

## Findings from the European Community Health Worker Online Survey (ECHOES)

Get the full report at [www.esticom.eu](http://www.esticom.eu)

## ABOUT ECHOES\*

The first international and multi-language survey among community health workers (CHWs) working to improve the sexual health of gay, bisexual and other MSM in Europe

Part of a larger project (ESTICOM) funded by the European commission comprising ECHOES, EMIS 2017, and the ESTICOM Training Programme

Encourages CHWs to feel part of a broader international workforce, not identified as such until now

\*Protocol paper available at: <https://www.researchprotocols.org/2020/2/e15012>

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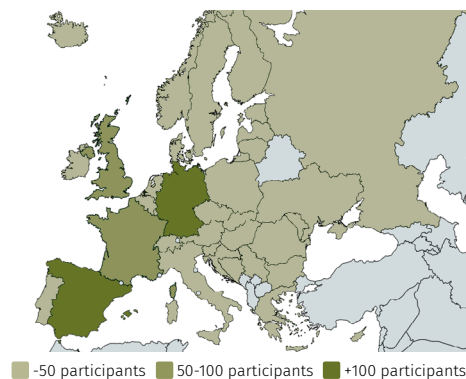
## COUNTRIES PARTICIPATED IN THE STUDY

1035

CHWs RESPONDED  
BETWEEN SEPT 2017  
AND JAN 2018

16

DIFFERENT  
LANGUAGES WERE  
USED



## HOW CHWs REFER TO THEMSELVES



## RECOMMENDATIONS

For European organisations

- Strengthen the visibility of and promote cohesiveness among CHWs (e.g. European forum)
- Repeat ECHOES to update data about this important workforce
- Encourage sustainability of CHW activities and training

For national or local governments

- Sustainable funding to secure and stabilise the CHWs workforce
- Support CHW organisations / visibility / recognition
- Legal changes (e.g. CBVCT provision by non-medical staff)

For CHWs

- Network, meet, exchange with CHWs from other contexts
- Develop CHW-led programmes that engage communities to address stigma

For training

- Focus on: supporting mental health and drug related issues, how to address stigma, and strengthening specific cross-cutting skills
- Include diversity and cultural competency concepts (especially for non-peer CHWs)
- Repeat ECHOES and update training accordingly every 3-5 years