



# WEGO!

## WS1 – Activity 1.3

### Data collection methodology and tools

As a specific part of the WE GO! project Work Stream 1 – Comparative research analysis, a specific activity (1.3) was focused on the need of designing a questionnaire and a set of common tools (database and guidelines) to collect ad hoc data consistent with women’s economic independence during the project. To this end the following tools were drafted:

- a data collection form;
- a database;
- supportive guidelines.

The **data collection form** is structured as a questionnaire in order to ease the creation of the database and data entry by the centers. However, information was collected by professionals working at the centers involved in the experimentation not necessarily at the same time and in any case respecting the needs and the psychological situation of the women involved. Indeed, each center had the freedom to use the collection data form not as a questionnaire to be filled in question by question directly asking the women involved, but as a checklist that the interviewer completed after one (or several) semi-structured interviews and based on their knowledge of the woman’s case, especially as regards sensitive information (e.g. those about violence experienced).

The data collection form is structured along five sections:

- Demographic data
- Personal information on family/relationship status and on violence
- Information on socio-economic issues covering educational level, labour status and financial situation
- Family/social networks
- Support services provided

The **database** is in Excel and mirrors the data collection form. Each database row refers to only one woman (identified by an univocal identification number), while columns refer to the collection form questions.

In order to facilitate the filling in of data and information at different temporal steps, the database includes a summary where each question is covered and can be easily found through a specific link. All questions that envisage only one possibility of answer correspond to a single column, while in the case several answers can be given to a question, each answer corresponds to a separate column. In all cases in which a question envisages also the answer “Other” an additional column allows to introduce a free text. To simplify the filling in of the database, when feasible, a drop down menu has been included.

The **guidelines** also mirror the collection form and the database and provide for each question included in the data collection form specific definitions for the terms used and explanations for the questions. Examples are also provided in order to better explain the meaning of some of the possible answers.

**All collected information were treated anonymously** in compliance with EU and national current legislation on privacy. In particular to ensure anonymity and privacy and, at the same time, to guarantee to the centers to collect data and information, each Center received a second form including a first column “ID\_number” and following columns with the main information on each women in charge. This second form is of exclusive property of the centers and was not provided during the experimentation.

Antiviolence centers who would like to receive more information and the specific tools can send a request to: [irsbo@irsonline.it](mailto:irsbo@irsonline.it)