

Regional Programme on Social Protection and Prevention of Human Trafficking

Documentation Summer School

“Social Dimensions of Human Trafficking in the Western Balkans”

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МИНИСТАРСТВО РАДА, ЗАПОШЉАВАЊА
И СОЦИЈАЛНЕ ПОЛИТИКЕ
МИНИСТАРСТВО ПРОСВЕТЕ, НАУКЕ И
ТЕХНОЛОШКОГ РАЗВОЈА



This report is commissioned by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. The views and opinions presented in the study are the result of joint work by the students participating at the GIZ-DAAD Summer School and do not necessarily reflect those of the GIZ.

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Acknowledgment

Dear Summer School participants,

It is our pleasure to present you the results of the GIZ-DAAD Summer School on “Social dimensions of Human Trafficking in the Western Balkans” which took place in Belgrade from 10th to 28th of September, 2012.

The Summer School project has been carefully planned with the intention to offer the students an enjoyable experience while learning, researching and discussing about the challenges we all face in the fight against one of the greatest evils of modern times - Human Trafficking.

We are very glad that this Summer School could act as an interface between the young academicians from Germany and the Western Balkans and we deeply believe that the linkages we have created will have a long lasting effect on the cooperation of the anti-trafficking community in the region and abroad.

We are very happy that the Summer School, which was a project initiated by the GIZ and DAAD, has soon been taken up by a myriad of institutions, both governmental and non-governmental, as well as individuals and experts who share some of our ideas and zeal for driving a positive change in the lives of hundreds of thousands potential victims and trafficking survivors. Therefore the success would not have been possible without the generous inputs of the lecturers who shared their knowledge and enriched the students’ learning experience. We are very grateful to the host organizations² that enabled our students to benefit from tangible and hands-on experience during the action research process and the University of Belgrade which offered its premises throughout the whole programme. We would also like to thank the representatives of our counterpart Ministries, the National Coordinators from the respective Ministries of Interior as well as the experts from NGOs and international organizations working in the region, who have taken time to listen to the students’ findings and discuss different options in a constructive atmosphere. Last but not least, we express our gratitude to the National Coordinators of the GIZ SPPHT programme for their personal dedication throughout all phases of the project implementation and to the students who contributed with their fresh and open minded ideas which certainly enriched the anti-trafficking discussions in the Western Balkans³.

Yours sincerely,

**Dr. Wolfgang Jessen,
Programme Manager at GIZ SPPHT**



**Thomas Zettler,
DAAD – German Academic Exchange Service**



² In particular we are grateful to NGO ATINA from Belgrade, NGO Zemlja Dece from Tuzla, NGO Terre des Hommes from Pristina and the Municipality of Kocani.

³ To see the complete list of contributors please see pp. 64-65

Executive summary

The present report provides an overview of the current state of affairs in the field of anti- trafficking in each of the four action research sites in the region of the Western Balkans. These locations include Serbia, Kosovo*⁴, Macedonia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The individual action research reports have drawn attention to the identified gaps in the legislation, deficiencies in systemic responses in terms of capacities and NGO-Government coordination, and prevention activities and awareness of local level structures regarding the existence of different forms of exploitation. In addition the analysis contains a section on recommendations relevant for different actors operating at micro, meso and macro level. Recommendations are clustered according to the level of governance responsible for tackling the issue thus recognizing the grandiose of HT as a social issue, posing a challenge for different sectors and levels of decision making in our society. Recommendations are devised on the basis of the previous mapping of best practices in specific intervention areas by elaborating the potential benefits gained from undertaking the proposed measures as well as pointing towards certain downsides necessary to be taken into consideration. Proposed measures are exemplified with case studies from the region or abroad.

The analytical findings presented in this study discern a specific pattern which in many respects reflects the common challenges faced by all actors involved in the field of anti-trafficking in the Western Balkans. On the basis of the action research it is noticeable that in almost all countries there is an increasing shift in terms of focusing from the traditionally predominant focus on sexual exploitation, as well as women as the main profile of victims of trafficking, towards minors (both girls and boys) who are susceptible to labour exploitation with the purposes of begging or forced marriages, to name only a few. The shift in the focus is advanced mostly by the NGO sector which advocated to alleviate the societal blindness the societal blindness on the less recognized forms of exploitation which are currently very often regarded as cultural practices, typical for specific groups and communities in society. According to the findings there is an urgent need for improving and deepening our knowledge about these less known forms of exploitation which will help anti-trafficking actors, but also the society at large to make a substantial difference between begging as a practice due to extreme poverty, and forced begging by minors who are treated as pure commodities by either their parents, relatives or adults who are abusing them. In relation to this there is still a need for demystifying the real reasons behind sexual exploitation, contrary to the picture which unfortunately is still prevalent among the wider public about victims as 'immoral women' who take risks and finally end up trafficked. This lies at the core of the success even after 10 years of hard work in the field of anti-trafficking. The reason is that social blindness hinders the process of generating a wider societal support, which will help to scale down the commitment present at central level, to the local communities where Human Trafficking occurs in the first place. The findings point out to the need for more pro-active approach from the side of state institutions with regards to the above mentioned forms of Human Trafficking. Pro-activeness is needed especially knowing the identified

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strategies of recruitment and exploitation applied by traffickers which are largely different from the ones used a decade ago thus making identification a daunting task.

With regards to the capacities of the structures involved in anti-trafficking it has been acknowledged that the capacities and commitment of the institutions at central level are sufficient, however, efforts are not followed by an adequate level of state budget funds. Moreover, it has been emphasised that at local level there is a need for increased awareness and continuous professional training. This is of crucial importance knowing that actors operating at the community level, such as social workers, teachers, psychologists etc., are especially important in early identification as well as social inclusion/reintegration.

With respect to approaches in tackling Human Trafficking, it has been noted that more attention should be directed at prevention measures through social inclusion of vulnerable groups which is expected to yield sustainable and cost efficient results in the long run.

Since assistance to VoTs is provided by NGOs, there is a need for devising alternative funding strategies particularly considering the current dependency on foreign donor support and lack of budgetary support for reintegration programs. In this direction, alternative strategies such as mainstreaming Human Trafficking as one of the priorities within CSR strategies of the private sector has been proposed. In addition, it has been suggested that NGOs should consider developing social enterprises in parallel to the services provided to former VoTs. On one hand this could improve their financial sustainability and on the other it could serve as an economic empowerment strategy to support former VoTs who are facing many challenges in the process of reintegration, or as an empowerment measure targeted at high risk groups.

The discussions documented in this report will hopefully extend among the stakeholders by further analysing the feasibility of some of the measures aimed at strengthening systemic responses in the fight against Human Trafficking in the Western Balkans.

Introduction

Process (Skopje Forum)

After a fruitful and successful Regional Forum in Skopje, Macedonia in November 2011, in 2012 the GIZ Regional Programme on Social Protection and Prevention of Human Trafficking decided to follow up on the results and to further the generated knowledge in the form of a regional Summer School.

The core of the cooperation component of the Regional Programme on Social Protection and Prevention of Human Trafficking is creating cross-sector and intra-regional synergies. In our efforts to support intra-regional cooperation in anti-trafficking, we seek to open up a space for cross learning and exchange in which knowledge is created in a participatory-based learning environment. In this regard the Regional Forum served as a vehicle for anti-trafficking actors to come to a consensus about the top five most challenging areas in the fight against Human Trafficking. These priorities represent a roadmap for anti-trafficking actors and GIZ to work jointly by adapting the current successful approaches to the new developments in the anti-trafficking field. One additional challenge is to promote new models by widening the scope of partners and actors involved in anti-trafficking which will help in developing responses beyond the typical reaction on the symptoms.

Aware that the task in itself requires an immense amount of time and resources, we realized that the best way to continue the process is by involving the young academic community of the Balkans and Germany in exploring Human Trafficking in the context of social vulnerabilities and to try to jointly find out the causes and cures, while researching ongoing projects within the region.

The Summer School in Belgrade intended to bring in fresh ideas from a group of critical thinkers who come from outside the anti-trafficking network and to facilitate the transfer of the generated knowledge back to the anti-trafficking community.

This logic is reflected in the sequential order of the knowledge development process supported by GIZ; namely, the Forum scrutinized current approaches and mapped out learning gaps or challenging areas, whereas the subsequent step is the Summer School in Belgrade, through which not only the young academics learned but also the anti-trafficking community by benefiting from the critical evaluation and suggestion of ideas and concepts deriving from regional action research.



Scope of the Summer School

The Summer School was conceptualized around the idea that progress is not possible without a critical examination of previous approaches as a necessary determinant in creating new knowledge which in return can be transferred back in the form of valuable insights for improving ongoing efforts of anti-trafficking actors.

In line with this conceptual underpinning, the programme of the Summer School provided the students with an opportunity to gain knowledge on the social dimensions of Human Trafficking followed by practical hands on experience as part of the action research visits. Finally, students were given the opportunity to reflect on their impressions and insights while discussing in a diverse set of experts, peers, NGO activists, representatives of international organizations, etc. This learning dialogue setting exposed them to different views and perspectives which broadened their understanding of the core of Human Trafficking as an issue, and helped them to devise a set of recommendations directed towards the macro, meso, and micro level. The recommendations (macro, meso, and micro) involve perspectives of a plethora of actors operating at these three levels and trying to take into consideration a full cycle of implementation, starting from the macro level where decisions are being made and need to be further translated at lower levels in the form of operational measures and instruments reaching out to end at beneficiaries.

It is also important to underline here that the recommendations are devised in line with the challenges pointed out by the stakeholders interviewed during the action research visits.

In essence, although the primary aim was to involve the young academic community in the Balkans and Germany closer to anti-trafficking, the learning process was not limited to the traditional lecture type of learning and to the young students. The aim was to create a platform in which students would learn from the more experienced experts and also the experts would learn from the students in a way that they would have an opportunity to receive recommendations and evaluation opinion by independent and non-biased critical thinkers who are the future of the Balkan region.

The Summer School in Belgrade was a great opportunity to broaden the expert based cycle of exchange in the region by welcoming the new generation of potential experts, who might, in the future, offer their professional contribution and deepen their interest in the field.



Profile of Participants

The GIZ-DAAD Summer School in Belgrade hosted around 30 young students coming from Germany, Serbia, Kosovo*⁵, Macedonia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The academic background of the students was not limited to a specific area, ranging from social work, crime, legal, and psychology studies, etc. This has enriched the individual knowledge that each



participant brought along and created the basis for students to discern Human Trafficking from various angles and thus come to a comprehensive understanding of the multidimensionality of HT.

Most participants were at the level of master studies. In addition, a few PhD and BA students participated.

Learning Process

The underlying learning methodology of the GIZ-DAAD Summer School --> peer learning, dialogical learning, action research

Peer Learning and Intercultural Learning

The learning process during the Summer School was based on the idea of non-hierarchical *peer learning* oriented by the Basic Learning Spiral which relies on the previous knowledge and experiences of the participants aiming to work and enrich it.

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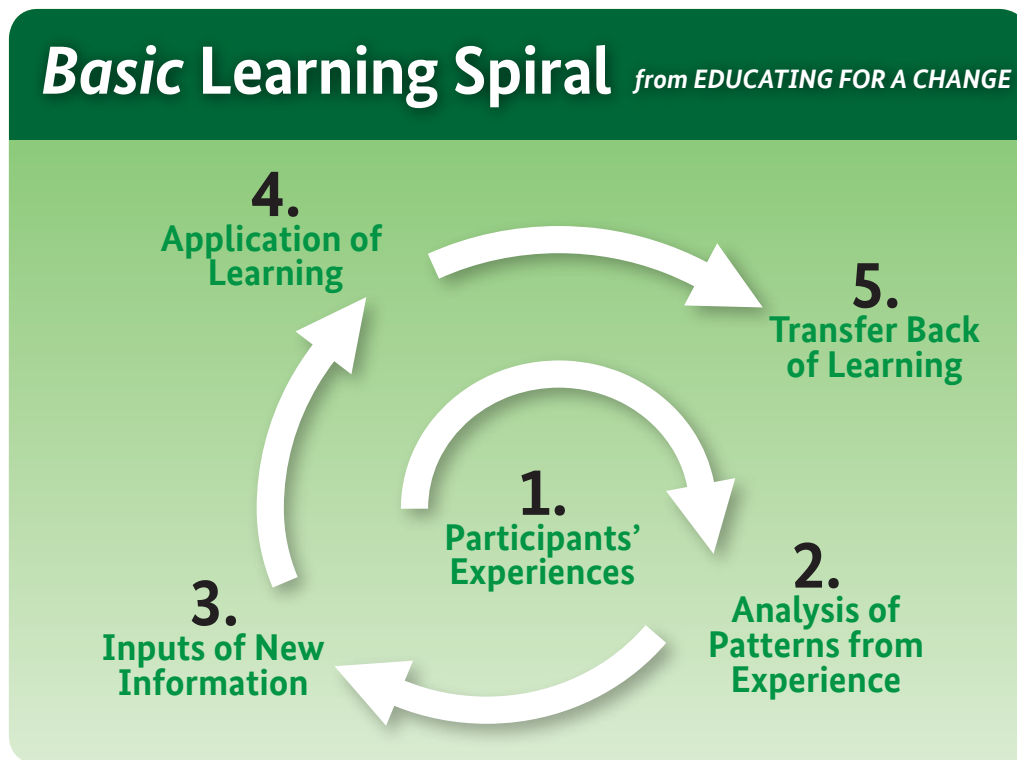


Figure 1 – Basic Learning Spiral

(Source: Educating for a change. Marshal Centre Toronto, Canada.)

Being a multinational group, informal discussions, group work and the exchange of perceptions and common experiences during the common week of action research, proved to be a very good working ground to incorporate new experiences provided by a hand-picked group of resource persons from many different countries.

The learning experience was divided in three phases: during the first week the objective was to get common grounds on the multi-layered issues of Human Trafficking and its social dimensions.

During this week, all participants passed through similar learning experiences by listening and discussing inputs, undertaking some field visits in Belgrade and preparing their action research for the second week. Since the participants came from different academic and professional backgrounds, they needed to get to know each other's views and experiences on the discussed topics.

Knowing each other professionally as well as personally was very important for the joint conduct of action research during the second week in Serbia, Kosovo*⁶, Macedonia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Action research means an active approach of qualitative and responsible field research; it takes place in a short period and in very intensive ways. It is designed to open up a new field and to identify the major stakeholders. To be successful, it has to be carefully prepared which has been provided by the four GIZ-country offices involved.

During the third week, the findings, conclusions and new project ideas were debated and refined by in-depth-discussions with various resource persons and professionals from the four involved countries. The contents of those discussions were formulated by the four working groups who aimed at transforming their analysis in action: from the *what* to the *how* was the challenging task.

Eventually, on the last day, the Summer School participants presented their results, analysis and their concrete project

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ideas to an audience which was composed by many experts from NGOs and the involved state institutions so that the proposals were thrown towards reality and fiercely discussed.

To fulfil the learning spiral, in the afternoon, the participants and the organizers were debating, in which future team-constellations could be seen and by which media the participants might be able to realize some of their ideas.

What is Action Research?

Methodologically, action research is the consequent prolongation of peer-learning into the field. Instead of viewing the inhabitants of the researched area as “information holders”, the action researcher regards them as protagonists of their environment and aspires to exchange knowledge *and* interpretation. Action research tries to reflect critically on existing preconceptions and tries to be open-minded concerning the research-results.

In our case, action research should provide us with the necessary insights to understand various options of agency regarding the tackling of Human Trafficking. Since we looked at the phenomenon from the perspective of its social dimension, the Summer School group interacted with many affected stakeholders such as NGOs, state agencies, the police, Roma families etc. Since there are many different types of so called victims, perpetrators and “favourable environments”, we engaged in a comparative perspective on four countries, namely: Serbia, Kosovo^{*7}, Macedonia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The status quo of the four research areas as well as the central findings, are being presented in this final report.

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Action Research

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Introduction (Situation Analysis on the Field)

(This part of the report was prepared by Tatjana Milic)

Action Research Group in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Tuzla) conducted a research on **system responses to Human Trafficking in Bosnia and Herzegovina**. The research methodology included interviews⁸ with relevant stakeholders and beneficiaries, field observations and data analysis. With the generous help of host organization “Zemlja djece” and GIZ Tuzla representative, we have managed to gain in-depth insights into the current state of affairs in the anti-trafficking field in Bosnia.

Complex political and legal framework of Bosnia and Herzegovina along with poor economic situation contributes to the insufficient results in the fight against Human Trafficking. Data analysis and field observations have indicated that there is an upward trend in child trafficking for labour or sexual exploitation (child begging, arranged marriages). However, this form of Human Trafficking is often disregarded by the relevant actors in the system. Due to the lack of knowledge about the problem and the forms of Human Trafficking, other than sexual exploitation, lack of will to undertake necessary counter-trafficking measures or due to discrimination, the system fails to react properly to prevent or punish child trafficking.



Legal gaps in the systems of State, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republic of Srpska, have resulted in an inadequate qualification regarding elements of crime of Human Trafficking by the prosecution and have lead to secondary victimization and denial of protection to the trafficked victims.

More **human resources, specialization of services and regular outreach work** are necessary to reach an effective role of the centres for social work in **prevention and identification of potential victims** of Human Trafficking. In this area NGOs

⁸ A detailed list of all interviewed stakeholders can be found in Annex 1 of this Report.

have, in accordance with their available resources, supplemented needs for outreach work and provided protection and assistance to marginalized and disadvantaged groups.

What seems to be the crucial problem in the system? It is a communication and coordination of activities among relevant actors in the system for combating Human Trafficking. In that regard the establishment of regional monitoring teams is a positive signal due to exerting a coordination role across the different entities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and adopting a multidisciplinary approach.

Detailed elaboration of interviewed actors and identified issues and challenges in fight against Human Trafficking in Bosnia and Herzegovina is provided in the second and third part of the present report.

Identified Issues and Challenges

(This part of the report was prepared by Momcilo Janjic, Marko Sijan, Stefan Labudovic, Gordana Dobrosavljevic and Tatjana Milic)

- **Complex and conflicting legal system due to the municipal/cantonal/federal/entity division of the State**

Because of the complex legal system that is not entirely regulated, there are major leap-holes in the System regarding the fight against HT, which leads to poor and unsatisfying results. The specific post-war situation and the peculiar political system which has developed in order to stop conflicts, does not support present day fight against Human Trafficking in the proper way. Different levels of the government have different legal frameworks and solutions regarding trafficking in human beings. Clearly this creates confusion and leaves space for inefficiency of the various actors in the system. Some parts of the system have legal frameworks that are in collision with national strategy for fight against trafficking. It is clear that the actors and institutions involved are not clearly acquainted with their obligations and power.

- **Responsibility for combating Human Trafficking in the hands of government departments, while actual fieldwork is in the hands of local or cantonal levels**

In regards to the above mentioned conflicting legal framework, the properly developed national anti-trafficking system does not have direct influence on grass-root/local level thus creating deficiencies in financial support, proper education of the local stakeholders and their commitment to fully engage in this fight.

- **Labour exploitation still not fully recognized as HT on lower governmental levels (only sexual)**

National anti-trafficking solutions are still not fully incorporated into lower legal systems. Therefore, a large proportion of discovered cases of Human Trafficking ends-up as some other criminal act, with lesser penalties.

- **Educational system and media representatives poorly included into this topic**

These two components of the system, important for early detection of potential trafficking victims and informing of general public, are largely excluded from the mainstream anti-trafficking activities (educations, field trips, study tours, conferences).

- **Still strong divisions along ethnic lines**

Two entities (Federation and Republic of Srpska) evolved differently during the last 17 years, clearly keeping the distance and divisions.

- **Lack of indicators necessary for timely identification**

Bosnia and Herzegovina has still not developed national list of indicators necessary for proper detection and identification of the victims of Human Trafficking. This situation creates space for individual interpretation of potential trafficking situations.

- **Lack of proper outreach work**

Only a small number of stakeholders involved in anti-trafficking activities have developed some kind of outreach work which is more than necessary for proper connection with the potential victims and those who are at risk of becoming one. This situation directly influences the overall number of reached persons in need and makes reintegration efforts on very low values.

- **Victims status acquired only if State prosecutor starts with indictment**

Such a restrictive way of victims' identification leaves a lot of potential victims without proper protection and makes re-trafficking much easier. Although there are different stakeholders involved in the fight against Human Trafficking, only the State prosecutor has the power to give a victim status.

Examples of good practice:

Case study 1:

Prevention activities of Tuzla based NGO "Zemlja djece" provide useful examples for successful advocacy, integration and outreach work.

*They have successfully **advocated** changes in federal law on education, social protection and health care which have provided children in risk with an easier access to education system and social and medical insurance. These campaigns were conducted in partnership with local schools and medical centres.*

*NGO "Zemlja djece" over the years has conducted activities with children working/living in the streets and local youth in risk. Aware of the special needs of these two groups, "Zemlja djece" team has developed an **integration model** according to which these two groups merge during the weekends for common activities. However, due to the lack of space optimal effects of these activities are to some degree hindered.*

An important part of work of NGO “Zemlja djece” is **outreach work**. Employees and volunteers maintain regular contact with schools and parents of children so that they can timely react to anomalies in regular children’s routine. More importantly employees and volunteers of “Zemlja djece” due to their regular contact with children, have managed to establish themselves as persons of trust and in that way they are able to obtain valuable information about the problems of the children in risk and those living in the streets.

During our research we have visited the settlement Mihatovici, nearby Tuzla. Most of the inhabitants are displaced persons and socially endangered families. Only around 5% of the population are employed and the school in the settlement does not work in the afternoon period. In such situation children and youth are isolated since their parents cannot afford to finance any extracurricular activities for their children. NGO “Zemlja djece” has been organizing regular dance and sport activities in the settlement. This outreach work is important if we have in mind the following situation also. In the said settlement two boys (minors 13 and 15) live alone after the death of their mother, with no guardian and no regular visits of social workers.

Case study 2:

In Zenica-Doboj canton of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina valuable developments have been made in relation to the **cooperation of governmental institutions and NGOs** and **financing** of prevention and protection programs.

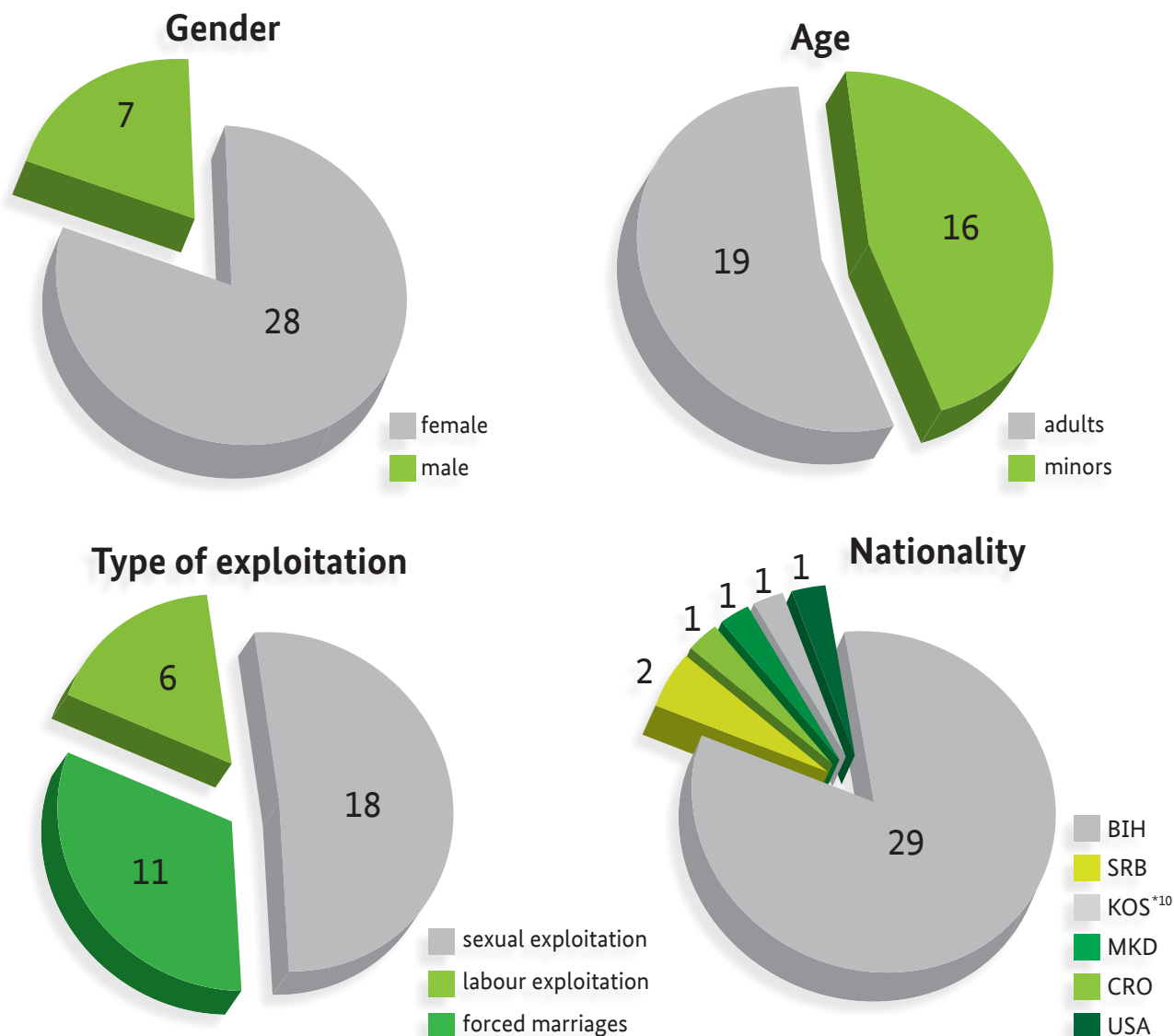
First, Center for Social Work and local government of Zenica have delegated to the NGO “Medica” the establishment and management of the Children’s daily and drop-in centre in 2011. The Centre provides services to the children working in the street and children at risk. These services include legal aid and help with registration, enrolment in schools, tutoring, food and hygiene, empowerment activities which help children to recognize violence and with whom to talk about it.

Second, “Medica” has been working on establishing a model of sustainable financing of their activities. Safe house is financed with equal contributions (30%) from 8 municipalities and the government of Zenica-Doboj canton. In order to obtain the remaining 40% of resources from federation government they are advocating changes in legal framework.

Statistical overview:

According to the latest report issued by the National Coordinator Office, there are 35 identified potential victims of Human Trafficking in Bosnia and Herzegovina⁹. The following represents a breakdown of the number of potential VoT according to gender, age, nationality and type of exploitation.

⁹ Izvještaj o stanju trgovine ljudima u Bosni i Hercegovini i izvještaj o provedbi akcionog plana za borbu protiv trgovine ljudima u Bosni i Hercegovini za 2011, Sarajevo, Ministarstvo sigurnosti BiH, Državni koordinator za borbu protiv trgovine ljudima u Bosni i Hercegovini.



Graphs 1 through 4: Breakdown of total number of potential victims for 2011 in Bosnia and Herzegovina¹¹ (authors own depiction).

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¹¹ Ibid pp. 19-20

Kosovo*¹²

Introduction (Situation Analysis on the Field)

(This part of the report was prepared by Franzisca Guther, Manja Nikolovska, Mila Isakovska)

Kosovo*¹³ is a source, destination and transit country for women and children who are subjected to trafficking mostly for the purpose of sexual exploitation.¹⁴ In contrast to women and teenage girls, younger girls and boys are more frequently forced to earn money by begging, selling cigarettes or washing cars.^{15 16}

Many victims come from rural areas and very poor, dysfunctional families who expose them to domestic and sexualised violence. Moreover, numerous victims were denied access to education, employment, and social welfare.^{17 18}



While efforts have been made to amend the Kosovo*¹⁹ anti-trafficking legislation according to international standards,

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14 U.S. Department of State, 2012. *Trafficking in persons report 2012*, Washington: U.S. Department of State.

15 *Ibid* pp. 211-213.

16 UNICEF, 2004. *Trafficking in children in Kosovo. A study on protection and assistance provided to children victims of trafficking*, s.l.: UNICEF.

17 *Ibid* p. 18

18 Amnesty International. (2004). *Kosovo (Serbia and Montenegro): "So does it mean that we have the Rights?" Protecting the Human Rights of Women and Girls trafficked for Forced Prostitution in Kosovo*. Retrieved, December 28, 2012 from <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/EUR70/010/2004/en/53c916cf-d5e4-11dd-bb24-1fb85fe8fa05/eur700102004en.pdf>

19 * This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

* Овај назив је без прејудицирања статуса и у складу је са Резолуцијом Савета безбедности Уједињених нација 1244 и мишљењем Међународног суда правде о декларацији о независности Косова.

traffickers largely remain unpunished. Many alleged trafficking cases were dropped and sentences on the traffickers were frequently even lower than the limits defined in the applicable law. There have also been entanglements of state institutions and international organisations with organised crime including trafficking. Trafficking related corruption undermines the function of the legal system and further prevents victims from receiving justice.²⁰

Begging Phenomenon

After the Kosovo^{*21} war in 1999, the Roma population was accused of collaboration with the Serbs. Until 2007 most of the children who were exploited on the streets were Roma coming from Albania. This resulted with an ignorant reaction due to the fact that the children at issue were not Kosovars. The only measures undertaken in this regard were deportation of these children in Albania, without any system of identification. This has led to a vicious circle, namely only after a few days the same children would return to Kosovo^{*22} and their exploitation on the streets of Kosovo^{*23} continued.

Since 2007, the trend has altered with an increasing share of the potential exploited persons being domestic Roma, but still this issue remained untackled since common people in Kosovo^{*24} were used to the begging, they were used to the children on the streets. The opinion of the majority of people did not recognize the situation as problem of their concern.

Since the begging problem especially, and minors are involved, is not regarded as a potential case of trafficking, our team tried to explore this phenomenon further and to see how the following stakeholders are dealing with it and what has to be done in order to tackle better the labour exploitation for the purposes of forced begging among children.

20 Istrefi, Remzije & Qosaj-Mustafa, Ariana. (2009). *Trafficking of Women in Post-Conflict Regions. The Case of Kosovo*. In Eifler, Christine & Seifert, Ruth (Ed.). *Armed Conflict, Post-War Reconstruction and Gendered Subjectivities. Gender Dynamics and Post-Conflict Reconstruction*. pp. (pp. 115-132). Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang.

21 * This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

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Identified Issues and Challenges

(This part of the report was prepared by Manja Nikolovska, Mila Isakovska, Franzisca Guther, Fortesa Kadriu, Aurelija Djan, Selma Avdic)

Legal issues and challenges

Begging is not recognized as Human Trafficking or child trafficking in the Kosovo*²⁵ Criminal Code. Still with the EU directive from April 2011²⁶, it is recommended that this issue is included in the definition of Human Trafficking²⁷.

In the article 139,140 of the Criminal Code it is understood that begging, as a phenomenon, is not listed in the definition for trafficking in persons, nor in the term of exploitation. Nevertheless this phenomenon can be placed under the “umbrella” of “...forced labour or services...”, and even under “... slavery or practices similar to slavery...”. This means that whether begging will be recognized as Human Trafficking or not, is left on case basis interpretation.

Furthermore, an additional issue is the occurrence of **parents who force their child to beg**. The Kosovo*²⁸ Law on Family, Article 125 states that “It is a responsibility of parents to protect children from the economic use, exploitation trafficking, sexual exploitation and from performing any work that presents a danger or that violates education and health of children”.²⁹ The practice shows that the parents who force their child to beg are not indicted as child traffickers or as participants in the process, but as parents who are mistreating or abandoning their child (article 211.3 of the Criminal Code). The difference is in the potential sentencing of the parents by the courts since, according to Article 211.3 of the Criminal Code, they can get imprisonment of **three months to three years** as opposed to the Article 139 according to which they could get **three to fifteen years** for engaging in trafficking their children.

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26 Council Directive (EC) DIRECTIVE 2011/36/EC of 5 of April 2011 on the on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA.

27 This refers to the Art.139 and 140 of the Provisional Criminal Code of Kosovo from 2003 which was in place when the action research was conducted. It is important to point out that since then there is a new Criminal Code of Kosovo from 2012, which entered into force on 1 January 2013. The concerns raised were made regarding to the old code. Fortunately, the new code includes begging as a form of human trafficking in Article 170, 6.2.

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29 e. Prohibition of forced and compulsory work, SUMMARY OF LAWS THAT PROTECT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO, Author: Qëndresa Ibra-Zariqi, January 2012, Prishtina.

In conclusion, the acceptance and recognition of this phenomenon through adequate legislative framework is of priority importance for the Kosovo^{*30} policy towards this issue to be in line with the relevant international standards and documents.³¹

NGO-Governmental Cooperation in Combating Human Trafficking

Strengths

Actors that we identified as most important are the women's shelters, Terre des Hommes (they initiated the task forces, a crucial information sharing mechanism among all relevant stakeholders for child protection) and the Kosovo^{*32} Women's Network. Besides the civil society organisations, the centres of social work and one governmental shelter also provide services for victims of HT.

All active stakeholders in combating HT have been involved in developing multi-dimensional stakeholder approaches to tackle the issue. Currently the 3rd National Strategy and Action Plan (2011-2014) is being implemented, which makes combating HT a cross-sectional task in the government and civil society. A good system of information sharing has been developed in the country, i.e. the cooperation between the police and civil society organisations was described very positive by all interviewees.

Weaknesses

A widely spread opinion among stakeholders is that corruption is taking its toll with regards to effectiveness of the justice system. The courts are totally overloaded and delay trafficking cases for up to 5 years. One police officer commented on the problem: "What do you expect, they have put the former war criminals in the government!", explaining the lack of political will to further tackle the problem and also referring to cases where governmental officials have been involved in facilitating in HT. On top of that, traffickers can hardly be punished without a clear statement of the victims, who are in most of the cases not capable to testify due to the fear of facing life-threatening consequences as well as consequences arising from their vulnerability in general.

Moreover, we discovered an overall lack of political will to improve counter-trafficking activities. One governmental official

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31 Accepted in Article 22 in the Constitution of Kosovo.

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told us: “Of course you could always do more, but there are also more important things which need to be addressed”. Another interviewee working for one of the most relevant Ministries added: “Actually we are doing more than it is needed”. In the meanwhile shelters for victims of HT struggle to survive because the relevant authorities pay only half of their running costs. Due to the process of decentralisation, the responsibility for the shelters will be shifted over to municipalities from next year onwards, and is expected to cause further hardship for shelters in funding essential services for victims of HT.

Psycho-social services and challenges

One of the main issues identified on the field was the increasing reporting of burnout in service providers of Human Trafficking victims. Even though this result is congruent with other studies in the region, it seems as service providers in Kosovo^{*33} have additional variables contributing to the problem, besides the nature of the work itself. It has been reported that compared to the general population, there are not enough social workers working in this field. Moreover, there is lack of funds to cover all the expenses needed. Likewise, some have reported feelings of incompetency due to the fact that they have different academic background and no source of supervision.

Another challenging issue is the lack of long-term services for victims. Stakeholders reported that victims are placed within shelters for limited period of time, which could be extended up to one year. Nevertheless, this period is usually not sufficient for victims to integrate in society, taking in consideration the financial situation of victims and the stigma stemming from society. Most of them have to start from scratch, ensuring a place to live and work. At the same time, they lack sufficient education or skills to find a suitable work, a burden that is more aggravated by the general economical situation in Kosovo^{*34}. Perhaps, one way to tackle this issue is by training them for more suitable skills, instead of the standard ones.

NGOs in Kosovo^{*35} have been very successful in developing good practices in trafficking prevention by organizing extra curricula activities targeted at vulnerable and disadvantaged children. For example, Terre des Hommes organizes camps for children with large number of participants focusing on group and individual work. However, this best practice should be more promoted by state institutions which are lacking innovative approaches in combating Human Trafficking. Our findings indicate that state institutions are focusing on campaigns which have not always yielded the expected results in terms of reaching the vulnerable people as a target group in greatest need.

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When it comes to identification, again, Terre des Hommes has offered a very effective and at the same time cost-efficient way of dealing with these issues. They have introduced Task Forces as a comprehensive and multi-disciplinary method in identifying victims of trafficking. According to our findings, there is a need of institutionalization of Task Forces and its wide spread practices among all stakeholders. This can also include stronger support for social workers and empowerment of the association of social workers which is highly needed.

Prevention

The following is an overview of current approaches regarding prevention of Human Trafficking.

It is important to emphasize that preventive measures are implemented mostly by NGOs, through their projects, documents and practices. Some prevention measures are introduced by governmental organizations, but mostly at the level of secondary and tertiary prevention.

In cooperation with other governmental institutions and NGOs, the Office of the National Coordinator for Anti-trafficking implements **awareness building activities** which forms the core of its primary prevention measures. These activities take place in October, every year, as part of the European Day of AntiTrafficking. This year, the Interior Ministry launched a campaign “Open your eyes, be careful”. The focus of this campaign is building awareness of exploitation of children, sexual exploitation, labour exploitation and begging. The definitions of all these terms are explained in brochures with clear instructions on what to do and how to react in case of some behaviour described in brochures.

Summer camps for children are organized by Terre des Hommes, as it was mentioned before. Through work with children at risk, professionals focus on group and individual work. This organization has more projects on prevention: working with children at risk, working with schools, lobbying for institutionalisation of task forces, etc.

Terre des Hommes also strengthened the Child Protection Safety net by developing documents and practices intended for all professionals working with children. These documents provide guidelines on the basis of children’s rights and children’s best interest.

Task forces and round tables are established as coordination mechanism for child protection. Professionals from different institutions meet monthly and discuss single cases, then decide levels of risk and measurements that should be taken. The leader of the group is a social worker – member of a child protection unit.

Macedonia

Introduction (Situation Analysis on the Field)

(This part of the report was prepared by Kayvon Afshari)

In Kocani we encountered a mix of enthusiasm to confront the issue of Human Trafficking as well as a general reluctance to acknowledge that it exists. The views and opinion elaborated in this report are formed on the basis of interviews conducted with the most relevant stakeholders with respect to anti-trafficking and social inclusion of potential victims.

Apart from meeting the local stakeholders, we met also representatives of state institutions responsible for policy decisions at central level.



What struck our attention in the very beginning was that, despite the proactive approach advanced by the municipality authorities, when it comes to social inclusion of vulnerable groups there is lack of knowledge of risks related to Human Trafficking. Stakeholders are aware of the various problems faced by the local population who are compelled to look for other solutions such as immigration, which is very often illegal especially in the case of Roma population. However, Human Trafficking is not on the list of potential risks. In a casual conversation with a representative of the Roma community we were informed on the numerous cases involving local citizens who have migrated illegally in some of the western countries and clearly there were certain elements of exploitation which if reported and/or recognized as such could have been subjected to further investigation of authorities. However, the interpretation offered to us was that this is a case of mischance rather than thinking of it as a possible case of labour exploitation. The lack of awareness about Human Trafficking, especially in the local communities, results in association of Human Trafficking exclusively with foreign citizens and very rarely

with domestic ones who if involved are rather considered as risk-taking and immoral girls. This stereotype coincides with the pattern and trends in Human Trafficking typical for the earlier times when the issue has arisen for the first time in the Balkans.

On the positive side one could clearly observe the pro-activeness with which the Municipality of Kocani attempts to fight poverty and allied social risks by initiating donor-funding conferences, intended to secure funds for improvement of the housing conditions for marginalized communities.

Worthwhile to notice is that the NGO sector in Skopje and the NGO La Strada in particular, are extremely focused and active in the fight against Human Trafficking. There is awareness that new trends have taken place and these call for realignment of the responses by authorities according to the new and more subtle, less recognizable character of exploitation, be it for HT purposes of sexual or labour exploitation.

The overarching goal of the research has been to look into strategies directed at social inclusion as a way to curb vulnerability to Human Trafficking. Knowing that resource scarcity remains to be the central impediment in the implementation of social inclusion strategies, we point out to initiatives that the civil society, the socially responsible business sector and local governments need to take jointly in order to get on the path of self-sustainability. Poverty, illiteracy, dysfunctional families, violence and other risk factors are to be found mostly among the poor and marginalized communities in our society, without having any intention to go into stereotyping, some of these factors are present among the Roma community in Kocani. We believe that by building strong families, sending children to school, maintaining proper health and hygiene, and establishing social links with non-Roma, the currently marginalized Roma people in Kocani can become more self-sufficient and less vulnerable to traffickers. At the same time, local officials need to either establish, better fund, or better promote institutions like day-care centres and schools that cater to the Roma community. In addition to this, we are aware that potential victims are to be found among the generally vulnerable population which is not necessarily to be found in once specific ethnic community but it concerns all citizens who are faced by the push factors associated with Human Trafficking. Therefore the same measures are to be applied for all vulnerable groups in every other region in Macedonia.

Identified Issues and Challenges

(This part of the report was prepared by Roshan Heiler)

The following is a summary of main issues and challenges identified as part of our discussions with stakeholders met during the action research conducted mainly in Kocani, but also Probistip and Skopje, the capital of Macedonia.

Increase of domestic trafficking but official numbers low

According to a representative of the Police Office in Probistip, traffickers often don't act in an organized network anymore but rather as individuals, a new trend to which prosecutors have yet to adapt to. Also the trend from international to domestic trafficking has not yet been adopted in prosecution methods. In this case law enforcement officers must be trained to recognize victims in possession of their passports, i.e. domestic victims to be able to identify them as victims of Human Trafficking.

Lack of political will

Almost all interview partners agreed on the fact that combating Human Trafficking doesn't receive the political attention it deserves. A representative from an NGO advocating for sex workers' rights (which is clearly one target group susceptible to HT) states that domestic trafficking is a big problem, but it is very low on the political agenda. He thinks that a legalization of prostitution would lead to an improvement of the situation of sex workers as well as decrease the pressure traffickers can put on the victims. In addition, it is well recognized by most of NGO stakeholders that long term solutions directed at social inclusion of other vulnerable groups, who are exposed to risks of less recognizable forms of exploitation (for e.g. forced begging, forced marriages, labour exploitation), are not in the focus of prevention strategies of HT. The reasoning behind is that poverty is so widely spread in society that any action would not promise measurable impacts in a reasonable time-frame. Therefore, prevention is mostly limited to awareness campaigns which are even not so visible compared to ten years ago.

Lack of resources

Almost all stakeholders interviewed mentioned the lack of resources as a reason for weak efforts in combating HT. The two health mediators in Kocani offer health counselling for the Roma community. One representative complained that she has to visit 50 families per month which is not possible to do.

The police inspector from Probistip said that there are not enough resources for neither personal nor electronic devices to effectively prosecute traffickers.

Social workers at the UNICEF Day Care Center, Kocani, would like to do outreach to the vulnerable groups but don't have the necessary personnel to do so. The same applies for the Centres for Social Work who are in the most deprived situation lacking basic resources to conduct outreach services (as one possible proactive measure for vulnerability prevention) but are rather limited to performing administrative tasks. According to a survey study conducted among social workers who are part of the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) they spent 71% of their overall working time on performing administrative tasks³⁶.

Awareness of all forms of Human Trafficking, i.e. begging, illegal child adoption, organ trafficking

The different stakeholders have a different level of awareness about forms of trafficking other than sexual exploitation. It is noteworthy to mention that males are less recognized as a potential target of traffickers... Whereas the NGO La Strada, the Police Department in Probistip and the Roma community of Stara Kasarna in Kocani are aware of forms of trafficking such as forced begging, forced marriage, labour exploitation etc., employees of the municipality in Kocani are

³⁶ Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, 2005-2006. *National Referral Mechanism for the victims of trafficking in human beings*, Skopje: Ministry of Labour and Social Policy p. 26.

less knowledgeable of the elements related to these forms of exploitation, and therefore are less aware of the need for prevention measures to be undertaken in this regard.

Flow of information

Inhabitants of the Roma community of Stara Kasarna in Kocani were not aware of the UNICEF Day Care Centre where they could send their kids before or after school. The Roma also were not informed about the availability of proactive measures intended to increase employability among vulnerable people, among which the Roma are one of the sub-target groups. On the other side the Agency for Employment finds it difficult to reach out to the Roma community in order to promote the benefits from the employability program. Despite all their efforts, their attempt to involve Roma NGOs as mediators in this process has failed. However, it should be noted that in the end their individual efforts have shown some positive results although there the benefits have not been utilized to their full potential.

Social Inclusion of vulnerable groups

The Agency for Employment in Kocani is cooperating with the private sector in the textile industry. One of the programs targeted at women suffering from domestic violence, offers these women job opportunities in enterprises where the salary for the first six months is paid by the government and in the next 1,5 years the costs are overtaken by the employer. Most of the women become long-term employees. Although the program is designed to offer incentives on both sides, the opinion of our interviewees is that the potential of the program is not yet fully achieved. One of the reasons, according to our opinion, is the lack of partnerships with other NGOs working with the respective target group or other state owned institutions such as Center for Social Work might prove as essential in providing the former victims with additional psycho-social support and/or group counselling. Empowerment programs should not be seen as an isolated measure due to the complexity of the trauma from violence. Emotional, psychological and social support should be implemented as a process in parallel to any successful economic empowerment programme. It is noteworthy here to mention that similar programs could be useful for empowerment of former victims of trafficking. Namely, ten years ago women victims of family violence were also stigmatized, however, after long invested efforts in awareness building the situation has changed. Nowadays in most countries economic empowerment programs are officially supported by public agencies. Therefore, perhaps it is worthwhile to consider the possibility of having the former VoTs as an additional beneficiary group to the already existing employability programs by the Agency for Employment.

The youth Drop-in Centre in Sutka supports children from dysfunctional families, Roma kids who were begging in the streets etc., before and after school. The children say that they learn to read and to write, how to behave and take care of their parents and that they don't beg anymore.

The services offered by the Drop-in Centre are used by the Roma, but the Albanian minority, which is also subject to marginalization, is not considering this help, but turns in situations of need more towards their own community. There

should be more funds available from state budget to support long term social inclusion of the street involved children with focus on creating sustainable incomes for their families.

Identification of (potential) victims

The responsible inspector/s in the Probistip police office invests efforts to identify the young girls at risk of HT. But to his opinion, gaining trust is a very difficult task due to a number of reasons. In fact the main problem is that the police cannot offer the victims much protection from the traffickers, and also prospects for economic or social security, are not viable in return for their testimony. To his mind, trafficking in Kocani exists but is very difficult to prove. The situation in Probistip and in Stip, according to him, is even more visible.

La Strada states that social workers from NGOs and teachers should be included in the process of identification of (potential) victims of trafficking since they generally trust those persons more than the police. The SOS line in place is an opportunity for victims of trafficking to reach out for help.

Identification of traffickers

During our talks with the responsible employees from both Police office and the Centre for Social Work in Probistip, a cross-sector approach was suggested as a necessary response to better identification of the traffickers. The difficulty in identifying trafficking cases lies in the fact that recruitment is done in a subtle manner which is less noticeable for the police. Most of the time the girls are contacting them first, all the communications works over the mobile phone and the SIM card can be thrown away and easily be replaced. Knowing that the trend nowadays is altered to having involved only a few individuals as opposed to organized criminal group, starting a special investigation requires consent of the judge which is a very complicated procedure when not enough evidence is available. With individual traffickers being the recruiter obtaining evidence is very difficult. This example illustrates how centralization of the data and decision making in Skopje makes the reaction chain much longer and ineffective.

In general the victims don't want to cooperate with the police, and the police has nothing to offer to the victims in return for their testimony.

Protection of victims of Human Trafficking

In Skopje there is one shelter financed by the government in which La Strada attends to the domestic victims. Another shelter is also available and primarily assisting foreign victims. However, Human Trafficking is a countrywide issue and therefore dispersed shelters are needed all over the country, especially in the eastern part, where most of the victims are recruited from the rural areas.

Serbia

Introduction (Situation Analysis on the Field)

(This part of the report was prepared by Dragana Brdaric and Samir Arnaut)

During the action research in Serbia, the research group visited a considerable number of both governmental and non-governmental institutions dealing with HT. The group conducted several ad-hoc field researches in addition to the official research plan. This has helped in answering the main research question that is “what is the current situation regarding provision of comprehensive social inclusion of the Human Trafficking victims in Serbia”?

It seems that both governmental and non-governmental institutions are willing to engage in this topic, and that they are planning and implementing prevention programs as well as programs aimed at alleviating the consequences arising from Human Trafficking experiences.

Knowing that the context in which the phenomenon of HT has occurred in the Western Balkans has been marked by economic and political struggles as well as lack of sensitivity to the problem of HT in society, one must be aware of the complexity of providing effective social inclusion for of the victims of Human Trafficking in Serbia.

Therefore, even despite the invested efforts in the recent period, still there are issues which remain to pose a challenge for all actors involved in combating HT.

For example, the state has made an attempt to overcome the problem of lack of cooperation and information exchange, among relevant institutions, by creating a Coordination Centre and through supporting programs for experts networking. Still, some of the interviewed public sector field workers point out that much more should be done in this direction.

Some modest efforts are done with the goal to integrate HT as a course subject in the school curricula, either to educate children about the phenomenon, or to provide special-



ist courses to the future researchers or practitioners from the field. Current available education programs about HT are restricted to rare or optional short courses, designed only to provide basic information about HT. Currently, there is no advanced, specific and comprehensive education about HT available on a regular basis to the interested scientists or practitioners.

Similar problem exists concerning public awareness raising and prevention programs. The NGO sector is also more and more active in this field in Serbia, but still they are facing many problems. For example, there is an ongoing problem regarding funding, meaning that only smaller projects and projects with easily measurable results are receiving funds, which results with fragmented targeting of the problems. Further on, the question of ensuring quality management of services provided by the NGO sector is still not addressed properly.

Identified Issues and Challenges

(This part of the report was prepared by Tamara Martinovska and Marjan Angelovski)

Our field research was more focused on the work of state institutions in dealing with the phenomenon of Human Trafficking. During our field research, we visited the state institutions, such as the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Policy, Centre for Coordination of Protection of Victims of Human Trafficking, and the Centre for Social Work. Through discussions with experts from these institutions, we identified some problems and challenges that they face, such as need to improve implementation of existing social inclusion strategies targeting at-risk groups, lack of trained professionals at local level and rather lenient treatment for perpetrators which serves as a de-motivating factor for the police. Also, during the visit in Novi Sad, we had an impression that there is very low or in some cases even absence of any information in municipalities because everybody involved there, has just started participation in solving this social phenomenon.

NGOs in Serbia are also an important link in dealing with this phenomenon. Among the problems and challenges NGOs face in their day to day work are the following: no permanent funding resources which results in inability to plan on a long term basis and fragmented targeting of the problems in addition to dependence on individual enthusiasm to solve problems which are very often beyond the area of responsibility of NGOs.

Yet another problem is the lack of cooperation and information exchange between the involved institutions resulting in slow and ineffective decision-making. In cases when there is a need for quick response to a newly emerged situation on the ground by amending and adapting existing legislation, the coordination task becomes an extremely time consuming and slow process pointing out to an ineffective governance system.

As mentioned earlier, Human Trafficking is not integrated as a course subject in the educational system neither at primary nor secondary level education. With regard to university education the HT is provided only as an optional course subject.

Most of the training courses are supported by the NGOs and focus on prevention in terms of awareness raising about trafficking perils among “high-risk” groups, minors and the general public; awareness raising for employment opportunities among “high-risk” groups at community level; awareness raising of the trafficking phenomenon among relevant Serbian governmental agencies, NGOs and other caregivers and stakeholders.

Other problems include stereotypes and stigmatisation which are usually associated with HT. The students are afraid to talk about it with their family and their friends. The main problem for the students is lack of information from the media and unfortunately from the University and the education system in general. Moreover there is a need for advancing the level of knowledge on how to deal with the problem, in the first place among professionals.

The attendees of the Summer School conducted a phone survey of potential trafficking victims involved in the organized prostitution under the cloak of offering massage services or working as dancers and waitresses in night bars. We managed to contact three offers out of which one was a job offer for dancers in a night bar and cafe. A female member of our team called the contact person who we found in a newspaper advertisement. The contact person has explained that unfortunately they cannot offer a permanent job for foreigners (we presented as the foreign student from Macedonia) due to need for special work permit. However, a non-registered job has been offered as a lady responsible to entertain the guests (what kind of entertainment, it was not specified but it was more than obvious that it was incitement to prostitution). Another offer was a job in a night bar, but without precise explanation of working tasks. Our team member was informed to call the same contact as soon as she gets to Belgrade and the job will be granted to her. We concluded that it was definitely an illegal offer and that there is an incitement to prostitution behind it and most probably potential Human Trafficking.

Our second challenge was the advertisement offering massage. A male team member called the contacted person who informed him precisely regarding massage services. The description of the services offered involved detail explanation of physical characteristic of the girl who is at the age of 22, blond, very good looking, sensitive etc. On our request for discretion due to being a well known VIP person we were explained that so far they had great cooperation with the hotel and the lady will have no problem at the reception. Only what we need to report is the room number. The price is 70 Euros for 30 minutes and 90 Euros for an hour.

This example illustrates that incitement to prostitution and offers of sexual services of all kind are easily accessible through daily newspapers and those offers are made in a very subtle manner without any restraints. This example does not serve to prove that this is a case of Human Trafficking however it depicts clearly certain elements and risk factors which, if investigated further, might lead towards discovering something no one expected in the first place.

Symposium

The Symposium provided a general overview of the three weeks of the Summer School in Belgrade and a stand point for focusing all the knowledge and experiences exchanged among the participants, the lecturers, the experts, and the state representatives. Taking place at the very end of the Summer School and right after the Learning Dialogues, its main goal was to bring together relevant anti-trafficking stakeholders and actors from the region, connect them with the new and fresh perspectives voiced by the participants and facilitate further discussions regarding new aspects in tackling the shortcomings of the anti-trafficking efforts in the region as presented in the form of country situation analysis and approach recommendations by the participants.

The state representatives played a very important role in the symposium, engaging in a dialogue with the participants, commenting on their situation analysis and advising them on the feasibility of the presented recommendations.

Guests attending the Symposium

Name and surname	Institution	Region
Mr. Mitar Djuraskovic	National Coordinator / Ministry of Interior	Serbia
Mr. Stevan Popovic	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy	Serbia
Ms. Svetlana Cvetkovska	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy	Macedonia
Ms. Violeta Andonova	National Coordinator / Ministry of Interior	Macedonia
Mr. Samir Rizvo	National Coordinator / Ministry of Interior	Bosnia
Ms. Saliha Djuderia	Ministry of Human Rights	Bosnia
Mr. Sasa Rasic	National Coordinator / Ministry of Interior	Kosovo ^{*37}

After a short introduction to the concept and the idea behind the Summer School by Mr. Wolfgang Jessen and Prof. Regine Schoneneberg, the participants took the central stage and gave short but detailed presentations regarding the situation analysis as they found it during the action research week at the four locations in the region: Belgrade, Pristina, Kocani and Tuzla.

37 * This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

* Овај назив је без прејудуцирања статуса и у складу је са Резолуцијом Савета безбедности Уједињених нација 1244 и мишљењем Међународног суда правде о декларацији о независности Косова.

During their research work the four groups were able to locate and identify separate examples of good practices and remarkable efforts by practitioners and stakeholders in the region. For example, good and strong involvement of the NGO sector in all levels of the anti-trafficking efforts, especially in reintegration and rehabilitation of victims; a multi-stakeholders and multi-sectoral approach to financing anti-trafficking programs; dedicated and passionate social workers and anti-trafficking practitioners; well organized task forces working on local and national levels; etc.

However, the purpose of the action research was to observe the problem from a fresh perspective and identify challenges. Although each group identified challenges specific to the location they visited, it was quite evident that they also easily identified issues recurring throughout the region, such as: even though stakeholders are well informed on the issue, there is need for more specific training of professionals; a lack of exchange of information in general; the media doesn't cover this issue in a professional way; poor support for services provided by the government; a general problem with identification and protection of victims; human resources remain a major challenge – they don't have enough technical support, they are overloaded with work, running short term services that are not sustainable; etc.

Most of the guests at the Symposium agreed with the overview of the issue as presented by the participants offering, of course, comments on certain specifics, clarifying certain questions and supplementing more detailed information regarding the topics of their expertise. They were all very eager to hear the recommendations that the groups prepared as their suggestions for addressing the identified challenges.

The recommendations were presented by level of approach: macro, meso and micro, in order to ensure a comprehensive addressing of the issue.

Following is a short overview of the recommendations. A more detailed one is presented in the recommendation's part of the present publication.



MACRO LEVEL

Recommendation 1: A multi-stakeholder approach to identification of (potential, presumed) victims. As this process is mostly centralized, usually one institution is entitled to identify and legally designate a victim. Instead, this should be shared by more stakeholders.

Recommendation 2: Multi-level and multi-sector financing of anti-trafficking programmes. The possibility of multi-level and multi-sectoral financing should be included in the legal framework and it should be customized for the local needs. There are already examples of good practices on this topic that could be transferred throughout the region.

Recommendation 3: Legalization of prostitution. Although the issue is quite controversial, it should be discussed nonetheless.

MESO LEVEL

Recommendation 1: Tailor made trainings. Developing and implementing structured theoretical and practical trainings for the present and future professionals dealing directly with HT victims.

Recommendation 2: Standardized out-reach work. Creating standardized outreach work in the field of combating Human Trafficking with the same characteristics across the region.

Recommendation 3: Social enterprises. Establishing social enterprise businesses for the purpose of providing a more sustainable financing of NGOs working on anti-trafficking and facilitate the reintegration of victims.

MICRO LEVEL

Recommendation 1: Children’s Parliaments. Organizing for children from vulnerable groups and their families in order to inform them on the topic of Human Trafficking and its consequences.

As expected, Recommendation 3 from the Macro level was the most intriguing for the guests and it prompted immediate discussion. Most of the guests did not agree with the recommendation stating that legalization of prostitution does not lead to a decline in Human Trafficking, it only sets the grounds for it and it does not benefit the victims but the traffickers.

It was cited that according to some estimates for every registered prostitute there are 10 that are not registered and they are most probably victims of Human Trafficking.

The participants insisted that the profile of the Balkan is changing and although this issues still proves to be controversial, it is time to start debating about it and bringing it into the public sphere.

The Micro level recommendation was welcomed and commented upon by several guests and practitioners. They suggested involving children from different backgrounds in the Parliaments, and not just marginalized groups in order to avoid unintentional segregation.

The Symposium ended with the closing remarks of Mr. Wolfgang Jessen thanking the guests and the participants for their efforts and valuable inputs and inviting them to continue and further develop the collaboration in the regional anti-trafficking efforts.

Recommendations

The following represents a summarised overview on the recommendations suggested by the students groups on the basis of their research of the current state-of-affairs in the area of anti-trafficking in each of the countries visited. The recommendations also take into consideration the challenges pointed out during the discussions held with governmental and non-governmental representatives at the final symposium. The three groups namely macro, meso, micro consist of representatives of all four action research groups which visited 4 different research locations in the region of the Western Balkans. Therefore, the final recommendations at each level reflect the regional outlook and some derive from the identified best practices in a specific country which resonate closely with the problems identified at regional level.

Macro level

Introduction (Situation Analysis)

(This part of the report was prepared by Tatjana Milic)

Recommendations on the macro level intend to place relevant aspects of the Human Trafficking problem on the political agenda. They are directed to improve legal and institutional framework of the counter-trafficking policies in the region.

The participants of the Summer School in Belgrade conducted action research visits in the four locations of the Western Balkan region. There are certain elements unique for each of them but there are also a number of similarities. We have identified the following issues as some of the **common problems** in the fight against Human Trafficking:

First, existing mechanisms of identification of (potential) victims result in untimely and inefficient protection.

Second, anti-trafficking programmes have no sustainable financing model. Even governmental programmes struggle with lack of adequate portion of resources in budget allocation plans.

Third, results in all research locations have confirmed that Human Trafficking for sexual exploitation of young women is the prevalent form of trafficking in the region and that there is a trend of forced begging as a form of trafficking (of children in particular) for labour exploitation. However, forced begging is still not adequately recognized by the institutions as a way of Human Trafficking. Prejudices, discriminatory policies and lack of will to deal with it proactively result in addressing this issue as a Roma phenomenon and not reporting it as a criminal offence.

Forth, and perhaps the crucial problem in the region, is the role of prosecution in counter-trafficking efforts. The prosecution was identified as a stumbling point in the fight against Human Trafficking. Qualification of an offence as Human Trafficking, secondary victimization and lack of feedback communication with other relevant actors in the process are

identified as challenging issues with regards to the prosecution. Since the action research groups had no opportunity to interview prosecutors about these issues, we had to leave them open for some future research and discussion. However, we believe that limiting solutions of the problem to improve criminal legislation, changing criminal codes and incorporating said changes into educational programmes for prosecutors, would not be enough to change the situation. There is a need for development of comprehensive and sustainable solution strategy. That is a task which our group could not complete considering time constraints and without interviewing relevant actors of the system.

For that reason, we focused our attention on the first three problematic issues and have proposed the following **recommendations**:

- 1) **Multi-stakeholder approach to identification of (potential, presumed) victims of Human Trafficking;**
- 2) **Multi-level and multi-sector financing of anti-trafficking programmes; and**
- 3) **Legalization of prostitution.**

These recommendations target relevant aspects of Human Trafficking in the region. Although some of them (namely the third one) seem to be or indeed are in collision with the cultural context of the Western Balkan region, there is a sound justification to present them here and the reasons for such decision will be further elaborated in our report.

Recommendation 1: Multi-Stakeholder Approach to Identification of (Potential, Presumed) Victims

(This part of the report was prepared by Roshan Heiler, Tatjana Milic, Fortesa Kadriu)

1.1 Problem

The identification process of *potential victims* (persons at risk of being trafficked), *presumed victims* (persons who show signs that they might have been trafficked) and the *victims* of Human Trafficking (persons who have been exploited in one form of Human Trafficking) is of crucial importance in the fight of Human Trafficking³⁸ Unfortunately, not only in the Balkans but also in Western European countries the identification process is still limited to the law enforcement agencies. Potential victims of Human Trafficking are usually referred to the competent authority (i.e. state department) to investigate the case and make the proper identification. Other agencies working in the field (NGOs, Centres for social work, teachers etc.), can only refer the cases, but cannot legally acknowledge the status of the victim.

There has been a change of the *modus operandi* of the traffickers such as shift: from international trafficking to domestic trafficking; from organized networks to individual recruiters; from physical violence to emotional manipulation of the victim by creating an emotional dependence (“lover boy”); from taking away the identification documents to leaving them with the victims in order to not raise suspicion of the police in the case of raids. Also on the victims side there is distrust

³⁸ OSCE, 2011. *Trafficking in human beings: Identification of potential and presumed victims. A community policing approach*, Vienna: OSCE p.44.

towards the police, fear to testify against the traffickers and lack of consciousness about the situation of trafficking of the victim herself. These elements make creating a multi-stakeholder approach in identifying victims (during the different phases of the trafficking process of recruitment, transportation and exploitation) an imperative need.

1.2 Recommendation

The multi-stakeholder approach proposes sharing the burden of work and responsibility in the identification process among all relevant actors which will in the long term increase the protection of (potential) victims. In order to change the legal framework in place, a political will for improvement of the identification mechanism is needed. One reason why a government is possibly not willing to change the mechanism to a multi-stakeholder approach in the identification process, are the increasing costs coming along with an expected increase of identified victims of trafficking who, in order to be integrated and psychologically stabilized, will need social support financed by the government.

At the strategic level multi-stakeholder approach in combating Human Trafficking is a common feature, in the region also (National Team for Combating Human Trafficking was established in 2002 in Serbia). However, at the operational level there is a need for promotion of such practice.

In the Netherlands we have an example of cooperation of governmental and non-governmental actors in the identification process (even though that NGO is not involved in Task force on combating Human Trafficking at strategic level).

“CoMensha” (Coordination Centre for Human Trafficking) is a focal point for registration of (potential, presumed) victims of Human Trafficking. It is a non-governmental organisation who receives funding from the Government for this activity, and closely collaborates with police and other relevant authorities which refer the person suspected to be a victim of Human Trafficking to “CoMensha”. Victims can also approach the organisation directly. This NGO is also responsible for keeping national register of possible victims.

The region is also familiar with proposed practice. There was at one moment a multi-stakeholder approach to identification of victims of Human Trafficking in Serbia.

Namely, “Referring and counselling centre” was envisaged as a mobile team composed of representative of social welfare authorities and relevant NGOs which interviewed and assessed trafficked persons and referred them to appropriate institutions.³⁹ However, the status of the Centre was undefined, it wasn’t fully incorporated into the system of social protection and therefore it wasn’t on the Republic’s budget. In December 2003 an Agency for coordination and protection of victims of trafficking in human beings was established by the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Policy with the support of

³⁹ Theda Kroger, J. M. B. H. U., 2004. *National Referral Mechanisms. Joining efforts to protect the rights of trafficked persons. A Practical Handbook*, Warsaw: OSCE/ODIHR p. 73

OSCE mission. The Agency was incorporated into the system of social protection in 2005 and has central role in identification of victims and potential victims of Human Trafficking. It is the only institution with a mandate to identify (potential) victim and consequently include her/him into a system of assistance and protection of victims of Human Trafficking, but it does not decide on the final legal status of the victim⁴⁰. The Agency cooperates with the police, judicial system and NGOs. In the Analysis of functioning of the Agency for coordination and protection of victims of trafficking in human beings (January, 2011, section 5.3.3) which was done by the Agency's officials, there is a recommendation for decentralization and clear determination of functions of all actors involved in protection of victims (Analysis, section 6.3).⁴¹

At operational level in Kosovo^{*42} international presence has impacted the establishment of multi-stakeholder identification and referral mechanism in 2000. Through the memorandum of understanding OSCE, UNMIK Police Trafficking and Prostitution Investigation Unit, IOM and international NGO running “safe houses” have defined their duties and responsibilities in identification process. In relation to the potential children victims of Human Trafficking we find a useful example of Task Force in Kosovo^{*43}. This example could provide some guidance for ways of incorporation of multi-stakeholder approach to identification of potential victims.

Task Force is a coordination mechanism for child protection that meets on regular monthly basis and manages cases of children at medium and high risk of neglect, abuse, exploitation, trafficking and delinquency. Task Force is lead by the child protection social worker and involves actors such as: school psychologists/pedagogues, community police unit, victim advocate and probation service officer (these are part of Ministry of Justice), Anti-trafficking police, local NGOs, municipality directorate for health and social welfare etc.

As we have seen, the region is familiar with the examples of multi-stakeholder approach to identification. However, there is a need for clearly defined and comprehensive framework which would enable full incorporation of this approach in the system of fight against human-trafficking and ensure adequate assistance and protection to (potential, presumed) victims.

40 NGO ATINA, 2008. *National Referral Mechanism for Victims of Human Trafficking in the Republic of Serbia*, Belgrade: NGO ATINA p. 14

41 *Analiza funkcionisanja Službe za koordinaciju zaštite žrtava trgovine ljudima*, 2011, Beograd.

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Recommendation 2: Multi-Level and Multi-Sector Financing Of Anti-Trafficking Programmes

(This part of the report was prepared by Tatjana Milic, Envera Suljic)

2.1 Problem

The problem of Human Trafficking is not among the priorities on the political agenda in the region. For that reason both governmental and NGO anti-trafficking programmes struggle how to provide sustainable financing of activities. Most of the anti-trafficking programmes dealing with prevention and/or protection are financed by the international donors. However, such funding is decreasing and it is usually limited from one to three years and international donors prefer to finance programmes which involve both governmental and NGO actors.

It is therefore important that governmental institutions and civil society organizations cooperate in organizing and implementing anti-trafficking programmes since they would have a better chance to ensure sustainable financing. This cooperation is in accordance with the adopted multi-stakeholder approach in the fight against Human Trafficking.

2.2 Recommendation

One possible solution for this problem could be a model of **multi-level** and **multi-sector financing**. It is a feasible suggestion since some aspects of the proposed model are already applied in the region. It is a model elaborated on the principle of cooperation which aims to share the financial burden of the anti-trafficking activities among different levels of the government (state, province, local; national or international) and public and private sector. Since the role of the State is vital in creating the positive environment for implementation of proposed models, advocacy activities should target decision makers at different governmental levels. Also consultative meetings with relevant actors should be organized to discuss what legal and financial framework is appropriate for the realization of these models of financing. They should be presented as long term solutions. For that reason awareness raising activities should be organized to foster cooperation between government and NGOs, public and private sector by emphasizing that the scope of the problem is such that could only be adequately tackled if all work together and share the burden.

2.2.1 International Level – Application for EU funds

One possible scenario for obtaining part of the budget for anti-trafficking programmes is application for the funds of the EU Commission.

EU's anti-trafficking policy is characterized by holistic approach which is among else focused on developing partnership with various actors⁴⁴. Such approach is also reflected in the EU Strategy towards the eradication of Trafficking in Human

⁴⁴ Directive 2011/36/EU on prevention and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, OJ L 101, 1 15.4.2011, para. 6, 7). Last time accessed on 07.12.2012.

Beings (2012-2016)⁴⁵ in which enhanced coordination and cooperation among key actors was proclaimed as one of the priorities when addressing Human Trafficking problem.

The Western Balkan region is in the process of European integrations. Candidate countries (Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia) are eligible for the financial support through the instrument of pre-accession assistance (IPA) which will be renewed in 2013. Depending on the achieved phase of integration, different components of the IPA funds are available for financing anti-trafficking projects. Candidate countries could utilize all of the five components (assistance for transition and institution building, cross-border cooperation, regional development, strengthening human capital and combating exclusion, and rural development) while potential candidates (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo^{*46}) can utilize only the first two components.

Action research results have indicated usefulness of bottom-up approach in tackling Human Trafficking problem. Therefore it would be good to create local projects - cooperation of local government and/or public institutions (centres for social work, schools, and health centres) and NGOs and apply for the financial help of EU Commission. High level authorities could act as facilitators of this cooperation since they can indicate which financial options are available in absence of state funds and they could, in cooperation with national institutions responsible for EU integrations, provide help with preparing successful applications.

There is also an opportunity for regional cooperation. If it is known that there is a trend of cross-border trafficking in the region, it would be possible to apply for cross-border cooperation component of the IPA funds. In that regard it is important to link interested actors in the region. This is the point where offices of National Coordinators could be included as a focal point for communicating updated list and contacts of relevant actors involved in combating Human Trafficking or they could identify and propose possible cooperation. In that regard it would be useful to develop database of actors dealing with Human Trafficking issues.

Since the Western Balkan is the region of origin of the victims trafficked to the EU, it would be possible to develop cooperation with EU member states since they could apply for diverse financial opportunities with projects involving candidate and third countries.

Such projects have already been financed by the EU, for example:

1) Project "Enhancing the capacity to address trafficking in especially children from a human rights perspective in Southeast Asia, Southeast Europe and Latin America" (2007-2010) which was promoted by the Terre des Hommes, the Netherlands and

⁴⁵ *The EU Strategy towards the eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings (2012-2016) is available at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2012:0286:FIN:EN:PDF>. Last time accessed on 07,12.2012.*

⁴⁶ ** This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.*

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among implementing partners included organizations from Macedonia (Open Gate), Kosovo^{*47} (PVPT) and Albania (Centre of Integrated Legal Services and Practices).

2) Project „Enhancing Victims Protection through Operational Networking and Cooperation and Joint Multi-Disciplinary Trainings for Counter-Trafficking Specialists“ (2008-2009) which was promoted by Belgium’s Federal Police included as partners 11 EU member States, candidate countries (Croatia, Macedonia, Turkey) and neighbouring countries (Belarus, Moldova and the Ukraine).

3) Project “Trans-border Police Cooperation on Anti-Trafficking” (2009) which was promoted by the Greek Ministry of Interior (Police Headquarters) with partners from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Turkey, and the Ukraine.

It is therefore necessary to screen possibilities and lobby for cooperation, in particular if we have in mind that EU Strategy 2012-2016 has confirmed that third countries are among key actors in achieving the objective of eradication of Human Trafficking (see EU Strategy 2012-2016, Sections 2 and 2.4, p. 5, 11-13).

2.2.2 Multi-level Financing

Financial sustainability of NGOs’ prevention and protection programmes could be obtained through shared contributions of national, regional (county) and local (city) governments. Some models close to this type of financing already exist in the region.

Case study – NGO “Medica” Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina

NGO “Medica” is implementing the project - safe house for women and children victims of domestic violence and Human Trafficking for sexual exploitation. The Project provides comprehensive psychological, medical and legal assistance for beneficiaries as well as housing, food, clothes and hygienic items. It also includes the programme for economic empowerment (vocational trainings in tailoring, sewing, upholstering, using textile printing machines, hairdresser and manicure courses, establishing contacts with possible employers etc.).

The Safe house project is financed with 30% of contributions from the budgets of 8 municipalities (Zenica, Kakanj, Visoko, Vareš, Olovo, Maglaj, Doboju Jug, and Usora) and 30% from cantonal budget. The organization is conducting advocacy activities for changes in the legal framework which would regulate and enable financing of assistance, accommodation, care and support services with contributions of 40% from the budget of the federal government (FBH). The difficult political situation and lack of understanding for the needs of survivors of violence are factors which hinder adoption of legal changes.

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For these models to be applied it is important that institutions recognize NGOs as partners which can complement their work. For that purpose it is necessary to establish evaluation criteria for anti-trafficking projects. These criteria should be established in accordance with international standards and provide for a transparent grant decision making process.

2.2.3 Private Sector Engagement Through CSR Activities

One alternative for financial sustainability of service providers could be contribution from corporate sector. Given the voluntary dimension of corporate social responsibility (CSR) one must question how much is the private sector aware of the problem of Human Trafficking and how much is it ready to engage against it, especially if it is the case of trafficking for labour exploitation. The private sector is not willing to employ victims of Human Trafficking because of stigmatization problem but it could still financially contribute to the anti-trafficking programmes either by employing persons at risk, not actual victims, or by financially supporting specific programmes or projects designed to assist VoTs and groups at risk.

Recommendation 3: Legalization of Prostitution

(This part of the report was prepared by Kayvon Afshari, Franziska Güther, Elena Ivanova, Stefan Labudovic)

3.1 Problem

Trafficking of human beings for sexual exploitation is a constant feature of global surveys on Human Trafficking. Data show that the Western Balkans is not an exemption in that regard. The persons trafficked and forced into prostitution are suffering violence. They hesitate to approach the police for fear of being arrested or deported. Prostitution is a well known “black market activity” and since it is not legally regulated, prostitutes are dependent on their pimps, making them easily manipulated to become victims of Human Trafficking.

3.2 Recommendation

Legalization of prostitution can be one of the most powerful tools in the fight against sex trafficking if it is planned thoughtfully and implemented properly. A well-regulated system can offer both sex workers and consumers a safe and transparent framework for mutually-consensual sexual services. We believe that the benefits of this open market will diminish the incentives for the “black market” and thereby reduce the level of Human Trafficking feeding it.

3.2.1 Regulations

The rules and regulations of the system are important for curbing Human Trafficking and abuse. Firstly, sex workers should be entitled to basic labour rights including payment, safe working conditions, health and social insurance, as well as the right to reject clients. Alongside these rights, sex workers will have to be registered, licensed and pay taxes.

In order to maintain a healthy work environment, these workers will also be required to undergo regular health check-

ups to ensure they have not contracted any sexually transmitted infections. Use of condoms should be required, and sex workers should be at least 21 years old.

Because society may be uncomfortable with a legal sex trade, we can diminish its overt presence by ensuring that brothels are on the outskirts of a city and are not located near schools or churches. Furthermore, we can specify that advertising can exist exclusively in adult magazines, to avoid young children being easily exposed to it.

Security is also necessary and can be achieved by regular checkups by the police as well as having each room fitted with a “panic button.” Additionally, anyone with a prior conviction for violent or sex-related crimes may not work in a brothel. While legalizing sex work, it is important to criminalize pimping. Sex workers can pay rent to a brothel owner for use of the legally registered room, but they should receive the entire payment for their services, not a middleman. This is an important step because pimping can lead to abuse and possibly sex trafficking.

Along with legalization of registered prostitution, it is important to enforce laws against illegal prostitution and sex trafficking. There should be harsh punishment for anyone who forces sex work and for brothels that do not comply with the regulations.

3.1.2 Challenge

One of the biggest challenges is that making prostitution legal and accessible may lead to an increase in demand. While this is an unfortunate unintended consequence, we believe it is a worthy price to pay if it reduces Human Trafficking.

The experience of the Dutch model suggests that legalization is an effective tool in the fight against sex trafficking. According to the Third Report of the Dutch National Rapporteur, “before the lifting of the general ban on brothels, THB and other (criminal abuses) were taking place in all sectors of prostitution. Some of these sectors are now under control and can be assumed to have rid themselves of their former criminal excesses, or are doing so.” The report goes on to say that it is possible that THB is increasing in the non-regulated sector, but that it is still unlikely to be at the levels prior to the lifting of the ban. In fact, they believe that levels in the non-regulated sector are lower because “not every client is keen to get involved in the ‘secret’ prostitution sector.”⁴⁸ Additionally, countries that have legalized prostitution, such as Germany, the Netherlands, and Australia, all earned Tier 1 ratings in the United States’ 2012 Trafficking in Persons Report.

By decriminalizing sex work, both prostitutes and victims of Human Trafficking will have a legal recourse for addressing abuse. We strongly believe that by bringing sex work out of the shadows and into plain view of police, social workers and the government, we can proactively deal with one of the gravest human rights concerns of the 21st century.

⁴⁸ Korvinus, Anna G.; Dijk, Essy M.H. van; Koster, Dagmar A.C.; Smit, Monika; 2005. *Trafficking in human beings. Third report of the Dutch National Rapporteur, The Hague: Bureau NRM. p.91.*

Meso Level

Introduction (Situation Analysis)

(This part of the report was prepared by Mila Isakovska)

The meso group was formed on the intermediate level and had to reflect from the position of non-governmental organizations, state institutions adapting and creating programs and other relevant stakeholders.

The analysis of the meso group focused not so much on measures directly linked to anti-trafficking responses, but rather the focus was laid down on relevant aspects for the process of policy implementation. In other words, the recommendations are based on stakeholder analysis, thus shedding light on the structural challenges with respect to the importance of the capacities of the institutions dealing with the topic and not so much with the actual responses as such. Therefore the recommendations suggested in this section point out to the importance of employing a set of procedures and processes aimed at setting minimum quality standards from the perspective of service providers, both NGOs and Centres for Social Work. The problems identified during visits of different sites in all countries in the region pointed towards the following:

Human and material resource problems:

- Lack of capacity (in terms of human resources; lack of staff as well as their skills and knowledge) of the stakeholders involved, especially the state institutions;
- Lack of funds allocated for combating the issues and specific problems related to Human Trafficking;
- Awareness and knowledge related issues;
- Lack of awareness of the general public, but also among some of the stakeholders;
- Lack of know-how in reference to approaching and resolution of the problems;
- Absence of opportunities for future involvement of the VoTs in the social life and especially lack of attention directed towards the people involved in direct contact and assistance of the victims.

Guided from the need to address these problems and wanting to present ideas that can be effectuated in the near future, we formed all our individual ideas into three main ideas.

The first idea regarding the need for appropriate trainings, that we named tailor-made trainings were directed towards the problem of lack of capacity within the institutions and groups dedicated towards tackling the problem of Human Trafficking.

The second idea, which was called standardized outreach work, is dedicated towards collecting the best practices in the experience of tackling this issue and implementing it regionally and almost uniformly. The best thing is that this idea focuses on the adaption of these practices towards the circumstances and social background in the region.

And the last idea that came out from the process was the idea of Social Enterprises which should give purpose and occupation to the trafficked victims that struggle and want to continue their life in a stable environment.

Recommendation 1: Tailor-Made Trainings

(This part of the report was prepared by Dragana Brdaric)

The recommendation regarding tailor made trainings aims at the development and implementation of structured theoretical and practical trainings for the present and future professionals dealing directly with HT victims.

The recommendation was guided by the findings of the Summer School Action Research. One of the findings from the region is that there is a lack of systemic education, evaluation and professional support to the HT victims' service providers. As result of this, there is a great risk that victims of HT do not receive proper care after they are identified which could lead to further traumatisation and social exclusion. In order to provide HT victims with high quality assistance in social inclusion process, we suggest that more attention should be paid on professional empowerment of involved parties. We suggest that there is a need for specific education of professionals and students from the following professions (target groups):

- a) Social workers, psychologists, special pedagogues;
- b) Policemen, judges, prosecutors

On the basis of our Action Research findings, we identified that experts lack adequate systematic knowledge in dealing with HT victims or with groups at risk of HT. For example, the topic of HT is not covered in the curricula for students who will obtain university degree in social work, pedagogy or psychology. Further on, policemen, judges and prosecutors are not educated how to communicate with potentially traumatized victims, or how to motivate them to cooperate and claim for their rights. This is not to say that trainings are non-existent, however, these are provided only to a limited number of professionals in most cases to highly ranked public servants and training curricula are not designed in line with strategic objectives.

In line with the observed problems we considered **burn out prevention programs** to be one of the crucial components of training curricula and a consequential aspect of the primary educational and practical trainings. Burn out prevention programs could be offered to the providers of services of HT victims, as well as to the future providers of those services. Proper education about burn out symptoms and strategies how to cope with them is necessary to people who are dealing with this topic, especially having in mind high rates of depression and suicide among helping professionals. Nevertheless, we found out that the need of such program is often neglected or underestimated in the region.

In addition the need for tailor-made trainings is justified by the existing problem of providing the employees with trainings that do not offer new knowledge but are rather repetitive. This is a direct consequence of the absence of systematization of professional development of experts across all relevant sectors and also different governance levels, including the most neglected front line workers. Professional development is dependent on foreign donor support and very often the curricula are not designed by building on the previous curricula. Therefore there is a need for elaborating strategic frameworks of skills and knowledge necessary for continuous and long term professional development. One way to better target the lack of knowledge is by organizing focus groups with the beneficiaries. The next step would be to develop the training and to implement it. Trainings could be implemented as formal or as informal educational packages. In order to promote synergy between science and practice we would suggest cross-sector cooperation between academia, NGOs, centres for social work, police and other public institutions. Moreover, the cross-sector cooperation in designing curricula would consider the multi-dimensionality of HT and therefore knowledge of future experts would reflect the complexity of the issue accordingly.

Long term effectiveness of the trainings could be evaluated by focusing on the variety of outcome indicators. For instance, we could measure how well they adopted the training's content, or follow up on their efficacy in practical work. The later example of evaluation reflects our standpoint about the importance of building peer network for providing supervision of work.

The sustainability of those trainings would be ensured through process of **accreditation or institutionalization** where appropriate. Additional sustainability will be ensured by signing **Memorandums of Understanding** with Universities and other stakeholders from the public sector in which the trained future and current professionals will be engaged in adequate positions in order to be able to assist their peers. The possibility of internships for the students and their consideration for employment should be incorporated in those MoUs.

Recommendation 2: Standardized Outreach Work

(This part of the report was prepared by Momcilo Janjic)

Outreach work with at risk of HT groups has popped up as an important issue during the action research visits in all four research locations in the region. It appeared that there is an urgent need for strengthening prevention approaches in current anti-trafficking strategies. In this regard research groups observed a few good examples which could serve as best practice in the area of outreach work. However, the practice is NGO-based projects implemented usually by enthusiastic organizations with very little cooperation from social workers and other front line workers. In order to endorse outreach work with HT groups at risk as a component in combating HT as equally important as reintegration of officially identified VoTs, we recommend standardization of outreach work. The standardization is expected to unify some of the best practices available in the region and to promote these as a regional approach.

In order to accomplish such a complex task throughout the region of the Western Balkans, involvement of all relevant stakeholders in all steps of the process would be of essential importance.

The following is a sequential order of the envisaged steps:

- **Benchmarking regional outreach experience**

Different countries of the region have different practices in the field of outreach work. It is necessary to collect all the good models, practices and experiences in this field. Project researchers will collect the available best practices through desk review and by contacting major stakeholders (organizations, outreach work practitioners, experts). If necessary, field trips will be organized. The collected experience will be consolidated into a single compendium, which will serve as knowledge and experience base for further steps.

- **Organizing national outreach focus groups**

In each country outreach focus group will be organized consisting of different stakeholders with recognized outreach models implemented into their everyday work, with a purpose to gather all national ideas and suggestions regarding existing outreach practices, needs for improvement, missing parts and plans for further development and scale-up of outreach activities. Each focus group will gather finding and recommendations into a national report.

- **Forming regional expert working group for a joint model of outreach work development**

As a third step in developing standardized model of outreach work applicable to each country that participates in this process, regional expert group will be formed. Each country will appoint 3 representatives from different fields of expertise (NGO, state institutions etc). Based on findings and information gathered through the first two steps, this group will synthesize a draft model of outreach work with all necessary modules: levels of mandatory education, field work, financial needs, supervision, reporting, accreditation, licensing etc.

- **Organizing regional outreach conference for adopting standardized regional outreach work model**

In order to present developed model of standardized outreach work, a 5-day regional outreach conference will be organized. The conference will bring together major stakeholders responsible for combating trafficking of human beings in each country (NGOs, institutions, donors, experts, media etc). The purpose of the conference is to acquaint all participants with developed drafts, to make on-sight corrections and alterations suggested by participants involved in different conference sessions, and to come up with the final version of a comprehensive model of standardized outreach work feasible, applicable and reproducible in each separate country of the region.

Involved stakeholders will sign Declaration of Commitment on adoption and implementation of a standardized model of outreach work, thus committing to fully incorporate the developed model into their national settings.

- **Implementation of the developed model into national THB combating systems**

Based on national specificity, each country will create a roadmap for adoption, with proposed timeframe, necessary

funds, resources and competent institutions. The developed standardized model will be adopted and incorporated into domestic settings.

Recommendation 3: Social Enterprise

(This part of the report was prepared by Manja Nikolovska)

One of the main challenges in prevention and combating Human Trafficking is the sustainable strategy for social inclusion of HT groups at risk and reintegration of HT victims.

The issue of sustainability of service providers and in general the NGO sector is well known throughout the region. The challenge is even more alarming in the field of anti-trafficking, taking into account the fact that Government funds for service provision for the victims is either non-existent or in rare cases, when some support is provided, it is rather symbolic. On the other side, service providers are compelled to provide services as victims are referred to them, however, the donor money is not sufficient for them to plan and expand the scope of reintegration programs in a more strategic manner due to the short term financial security.

Another issue is the problem of employment of the victims which is one of the crucial factors for successful reintegration and inclusion. Most of the NGOs explain that the biggest challenge is the lack of livelihood opportunities for the VoTs when they return to society.

For these reasons we suggest and strongly recommend the model of Social Enterprise.

Social Enterprises⁴⁹ are businesses whose main objective is the common and greater good. These businesses are using the same methods, structure and disciplines as any other business; only their profit is allocated on improving social, environmental and human justice agendas. Main differences between Social Enterprise businesses with any other business are:

- Directly addresses an intractable social need and serves the common good
- Its commercial activity is a strong revenue driver
- The common good is its primary purpose

The recommendations we suggested address the two-fold problem of sustainability; from one side sustainability of service providers, and on the other the self-sustainability of its beneficiaries in the life after the shelter. In order to overcome this it is recommended that service providers start-up a social enterprise run by the NGOs, whereas the employees would be the former victims. Whatever the products or service the social enterprise would offer, the final profit could be

⁴⁹ *The Case for Social Enterprise Alliance, What's a Social Enterprise?, for more information visit: <https://www.se-alliance.org/why#whatsasocialenterprise>*

split between the NGOs and the employees. Like this the service providers would get some amount of money through which they can support at least the operational costs and thus overcome the continuous problem of short-term planning of their programs. Secondly, former VoTs would be offered with a viable alternative to the current situation that places heavy burden on their shoulders as they need assistance in the intermediate phase “after the shelter” until they empower themselves fully in order to become full members of our societies.

This way the benefit for the victims will be both psychological (it will give them a sense of purpose, recognition and self-confidence) and financial, since they will earn their living from their own business.

There are however a number of challenges on the way of implementing the idea from theory to practice. Due to the fact that the work at the Social Enterprise would be a big step forward for the former VoTs, safe-guard measures should be taken in advance knowing that this would have a devastating psychological effect upon former VoTs.

Therefore, it is crucial, for the social enterprise to be successful, to be advised by experienced economists, managers and commercialist, lawyers etc., which can be present in this business as a result of the CSR correspondence.

From a managerial perspective a crucial precondition in the success of the SE is the patent for the product and/or service produced in order to avoid the possibility of product or intellectual property theft. The legal standards which provide for this should be lower or less burdensome for the Social Enterprise. In addition, currently there is no legal framework in the countries of the region with respect to establishing Social Enterprises. Usually these types of businesses are expected to pay very low tax and other costs typical for the profit making sector. Therefore efforts should be invested in advocating for the necessary preconditions to be fulfilled by state institutions, in particular in the legal area.

From our interview with “The Ideas Partnership” NGO in Kosovo^{*50}, who are working with vulnerable groups, we got a great example from one of their successful project “Sa-Punë micro-finance soap-making project”. In this project women produce hand-made scented olive oil soaps, fragrancd with essential oils and sold in nice cloth bags. In a very short time span Sa-Punë attracted the interest in Kosovo^{*51} and beyond. With a bit of training, they can now see their hard work translating directly into earnings: they're less likely to be out begging, and less likely to be taking their children out of school⁵².

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52 *Fushë Kosovë: soap-making, The Ideas Partnership, for more information visit: http://www.theideaspartnership.org/pb/wp_f9ce0850/wp_f9ce0850.html*

Another example of a successful social enterprise in the field of anti-trafficking is the NGO Emmaus based in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Case study – NGO “International Forum of Solidarity - Emmaus”

The Forum has developed over the years of work of close involvement with local communities in accordance with its philosophy of solidarity with those in need. Its work included also projects for victims of Human Trafficking in Bosnia and Herzegovina which encompassed solidarity, economy and prevention programmes with younger generations aimed at developing the sense of care for others in need, including victims of Human Trafficking. Victims were included in different activities such as growing plants and taking care of them. The philosophy of the activities is to empower the person psychologically and economically in order to help her/his social inclusion.

Micro Level

Introduction (Situation Analysis)

(This part of the report was prepared by Samir Arnaut)

The countries of the Western of Balkans being in transitional phase, share the same problem: Trafficking in Human Beings. Human Trafficking, as a pathological phenomenon typical for the less developed transitional countries, has become a reality in the Western Balkan region in the post-war period. At the same time, even despite all efforts, society and its institutions are not sufficiently prepared to take effective and concrete steps in the fight against trafficking and even more so the greatest difficulty starts with the assistance provision to ameliorate the negative effects for the families and society in general caused by this evil.

The main problems observed at the micro level by GIZ-DAAD Summer School participants are the lack of general tolerance towards customers, lack of practical application of the new laws regarding prevention and support to victims, women in the Balkan traditionally are treated as objects, cultural indolence for the problem, stigmatization of the victims (especially in small places), inadequate representation of the problem in social science curricula, youth idols are criminals, turbo folks culture – started in 90s which promote use of woman body as the sex object, war induced societal disintegration etc.

During the GIZ-DAAD Summer School the field research group of participants found professionals dealing with the issue on the micro-level, including psychologists and social workers working with HT groups at risk, are not sufficiently aware and informed regarding HT as an issue, have not been educated and nor gained practical skills to work with HT victims and on prevention in HT.

In this regard, the NGO sector is an exception, but NGOs have no capacities to tackle the issue on a large scale. Our findings clearly suggest that the various professionals, relevant for tackling the broader scope of HT, are interested to learn

about HT, but they don't feel confident enough to deal with it which could be the reason why they are passive in tackling this issue on the micro level. It is worthwhile noting the fact that on micro level, there are a great number of professionals and initiatives offering good practices in dealing with the social dimension of HT, but definitely there is a lack of systematic and structural approach to this issue.

Recommendation 1:

(This part of the report was prepared by Selma Advic)

In order to be effective, the fight against HT must start from the local level, at the level where Human Trafficking is actually taking place. Even though it is an international phenomena; recruiting, involvement and exploitation of victims of HT happens often in the environment where victims live, and by people whom the victims know and trust.

In order to combat HT we have identified effective measures, which are listed below:

Strategies:

- Strategies in combating HT at local level should be developed in a participatory manner by consulting with and involving the communities whenever possible;
- Situation analysis should document the absence of specific services which need to be developed;
- Prevention programs and projects should be designed and made accessible for beneficiaries of social services;
- Early warning mechanisms should be put in place to recognize new trends in HT;
- Awareness building should be conducted in areas at local level where HT groups at risk are the most concentrated; and
- Transparent information should be made more accessible for vulnerable groups to empower them.

Concrete projects:

- Children's parliament;
- Workshops, peer-learning and empowerment of children;
- Involvement of families;
- Activity places: sport clubs, music clubs for children; and
- European Volunteering Service for Roma Youth.

Stakeholders:

- Municipalities;
- Schools;
- Police;

- Centres for social work;
- Media; and
- NGOs.

As it was mentioned because of its nature, HT occurs on the local level. Hence, local stakeholders should identify and create efficient strategies that should include: relevant aim, actors/stakeholders, responsibilities, methods, beneficiaries and deadlines.

However, before starting developing any strategies, local communities should first conduct a situation analysis with regards to social services. On the basis of that they can identify services which are missing and also find out which of the existing services correspond to the needs of potential beneficiaries and/ finally how some of these can be further developed and improved.

Strategies implemented at local level should incorporate aims which are target of the broader scope of the HT issue, including prevention, identification and services for victims of HT, but also needs of other vulnerable groups that are assumed to be potential victims should be taken into consideration. The target group of these projects are beneficiaries of social services. They are well known to centres for social work, schools, police, NGOs, health institutions etc. Those beneficiaries could be: children without parental care, children in institutions or foster care, neglected children, children from families at risk, beneficiaries of social aid, children with behaviour problems, children out of school, disabled children, victims of domestic violence, street children, but also adults and elderly persons. Due to the broader scope of the proposed response approach, it is important to underline that collaboration between the government and NGOs is crucial and therefore should be continuously fostered.

For the early warning mechanism to function, academic structures could be engaged in order to follow and ascertain new trends, so they could be available to professionals and service providers. Partnerships should be strengthened among different sectors and dialogue among these should be more vigorously promoted. In addition, some other actors could be included e.g. faculty for social worker, psychologists, pedagogues, teachers, lawyers, physicians etc. Moreover, professional associations can also be part of awareness building and ascertaining new trends in HT. Nevertheless, in the whole discussion on the micro level the only missing lead are the health institutions. They are or could have an important task in prevention of HT, especially in identification, and treatment of the victims. A doctor, or a medical worker, if he/she is aware and sensitive about HT, could be the first to presume and suspect a case of HT. Medical workers must be among the other professionals in “task force groups”.

In addition, in the framework of international days, national days of awareness building of HT, domestic violence, and professional days the importance of combating HT could be emphasised and the transparent information could be given to the costumers.

Recommendation 2: The Project “Children’s Parliament”

(This part of the report was prepared by Larisa Gheorgheinco, Tamara Martinivska, Marjan Angelovski)

The analysis of the social services on the local level and the acknowledgement of the missing services resulted in the development of strategies in combating HT. The project “Children’s Parliament” (CP) is one of the strategies among the beneficiaries of the Centre for Social Work (can be implemented in every country in the Western Balkans) and their families. The term “Parliament” should not be taken in its narrow definition, but as a platform for discussion, learning and development.

The main **aim** of the project is to **inform and sensitize** children about the field of Human Trafficking and the consequences of it and to develop sustainable awareness network among youngsters and their families (See Recommendation 3 for further information). Parents often feel guilty for not protecting the child and are unable to fully comprehend the situation. Focusing on long-term, sustainable support for children is of crucial importance and this can only be achieved by actively involving and working with parents and caregivers to provide assistance on a continuous basis.

Hence, the time framework is unlimited.

The **primary target group** of the project are children of different age and backgrounds in terms of socio-economic status. Creating a diverse and heterogonous body is essential in order to avoid the syndrome of ghetto which frequently occurs with similar projects. It is therefore important to bring together children with different livelihood opportunities and to build bridges among them which will facilitate cross learning. However, families and parents in particular should be considered as a secondary beneficiary due to the fact that children’s wellbeing is the most dependent on the immediate family environment.

As a result, this heterogeneous body will be potent to implement its core aim through different **methods** such as **peer-learning and workshops**. Due to the fact that backgrounds, knowledge level and age will vary, it would present a perfect platform of peer-learning. Furthermore, children could present their experience to their schoolmates and friends, sensitizing others on Human Trafficking. Moreover, in order to systematise the knowledge of participants, **workshops** should be established and conducted by specialists. However, the organizers of the project should be vigilant to possible confrontation and misunderstanding among participants; therefore the professionalism of specialists is indispensable.

In order to make the CP attractive to vulnerable children, **music and sport clubs** could be created. To make the clubs interesting to children, in the framework of the music clubs some excursions to radio or TV could be organized; and in the framework of sport clubs members could go to trainings of their favourite sport teams or to meet sportsmen/sportswomen etc. Furthermore, children should suggest their areas of interest in order to develop an interesting and developmental environment for participants.

With the development of the CP, the members of the CP could take part in different volunteering programs e.g. European Volunteering Service for Roma Youth (EVSRY).

In addition, the relevant list of stakeholders could be found below:

- NGOs: e.g. Terre des hommes Kosovo^{*53}
- Municipalities
- Schools
- Centre for Civil Services
- Police
- Media and communication.

The main strength of the project is that it utilizes simple tools to empower them and their families. However, the main limitation of the project is that it could form a “ghetto” or it could exclude some groups of children, hence it is important to engage specialists such as teachers, psychologists, social workers etc.

Conclusion and Comments

(This part of the report was prepared by Larisa Gheorgheenco)

The present report developed a set of recommendations on the micro level to promote not new but effective ways to combat HT. As was acknowledged, HT covers the territory of the Western Balkans, targeting the vulnerable persons and their families in these countries.

Furthermore, it is important to examine the problems and challenges on this particular level which are faced not only by the professionals but also by the beneficiaries themselves. In order to tackle HT some concrete recommendations were presented. Firstly, the collaboration between micro, meso and macro levels is crucial. The counter-trafficking methods can work and be effective only through collaboration. Moreover, the strategies on the micro level should be developed on this level by e. g. representatives of centres for social work or centres for work etc. In addition, an early warning system should be developed in collaboration with the academia and practitioners. However, the only missing lead in this

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discussion is the representatives of the health services. Without their support and knowledge the detection and support to the victims is not complete.

Additionally, the project “Children’s Parliament” is one of the strategies developed in the framework of inquiry. As was acknowledged, the key aim of the project is to inform and sensibilise children in the field of HT and to establish the awareness network between youngsters and their families. Baring in mind that the families of the victims of HT are affected too, the project aims to involve the families of the vulnerable children.

In conclusion, in order to tackle HT, not only collaboration between the levels is indispensable but also collaboration between the representatives of micro level and vulnerable groups. The engagement in counter-trafficking should not be left on the shoulder of the NGO sector but it should encompass civil society and political representatives.

Conclusion

The report has been prepared as a result of the action research field visits conducted by four student groups who participated at the GIZ-DAAD Summer School in Belgrade. The general objective of the action research was to conduct situation analysis which would acquaint the students with the peculiarities of anti-trafficking in a specific project region; identify gaps in current approaches and best practices in specific areas with the potential of further exchange and learning among anti-trafficking actors in the Western Balkans. The aim is to analyse the issue of Human Trafficking in a non-bias manner and to look upon the problem from a multidisciplinary perspective. The purpose of it is to document the knowledge generated by the young academicians and to facilitate knowledge transfer back to the actors who deal with HT on a daily basis, be it governmental or non-governmental organizations.

Therefore, the conclusions and recommendations presented in this paper are the result of the joint work of the students of the Summer School and as such, are intended to invigorate a discussion among anti-trafficking actors with view to the variety of possible measures which could be taken into consideration in our joint efforts to advance the anti-trafficking strategy in the Western Balkans.

The results presented in this paper are an attempt of the GIZ to support and facilitate a continuous learning process in which the young academicians of the Western Balkans will contribute by proposing alternatives inspired by cross-regional and cross-sector exchange. The GIZ will be more than happy to continue the process by supporting initiatives and project ideas presented in this paper which may be deemed as having mutual benefit and potential for advancement in the fight against Human Trafficking in the region.

ANNEX I – Interviewed Stakeholders

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Organization/Institution	Comment
Association “Zemlja Djece”, Tuzla	Informed us about the activities of “Zemlja Djece” and gave us basic information on the situation with HT in Tuzla.
Centre for Social Work	Informed us about the work of the SCW and the challenges they are facing.
Roma settlement Kiseljak, Elementary school in Kiseljak	Gave us information about how the educational system in that region contributes to the prevention of HT.
Roma settlement Poljice	Inside look in the settlement and first-hand information about the everyday struggles of the residents.
Drop-in Centre “Telex”	Participated in the activities arranged for the integration of children from Tuzla Institution for Children without Parents.
Municipality of Tuzla	Information on the work and contribution of the local government in the fight against HT.
OSCE	Information on the legal background and the loop-holes in the relevant legislation.
NGO for women and children “Medica” Zenica	Information about how NGO from other canton is contributing in the prevention of HT as well as re-socialisation of the victims.
Drop-in Centre for street children in Zenica	Participated in activities with the children.
SIPA (State Investigation and Protection Agency)	Information on how the police is coping with the problem of HT and its contribution in the combat against HT.
Settlement for displaced persons in Mihatovici	Inside look in the settlement and first-hand information about the everyday struggles of the residents.
Visit to Sarajevo	Information about how the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina is contributing in the prevention of HT as well as re-socialisation of the victims.

Kosovo*⁵⁴

Organization/Institution	Comment
Inter-institutional Organisation	Professionals from different institutions and organisation coordinate and take responsibility for case management of children at risk etc.
Ministry of Internal Affairs	Discussion included the presentation of the office, its strategies and main challenges.
Kosovo* ⁵⁵ Police	Discussion included the vulnerability of divorced women to be trafficked and the connection between domestic violence and Human Trafficking.
Kosovo* ⁵⁶ Police	Discussion included the identifying system of Human Trafficking, work of the police in combating Human Trafficking etc.
Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare	Discussion included the work division on the field of Human Trafficking with detailed presentation of the system of protection and preventing of Human Trafficking.
Coalition of NGOs	The organization presented its main aims and challenges on the field of combating child trafficking.
Peja, Centre for Social Work	The main discussion points were: role of social worker, integration and reintegration problems of vulnerable and trafficked children.
International Organization for Migrations (IOM)	IOM presented its role in the field of combating Human Trafficking.
Ministry of Education, Science and Technology	Discussion included such issues as: presentation of the new curricula which foresees implementation of issues of Human Trafficking in some school subjects etc.
Terre des Hommes Kosovo* ⁵⁷	Discussion was about the current situation of child protection system: legal framework, child protection policies, professionalism of ministerial coordinators etc.
Terre des Hommes Kosovo* ⁵⁸	Presentation of a relevant case study for research purposes.

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Macedonia

Organization/Institution	Comment
La Strada/Open Gate	Very open for cooperation; recognized problem already, but because of resource problems could not do much; run two shelters - one with the government and other their own; worked/working with victims; want to be included in identification process more.
Sutka Drop-in centre	Problem with resources as well and with some families (family members) who are irresponsible; children are interested.
HERA	Not focused on THB, but worked with few victims; gave us information about ‘open’ and ‘higher’ scene of sex workers.
Municipality and architect	Denying that THB problem exist in their municipality; representative of social workers during deeper conversation admitted it and even gave us few examples/cases; working on every kind of inclusion of Roma people (who are most vulnerable to this burning problem).
Brighter Future/Svetla Idnina and AVENA (NGOs)	Unofficial cooperation with government good, but only AVENA receives some amount of money for projects; lack of resources (human, money, rooms/building); working a lot with Roma people, but not receiving some good visible results.
Centre for Social Work	Lack of resources; had case of THB few years ago when a girl was trafficked from Germany to Macedonia/Kocani (‘lover boy’).
Agency for Employment	Their list of vulnerable groups is a lot bigger and diverse; trying to start some private businesses with them, but failed because no one wanted to register it; aware of THB.
Ministry of Labour and Social Policy	Organizing seminars for police officers, social workers and national and local officials; in 2005 established National Referral Mechanism for victims from Macedonia; signed Memorandum of Understanding with 3 NGOs- La Strada, Happy Childhood and Equal Access.
Officials in Zrnovci	A lot of migration, but no trafficking; bad socio- economic situation.
Center for Social Work, Probistip	Problem exists everywhere; girls from Eastern Macedonia going to Western parts and big cities; reasons are bad socio- economic situation, dysfunctional families, bad TV influence and lack of good role models.
Police officials, Probistip	Problem exist; worked on one case, but lack of resources stopped whole project; girls won’t cooperate with police because they don’t have what to offer; 5 years ago had a case with trafficker from Probistip.

Serbia

Organization/Institution	Comment
NGO ATINA	People from NGO Atina explained to us about National Referral Mechanism for Victims of Human Trafficking in the Republic of Serbia, which is contained by strategic and operational level. The strategic level involves: The council for combating Trafficking in human beings, Coordinator for combating Trafficking in human beings, Republic team for Combating Trafficking in Human beings and Advisory body of Republic Team for Combating HT. The operational level involves: Judicial bodies and police, Agency for Coordination of Protection of Victims of HT, Specialized non – governmental and international organization.
Centre for coordination of protection of victims of Human Trafficking	The Centre for coordination of protection of victims of Human Trafficking is competent for: recordkeeping about victims of Human Trafficking; Identification of victims of Human Trafficking
Public Order Department	This is the institution which has the first contact with victims of HT and provides initial security and medical help. That is important, on one hand to help a victim, and on the other hand to get some information about the crime and perpetrators.
Ministry of labour, employment and social policy	In 2011 is specified new target group: victims of Human Trafficking. After that, at beginning of this year (2012) Centre for protection of victims of Human Trafficking has been established. People who work in this Centre have a special training for helping victims of HT.
Centre for youth integration	This centre works 24/7 and its main focus is - including the children (who are victims or potential victims) into education process. This Centre has cooperation with Centre for Social Work, looking for information for children and give information to Centre for Social Work about the children's behaviours.
SOS children's village in Sremska Kamenica	SOS children's village was establishing in 1975. There are a lot of donators and scholarships. The staff from SOS children's village cooperated with Ministry, Centre for social work, NGOs. They take care for children while is necessary, not only to their 18 th year.

“Social Dimensions of Human Trafficking in the Western Balkans”

Centre for social work in Novi Sad (Safe house)	Representatives from safe house for women and safe house for children presented us ways of function: temporarily accommodation of victims (especially foreigners), ways of collaboration with other institutions, finance sources, treatments towards victims etc. Safe House within the Center for Social Work, provides care to children from 0-18 years
Shelter for victims of domestic violence/ Children’s safe house Women’s safe house	These safety houses are shelters where women victims of domestic violence and their children (or children itself) can get a physical shelter, but also all the necessary legal and psychological help. Practice has shown that most women who turn to the CSW want to solve the problem of domestic violence, not necessarily to abandon partners.
Anti-trafficking police department unit from Novi Sad	There is a Border Police Department for foreigners, combating illegal migration and Human Trafficking, which take preventive actions and repressive measures in combating Human Trafficking. Is implemented by taking operational- tactical and investigative techniques, using special investigative measures.
NSHC (Novi Sad Humanitarian Center)	This NGO in 2011 began a partner with Centre for social work in Novi Sad, also there is finance support from UNGIFT program. The aim of this project is protection and social inclusion of victims of Human Trafficking. This NGO provides several forms of assistance: psychological support and psychotherapy; informing and connecting with relevant institutions; motivation, support and providing their education; motivation and help to find a job; and material support.

ANNEX II – Summer School Participants

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ANNEX III – Lecturers and Experts

	Name and Surname	Institution
1	Dr. Regine Schoenenberg	Free University Berlin, Germany
2	Dr. Connie Gunderson	HAWK University of Applied Sciences, Hildesheim, Germany
3	Ms. Virginia Moukouli	Alice Salomon University/Europe Institute for Social Work
4	Mr. Neil Whettam	Child Protection Advisor at Terre des Hommes
5	Ms. Nikica Kusinikova	NGO Konekt, Macedonia
6	Ms. Marijana Savic	NGO Atina, Serbia
7	Dr. Guenter Dresruesse	University of Freiburg, Germany
8	Dr. Cornelius Friesendorf	Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany
9	Mr. Dane Taleski	PhD candidate at the CEU
10	Mr. Heinz Bongartz	Friedrich Ebert Foundation
11	Mr. Mitar Djuraskovic	National Coordinator / Ministry of Interior, Serbia
12	Mr. Stevan Popovic	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Serbia
13	Mr. Sasa Rasic	National Coordinator / Ministry of Interior, Kosovo* ⁶¹
14	Ms. Svetlana Cvetkovska	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Macedonia
15	Ms. Violeta Andonovska	National Coordinator / Ministry of Interior, Macedonia
16	Mr. Samir Rizvo	National Coordinator / Ministry of Interior, BiH
17	Ms. Saliha Djuderia	Ministry of Human Rights, BiH
18	Mr. Fabrice de Kerchove	King Baudouin Foundation
19	Mr. Petrit Sopjani	International Organization for Migration
20	Ms. Marija Lukic	OSCE
21	Ms. Milica Djorgjevic	NGO CYI, Serbia
22	Ms. Sanja Klajic	State Center for protection of HT victims, Serbia
23	Mr. Dragan Jokovic	NGO Zemlja Dece, Bosnia and Herzegovina
24	Ms. Irma Ahmic	NGO Medica, Bosnia and Herzegovina
25	Ms. Katerina Savovska	Center for Social Work, Skopje, Macedonia
26	Ms. Maja Varosljija	NGO La Strada, Macedonia
27	Ms. Melita Gruevska Graham	ICMPD

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ANNEX IV – GIZ SPPHT Team

	Name and Surname	Office
1	Dr. Wolfgang Jessen	SPPHT Office Macedonia
2	Ms. Katrin Adams	SPPHT Office Serbia
3	Ms. Stanislava Vidovic	SPPHT Office Serbia
4	Ms. Dubravka Milovanovic	SPPHT Office Serbia
5	Ms. Zana Draskoci	SPPHT Office Serbia
6	Ms. Rrezarta Jashari	SPPHT Office Kosovo* ⁶²
7	Ms. Venera Mikushnica	SPPHT Office Kosovo* ⁶³
8	Mr. Azdren Nivokazi	SPPHT Office Kosovo* ⁶⁴
9	Mr. Vlatko Aleksovski	SPPHT Office Macedonia
10	Ms. Natalija Spasovska	SPPHT Office Macedonia
11	Ms. Sarika Amruth	SPPHT Office Macedonia
12	Ms. Vesna Zdravkovic	SPPHT Office Macedonia
13	Ms. Biljana Dijanisieva	SPPHT Office Macedonia
14	Ms. Tatjana Junuzagic	SPPHT Office Bosnia and Herzegovina

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Abbreviations and acronyms

CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
HT	Human Trafficking
IOM	International Organization for Migration
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NRM	National Referral Mechanism
SE	Social Enterprise
SPPHT	Social Protection and Prevention of Human Trafficking
THB	Trafficking in Human Beings
VoT	Victim of Human Trafficking

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