


VICTIM SUPPORT AND
PROTECTION
ROSA 2005 – 2010
NORWAY



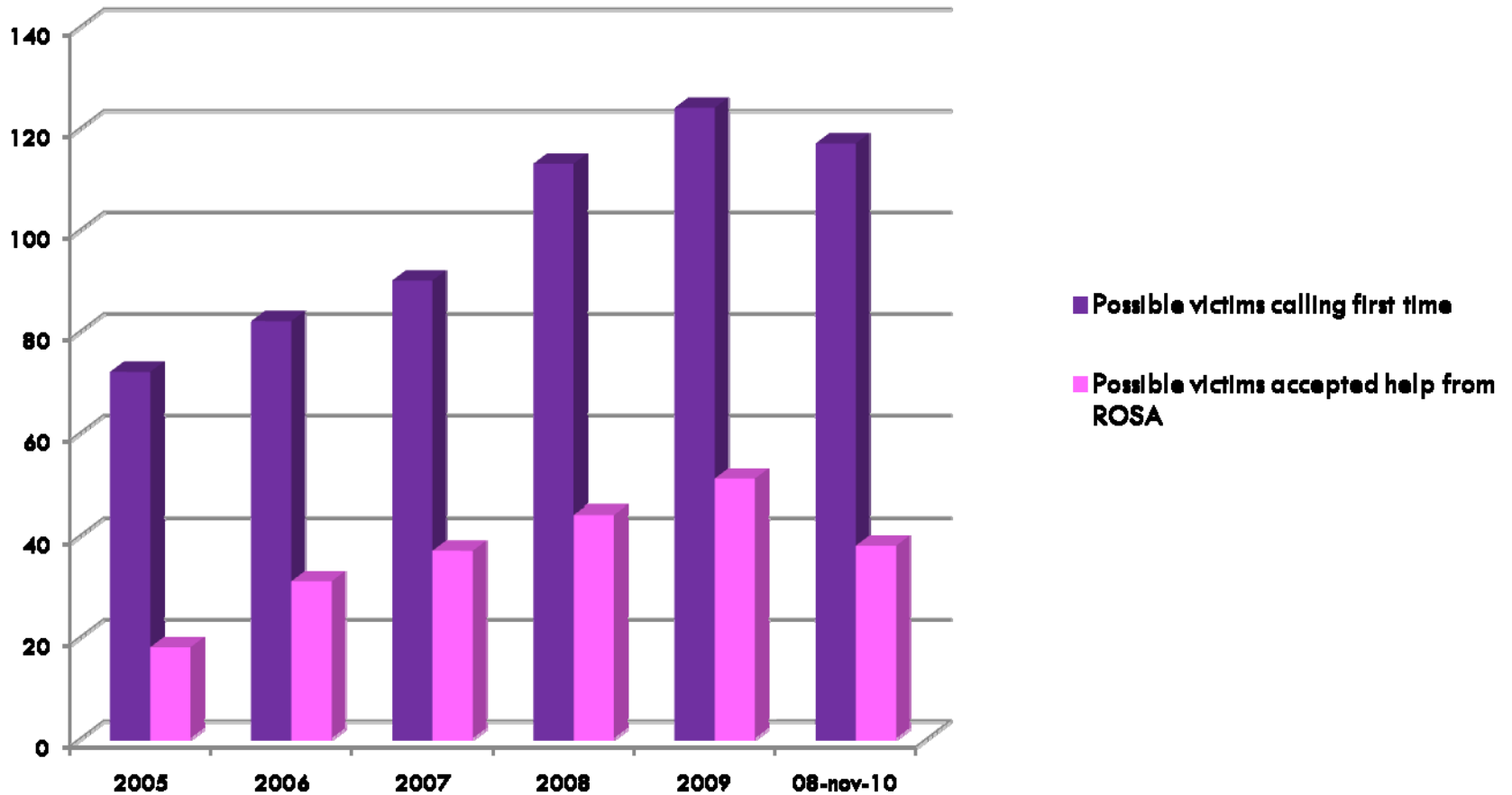
Head of Information Maya Brenna Nielsen

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- About the ROSA project
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 - Our operative work and research

The ROSA project

- ROSA was established January 1st. 2005
- The project is administrated by The Secretariat of the Shelter Movement, an umbrella organization for 35 women shelters in Norway
- The project is financed by the Ministry of Police- and Justice
- ROSA is a measure in the governments plan of action against human trafficking
- The Project have two fulltime employees
- The mandate is to identify possible victims of trafficking, provide safe housing and legal assistance, educate personnel in the shelters, collect data for statistics and information work and report status to the Ministry of Police and Justice

Figures 2005 -2010



Nationality

- We have met women and a few men VOT from 42 different countries and 4 continents since 2005

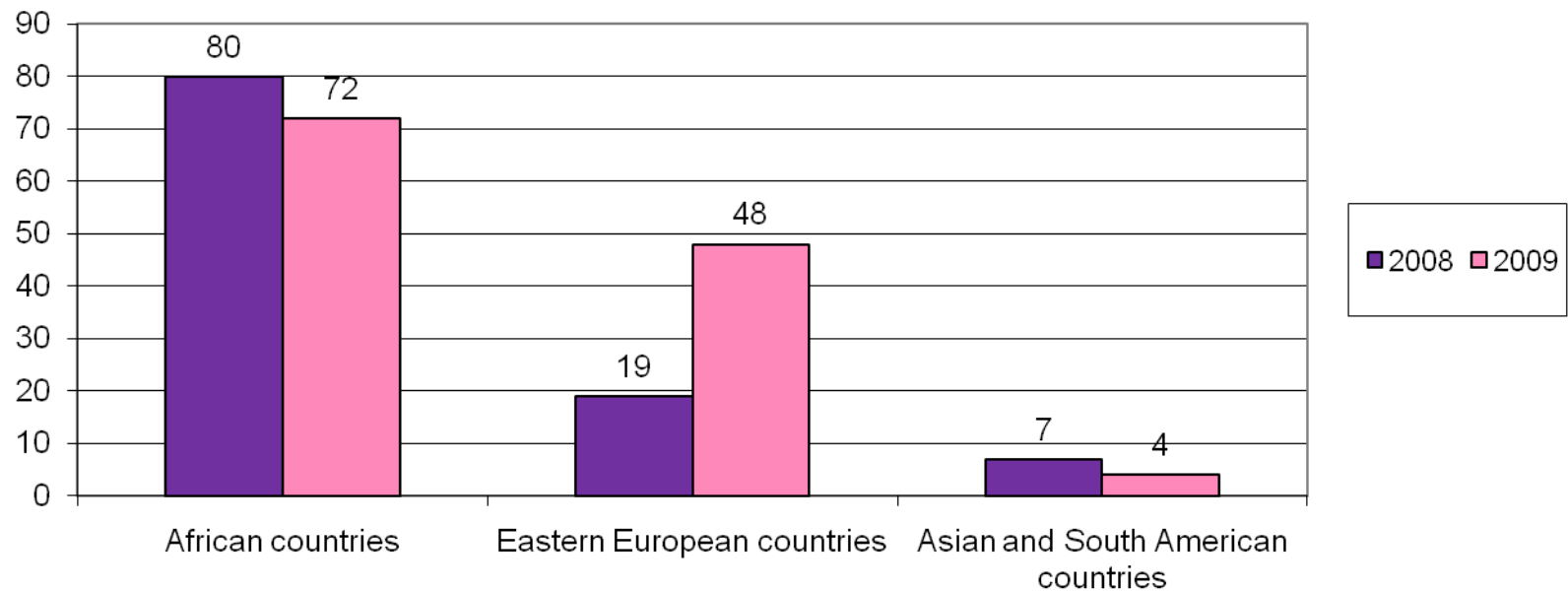


- Afghanistan
- Albania
- Bosnia
- Brazil
- Bulgaria
- Eritrea
- Estonia
- Philippines
- Ethiopia
- Georgia
- Ghana
- Iraq
- Iran
- Israel
- Cameroon
- Kenya
- Kina
- Congo
- Kosovo
- Latvia
- Lebanon
- Lithuania

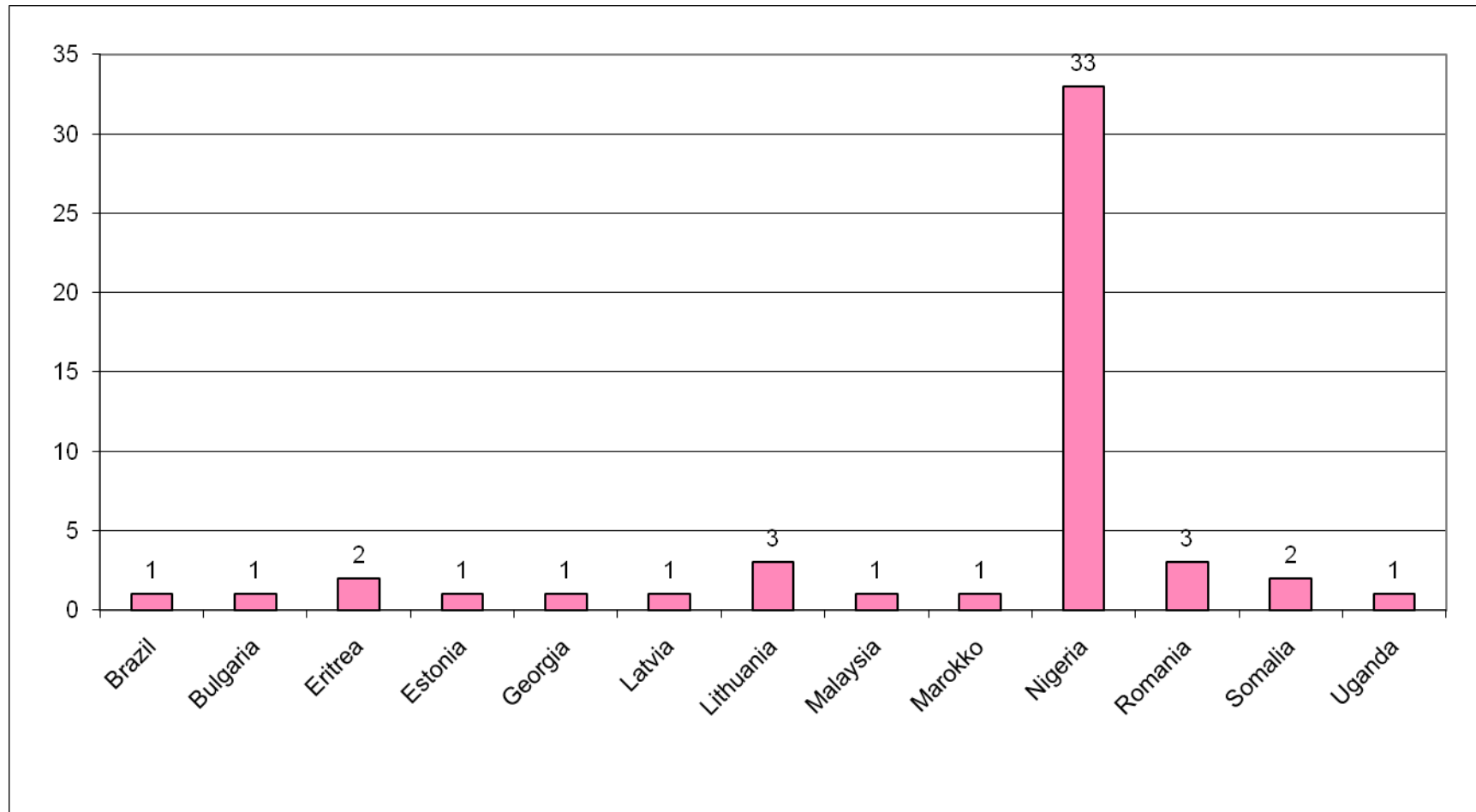
- Madagascar
- Malaysia
- Morocco
- Nigeria
- Palestine
- Pakistan
- Poland
- Romania
- Russia
- Rwanda
- Somalia
- Sweden
- Sri Lanka
- Thailand
- Togo
- Germany
- Uganda
- Hungary
- Ukraine
- West Africa

Presented by continent

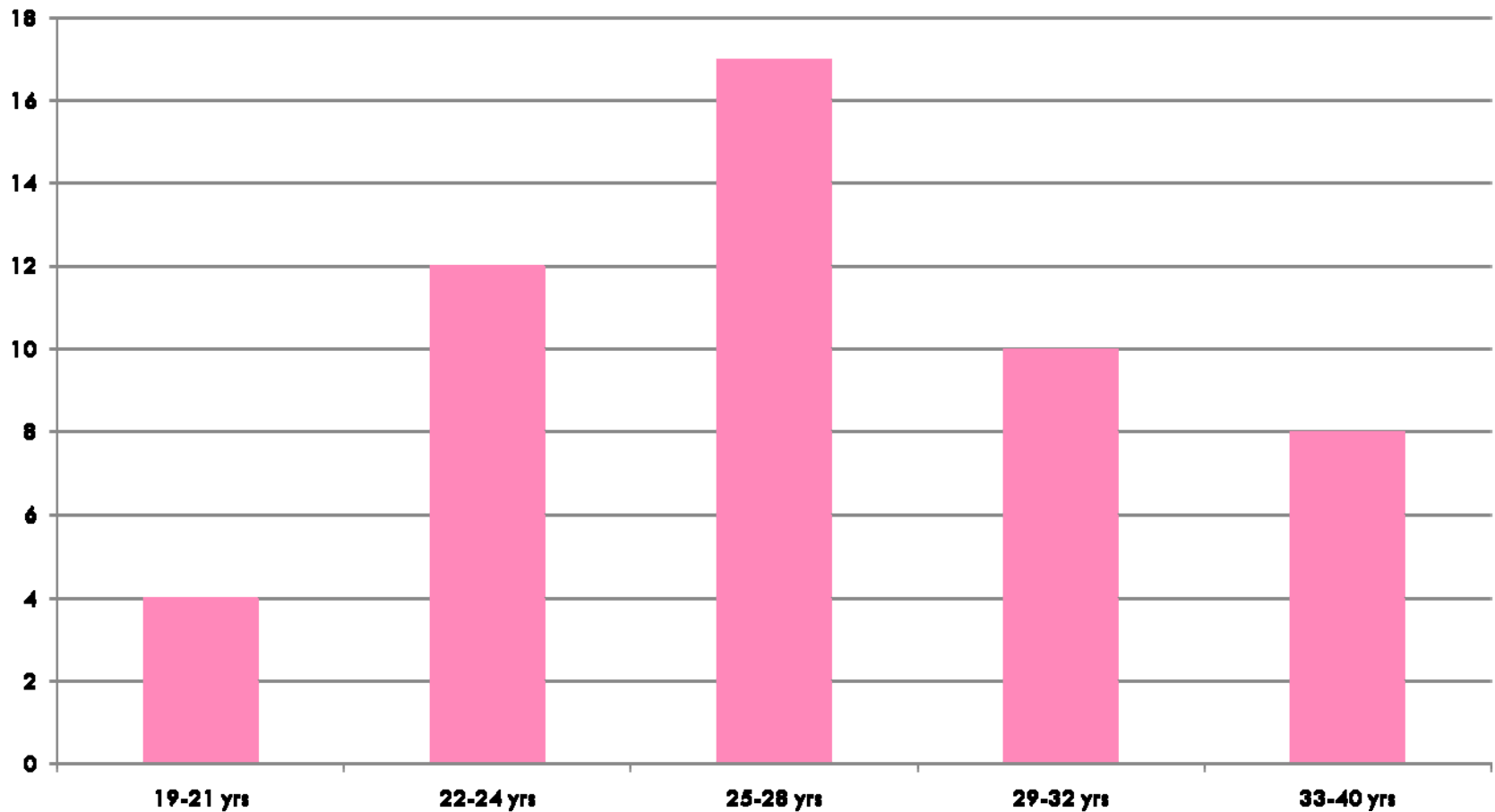
Numbers of women asking for help 1.st time. Sorted after country of origin.



Received help from ROSA 2009



Women who received help from ROSA 2009. By age.



Our one example of cooperation between operative work and research

- ROSA and KILDEN, an information center for gender research in Norway cooperated in a study in 2008: www.portretter.no (In English December 2010)
- We wanted to present the women as “real life” persons with a history, dreams and a voice of their own
- This as an opposite to the medias presentation of the women as a phenomenon and objects and a threat
- Our aim was to create awareness and give some answers to the many questions asked about women who became a victim of trafficking

Experiences from women we have met 2005 - 2010

- The women have different life stories, ages and nationalities, but tell similar stories about vulnerability, and mechanisms used to exploit them
- The women are traumatized in a different range, they all tell us about insomnia, stomach- and chest- pain, and a general disturbing insecurity about the future
- Many receive threats against them selves or their children
- Extra stress is added because of national immigration formalities
- The expectation to report the criminals, help the police during investigation, be a trustworthy and calm witness in court even when the defense lawyers do their best to pulverize her statement

ROSA thoughts

- Individual stories gives a proximity to the problem of trafficking which is important to keep up the commitment to fight this huge problem
- Stories that has been systematically treated and analyzed by researchers can in cooperation with helpers best practice develop better tools in the work of support and the effort to prevent re-trafficking
- In cooperation with researchers, as helpers we believe that it is of great importance to know the prejudice and fore-meanings the researcher has especially about exploitation in the sex industry. This will affect choice of definitions as well as conclusions. i.e. is prostitution seen as sex-work or sexual violence?
- We need national as well as international knowledge about what kind of help is given and what the effect this help has for women identified as victims of trafficking
- We need national and international knowledge about the women's lives after she has witnessed in court and after the verdict
- Focus on compassion fatigue and vicarious trauma is important both in relation to helpers as well as researchers in this field

Our own experiences and challenges when trying to collect data

- We are a low threshold NGO and opens up for women to be anonymous, but also for double and triple registrations
- i.e a woman registered once in 2006 disappears and shows up again in 2007. How to register her?
- They give different names and ages to different helpers
- Choice of definitions decides who will be identified as VOT and the situation they are in or were in

Thank you

- ROSA project
- Storgata 11, 0155 Oslo
 - Norway
 - + 47 22 33 11 60
 - mbn@krisesenter.com
 - mmi@krisesenter.com
- www.rosa-help.no

Ex. Our best practices to combat re-trafficking

- Try to empower the women by:
 - → Medical treatment
 - → Access to psychologist
 - → Legal advice
 - → Education
 - → Other activities (learn to swim, ride a horse)

Ex. Important challenges

- Use the experience and knowledge to establish structures to better secure the rights of victims of trafficking according to the plan of action
- Define and clarify field of responsibility in help providing services in general
- Always bear in mind that victims of trafficking are not criminals – they have been exposed to serious violation of their human rights

Is it a political question?

- Researchers might find solutions to the problem of trafficking, but is there enough political will and courage to act on the knowledge?
- Norway is a rich country, with gender equality, still there seem to be a resistance to arrange for the women to come out of prostitution
- In our rich country there is a lack of necessary medical and psychological help, lack of time and economical resources, lack of respect and acknowledgement for their difficult situation
- We wonder...do Norway really want to help them out of their situation or just out of our country?