



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

Co-operation with multiple agencies

Aim

- Main stakeholders (multiple agencies)
- Prevention and criminal prosecution
- How to protect victims of trafficking
- Referral system and cooperation
- Models of formal cooperation and information exchange
- Memorandum of Understanding
- Referral of children

Implementation of the multi-agency approach means inclusion of different agencies to counter trafficking, in a jointly coordinated manner, in accordance with standardized and agreed upon procedure, either to prevent crime, protect victims or investigate and sanctions traffickers.

The multi-agency approach must be implemented in all anti-trafficking activities: prevention, protection, investigation and sanctioning. Police employees play a crucial role in all of these areas.

1. Main stakeholders of multi-agency investigation

- Organizations for children and youth
- Social service providers
- Non-governmental organisations
- Recruitment agencies
- Local administrations
- Transports, airlines, buses, ferries
POLICE, local, regional, specialized border teams
- INTERPOL/EUROPOL/SECI/Liaison officers
- Ministry of Health, Education, Foreign Affairs, Justice Syndicates
Tax authority
- Employment agencies, labour inspectors
- Peacekeepers
- Immigration service

2. Information about prevention and criminal prosecution

- **Prevention:** Trafficking in human beings may be prevented through different activities such as monitoring (see above), awareness raising and education/training.
- This is implemented via different means such as media campaigns, distribution of leaflets in consular offices, border crossing points, schools, orphanages, helplines, etc. Police may play an advisory role in projecting such campaigns and bring forth their expertise.

Investigation and criminal prosecution – Prior to any investigation, whether proactive (based on secret information) or reactive (based mainly on the evidence given by the victim), each part of the case must be analyzed in order to identify which other agencies may be involved in it. It is important to take into consideration that the crime of trafficking is often a transnational crime. For this reason, relevant agencies may have their bases in each of the countries of interest, be that of origin, transit or destination.

3. Protection of victims of trafficking

- According to principles provided by all international conventions, any person who has suffered violent and traumatic experiences is entitled to the basic right of medical, psychological and legal assistance.
- Reflection period (CoE Convention adopted in May 2005, provides for the element of reflection of 30 days for the trafficked persons).

During the reflection period

- Return
- Accommodation and food
- Psychological counselling
- Social counselling
- Social and health services
- Education, vocational training and job placement
- Free legal aid
- Intercultural mediation



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4. Referral system and co-operation

- In order to provide the necessary support for the victim, it is vital to setup an individual case management system and a referral system within the country and abroad. NRM

- NRM are not rigid structures, but flexible mechanisms which adjust to the model of each case of trafficking and to the social, political, economic and legal environment.
- NRM may be more effective if they are based on a formal agreement of Cooperation between the parties – for instance, a Memorandum of Understanding (MU) which would set the roles and specific duties for each participant.

5. Model of formal Cooperation and exchange of data

- It is recommended to use a formal protocol, setting the roles and responsibilities of both parties. Exchange of secret information on a country basis must be foreseen between law enforcement agencies and non-profitable organizations.
- Security of victims remains the greatest responsibility of police employees and these agreements must be reached only with credible/reliable organizations and which have a security clearance, and the capacity and capability to offer victims the assistance they need.

- The protocol must include a joint statement on the purpose and commitment of parties to counter the crime of trafficking.
- Each party must be assigned the role and specific actions.
- The responsibilities of each party must be detailed.
- The investigator also has the responsibility of investigating and recording evidences, ensuring attendance aimed at identifying the perpetrators, attendance in court hearings, and conduct the physical examination for evidence collection.

Exchange of data. It is clear that the process of exchange of personal data and the entire issue of protection of personal data may be seen as a minefield. However, if the person in question approves (once well-informed) and if there are no security problem, then such personal data me be exchanged.

6. Memorandum of Understanding

- More and more law enforcement agencies are signing Memorandums of Understanding with other government agencies and NGO to build functional cooperative relations.
- Joint agreements must be drafted, where rights and responsibilities of both parties are set.
- Memorandum of Understanding are the most effective way to provide a joint platform for a multi-agency co-operation.

Services provided:

- The memorandum determines the measures to be undertaken by both parties:
- Law enforcement
- Supporting organizations (IO, NGO, social services)

7. Referral of children

- When determining the cooperation model, special attention must be paid to the specific procedures related to a child-victim.
- In all actions related to the child-victim, the primary consideration is to act in **the best interest of the child**.

Questions?