



This publication arises from the project "AURORA" which has received funding from the European Union in the framework of the Health Programme.

Description of the project

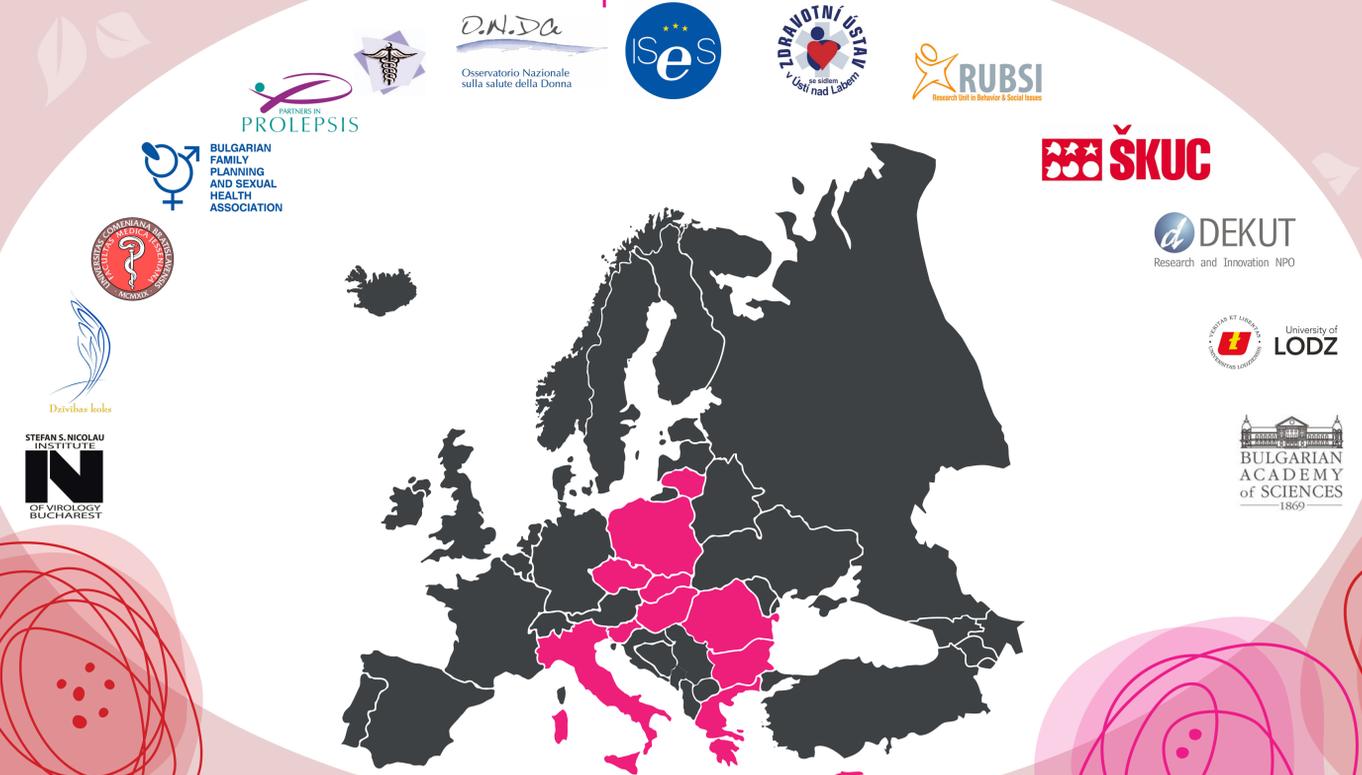
AURORA is developed according to the Council Recommendation on cancer screening - (2003/878/EC) and according to the European guidelines for quality assurance in Cervical Cancer Screening - 2nd edition

14 partners around Europe are cooperating in **AURORA** project, sharing the same concept that prevention activities can significantly reduce the incidence of cervical cancer in Europe. Based on this concept and on the European Recommendations **AURORA** mission is to promote the implementation of high quality population based prevention for cervical cancer in the new EU-states through exchanging know-how and expertise, training of healthcare professionals and collaboration among experts and stakeholders. Furthermore, **AURORA** consortium believes that advocacy is essential to stimulate governmental authorities to implement cervical cancer prevention and therefore the project mission includes the training of advocacy leaders.

AURORA project is particularly dedicated to the Hard to reach population (HTRP), considered as those sections of the community that are difficult to involve in public participation. The term can be used to refer to minority group such as ethnic group, sometimes to hidden populations such as illegal immigrants, sometimes to unserved groups (no services available for these groups) or service "resistants" (people failing to access the services that are available).

Key words: Cervical cancer prevention, Hard to reach populations, Training, Advocacy, Pilot Action

European Partners



Activities

AURORA activities are organised in 8 WPs (work packages) during 36 months.

The main results of **AURORA** will be:

- Analysis of the local contexts and needs of the participating countries, useful to stakeholders to organize more effective training and prevention activities.
- Manual on good practices with identification of common strategies in the fight against Cervical Cancer and promotion of the Screening.
- Training of 24 healthcare professionals.
- Training of 12 advocacy leaders to broad coalition with stakeholders and to influence public policies on Cervical Cancer Screening.
- E-learning platform to offer distance courses to all interested key actors.
- EU Network of Pilot Healthcare Centres to offer quality services.

AURORA project update

The project started in 14 Jan 2011, as far as nowadays the following activities have been completed:

- **Analysis of the local context available on the **AURORA** project website:**
[http://www.aurora-project.eu/upload/deliverables/AURORA Analysis of the local context D3.pdf](http://www.aurora-project.eu/upload/deliverables/AURORA_Analysis_of_the_local_context_D3.pdf)
It has been carried out in all the project participating countries with the aim to collect information about Cervical Cancer epidemiology, Screening and vaccination programmes, and on hard to reach population groups; these groups have been identified in each context and their particular needs have been assessed as part of the analysis.
- **Report about the good practices available on the **AURORA** project website:**
[http://www.aurora-project.eu/upload/deliverables/D4 Report about the Good Practices.pdf](http://www.aurora-project.eu/upload/deliverables/D4_Report_about_the_Good_Practices.pdf)
Good practices are collected from partner countries (covering most New EU Member States) as well as "gold standard" countries.
- **E-learning platform** is online on the **AURORA** project website: <http://www.aurora-project.eu/en/web/e-learning-34>
3 modules (scientific background, communication and advocacy) tailored for healthcare professionals and advocacy leaders
- Training for healthcare professionals and advocacy leaders is planned for **October, 24-26 2012 in Milan.**
- **The network of pilot centers** will be completed within the end of the project.