



Intervention program in nightlife,
leisure and socialization venues to raise awareness
and prevent GBV behaviours – including LGBTIphobia –
linked to sexual violence and substance use

LOCAL PILOT ACTION PLAN



Country: Portugal

Organization: Kosmicare

Realization of the Pilot: from 07 June to 27 September 2024

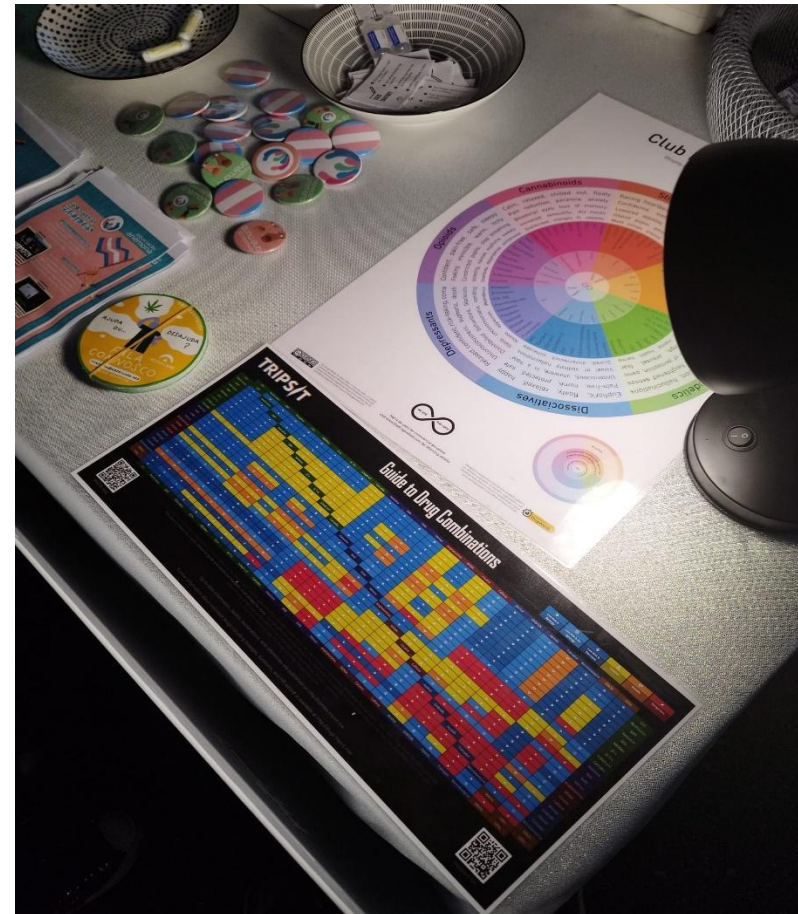
Professional figures involved: 31

Number of interventions: 5

Where the pilot was implemented

The local pilot was implemented at festivals and large-scale events in Portugal, namely:

- Primavera Sound: 07/06/2024 to 09/06/2024
- Waking Life: 19/06/2024 to 24/06/2024
- ZNA Gathering: 14/07/2024 to 21/07/2024
- NEOPOP: 08/08/2024 to 10/08/2024
- MIL: 25/09/2024 to 27/09/2025



Description of the contexts.

The contexts intervened presented very specific needs, such as: awareness and drug education for people who use drugs; support to psychological crisis related to the use of drugs, the event itself (e.g., overstimulation, crowd), sexism and GBV experiences, and mental health; specific protocols regarding the identification and response to Lilac Cases (e.g., cases of GBV that happened at the event or were triggered during it); an infrastructure of care recognized as a trustful and safer space.

Description of activities carried out.

Considering these needs, Kosmicare provided the following services/activities:

- An awareness Info hub: an information, support and awareness space, where people could find different harm reduction materials. In this area, a Lilac Corner was also created. Lilac Corner focused mainly on raising awareness regarding GBV harassment and anti-LGBTQIA+ hostility and worked as a safer space. In this space, we provided the materials of the CRISSCROSS campaign, as well as materials from community partners
- A psychological emergency hub (Psycare): a specific and private area for people experiencing psychological crises.

Due to the festival's conditions, this intervention was only implemented at Primavera Sound and ZNA.

Description of strategies.

Include best practices, tools, protocols shared with venue managers/event organizers

Our pilot was based on the Lilac Care Guidelines designed within the scope of the Sexism Free Night project and also within the experience of Kosmicare in supporting people who suffer(ed) GBV in large-scale events. The intervention relied on five action axes: prevention, detection, care, information and referral.



Tools and practices implemented.

- Psychoeducation and harm reduction materials: leaflets, posters, and stickers with harm reduction information; harm reduction and safer drug use materials (snorting kits, material for measuring GHB, safer injection kits); alcohol breathalyzer; condoms (internal and external), lubricants; hygiene materials (pads and tampons), etc
- Materials from the CRISSCROSS campaign; stickers and leaflets of the project Sexism Free Night; materials from other partners (rape crisis centres, services working with people who experience(d) intimate partner violence, LGBTQIA+ care, women and LGBTQIA+ empowerment)
- Box for anonymized denounces
- First aid assistance: water, snacks, thermal blankets, emotional support
- Coordination among public and private agents: festival organizers and respective staff; emergency services; rape crisis centres and services working with people who experienced GBV, and anti-LGBTQIA+ hostility; city council; local authorities on the gender and drug fields
- Development and dissemination of a Lilac Protocol (tailored-made to each event), including an internal protocol for the staff (how to detect lilac cases, what to do in case of sexualized violence, harassment, anti-LGBTQIA+ hostility, and people experiencing a psychological crisis)

and for the festivals audience. In some of the events, the latter was advertised at the social media and the official websites of the festivals.

The following flowchart summarizes the intervention.

LILAC PROTOCOL INFOGRAPHIC		
AXES		SERVICE ACTIVITY
Prevention	Awareness raising Bystander intervention Lilac Protocol Harm Reduction materials (e.g., flyers, breathalyzers, kit sniff, bidistilled water, earplugs)	INFOHUB AND LILAC CORNER
Detection	Safe space Trained staff Lilac Team and Focal Points (professionals and peers with solid experience and/or specifically trained to deal with lilac situations)	LILAC CORNER AND PSYCARE
Care	Safe space Trauma-informed psychological first aid (support to psychological crises)	PSYCARE
Information	Information regarding the rights of the victims, national GBV criminal law, procedures to denounce CRISSCROSS materials, Sexism Free Night stickers and leaflets and materials from other partners	LILAC CORNER AND PSYCARE
Referral	Referral and communication with community partners (e.g., rape crisis centres, services working with people who experience(d) intimate partner violence, LGBTQIA+ care, women and LGBTQI+ empowerment) Information regarding European services (e.g., Sexism Free Night network)	LILAC FOCAL POINTS AT PSYCARE

LILAC PROTOCOL

WHAT CAN YOU DO IN CASES OF GENDER DISCRIMINATION AND VIOLENCE OR ANTI-LGBTQIA+ HOSTILITY

LILAC SITUATIONS ARE ALL THE OCCURRENCES RELATED TO GENDER POWER IMBALANCES, GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, DISCRIMINATION, AND ANTI-LGBTQIA+ HOSTILITY

Some examples,

- Verbal and physical intimate partner violence (e.g., date violence and controlling dynamics)
- Anyone who mentions that their drink was spiked or that they were injected with something
- People who experienced sexualized violence (e.g., abuse, non-consented sexual advances)
- People experiencing stalking (e.g., someone feeling threatened, constantly observed, and controlled by another person)
- People experiencing sexual harassment (e.g., groping, chasing someone)
- Someone who is feeling triggered by a traumatic memory related to a lilac situation
- People experiencing anti-LGBTQIA+ hostility or violence.
- People are experiencing social humiliation (e.g., being laughed at in a group, being exposed or filmed in a vulnerable situation to degrade them socially).

WHAT TO DO?

1. **Trust your judgment.** Trust your instincts if you feel someone is in a power-imbalanced or potentially threatening situation. They may indeed need help.
2. **Avoid acting alone,** particularly if you feel that your contact can escalate that situation or if you feel unsafe. If needed, ask for support from the staff and explain them the situation.
3. **Be proactive and approach gently.** Introduce yourself and ask if everything is okay. Clarify that you are also participating in the festival, and you can call someone from the staff if needed.
4. **Be sympathetic and believe in the person.** If the person has experienced discrimination or violence, listen empathetically and do not doubt what they tell you. Remember, many people prefer to talk to a woman in these situations.
5. **Be calm.** Refer the person to Kosmicare and explain that this can be a safer space for her, and there she can be cared by trustful people.
6. **Be mindful.** If possible, refer the person to Kosmicare or call someone from the staff.
7. **Take care of each other.** If the person is alone, surrounded by suspicious individuals, expressing vulnerability, don't let her alone. If needed, ask for help from the staff.



Impact and description of target audience.

The audience consisted primarily of young people, both from Portugal and internationally, who attended the festivals. The group was heterogeneous, including a broad spectrum of social and economic backgrounds, as well as gender identities.

Because the intervention was culturally sensitive, we were able to reach different people, with different characteristics and needs.

The pilot contributed to a safer and more egalitarian nightlife leisure culture by creating and reinforcing protocols aimed at preventing, identifying and responding to cases of GBV harassment, violence and hostility anti-LGBTQIA+. The intervention was perceived as inclusive and responsive, and gathered satisfaction among partygoers.

The involvement of emergency services was key to maximize the intervention and respond promptly to immediate needs.

On the other hand, the collaboration with rape crisis centres and services working with people who experienced GBV (e.g., UMAR, AMCV, and Quebrar o Silêncio) and anti-LGBTQIA+ hostility (ILGA, Casa Qui, Plano i) allowed to create strong

communication channels in case a quick referral or some advice was needed.

Results.

Kosmicare was present at 5 festivals, held between June and September. Below, the overall results of the interventions are described:

- 273 professionals trained
- 40 stakeholders involved
- 11295 people reached
- 17 breathalyzer tests
- +4000 information materials distributed
- +4500 harm reduction materials distributed
- 4 critical incidents managed
- 5 Lilac protocols implemented



Communication campaign graphics.

A SAFE SPACE IS...

"A safe space is a place where I am certain I can be whoever I want, dance freely, and talk freely, without the risk of being harassed. I have some doubts about whether safe spaces actually exist in the world."



"A safe space is a space free from judgement and any kind of harassment, where you can truly feel comfortable with your identity in all its spectrum, a place where I can comfortably be with our chosen family and that has that homely, comfortable, and welcoming atmosphere."



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