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IMPLEMENTING NORMS, CHANGING MINDS

“IF WE ARE TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS, WE NEED TO CREATE SEISMIC SHIFTS ACROSS OUR SOCIAL NORMS”: MARAI LARASI

Marai Larasi is the Executive Director of Imkaan, a black and minority ethnic (BME) women's organization working to respond to and prevent violence against marginalized women and girls in Europe. Read her blog [here](#):



REGIONAL PROGRAMME HOLDS FIRST PARTNERS' MEETING

The EU-UN Women's Regional Programme on ending violence against women in the Western Balkans and Turkey, 'Implementing Norms, Changing Minds', held its first partners' meeting under the regional component of the programme on 27 November 2017 in Istanbul, Turkey.

The meeting was attended by civil society organizations (CSOs) that have been selected to implement different components of the programme, including Imkaan, Women Against Violence Europe (WAVE), Yaşama Dair Vakıf (YADA Foundation) and the European Women's Lobby (EWL), as well as UN Women staff.

The meeting was organized to enhance collaboration and harmonization of approaches among the different organizations, to maximize results and ensure complementarity; and to familiarize partners with the financial and narrative reporting

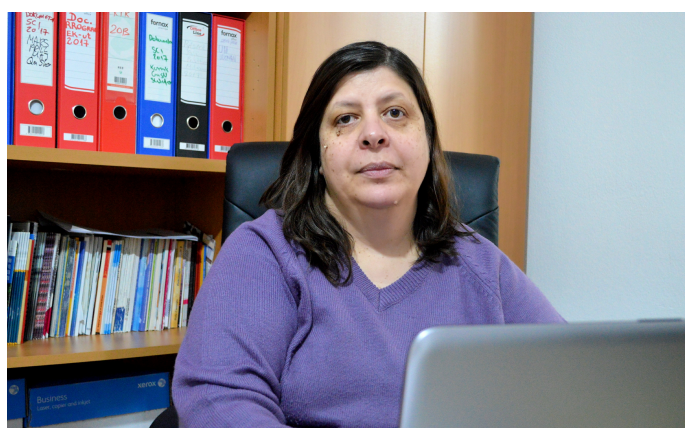


requirements as well as the communication and visibility guidelines and actions conducted within the regional programme.

As a follow-up to the meeting, steps will be taken to facilitate cooperation and establish links among CSOs working under the regional component of the programme. Equally, the regional programme will work to ensure that UN Women staff responsible for implementing the programme at country level assist and actively participate in regional partners' activities. CSOs under the regional programme are expected to participate in the second Programme Steering Committee meeting to be convened by UN Women- provisionally at the end of January 2018.

TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, AN OVERALL CHANGE IN PEOPLE'S MINDSETS IS REQUIRED

The YADA Foundation recently joined the regional programme to assess advocacy initiatives on ending violence against women and changing gender discriminatory social norms. YADA's Executive Director, Ayşe Pinar Gürer, explains their role in the programme and how advocacy can be instrumental to ending violence against women. Read more [here](#):



PREVENTING EARLY MARRIAGE AMONG ROMA, ASHKALI AND EGYPTIAN WOMEN IN KOSOVO¹

"Preventing early marriage, gender discrimination and domestic violence, and their consequences for families and children, is a key priority for ending violence against Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian women in Kosovo," says Shpresa Agushi, Executive Director of the Network of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Women's Organizations of Kosovo. Read her interview [here](#):

NEWS BRIEF

Check out the latest news, publications and updates from programme partners and the media on ending violence against women in the Western Balkans and Turkey.

Download our monthly news brief [here](#).

INFOGRAPHIC SECTION

Gaps in response to violence against women and girls in Bosnia and Herzegovina



Shelters are scarce and inaccessible for marginalised groups of women.



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¹ All references to Kosovo on this document shall be understood to be in full compliance with UN Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).