"Observing children in danger in Greece and in the Balkans"

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An overview of the issue at stake: building the evidence base for effective child protection poicies

Milestones of development for CAN research and interventions

- Initially Medical-centered model
- In turn, influenced by Women's and Human Rights' Movements, research often dominated by victimological studies
- Sometimes over-charged with values, beliefs, ideologies or even preoccupation of pioneers
- Gradually fine-grained through understanding of relative autonomy of scientific evidence and rightful human rights' agenda

- During the last couple of decades entering the **evidence-based practice** paradigm
- Augmented by the necessary **practice-based evidence**

Empirical diversities or paradigm instability?

QUESTIONS	YES	NO
Is theory of the "circle of violence" true concerning both sexual & physical CAN?	Knopp (1984), Hilton & Mezey (1996)	Murphy & Smith (1994), Widom & Ames (1994), Glasser et al. (2001)
Is voluntary sexual activity of adolescents related with latent psychological and social implications of CAN?	Kendall-Tackett et al. (1993), Ondersma et al. (1999), Dallam et al. (1999)	Rind & Tromovitch (1997), Coxell et al. (1999), Rind et al. (2001)
Is internet pedophilia related with actualized sexual CAN?	Hanson & Bussiere (1998), Proulx et al. (2000)	Loussier et al. (2001), Frei et al. (2005)
Are there any specific neuro-biological or neuro-imaging signs of CAN?	Hulme (2004), Kendall-Tackett (2005)	Kaufman & Charney (1999), Glaser (2000), Teicher et al. (2006)
Is preventive therapy for asymptomatic victims of CAN effective?	Jones & Ramchandani (1999), Trowell et al. (2002)	Tebutt et al. (1997), Stevenson (1999)
Is there a genetic determinant in CAN?	Caspi et al (2002, 2003), Foley et al. (2004), Kim-Cohen et al. (2006)	Huizinga et al. (2005), Haberstick et al. (2005)
Is pregnancy in adolescence related to increased CAN rates?	Moore et al. (1997), Olausson et al. (2001)	Kirby (1999), Hillis et al. (2004)
Can false CAN memories rise out of therapy?	Yapko (1994), Loftus & Pickrell (1995), Loftus (1997), Pope (1998)	Berliner & McDougall (1997), Pezdek & Roe (1997), Poter & Marxen (1998)
Can victimological, clinical research findings be projected to populations?	Black & DeBlassie (1993), McMillen et al. (1995), Rodriguez et al. (1996), Holms & Slap (1998), Najman et al. (2005)	Beichtman et al. (1991, 1992), Jenkins (1998), Rind & Tromovitch (2007)

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CAN Data Collection: modalities and their usefulness

- **Mapping**: representing as much accurately as possible the extent and features of the characteristic under investigation, viz. CAN

- **Monitoring**: Ongoing recording and supervision of development and trends of the given characteristic (CAN) both aggregative and on an individual basis

- **Surveillance**: Permanent mechanisms for detection of hazardous trends on the overall development of the given characteristic (CAN) or on a particular instantiation of it (e.g. on a certain individual or group of individuals) – usually accompanied by mechanisms of early intervention to prevent increase of risk

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Recommended research tools appropriate for international comparisons:

- ICAST (-CH, -CW/I, -P, -R)
- ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences)
- CTS (Parent–Child Conflict Tactic Scale)
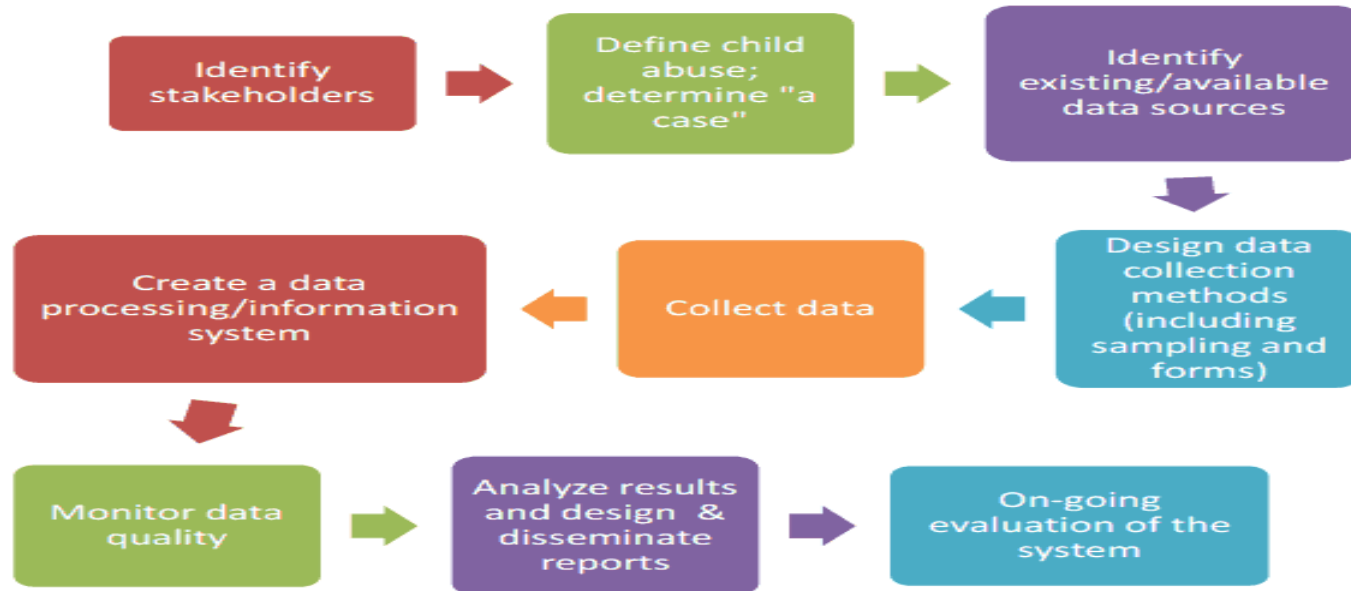- LVS (Lifetime Victimization Screening)

Preventing Child Maltreatment:
a guide to taking action and generating evidence

World Health Organization
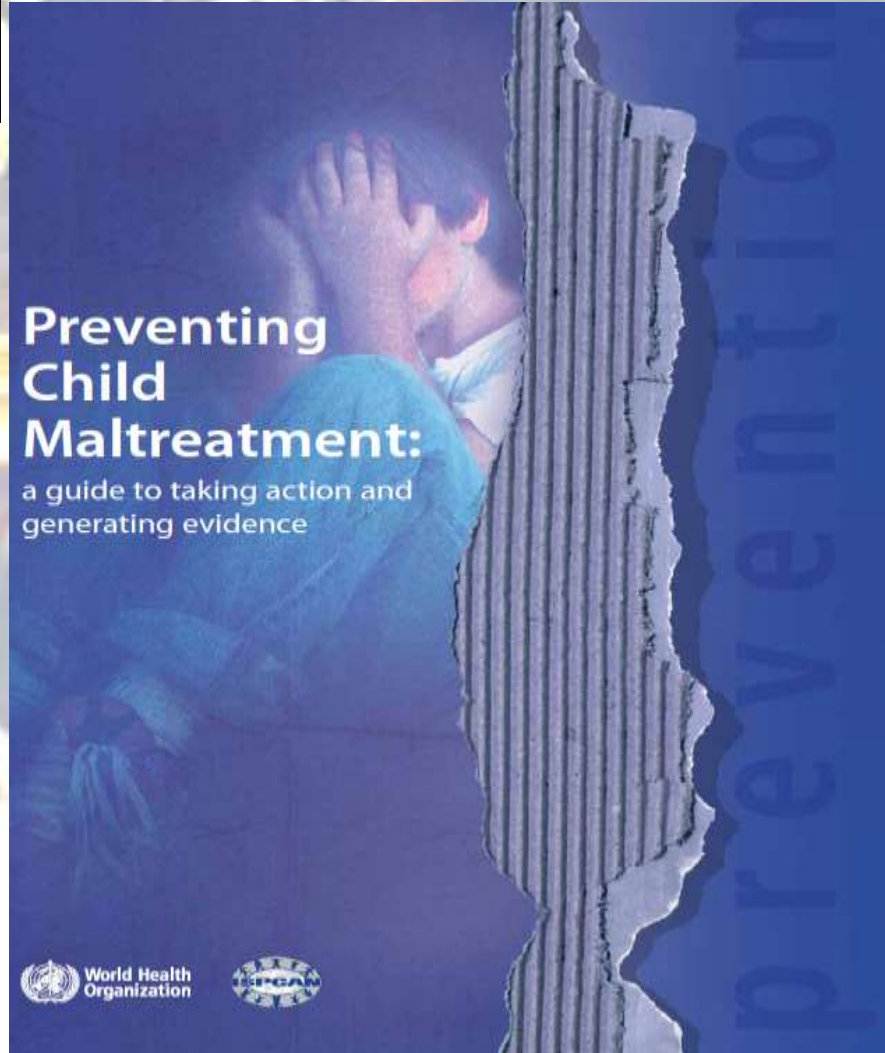
CAN Data Collection: public health approach to child maltreatment

■ A multi-sectoral approach:

■ **4 steps:**

1. surveillance to define the magnitude of the problem

2. analysis to highlight the risk factors and risk groups

3. evaluative research to identify effective interventions

4. implementation of what works at a broader level

(WHO 2007, Preventing child maltreatment in Europe, Violence and Injury Prevention Programme, WHO Regional Office for Europe)

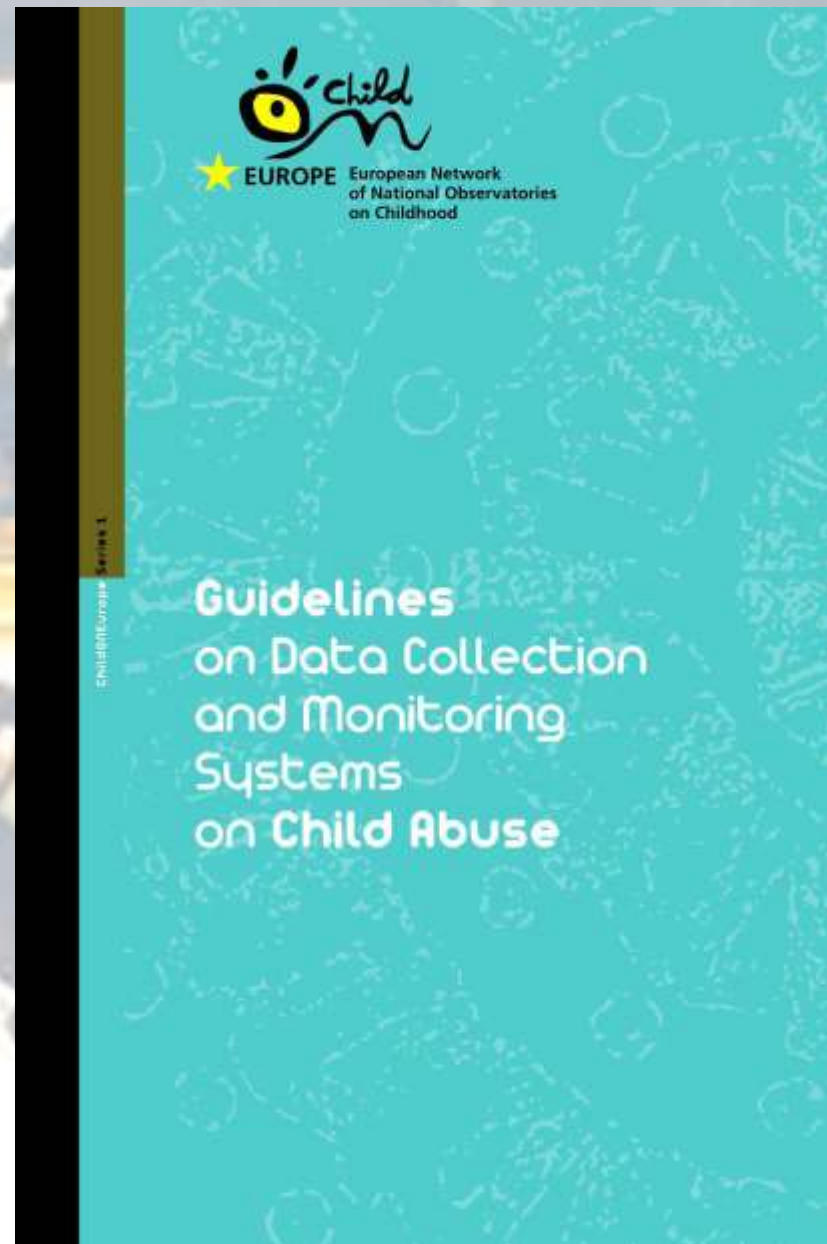# Steps in designing and building a child maltreatment data collection and surveillance system

Adapted from Holder, Peden & Krug et al. (2001).

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CHILDONEUROPE, (2009):
"Guidelines on Data Collection and Monitoring Systems on Child Abuse"

•**Specification among others of Guidelines for:** Administrative CAN-related Data Collection

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Table 2. Examples of Central Registries for the Reporting of CAN cases

Europe	Flanders (Belgium), France, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Slovakia, Bosnia& Herzegovina, Croatia, Romania, Italy, FYROM (only sexual abuse)
USA (states) 2	Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming
Canada (states) 5	✓ (e.g. Manitoba, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Alberta)
Australia (states)	Northern Territory, Western Australia, Tasmania

An overview of CAN Surveillance Systems:

Child abuse & neglect systematic record keeping

An overview of CAN Surveillance Systems:
Type of information most commonly included in department records and central registries

Table 3. Type of data most commonly collected

Categories	Variables								
	Name	Date of birth/ age	Contact Info	Vulnerability factors	Protective or resilience factors	Culture	School info	Relation to child	Health history (mental problems, substance use, domestic violence)
Child-Victim	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Offender	✓	✓						✓	✓
Parents/ caregivers	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓
Roommate(s)	✓	✓						✓	
Reporter	✓		✓					✓	

Category	Variables
Abuse/Neglect	Type of abuse
	Duration and Multiplicity
	Indicators
	Consequences
	Disclosure, claims of the child
	History of abuse
	Name and date of birth/age of other children-possible victims

CAN data reported in the Balkans: the BECAN project

Project's Identity

Contract Number: HEALTH-F2-2009-223478

Type of Project: Collaborative

- Call: FP7-HEALTH-2007-B

- **Co-funding**:
  - Research Directorate General EC
  - 9 Balkan Participating Organizations
- **Duration**: 40 months
  - October 2009 - March 2013
- **Participating countries**
  - Albania
  - Bosnia & Herzegovina
  - Bulgaria
  - Croatia
  - Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
  - Greece
  - Romania
  - Serbia
  - Turkey

Timeline of field survey's data collection

Country		2010	2011							2012				
		Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Albania	AL					Apr — May							
Bosnia & Herzegovina	BA				Mar — May								
Bulgaria	BG		Jan — Jun										
Croatia	HR		Jan — Jun										
F.Y.R. of Macedonia	MK			Feb — Jun									
Greece	EL	Dec — May											
Romania	RO		Jan — Jun										
Serbia	RS		Jan — Jun										
Turkey	TR									Feb — May			

Field Survey's Sample's Characteristics

Country	11-year olds S.S[1]	11-year olds valid I-CH[2]	11-year olds P.R/ R.R[3]	13-year olds S.S[1]	13-year olds valid I-CH[2]	13-year olds P.R/ R.R[3]	16-year olds S.S[1]	16-year olds valid I-CH[2]	16-year olds P.R/ R.R[3]	Total S.S[1]	Total valid I-CH[2]	Total P.R/ R.R[3]
Albania	1.652	1.187	71,85	1.667	1.204	72,23	1.125	937	83,29	**4.444**	**3.328**	**74,89**
Bulgaria*	1.241	662	53,34	1.105	685	61,99	1.273	693	54,44	**3.619**	**2.040**	**56,37**
B & H	1.333	682	51,16	1.340	692	51,64	1.501	1.345	89,61	**4.174**	**2.719**	**65,14**
Croatia	1.744	1.223	70,13	1.771	1.188	67,08	1.492	1.233	82,64	**5.007**	**3.644**	**72,78**
Greece	4.401	2.771	62,96	5.072	3.438	67,78	5.847	4.242	72,55	**15.320**	**10.451**	**68,22**
FYROM	2.058	670	32,56	2.183	791	36,23	1.408	1.121	79,62	**5.649**	**2.582**	**45,71**
Romania*	3.471	1.976	56,93	2.709	1.849	68,25	2.190	2.130	97,26	**8.370**	**5.955**	**71,15**
Serbia	2.131	908	42,61	2.623	1.400	53,37	2.811	1.719	61,15	**7.565**	**4.027**	**53,23**
Turkey	2.913	2.500	85,82	3.162	2.564	81,09	3.027	2.462	81,33	**9.102**	**7.526**	**82,69**
Total	**20.944**	**12.579**	**60,06**	**21.632**	**13.811**	**63,85**	**20.674**	**15.882**	**76,82**	**63.250**	**42.272**	**66,83**

Type of agencies included in case-based surveillance study
per sector, mission and urbanicity

					Country					
	AL	B&H	BG	FYRoM	GR	HR	RO	RS	TR	Total
Total Agencies	7	19	27	10	141	37	13	14	8	**276**
Sector										
Health Sector	7	-	-	2	44	-	-	-	4	57
Social Welfare	1	19	24	8	120	37	13	14	-	236
Judicial Sector	7	-	-	0	10	-	-	-	4	21
Public Order/Police	3	-	3	0	1	-	-	-	-	7
Education/Independent Authorities	1	-	-	0	8	-	-	-	-	9
Mission										
Primary Prevention	6	18	26	8	103	37	11	14	-	223
Secondary Prevention/Support	7	18	18	8	134	37	0	14	-	236
Tertiary Prevention/Treatment	5	19	15	3	71	37	11	14	4	179
Legal Support	5	13	9	7	17	37	8	14	4	114
Geographic area										
Urban	6	19	12	10	56	34	13	14	8	172
Suburban	2	12	11	10	69	20	10	14	-	148
Rural	3	17	4	10	132	22	11	11	-	210

BECAN project's main outcomes

- **Quantitative, empirical documentation of the high rates of children's violence exposure**
- **Innovative documentation of high rates of girls' exposure to physical violence and boys' exposure to sexual violence**
- **Quantitative mapping of authoritative agencies' sensitivity in receiving CAN reports per country**

Internal consistencies within ICAST scales

	Country	Form of children's exposure (scales of the ICAST-CH)					
		Psychological violence	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Contact sexual violence	Feeling of neglect	Positive and non violent parenting
Prevalence	Albania	0,806	0,900	0,819	0,666	0,705	0,354
	B&H	0,834	0,823	0,654	0,536	0,850	0,694
	Bulgaria	0.840	0,817	0,759	0,451	0,749	0,721
	Croatia	0,805	0,781	0,642	0,502	0,808	0,636
	FyroM	0,827	0,852	0,772	0,624	0,712	0,705
	Greece	0,829	0,892	0,827	0,645	0,601	0,724
	Romania	0,825	0,865	0,826	0,708	0,732	0,646
	Serbia	0,840	0,890	0,850	0.652	0.653	0,737
	Turkey	0,857	0,864	N/A	N/A	0,810	0,65
Incidence	Albania	0,806	0,900	0,819	0,666	0,705	0,354
	B&H	0,865	0,897	0,793	0,557	0,748	0,760
	Bulgaria	0.816	0,796	0,705	0,411	0,753	0,672
	Croatia	0,895	0,920	0,858	0,764	0,756	0,807
	FyroM	0,827	0,852	0,772	0,624	0,712	0,705
	Greece	0,830	0,892	0,828	0,645	0,601	0,723
	Romania	0,833	0,887	0,840	0,715	0,734	0,672
	Serbia	0,840	0,890	0,850	0,652	0,653	0,737
	Turkey	0,963	0,992	N/A	N/A	0,873	0,732

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Violence exposure Prevalence rates

Prevalence		Form of children's exposure (scales of the ICAST-CH[ev])											
		Psychological violence		Physical violence		Sexual violence		Contact sexual violence		Feeling of neglect		Positive and non violent parenting	
COUNTRY	Gender	%	95% C.I.	%	95% C.I.	%	95% C.I.	%	95% C.I.	%	95% C.I.	%	95% C.I.
ALBANIA	Female	70,09	67,97 - 72,20	60,65	58,40 - 62,91	8,22	6,95 - 9,49	2,06	1,40 - 2,72	30,74	28,61 - 32,87	95,23	94,24 - 96,21
	Male	66,93	64,57 - 69,29	58,16	55,68 - 60,64	14,5	12,73 - 16,27	8,11	6,74 - 9,49	19,79	17,78 - 21,79	93,95	92,75 - 95,15
B & H	Female	73,36	71,04 - 75,67	67,43	64,97 - 69,88	17,93	15,92 - 19,94	7,65	6,26 - 9,04	47,5	44,88 - 50,12	96,57	95,62 - 97,52
	Male	71,67	69,15 - 74,20	68,25	65,64 - 70,86	19,47	17,25 - 21,70	12,25	10,41 - 14,10	30,79	28,20 - 33,38	95,42	94,25 - 96,59
BULGARIA	Female	68,83	66,02 - 71,6	59,87	56,90 - 62,83	7,91	6,28 - 9,55	4,29	3,06 - 5,52	25,93	23,28 - 28,58	92,56	90,98 - 94,15
	Male	70,23	67,39 - 73,0	64,58	61,71 - 67,66	9,28	7,48 - 11,0	5,55	4,12 - 6,98	21,29	18,74 - 23,84	91,83	90,12 - 93,53
CROATIA	Female	73,54	71,53 - 75,54	66,38	64,23 - 68,53	11,96	10,48 - 13,4	5,18	4,17 - 6,18	40,56	38,33 - 42,79	97,91	97,26 - 98,56
	Male	72,53	70,45 - 74,60	67,1	64,91 - 69,29	8,31	7,03 - 9,6	3,8	2,90 - 4,69	29,77	27,64 - 31,90	96,51	95,66 - 97,37
F.Y.R.o.M.	Female	63,7	61,21 - 66,8	49,03	46,44 - 51,61	6,01	4,78 - 7,2	2,47	1,66 - 3,28	30,96	28,57 - 33,36	83,66	81,75 - 85,57
	Male	65,68	62,93 - 68,4	52,71	49,82 - 55,60	9,64	7,91 - 11,3	5,5	4,16 - 6,84	23,07	20,62 - 25,52	84,13	82,02 - 86,25
GREECE	Female	83,76	82,78 - 84,74	77,37	76,26 - 78,48	16,62	15,63 - 17,6	7,76	7,05 - 8,47	42,83	41,52 - 44,14	98,43	98,10 - 98,76
	Male	82,5	81,44 - 83,5	75,27	74,07 - 76,47	15,02	14,03 - 16,0	7,42	6,68 - 8,15	30,96	29,67 - 32,25	97,91	97,51 - 98,30
ROMANIA	Female	76,91	75,48 - 78,3	65,57	63,94 - 67,19	7,9	6,98 - 8,82	3,01	2,43 - 3,60	26,56	25,05 - 28,07	96,43	95,80 - 97,06
	Male	76,51	74,88 - 78,18	68,79	67,01 - 70,57	7,91	6,87 - 8,95	4,26	3,48 - 5,04	17,57	16,10 - 19,03	95,37	94,57 - 96,18
SERBIA	Female	71,31	69,31 - 73,31	68,57	66,52 - 70,63	7,53	6,36 - 8,70	3,79	2,95 - 4,64	34,56	32,45 - 36,67	97,96	97,33 - 98,58
	Male	65,72	63,67 - 67,76	69,76	67,77 - 71,74	9,39	8,13 - 10,65	5,95	4,9 2 - 6,97	23,38	21,55 - 25,21	96,76	95,99 - 97,52
TURKEY	Female	70,89	69,43 - 72,35	56,12	54,52 - 57,72	N/A		N/A		48,12	46,51 - 49,73	94,65	93,92 - 95,37
	Male	70,28	68,83 - 71,73	60,58	59,03 - 62,14	N/A		N/A		37,25	35,71 - 38,79	93,19	92,39 - 93,99

C.I.: Confidence Interval

N/A: non available; the sexual violence scale was not included in the ICAST-CH questionnaire

Prevalence rate: percentage of children reporting having experienced at least 1 behavior of the scale during their entire life time (either in the past year or before)

Violence exposure Incidence rates

Incidence		Form of children's exposure (scales of the ICAST-CH[rev.])											
		Psychological violence		Physical violence		Sexual violence		Contact sexual violence		Feeling of neglect		Positive and non violent parenting	
COUNTRY	Gender	%	95% C.I.	%	95% C.I.	%	95% C.I.	%	95% C.I.	%	95% C.I.	%	95% C.I.
ALBANIA	Female	63,37	61,15 - 65,60	48,83	46,53 - 51,14	6	4,90 - 7,10	1,39	0,85 - 1,93	26,68	24,64 - 28,73	93,4	82,25 - 94,54
	Male	59,83	57,37 - 62,29	48,03	45,51 - 50,54	12,85	11,17 - 14,54	7,26	5,95 - 8,56	16,09	14,25 - 17,94	92,57	91,25 - 93,88
B & H	Female	65,93	63,45 - 68,41	49,79	47,17 - 52,40	12,43	10,70 - 14,16	5,65	4,44 - 6,86	40,5	37,93 - 43,07	95,5	94,41 - 96,59
	Male	62,04	59,32 - 64,7	52,62	49,82 - 55,42	15,04	13,03 - 17,0	10,03	8,34 - 11,72	25,04	22,61 - 27,47	93,13	91,71 -94,55
BULGARIA	Female	61,77	58,83 - 64,7	47,28	44,26 - 50,30	6,96	5,42 - 8,50	3,72	2,57 - 4,86	22,21	19,70 - 24,73	90,75	89,00 - 92,51
	Male	62,66	59,65 - 65,68	49,75	46,63 - 52,86	8,07	6,38 - 9,77	5,05	3,68 - 6,41	17,46	15,09 - 19,82	89,51	87,60 - 91,41
CROATIA	Female	66,4	64,25 - 68,4	44,58	42,32 - 46,83	8,03	6,79 - 9,6	3,34	2,52 - 4,16	33,67	31,53 - 35,82	96,78	95,98 - 97,58
	Male	64,94	62,73 - 67,6	46,56	44,24 - 48,88	6,33	5,20 - 7,7	3,17	2,36 - 3,99	23,33	21,36 - 25,30	95,56	94,60 - 96,51
F.Y.R.o.M.	Female	59,81	57,27 - 62,4	40,18	37,65 - 42,72	4,89	3,77 - 6,1	2,26	1,49 - 3,04	28,73	26,39 - 31,07	82,82	80,87 - 84,77
	Male	60,71	57,89 - 63,4	45,19	42,31 - 48,08	8,3	6,69 - 9,2	4,78	3,52 - 6,03	20,09	17,76 - 22,41	83,26	81,10 - 85,42
GREECE	Female	69,95	68,73 - 71,6	46,58	45,25 - 47,90	8,87	8,11 - 9,2	3,5	3,01 - 3,99	30,88	29,65 - 32,10	96,59	96,11 - 97,07
	Male	70,11	68,83 - 71,8	48,26	46,87 - 49,65	10,28	9,43 - 11,3	5,5	4,86 - 6,14	21,45	20,31 - 22,60	95,79	95,23 - 96,35
ROMANIA	Female	66,02	64,41 - 67,64	42,29	40,60 - 43,97	4,65	3,93 - 5,37	1,46	1,05 - 1,87	19,44	18,09 - 20,79	93,59	92,75 - 94,42
	Male	65,93	64,11 - 67,7	47,7	45,78 - 49,62	5,4	4,53 - 6,27	2,86	2,22 - 3,51	13,1	11,80 - 14,39	92,77	91,78 - 93,76
SERBIA	Female	63,25	61,11 - 65,3	45,94	43,73 - 48,15	4,92	3,96 - 5,88	2,51	1,82 - 3,21	27,66	25,68 - 29,64	95,05	94,09 - 96,01
	Male	56,19	54,05 - 58,33	46,99	44,84 - 49,15	7,49	6,36 - 8,63	4,82	3,90 - 5,75	18,28	16,61 - 19,95	94,14	93,13 - 95,15
TURKEY	Female	63,06	61,50 - 64,61	43,61	42,01 - 45,21	N/A		N/A		43,09	41,50 - 44,69	91,73	90,84 - 92,62
	Male	62,59	61,05 - 64,12	48,45	46,86 - 50,04	N/A		N/A		32,14	30,65 - 33,62	89,79	88,82 - 90,75

C.I.: Confidence Interval

N/A: non available; the sexual violence scale was not included in the ICAST-CH questionnaire

Incidence rate: percentage of children reporting having experienced at least 1 behavior of the scale "during the past year (previous 12 months)

Percentages of children reporting exposure to multiple violence' type

Different types of Violent experience		Albania	B&H	Bulgaria	Croatia	FyroM	Greece	Romania	Serbia	Turkey
Prevalence	2	31,4	27,7	30,5	28,9	28,6	35,5	30,3	29,6	33,2
	3	19,8	27,1	25,4	32,4	18,2	30,4	5,5	28,3	24,2
	4	5,1	10,93	5,6	6,6	2,4	9,3	5,5	5,4	
Multiple victimization (2-4 types)[1]		**56,4**	**65,7**	**61.6**	**67,9**	**49,2**	**75,2**	**41,3**	**63,3**	**57,4**
Incidence	2	28,3	27,6	29,9	28,2	28,0	31,2	29,0	26,8	29,6
	3	13,9	18,5	16,2	20,5	13,1	14,8	14,5	15,8	16,7
	4	3,1	5,9	3,9	3,3	1,4	3,4	2,1	2,9	
Multiple victimization (2-4 types)[1]		**45.3**	**52,0**	**49.0**	**52,0**	**42,5**	**49,4**	**45,6**	**45,5**	**46,3**

1. Multiple victimization was operationally defined as a child's exposure in more than one (up to 4) types of violent experiences, namely to psychological, physical and sexual violence as well as to domestic violence (items 11, 12, 13a and 14) of the ICAST-CH.

Sex differences between countries' results

	Form of children's exposure (scales of the ICAST-CH)											
	Psychological		Physical		Sexual		Contact sexual		Feeling of neglect		Positive parenting	
COUNTRY	PR.[1]	INC.[2]	PR.[1]	INC.[2]	PR.[1]	INC.[2]	PR.[1]	INC.[2]	PR.[1]	INC.[2]	PR.[1]	INC.[2]
ALBANIA	3,16	3,54	2,49	0,80	-6,28	-6,85	-6,05	-5,87	10,95	10,59	1,28	0,83
B & H	1,69	3,89	-0,82	-2,83	-1,54	-2,61	-4,60	-4,38	16,71	15,46	1,15	2,37
BULGARIA	-1,40	-0,89	-4,71	-2,47	-1,37	-1,11	-1,26	-1,33	4,64	4,75	0,73	1,24
CROATIA	1,01	1,46	-0,72	-1,98	3,65	1,70	1,38	0,17	10,79	10,34	1,40	1,22
FYROM	-1,98	-0,90	-3,68	-5,01	-3,63	-3,41	-3,03	-2,52	7,89	8,64	-0,47	-0,44
GREECE	1,26	-0,16	2,10	-1,68	1,60	-1,41	0,34	-2,00	11,87	9,43	0,52	0,80
ROMANIA	0,40	0,09	-3,22	-5,41	-0,01	-0,75	-1,25	-1,40	8,99	6,34	1,06	0,82
SERBIA	5,59	7,06	-1,19	-1,05	-1,86	-2,57	-2,16	-2,31	11,18	9,38	1,20	0,91
TURKEY	0,61	0,47	-4,46	-4,84	N/A*				10,87	10,95	1,46	1,94

[1]. **PR. = Prevalence:** percentage of children reporting having experienced at least 1 behavior of the scale during their entire life time (either in the past year or before)

[2]. **INC. = Incidence:** percentage of children reporting having experienced at least 1 behavior of the scale [independently of the frequency score declared under "During the past year (previous 12 months)"]

* the sexual violence scale was not included in the ICAST-CH questionnaire

Overall conclusions

- Almost half of the children reported at least one experience of exposure to physical violence during the year prior to research in all participating countries, while almost two out of three report such a history during their childhood. Rates of exposure to psychological violence appear even higher, reaching in many of the participating countries almost two thirds of responding children for incidence and even three quarters on some occasions for prevalence. Such an image can be better understood when combined with sex distribution figures: pace standard conceptualization and prior research reports that physical violence predominantly concerns boys; this particular research advocates for a more equated distribution pattern with male to female ratios being almost equivalent to one and in some cases females' report exceeding male ones.

- Increased rates of self-reported exposure to sexual violence of children were found as well, even more alarmingly regarding contact sexual violence. In that type there was also an almost equation of boys : girls ratio with small predominance of boys in younger ages and reverse trend in adolescent children while rates in urban areas exceed ones in rural ones in younger children while the ratio is reversed in adolescent children implying the possibility of two potential patterns of children's exposure to sexual violence: one in smaller children and one in adolescents (the later more resembling features of adult sexual violence). In any case, a good portion of self-reported sexual victimization seems to occur between 13 and 16 years of age of children victims.

- Finally, subjective feelings of neglect are clearly reported more by female children. Moreover, further analysis showed that these feelings, especially in girls, increase in percentages as moving to higher school grade groups, namely as moving towards adulthood. This finding was also more or less consistent for most of the participating countries.

CBSS $^0/_{00}$ CAN rates per sex and per country

All forms of CAN
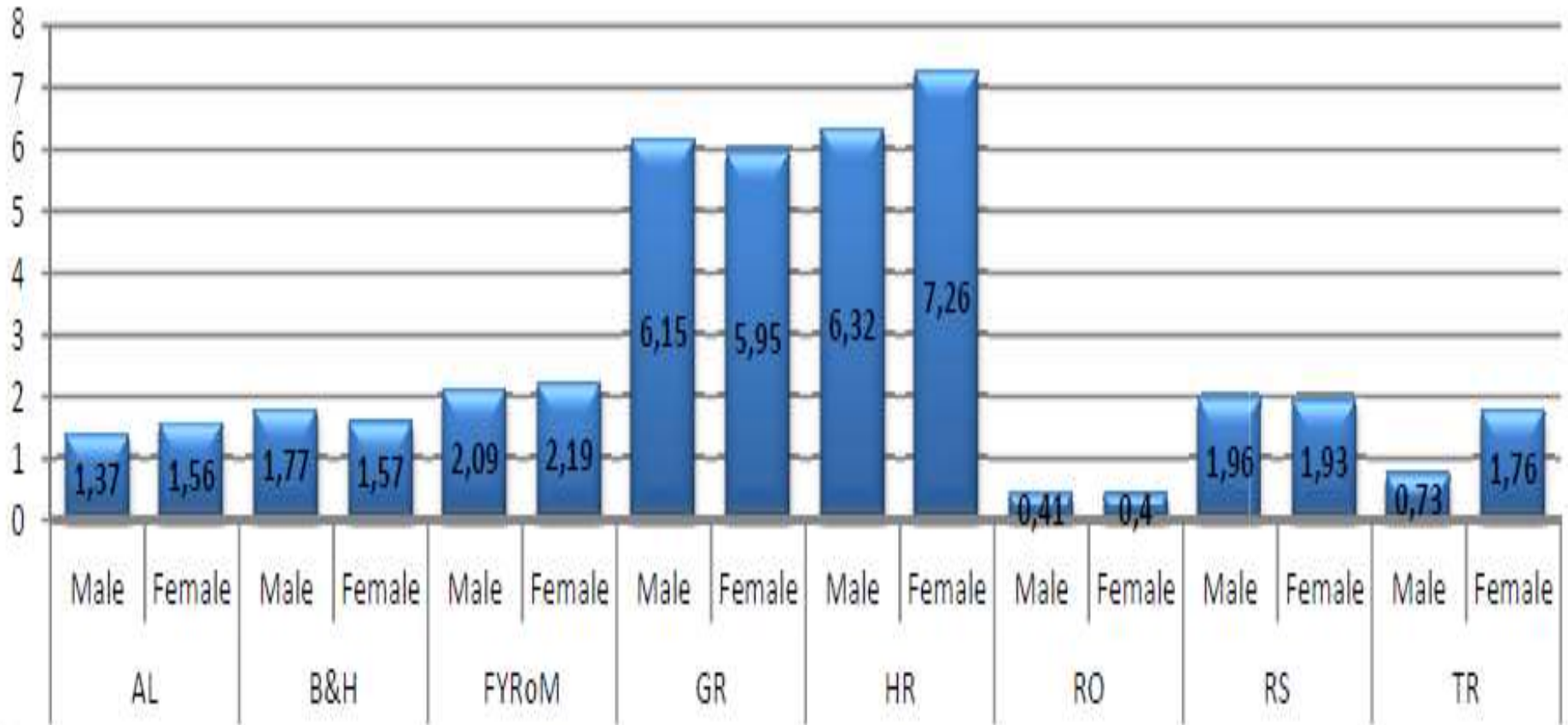
BECAN Website & Forum www.becan.eu

Council of Europe's Lanzarote Committee's current monitoring round on CAN data collection mechanisms in CoE's member states (2014-2015)

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Overall characteristics -1

- Incommensurability of countries' existing mechanisms
- Situation varies especially by:
  - Sector involved (welfare, health, justice, law enforcement)
  - Registering unit (child, incident, offence, offender, family)
  - Aggregative or case based data resources
- Respectful variation in respect to registering data for victims, offenders or both and/or offences
- Respectful variation of variables registered

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Predominant and secondary resources of data collection

Sector	Predominant	Supplementary
Social Welfare	Belgium, Bosnia, Bulgaria, France, Iceland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Spain, F.Y.R. of Macedonia	Austria, Croatia, Denmark, Montenegro, San Marino
Justice	Austria, Croatia, Finland, San Marino, Turkey, Ukraine	Belgium, Bosnia, France, Iceland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, Portugal
Law Enforcement	Albania, Portugal	Austria, Belgium, Iceland, Finland, Spain
Health	Greece, Montenegro	Iceland, Portugal, San Marino, Serbia, Spain

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Type of data collection

Case based data for the victim	Some short of data for the victim	Case based data for the offence	Case based data for offenders	Some short of data for the offenders
France, Iceland, San Marino, Serbia and partially Belgium	Austria, Belgium, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, F.Y.R. of Macedonia, Iceland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Romania, Serbia, Spain and maybe some more	Albania, Austria, Croatia, France, Lithuania, Moldova, Portugal, Spain, Ukraine and possibly also Iceland, Finland and other countries	Austria, Croatia, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands and Serbia	Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Malta and Serbia and some more

Case based vs. Aggregative data

Case based data	Aggregative data
Austria, partially Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Iceland, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia and Spain	Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Iceland, Lithuania, Malta, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, and Spain but also probably in some others reporting keeping records of case based data (which can be easily aggregated)

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Overall characteristics - 2

- In general, not specific mechanisms but:
  - either general CAN/CP data collection systems or
  - general administrative data registering practices (i.e. juridical cases/hospital records)
- Lack of linkage between data collected by different sectors (in most of cases)
- General lack of appointment of focal points or mandated agency to collect data (apart from National Strategic Plans etc)
- Lack of consideration regarding quality of data collection, adequacy of existing mechanism, coverage of data collection, ongoing improvements etc

Other remarks

- Some countries are currently developing data collection mechanisms (Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Turkey)

- Some parties have other existing registering resources on children victims of trafficking (Bosnia, Italy, Moldavia, Romania, Serbia), victims of child pornography (Italy), one-off research mapping initiatives (Greece, Italy) or other such registries

- Some form of registering the relationship between the victim and the offender exists in countries such as Austria, part of Belgium, Croatia, Portugal and San Marino

- Countries that have some mandated service for assessment of CSA allegations (Child Advocacy Centers, Child Protection Centers etc) seem to enriched have case based and aggregative information registered

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Response: EU/DAPHNE-funded project CAN-MDS

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"Coordinated Response to Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) via Minimum Data Set (MDS)"
http://www.can-via-mds.eu/

CAN-MDS Toolkit **+** Synergy **+** Capacity **+** Lobbying **=** Coordinated response to Child Abuse & Neglect

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WELCOME

Child abuse and neglect (CAN) case-based data across the EU are derived from a variety of intersectoral sources and follow up of victims at local & national level is not sufficiently coordinated among the involved services. The main barriers for effective CAN monitoring are the lack of common operational definitions, registering practices and the use of a variety of methods & tools for data collection & sharing among stakeholders.At international level, given that existing surveillance mechanisms vary considerably in coverage and completeness, comparisons are not feasible. The Project "Coordinated Response to Child Abuse and Neglect via Minimum Data Set" [JUST/2012/DAP/AG/3250] co-founded under Daphne III Programme aims at creating the scientific basis, tools & synergies for establishing national CAN monitoring systems using a minimum data set (MDS). Such systems would provide comprehensive, reliable and comparable case-based information at national level for children who have used protection services (social, health, educational, etc. depending on countries' specifics) also facilitating CAN monitoring at EU

USER LOGIN

Promoting evidence based child protection in Greece

BECAN project for Greece: documenting the iceberg phenomenon

- **First time ever of empirical grounding and quantitative estimation of the discrepancy between actual occurrence and administrative awareness of CAN ("the iceberg phenomenon"): the case of Greece**
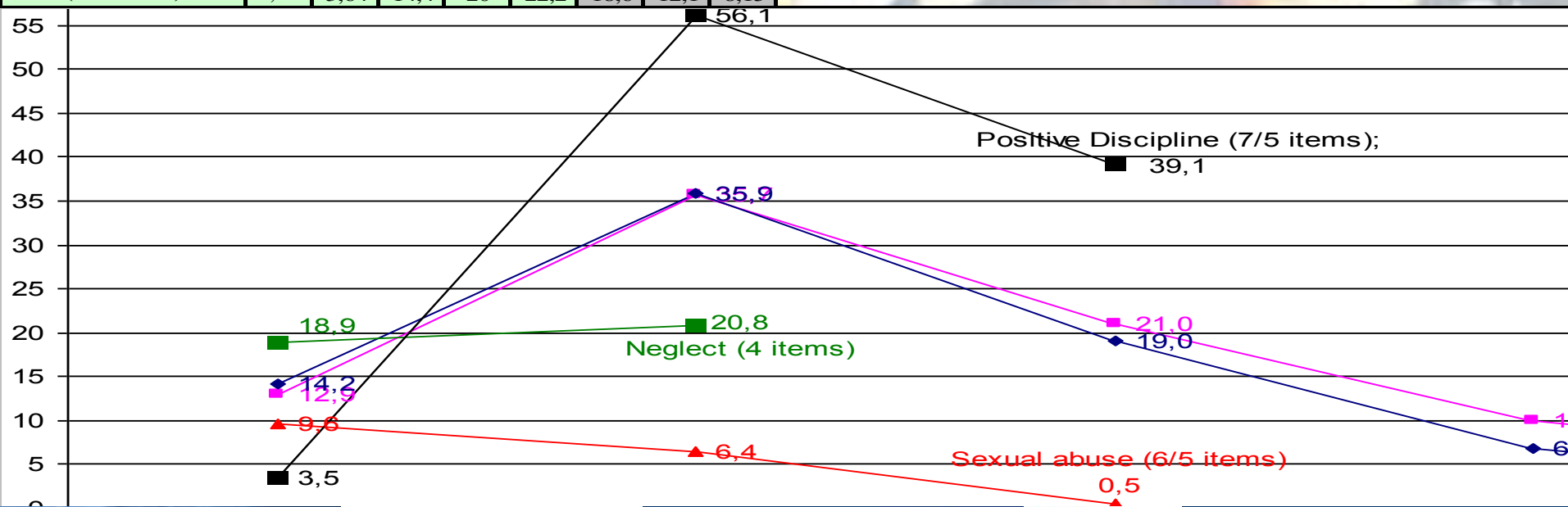
Overall rates of self-reported children's exposure to violence in Greece
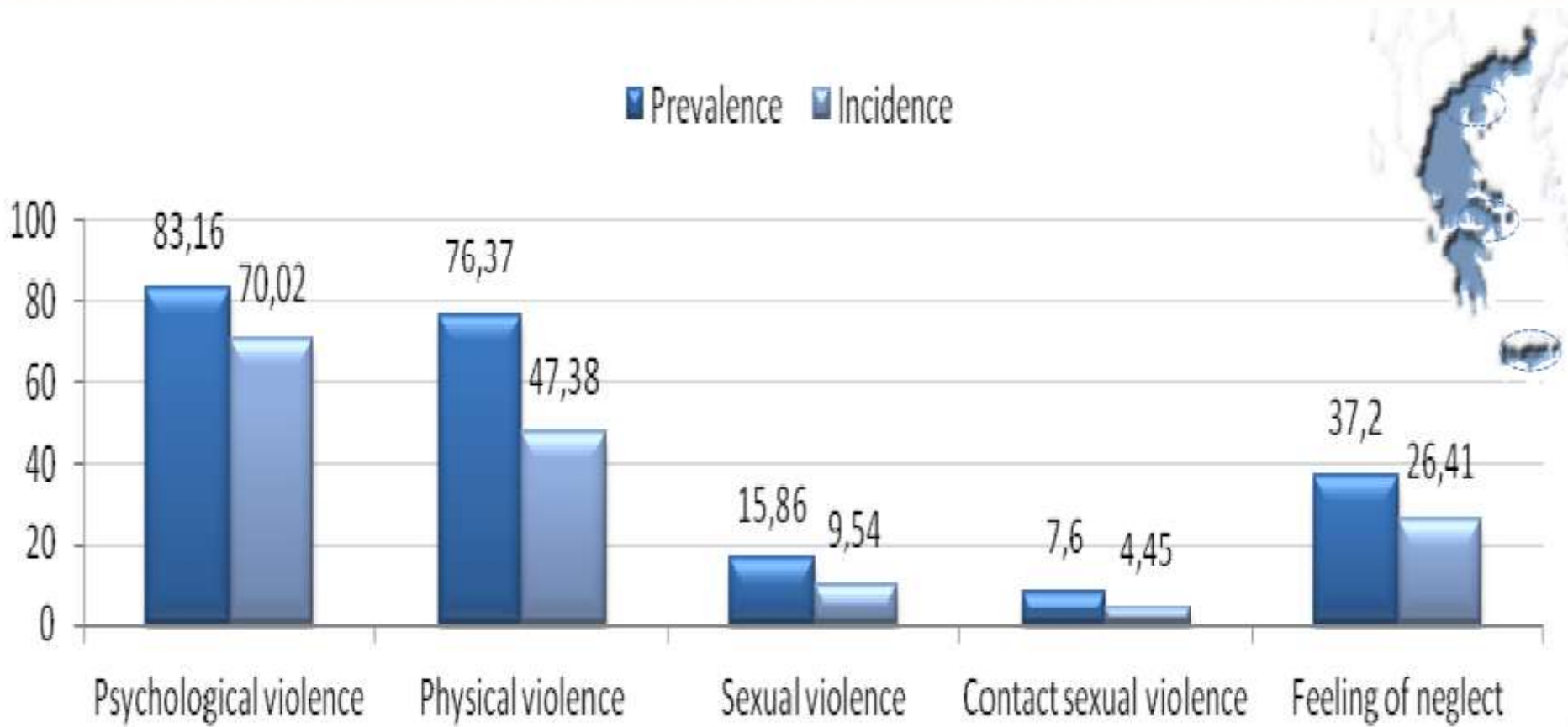
Children's multiple victimization estimates

	Number of different behaviors (items) experienced by children during life time																			
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Psychological abuse (19/17 items)	15,4	13,6	13,3	13,2	9,85	8,83	6,63	4,89	4,04	2,89	2,35	1,59	1,59	0,61	0,46	0,38	0,28	0,18	0,05	0
	14,7	12,2	12,5	11,8	10,9	8,48	7,04	6,04	4,3	3,51	2,88	1,98	1,37	0,86	0,6	0,44	0,35	0,05	0,02	0
Physical abuse (16/15 items)	22,5	13,8	13,4	11,2	9,58	8,47	6,32	4,85	3,46	2,45	1,47	1,01	0,7	0,31	0,18	0,23	0,46			
	21,1	14,5	13,5	13,3	10,5	7,22	6,59	4,61	3,03	2,26	1,07	1,16	0,65	0,26	0,12	0,05	0,33			
Sexual abuse (6/5 items)	84,1	9,21	3,78	1,63	0,84	0,21	0,26													
	82,9	10	3,58	1,85	1,1	0,4	0,19													
Neglect (4 items)	66,2	17,8	9,13	5,63	1,23															
	55	19,9	12,8	10,7	1,56															
Positive Discipline (7/5 items)	1,44	3,42	12,7	20,9	22	18,4	12,4	8,64												
	1,06	3,64	14,4	20	22,2	18,6	12,1	8,15												

56,1

Positive Discipline (7/5 items); 39,1

35,9

18,9   20,8   Neglect (4 items)

21,0

14,2   12,5   19,0

9,6

6,4   Sexual abuse (6/5 items)
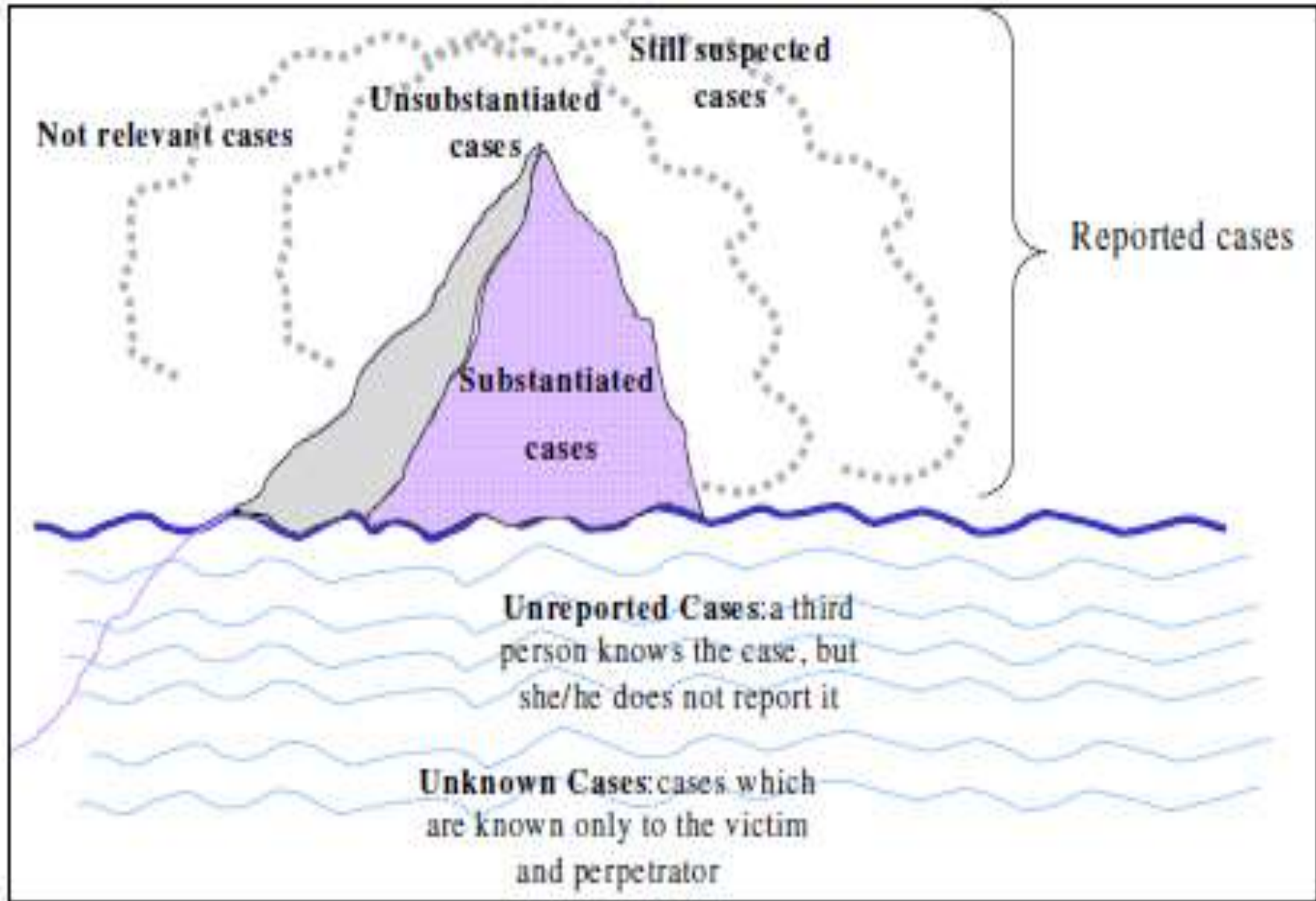
3,5   0,5   6,

Case-based Surveillance BECAN Study (CBSS)
Administrative Data Collection Research's outcome:
Child maltreatment incidence rates (per 1000 children) for 2010 according to authoritative organizations' records and files

	Total			Attica			Crete		
	male	female	total	male	female	total	male	female	Total
Children population (National Statistical Service, 2001)									
Age group 0-4	106.605	100.789	**207.394**	89.362	84.392	**173.754**	17.243	16.397	**33.640**
5-9	107.755	101.719	**209.474**	90.454	85.706	**176.160**	17.301	16.013	**33.314**
10-14	115.330	107.145	**222.475**	96.872	90.582	**187.454**	18.458	16.563	**35.021**
Subtotal	*329.690*	*309.653*	*639.343*	*276.688*	*260.680*	*537.368*	*53.002*	*48.973*	*101.975*
15-19	144.512	136.810	**281.322**	122.598	117.282	**239.880**	21.914	19.528	**41.442**
Total	**329.690**	**309.653**	**639.343**	**276.688**	**260.680**	**537.368**	**53.002**	**48.973**	**101.975**
CAN cases extracted for 2010 (141 agencies; Attica=127, Crete=14)									
Age group 0-4	474	420	**929**	409	363	**804**	65	57	**125**
5-9	799	583	**1.405**	666	469	**1157**	133	114	**248**
10-14	733	615	**1.355**	591	490	**1088**	142	125	**267**
Subtotal	*2006*	*1618*	*3689*	*1666*	*1322*	*3049*	*340*	*296*	*640*
15-18	358	386	**750**	279	327	**612**	79	59	**138**
Total *(for 84 cases sex is unknown)*	**2.364**	**2.004**	**4.439**	**1945**	**1649**	**3661**	**419**	**355**	**778**
CAN annual incidence (2010) per 1000 children									
Age group 0-4	4,45	4,17	**4,48**	4,58	4,30	**4,63**	3,77	3,48	**3,72**
5-9	7,41	5,73	**6,71**	7,36	5,47	**6,57**	7,69	7,12	**7,44**
10-14	6,36	5,74	**6,09**	6,10	5,41	**5,80**	7,69	7,55	**7,62**
Total	**6,08**	**5,23**	**5,77**	**6,02**	**5,07**	**5,67**	**6,41**	**6,04**	**6,29**
15-18*									

*the comparison is not feasible due to different age range (15-19 vs. 15-18)

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However, if someone compares what is found by children's reports and recorded cases, figures – however inaccurate – speak for themselves…

Incidence Rates	Type of exposure to violence				
	Psychological	Physical	Sexual	Contact Sexual	Neglect
Self-reported Syrvey	70,02	47,38	9,54	4,45	26,41
Reported Cases Study	0,53	0,18	0,07		0,46
Ratio	0,76	0,38	0,73	1,57	1,74

- Results presented are concerning prefectures of Attica and Crete referring to calendar year 2010 (field survey vs. case-based surveillance study's results). Extrapolation was calculated for CBSS's results based on national statistics on children's population and the ration of participation of agencies to the study in respect to the totality of agencies dealing with CAN cases.

- Even if one doubles first row's figures (in virtue of non-collaborating agencies), even if one divides by 10 second row's figures (for counting only more severe cases of children's adverse experiences), conclusion still remains the same in terms of social policy deficits:

- **In Greece some professional assistance is provided to less than 1 in 10 children experiencing some short of violence, victimization or in any case adverse experience**

- **It is the first time that the "iceberg" phenomenon on CAN cases was quantitatively documented**

Response: Building a comprehensive and inter-sectoral national registry for CAN cases in Greece

Steps in designing and implementing a CAN surveillance system in Greece

1. Conducting an extended literature review on procedures and variables of other countries' CAN registering or surveillance systems

2. Conducting a similar review on available data by national research (one-off) resources

3. Drafting accordingly a first set of potential variables to be included in the Hellenic system

4. Conducting a first round of consultation with 5 top experts (consensus panel) of various sectors and professional background and consequently concluding to a smaller variables' list

5. Conducting a second round of public consultation with 50 experts by various sectors and professions involved as well as leading national scientific associations and consequently concluding to the list of variables for the pilot phase

6. Developing software application for implementation of the registering system

7. Piloting the registry with 5 major volunteering organization by governmental and NGO sectors and consequent readjustment based on that experience

8. Continuing recruitment of organizations and agencies for adopting the usage of the registry (bottom-up process)

9. Concluding final variables and procedures' set and begin normal operational mode

10. Ongoing regular re-assessment of the registry's main features

Final Outcome: the system in short

- An electronic database in which professionals will register all reported cases of child abuse and neglect.

- Data from various sources (social services, healthcare settings, law enforcement, justice).

- Variables regarding the victim, the incident of maltreatment, the alleged perpetrator, the investigation status and possible risk factors.

Variables (1)

a. User
1. Username
2. Password
3. Region
4. Regional Unit
5. Municipality
6. Name of the agency/service
7. Access date

b. Child
1. ID number of the child
2. Gender
3. Age
4. Citizenship
5. Availability of address
6. Residence
7. Working status
9. Permanent residence
10. School attendance

11. Social Insurance
12. Biological parents
13. Roommates ID
14. Report of CAN regarding another child

Variables (2)

c. Maltreatment

15. Type

16. Referral source

16. Date of the 1st referral

17. Name of the agency/service that received the 1st report

18. Date of the first report

19. Duration or multiplicity of the abuse

20. Date of the 1st incident of abuse

d. Case Investigation

21. Investigation result

22. Police involvement

23. Justice involvement

24. Agencies/services involved

Variables (3)

e. Alleged perpetrator

25. Relationship to the child

26. Gender

27. Age group

28. Confirmation of the perpetrator

29. Referral to the court

30. Jurisdiction

f. Clinical intervention

31. Therapeutic intervention on the child

32. Therapeutic intervention on the family

33. Therapeutic intervention on the perpetrator

g. Risk factors

34. Of the child

35. Of the family

36. Of the alleged perpetrator

Greece's National CAN registry's comprehensive goals and objectives

- ❏ **Register all reported cases of child maltreatment**
- ❏ **Measure the scope and magnitude of child maltreatment**
- ❏ **Develop a network for the effective collaboration and coordination**
  of all professionals involved in child abuse and neglect cases
- ❏ **Inform and guide professional practice**
- ❏ **Unifying criteria for detecting and classifying child abuse cases**
- ❏ **Inform and guide policy makers of possible risks and trends**
  affecting health and safety
- ❏ **Prevent multiple victimization**
- ❏ **Set priorities for prevention and intervention**

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The process is currently ongoing moving through expert's panels and public consultation's rounds towards pilot phase...

anticipated to be completed by mid 2015

National CAN diagnosis protocol and National CAN cases' Registry for Greece
http://www.esa-kapa-p.gr/

Web-based resources: our Department: http://ich-mhsw.gr/

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Thank you very much!!!

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