



Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Mission in Kosovo

Best practices in managing THB cases, Referral and protection of Victims of Trafficking

Basic principles for combating trafficking in human beings

- Compliance with human rights and freedoms, particularly those of victims
- Recognition of trafficking as a criminal offence which effects the basic human rights, dignity, liberty and integrity
- Legality
- Free legal aid
- Free access to services and medical treatment for injuries caused from trafficking



Referral and identification of victims of trafficking

Pursuant to the Law on prevention and combating trafficking in human beings, and Standard Operating Procedures for trafficked persons:

Referral of victims may be done by:

- *Various government institutions and other units of law enforcement*
- *Local and international NGOs*
- *Citizens.*

Official identification of victims of trafficking is done by:

- *Police/police investigator of the DITHB*
- *Prosecutor*
- *Victims' Advocate (Government Prosecution Office)*
- *Social worker of the CSW*

Treatment of victims of THB

The phenomenon of THB and treatment of victims of trafficking is carried through a referral system at the national level (SOP) and this document assigns roles and responsibilities for each institution in relation to:

- 1. Identification;**
- 2. First aid and protection;**
- 3. Further assistance and social inclusion;**
- 4. Return or assisted voluntary reintegration**
- 5. Criminal and civil law procedures**



Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Mission in Kosovo

Approach to, and trust-building with victims of THB

- Assembling the team and assignment of roles according to the competences provided by the SOP
- Law enforcement must ensure a professional approach in their first contact with the victim
- Provision of safety and security for the victim and other relevant persons
- Ensuring there are no contradictions between partner institutions when handling cases (especially in the presence of victims)
- Case manager co-ordinates and oversees all services provided during the entire supporting process

- Safe accommodation and reflection period.
- Ensuring there is no direct contact between the victim and the suspect throughout the process.
- Ensuring no judgment towards the victim, or making the victim feel it was her fault for what has happened to her.
- Maintaining the confidentiality of the victim/ caution when displaying images which may harm his/her integrity.

- Handling of THB cases requires close cooperation between the Police, Prosecution, Victims Advocates, CSW, NGOs and other partners.
- There must be cooperation and coordination from the moment the information is received/case referred and up to the conclusion of the entire criminal process and full resocialization of the victim into society.
- Professional approach and provision of necessary services for victims of trafficking by all actors facilitates the process of identification, enhances the level of cooperation and enables the resocialization of victims.
- If any link of the chain fails, the entire process has failed.

Interviewing of victims, especially children by the Police

- Ensure an adequate environment for the interview/meet the requirements.
- Interviewing with video-recording (consent)
- Other persons present at the interview and their role.
- Sharing of the material from the interview with other partners on a need-to-know basis.

THANK YOU!

Questions?