and receive local and national funding (lobby)
- Organisation of relevant activities in the field of male sex work (e.g. training)
- Development of a mission statement
- Cooperation and support towards sex workers organisations

We hope that we will be able to continue our work in the future. Due to the efforts of the ENMP, male sex work has become an issue, but we still need to stimulate discussion and promote appropriate service provision. In a word, a step in the right direction has been made, let's keep moving forward!

Appendix

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