



Contribution to CAPTIVE e-Manual

French National section

For the study carried out for France, several levels of reference must be counted.

With regard to legislative texts, procedures, public institutional schemes of reference, the level of reading is the national level since decisions are taken by the state, France, whose organs are centralized in Paris.

Concerning the implementation of the texts and decisions, they are declined in each region (of the mainland and overseas territories) and the Prefect, as representative of the State, makes them implement and ensure their proper execution. To do this, in each region, the Prefect appoints a Delegate in charge of monitoring this issue.

With regard to the location of the French CAPTIVE partner, Euro-CIDES, the focus has been placed on Bordeaux and its close area of attractiveness insofar as all the public and associative services providers with a direct link to the topic of the CAPTIVE project are on its strategic center.

Bordeaux and its metropolis: located in the southwest of France, with 773 557 inhabitants (2015), Bordeaux aims to reach the million inhabitants on 2025 Horizon. BORDEAUX is an easy access area. There is the European route that leaves from down southern Spain and goes back to the north of Europe through several European countries directly concerned with the coming of migrants (Spain, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Norway/Finland without any border from South to North). There is also a central station (with trains from northern Europe, Spain and Italy) and an international airport (more than 120 foreign cities are served throughout Europe and other continents). Finally, if necessary, new Aquitaine also has the largest length of oceanic beaches where to dock.

Representatives of the services working on the subject of hosting migrants are gathered three times a year, and more if necessary, by the Delegate appointed by the Prefect. When refugees are greeted in number on this territory, it is the Prefect who has authority to decide on their distribution (For example, in autumn 2017, when the camp nicknamed "Jungle of Calais" was dismantled, it is the Prefect who decided to set up minors in a small town in South-Gironde in an unoccupied tourist accommodation centre at that time, centre usually dedicated to the reception of children during summer holidays).



From August to October 2017, forty individual contacts were enquired and we met managers/representatives/employees (as well as a full team of professionals in a foster house for women victims of domestic violence) from 27 local major public/community/private services. One of the purposes of these interviews was to make us present the services as well as the needs attached to fighting actions against S/GBV on migrant women.

In addition, two technical meetings with service providers were also organized on October 31 and November 20, 2017.

Through these 27 interviews and 2 meetings, it appears that professionals from service providers:

- work mainly with their counterparts in subnetworks who are most often unaware of each other in the same territory;
- mainly initially trained in social work, are not however formally trained (except their own professional experiences) to cultural origins' particularities of the migrant people they bring help;
- return that there is a lack of coordination on this territory while, at the same time, they declare they don't want any control.

The interviews were an opportunity to be introduced and explained the functioning of services (with the opportunity to collect contact details of relevant actors which allowed little by little to identify territorial meshes. Already during these interviews, we diagnosed lack of:

- ✓ complementary training on cultural specificities of the origins for the operators in the field involved in guidance and support services;
- ✓ recognition of the actors of our territory between themselves and it is in this sense that we oriented the work during technical meetings with the services for support and guidance organized by themes (administrative procedures, defense of rights, access to care, education, training/employment, therapeutic reconstructions, housing, religious actors, others -mediation, translation,-).



But what came out of the **1st technical meeting** with the field operators from service providers?

1. All the actors deplore a lack of coordination of their services and the missions at the same time that they refuse any supreme and bureaucratic hierarchy; we will therefore speak about lack of articulation, even if both require a pilot.
2. The professional actors proclaim unanimously the absolute necessity to have a detailed directory (contacts, mail, phone, address, missions, ...) of ALL local services impacted by the problems of the migrant populations on our area.
3. Since gender-based violence against migrant women is a de facto part of state protection services/procedures relating to violence against women in general (police, health, justice), professional actors claim for a systematic addition of certified translators (especially at the police station to make a complaint) for women from migration who do not speak the national hosting language.
4. The operators point out the difficulty they have in taking charge of migrant female minors in that the networks (black Africa, former Eastern Europe) in which they "work" constrain them (threats, punishments, subtraction of identity) with a lot of discretion, even silence, at the same time as to claim an age beyond the majority so that they are not withdrawn from them by the child protection services of the County Council in charge of isolated minors (of whom they legally fall due to their minority status).

And from the **2nd technical meeting** with the field operators from service providers?

1. The previous 4 points were confirmed and validated by all participants, the one concerning the need for a detailed directory being more debated, some saying that it already exists but has not been updated for a long time, others that there is none. Collateral effect, this point echoes the lack of articulation / coordination because who would be in a position to create, develop and maintain such an agenda if not a supervisor?
2. The participants were able to discover the importance of the influence of the knowledge of the origins of the populations at the same time as a number of risks inherent in this or that migration route. They have in fact confirmed their real interest in following the 30-hour course for professionals, an interest that they immediately slowed down by the fact that this course would only be taught in English, which will for sure bring difficulties in terms of understanding and learning.



Which modeling for an optimal device on our territory?

It is important to begin this statement by reminding here the context of the two problematics that are the "Reception of migrants" and the "Fight against violence to women", both interdependent in the CAPTIVE project.

Both "Reception of migrants" and "Fight against violence to women" are two policies decided at our national level then declined in "devices" throughout the French territory (continental and overseas) by the representatives of the State that are on all territories the Prefects responsible for ensuring their implementation closer to the populations, and following a principle of equality in rights.

- ✓ The procedure for combating violence against women (migrant and non-migrant) is organized; a free emergency call number 3919 (in addition to 112) is working and a law dated May 2016 has supplemented the protection of those women who became status-free once they left home (for those who were "covered" by a husband / partner). From a legal point of view, and to initiate the protection process, there must be a complaint to the police, which must be followed by a consultation to the specialized emergency service for the certification of violence that will be measured in units of Temporary Interruption of Work.

The effort to be made here would be to oblige, at any time and in any place, every service of the chain of protection and assistance to:

- **force public services to always use professionals to translate complainants' comments,**
 - **train all public stakeholders to learn about cultural specificities for an improved support to these complainants.**
- ✓ Migrants' receptions (when authorized by the French State) are the single responsibility of Prefects who decide where to welcome them and to which providers to entrust these populations with respect to an existing offer to assistance too often filled by associations, beyond the only public services in charge of administrative documents (registrations, authorizations to reside, ...).

The effort to be made here would consist in organizing the identification for the purpose of coordinating these providers, the difficulty being that each territory does not decline in the same way from one region to another, since it is essentially led by so called third sector.