



**Association
Primo Levi**



« Promoting the appropriate care for victims of torture, through the creation of an information and training centre and building of advocacy »

The global objective of the project is to promote appropriate care for victims of torture, through the creation of an information and training centre and building of advocacy.

The specific objectives of the project are the following :

- Helping professionals to develop and **strengthen existing centers and create new care centers** in France through networking activities.
- Improving services provided to this population through **training sessions** offered to professionals.
- Creating a **documentation centre** dedicated to the subjects of trauma, political violence and asylum.
- **Advocating** for adequate legal and social protection of asylum seekers, refugees and undocumented migrants victims of torture and political violence.

Main achievements :

Our activities have led to the outcomes expected on networking aspects (creation and development of Reseda network) as well as on capacity building and strengthening of professionals (development of training, support provided to new centers). 2 French NGOs (Awel – based in La Rochelle, in the West of France and ALEPH – based in Pau, in the South West of France) recently created health care centers for traumatised refugees and have worked closely with APL to develop their project and have adopted a very similar approach. Training and exchanges are ongoing.

New training sessions have been developed (mainly in 2010) and various training sessions have been organised : in 2008, 24 training sessions for 353 participants, in 2009, 14 training sessions for 317 participants and in 2010, 13 training sessions for 102 participants.

The documentation center has been created in 2009.

The outcomes are much more difficult to obtain on advocacy activities, mainly because of the political context very hostile to all migrants, including refugees and asylum seekers, all over Europe and particularly in France. Even though some results may be obtained - as the French Council of State stating that the list of 17 "safe countries" established by the French Office for the Protection of Refugees (OFPRA) was not valid or the decision of a local administrative court compelling the local prefect to provide housing to an asylum seeker, under the minimum standards requirement of the European Reception Directive for asylum seekers – the overall administrative and social situation of refugees is getting worse and worse and there is a strong political will to make it worse again in order to discourage refugees to come to France.

APL participated actively within CFDA (French Coordination for Asylum Rights), which brings together roughly 20 NGOs, in several advocacy activities focusing on unaccompanied minors and on the new bill issued by the French government and which has been discussed over the last months on "immigration, integration and nationality". But the results have been quite limited. Some changes were made to the bill by the Senate, thanks to an active lobbying of NGOs but they were cancelled by the National Assembly (which decides eventually).

APL also organized several meetings with institutional funders and stakeholders to promote an appropriate care for victims of torture, rather successfully in the case of Paris township authorities, which should increase their financial support to the association and in the case of Social Affairs Ministry (new financial support in 2010).

EPIM impact :

The fact that grants from EPIM are relatively long-term (3 years) is indeed helpful because it helps to build up a project in the long term as well, and to develop activities that may not have immediate impact or outcome or require quite some time to organize (for instance advocacy). A long-term and rather flexible and continuous funding is quite helpful. With other funders we have already been faced with gaps between grants periods and it was really helpful that EPIM could fund the project in a continuous way over the three years.

The relation between APL as a grantee and EPIM relies on trust and interest for the activities developed. It is more a real partnership than a mere financial relationship between a funder and a grantee. The opportunities - given for instance by the workshops - to exchange discussions and ideas with other grantees is quite interesting to enlarge our view of migrant issues especially at the European level and to develop our capacities (on communications for instance). There is an obvious will of EPIM to develop capacities of the grantees, which is quite unusual to us and helpful.

The possibility to participate to the Joint Learning Initiative (training sessions) on fundraising was quite useful and probably helped us find new private funders or develop relation with potential funders.