

**2010-2011 ACTION PLAN  
OF THE INTERDEPARTMENTAL WORKING  
GROUP  
FOR COUNTERING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN  
BEINGS**

## Introduction

In 2001 the Republic of Slovenia actively joined in countering trafficking in human beings by the establishment of the Inter Departmental Working Group (IDWG) for tackling this issue, and by the appointment of a National Coordinator. With the course of events and due to a growing scope of obligations, the status of the IDWG was confirmed in 2003 by the Slovenian Government's Decision (no. 240-05/2003-1 dated 18.12.2003). At the same time, the Group's mandate and the list of its tasks were defined.

This was the basis for drawing up Action Plans which have been completed and upgraded through the years, and which included financially evaluated projects whose contractors were non-governmental organizations selected by virtue of public tenders. These NGOs now play an important role in prevention as well as assistance programmes for victims of trafficking in human beings, and in planning and formulating common measures and activities in this field.

The 2010 – 2011 IDWG Action Plan has been conceived as the continuation of good practice particularly in those projects that proved efficient and require continuation due to their nature. In addition, proposals and recommendations by certain international organisations were considered, particularly in the field of more concrete prevention activities and efficient court proceedings in terms of the results of final judgements in proportion to cases dealt with by the courts. The efficiency of investigation and prosecution of criminal offences related to trafficking in human beings is particularly mirrored in the judgements against perpetrators of these criminal offences.

Based on the inter-departmental coordination, preventive activities are the very centre of the Action plan, namely: awareness raising of the general public and target public groups, as well as the education and training at various levels of professional staff working in the field of countering trafficking in human beings. These include police officers, state prosecutors, people working in judicial administration, pedagogical and social workers, officials at administrative units and diplomatic-consular representatives in offices abroad.

A special emphasis is put on the fields of detection, investigation and prosecution of criminal offences, in particular when these outgrow the purview of a particular state. For this reason, the introduction of joint investigation teams through existing international and regional agencies would contribute to achieve results in this field more efficiently. As an adequate form of political support, this issue will be separately considered also on regular meetings of ministers of foreign affairs in the framework of the so-called "Brdo Process".

# **I. Prevention**

## **1. Communicational activities aimed at raising awareness and informing**

One of the basic prevention activities regarding the issue of trafficking in human beings is raising general awareness among the public and individual target groups. In order to enhance such prevention activities a coordinated and uniform approach to informing the general public and risk groups is required.

In the past years, the Inter Departmental Working Group (IDWG) defined starting points to support prevention or reduction of trafficking in human beings whereby the following was set:

- communication objectives (raising sensibility among the public, enhancing consciousness and encouraging public debate on the trafficking in human beings problem in Slovenia);
- priority targeting the public (general public and risk groups); and
- key messages (fundamental human rights of victims of trafficking in human beings have been violated, various emerging forms of trafficking in human beings, assistance to victims, IDWG operations).

A visual and written identity (logo) will further contribute to the visibility of communication activities for the public and will be used on all printed and electronic material serving also as a platform for visual images of events aimed at countering trafficking in human beings. Communication tools such as web site, media relations, events, publications and the like will be used.

In planning and performing individual activities, the members of the IDWG will co-operate within their respective departments with representatives of European institutions and international organisations in Slovenia (European Council Information Office, European Parliament Information Office, European Commission Representation Office, UNICEF, etc.) and other stakeholders that also strive to raise awareness and inform the public on measures against trafficking in human beings.

### **a) General public**

#### **1.1. Web site**

A web site [www.vlada.si/si/teme\\_in\\_projekti/boj\\_proti\\_trgovini\\_z\\_ljudmi/](http://www.vlada.si/si/teme_in_projekti/boj_proti_trgovini_z_ljudmi/) is an elementary tool for regularly providing information on trafficking in human beings. The web site includes the presentation of the problem and various emerging forms of trafficking in human beings, presentation of IDWG work, key international and national documents, researches and reports as well as links to organisations providing assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings.

Web page editing and updating is necessary also in the next two-year period.

It is envisaged that advertising continues on the web page [www.najdi.si](http://www.najdi.si). The goal of the advertising is raising awareness of users. In the advertisement, the logo in Slovene »Ukrepajmo proti trgovanju z ljudmi« (*"Let Us Act Against Human Trafficking"*), logos and contact numbers of organisations providing assistance to victims will be displayed by turns. The advertising is connected with keyword search results (sex, prostitution, trafficking in human beings, etc.), and, through advertisements, a connection to the IDWG web page is established. In addition, the advertisement will appear simultaneously on the most read web pages visited by young people. At the same time this is one of the forms of averting the demand for such services. The indicative estimation regarding the funds necessary for the project implementation amounts to 10,000 euro for both years.

Provider of funds: Communication Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia  
Holder: Communication Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia  
Participants: Ministry of the Interior  
Deadline: Continuous activity

## **1.2. Publications in the media, press conferences**

Providing information for the general public will continue to be an ongoing activity by means of providing information on the work of the IDWG and measures for preventing trafficking in human beings (press conferences on receiving yearly reports, seminars, consultations, successfully closed cases, etc.). The national coordinator and institutions participating in the IDWG, with the help of public relation services, will be responsible for providing information to the media and the public on the work of the IDWG.

Holder: National coordinator  
Participants: Communication Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia  
Deadline: Continuous activity

## **1.3. Celebration of the EU Anti-Trafficking Day on 18 October**

The Inter Departmental Working Group will celebrate the EU Anti-Trafficking Day on 18 October with adequate activities, mainly by organising round tables and consultations. Concrete activities will be planned and coordinated with various governmental and non-governmental organisations as well as adequately supported in the media.

With respect to an excellent response and importance of a one-day consultation that took place in October 2006, organised by the Ministry of the Interior and the IDC SE, the IDWG intends to organize such consultations also in the future.

Holder: Communication Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia  
Participants: Organisations and experts for countering trafficking in human beings (IDWG), other interested organisations  
Deadline: October 2010 and October 2011

## **1.4. Providing information to journalists and editors**

The phenomenon of trafficking in human beings is spreading more and more; in compliance with current developments in the world, new forms are emerging since it adapts fast to the conditions of globalisation. In the last decade and a half, the study of the phenomenon has strongly gained ground at numerous distinguished faculties and scientific institutions abroad. Furthermore, international institutions such as the United Nations and their specialized agencies (IOM; ILO; UNICEF), the Council of Europe, the European Union, and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe invest a lot of effort in detecting and combating the phenomenon. Thus great dynamics in research and adopting measures to combating this phenomenon are noticeable. With the wish to provide journalists and editors with regular and quality information as often as possible, and due to the realisation that preventive activities are of fundamental importance in countering trafficking in human beings, the IDWG will hold an informational and educational seminar for editors and journalists at which it will inform the participants about new cases of good practice, researches and discoveries as well as measures performed by all relevant stakeholders in this field at home and abroad.

Holder: the Inter Departmental Working Group  
Participants: Communication Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia,

other interested organisations  
Deadline: Autumn 2011

**b) Target risk groups**

**1.5. Raising awareness among potential and identified victims of trafficking in human beings as part of the Care for Victims Project**

Raising awareness among potential and also identified victims of trafficking in human beings is of fundamental importance. Communication activities will be particularly focused on aliens and young people.

For aliens – holders of work permits for risk professions (dancers, construction workers, hotel and restaurant staff) as well as aliens crossing the border, applying for residence permits or visas, applicants for international protection (with a special emphasis on unaccompanied minors and single women) – information material will be issued, available at diplomatic-consular representation offices, border crossing points and administrative units, in the Asylum Centre and offices of the Employment Service of Slovenia (upon issuing work and residence permits). The adequate provision of information for risk groups is also carried out by specialist services in direct contacts with potential victims of trafficking, namely, in the course of the inspection of companies where aliens are employed.

For citizens of the Republic of Slovenia, the information material will be issued on the dangers and traps of trafficking in human beings to raise awareness particularly among the young and the professionals who work with them. It will be intended for:

- Secondary school students, particularly for those attending vocational schools;
- Participants in programmes for young people who were eliminated from the education and welfare system;
- Young persons and young unemployed people.

Young people will be reached by the contractor's partners in the project and the staff who work with the young. Material will be published on adequate internet sites which are the focus of the "virtual association" of young people, centres for social work, schools and medical institutions.

Access to these risk groups is possible and at the same time is the most efficient route to already run-in assistance and supplies mechanisms. This is why the production of adequate materials, which will be dedicated to raising awareness among risk groups, will be included in the project entitled Care for Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings. The contractor will therefore be selected on the basis of a public tender and will be responsible for raising awareness among this target population. Raising awareness among the risk group "Aliens" will be included in the tender for the accommodation in the safe house, whereas raising awareness among the risk group "Young People" will be included in the tender for the emergency accommodation (see Section IV: Assistance and protection of victims – Care for victims of trafficking in human beings).

Materials will be distributed through relevant state authorities and non-governmental organisations.

Holder: Organisations selected on the basis of the public tender for the implementation of the Care for victims of trafficking in human beings project;

Participants: Ministries interested in distributing materials for awareness raising;

Deadline: Continuous process

## **1.6. Preventive raising awareness aimed for older primary school and secondary school students**

Raising awareness among potential victims of trafficking in human beings is one of the key preventive activities to be carried out in order to avoid the serious consequences which the victims of this phenomenon may suffer. It is necessary to become aware of the fact that children and minors belong to this particularly vulnerable group – potential victims of trafficking in human beings. The IDWG therefore believes that this extremely important population should be adequately informed and made sensitive to all the circumstances related to trafficking in human beings.

A systematic approach is needed by including the topic of trafficking in human beings in primary and secondary school programmes. Since the knowledge of this field is very specific, it makes sense to also include the civil society or non-governmental and humanitarian organizations, qualified for this field, in such activity of raising awareness. The selection of contractors performing such prevention activities will be carried out on the basis of a public tender published by the Communication Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for which the financial means in the indicative amount of **20,000 euro** will be provided.

Holder: Communication Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia  
Provider of funds: Communication Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia  
Participants: National coordinator, Ministry of Education and Sport  
Contractor: Organisations and experts on countering trafficking in human beings  
Deadline: January 2010 and January 2011

## **2. Activities aimed at training public and other officials whose work is related to the trafficking in human beings issue**

### **2.1. Implementation of training programmes for police officers**

The Police will participate in training courses and meetings at national and international level in order to gain additional knowledge about countering trafficking in human beings. Knowledge and experience gained in this way will be transferred to other police officers and criminal investigators who deal with countering trafficking in human beings by means of training courses or during working meetings. Non-governmental organisations will also be included in the training system as co-operators. With reference to the future trend of this issue, such training courses should be directed towards the field of trafficking with children and trafficking with human beings for the purpose of exploitation at work.

Holder: Ministry of the Interior – Police  
Participants: Organisations and experts for countering trafficking in human beings (IDWG), non-governmental organisations  
Deadline: Continuous process in 2010 and 2011

### **2.3. Professional training of state prosecutors and judges**

With regard to the fact that state prosecutors and judges need training and specific knowledge in the domain of countering trafficking in human beings, it makes sense to continue with various types of such education and training. Thus, the trafficking in human beings issue will especially become a part of training at schools for judges within the Justice Training Centre.

In the past, one day training courses organised by the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office in co-operation with guest lecturers from abroad proved to be good practice. Due to a growing need to share knowledge and experience, this practice should be continued.

Holder: Ministry of Justice, Supreme Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Slovenia  
Participants: Organisations and experts on countering trafficking in human beings (IDWG)  
Deadline: Continuous process in 2010 and 2011

#### **2.4. Providing information and raising awareness among pedagogical and counselling staff regarding the trafficking in human beings issue**

The activity is connected with the preventive awareness raising aimed for youth. At regular working consultations the holder of this task will ensure that the topic with the emphasis on preventive awareness raising among children and young people regarding the dangers of trafficking in human beings will be presented to principals and later on, by means of educational seminars, to schoolteachers. With this purpose, as planned, the Ministry of Education and Sport and the National Education Institute of Slovenia will carry out a seminar entitled in Slovene »*Droge in nasilje – ukrepanje in preprečevanje*« ("Drugs and violence – action and prevention") in February 2010; as a part of the seminar, the topic of trafficking in human beings will also be dealt with. The seminar is dedicated to teachers of primary and secondary schools, counselling staff and educators of secondary school residence halls. The goal of the seminar is to inform the mentioned qualified professionals working in education and schooling with the use and abuse of contemporary drugs and to connect this issue with violent behaviour, sexual violence, prostitution and trafficking in human beings. The purpose of the seminar is to motivate teachers to include the mentioned topics into the schoolwork. Experts and IDWG members will participate in the implementation of the seminar.

Holder: Ministry of Education and Sport, National Education Institution of Slovenia  
Participants: Organisations and experts on countering trafficking in human beings (IDWG)  
Deadline: February 2010

#### **2.5. Providing information and raising awareness activities for consular staff with regard to emerging forms of trafficking in human beings with the purpose of its early detection in the procedures for issuing visas at consular representation offices abroad**

Raising awareness and providing further information to consular staff concerning potential options of trafficking in human beings which need to be identified in the visa issuing procedures for foreign citizens proved an effective prevention measure in the past. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will therefore include these topics in its 2010 and 2011 education programmes.

Holder: Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Participants: Organisations and experts on countering trafficking in human beings (IDWG)  
Deadline: One-time implementation in 2010 and 2011

#### **2.6. Providing information and raising awareness activities for staff employed at administrative units and the Employment Service of Slovenia with regard to emerging forms of trafficking in human beings with the purpose of its early detection in the procedures of issuing temporary residence permits on the basis of work permits issued beforehand**

Public servants who in administrative procedures decide on applications for work permits, and consequently, on temporary residence permits, will also be included in additional awareness raising activities and training for early detection as well as prevention of trafficking



in human beings. With regard to experience from the past, when, particularly in 2009, the extent of such permits (also for persons that may be victims of trafficking in human beings) increased, it is our assessment that such training of public servants is urgent.

According to a prior agreement, the training will be carried out as a part of annual regional consultations held for administration units and the Employment Service of Slovenia.

In addition to the co-operation with the Inter Departmental Working Group regarding the preparation of possible measures to implement the Migration Policy of the Republic of Slovenia, a mutual exchange of information among the Police, the Migration and Integration Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior, the Employment Service of the Republic of Slovenia and the Consular Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will be enhanced.

Holder: IDWG in co-operation with the Ministry of Public Administration, and the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs

Participants: Ministry of Public Administration, Ministry of the Interior – Migration and Integration Directorate, Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs – Employment Service of Slovenia

Deadline: One-time implementation in 2010 and 2011

## **2.7. Training for Ministry of the Interior officials – International Protection Division with the purpose of early detection and prevention of trafficking in human beings**

The objective of the training is to raise awareness and learn new skills connected with detecting signs demonstrated by victims of trafficking in human beings, as well as gain knowledge about how to adequately provide care to the victim mentioned. The Asylum Home is an institution aimed at accommodating applicants for international protection among which, however, victims of trafficking in human beings are identified every year.

The connection of the IDWG with the working group established on the basis of the adopted Standard Operating Procedures on Sexual and Gender-based Violence, which goal is, likewise, identifying victims of trafficking in human beings and their protection, is very important. The role of centres for social work, which in cases treated in compliance with the above-mentioned standard operating procedures acted too slowly and victims of trafficking in human beings were not provided with adequate accommodation, needs to be enhanced.

Holder: the IDWG in co-operation with the Ministry of the Interior, Migration and Integration Directorate – International Protection Division

Participants: Organisations and experts on countering trafficking in human beings

Deadline: Consultations or seminars in 2010 and 2011

## **2.8. Informing and raising awareness activities provided for employees at centres for social work with regard to the trafficking in human beings issue**

Similarly as with prior forms of informing public officials, informing and raising awareness activities should be provided also for employees at centres for social work. Informing and raising awareness activities will be directed towards the assistance provided for victims of trafficking in human beings and how to recognise this phenomenon when working with individuals from socially disadvantaged groups. Since employees working at centres for social work encounter this category of persons most often, the goal of this type of informing and raising awareness is also to compare opinions and find common, more efficient approaches to prevent trafficking in human beings and provide assistance to victims.

Holder: IDWG in co-operation with the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs



Participants: Organisations and experts on countering trafficking in human beings (IDWG)  
Deadline: One-time implementation in 2010 and 2011

**3. Inclusion of the trafficking in human beings issue into the framework of the regional ministerial conference in the field of internal affairs, the so-called “Brdo Process”**

For several consecutive years, the Ministry of the Interior has organized regional ministerial conferences on illegal migration, organized crime, corruption and terrorism. In this way, the Ministry encourages co-operation of countries from the region that participate in this process; besides Slovenia these are Austria, Albania, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Turkey.

At the last such ministerial conference, in September 2009, within the framework of the presented Organised Crime Threat Assessment, the trafficking in human beings issue was pointed out as one of the most growing types of threat. At the same time this was a cause for the ministers’ decision to include the trafficking in human beings issue as an independent topic at the next ministerial meeting in 2010.

Holder: Ministry of the Interior  
Deadline: Autumn 2010

## **II. Detection, investigation and prosecution of criminal offences related to trafficking in human beings**

### **1. Detection and investigation of criminal offences related to trafficking in human beings with the help of establishing the Joint Investigation Team – JIT – in the area of the South-East Europe**

In all senses, trafficking in human beings is outgrowing the concept of a national state and as such it represents a challenge to co-operation among the states and institutions.

Because of this, investigations also need to be focused on the field of secondary crime (monitoring financial flows, money-laundering, corruption, etc.), since the trafficking in human beings issue needs to be approached in an integrated manner, but mainly by means of establishing joint investigation teams. The goal of these teams is to connect criminal offences related to trafficking in human beings which, due to their emerging form, take place in more than one country. Specific characteristics of individual geographically closed areas should be taken into account, and the territory of South-East Europe is undoubtedly one of these areas.

The Police and State Prosecutor's Offices will study the realistic options of establishing such working teams in 2010, but mainly in 2011. On this basis, the Ministry of the Interior and the Police, in co-operation with responsible institutions from the countries in the region of South-East Europe and interested partner organisations (SECI Center, DCAF) will encourage co-operation of this kind, and in 2010 determine concrete activities which will be presented, among other matters, at the ministerial conference in autumn of 2010 (see Chapter I, item 3).

Holder: Ministry of the Interior – Police and State Prosecutor's Offices  
Participants: International organisations – SECI Center, DCAF  
Deadline: continuous activity starting in 2010

### **2. The intensification of the work of the Police directed towards the detection and investigation of criminal offences related to trafficking in human beings with regard to sexual exploitation**

From January 2010, the classic detection and investigation of criminal offences related to trafficking in human beings with regard to sexual exploitation will be enhanced in such a manner that the Police will carry out its responsibilities in this field in as focused and efficient a way as possible. The Police pro-actively propose additional activities to the State Prosecutor's Offices and actively carry out directions provided by state prosecutors.

Holder: Ministry of the Interior - Police  
Participants: all State Prosecutor's Offices in the Republic of Slovenia  
Deadline: Continuous activity starting in 2010

### **3. The intensification of the work of the Police directed towards the detection and investigation of criminal offences related to trafficking in human beings with the purpose of exploitation at work**

In the last period (the period of two years), the Police have identified a suspicion of trafficking in human beings with the purpose of exploitation at work more explicitly. On the basis of its own operational work, the Police have become aware of individual suspicions of criminal

offences related to exploitation at work, particularly in the construction sector. Considering the fact that these workers are mostly aliens who have entered into working relations with employers in Slovenia under suspicious circumstances, which consequently leads to various types of exploitation, the Police and labour inspection should dedicate more attention to this field.

Holder: Ministry of the Interior – Police  
Participants: Slovenian Labour Inspectorate  
Deadline: Continuous process

#### **4. Monitoring of individual prosecution cases involving criminal offences related to trafficking in human beings**

With regard to investigation and prosecution of cases involving trafficking in human beings, particularly the cases of "Trafficking in human Beings" and "Placing in Slavery Conditions", in the past years, the Police and the State Prosecutor's Office dealt with some ten cases per year on average. Due to the long duration and remoteness of individual cases a lack of information with regard to monitoring and closing the trial has been established.

Owing to a relative small number of prosecutions involving criminal offences of trafficking in human beings, the IDWG promotes regular monitoring of cases from the beginning to the final judgement, because in this way, additional transparency and the outcome of individual cases supported by presenting arguments would be provided.

Holder: Supreme State Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Slovenia  
Participants: Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior – General Police Directorate, non-governmental organisations  
Deadline: Continuous process

#### **5. Monitoring the amount of and the trend of criminal offences which are indirectly connected to the trafficking in human beings issue**

In the past, the Interdepartmental Working Group, when defining the trafficking in human beings issue, defined three criminal offences stated in the Penal Code, namely "Trafficking in Human Beings", "Placing in Slavery Conditions" and "Abuse of Prostitution". With regard to the repeatedly emphasised fact that in some circumstances the type of trafficking in human beings appears in forms which surpass the framework of the three criminal offences mentioned, criminal offences which have an indirect connection to trafficking in human beings, either regarding the similarity of individual elements or forms in which offences appear being interconnected, were defined. These two criminal offences are "Illegal Crossing of the State Border or State territory" and "Presentation, manufacture, possession and distribution of pornographic material".

The IDWG therefore evaluates that it is reasonable to also monitor these two criminal offences from the statistical point of view in order to provide a more integrated picture of forms in which trafficking in human beings appear.

Holder: Supreme State Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Slovenia, Ministry of the Interior – the Police  
Participants: Ministry of Justice, non-governmental organisations  
Deadline: Continuous process

## 6. Enhancement of supervisory mechanisms with respect to issuing work permits

Supervisory mechanisms should be enhanced in order to reduce the possibility of abusing work permits in case of employing aliens where circumstances might cause trafficking in human beings:

- Provision of further active co-operation among law enforcement authorities, **employment offices** and other administrative authorities for better information exchange and co-operation in cases involving trafficking in human beings;
- Control or supervision (both regular and extraordinary) of labour inspections regarding work permits issued for employment in the above mentioned risk professions and provision of quick and efficient punishment of perpetrators (labour inspectorate, district court judges responsible for deciding on offences).

Holder: IDWG and Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs

Participants: Ministry of the Interior – Police, Slovenian Labour Inspectorate, Employment Service of Slovenia

Deadline: Continuous process

### **III. Assistance to victims and their protection**

#### **1. Care for victims of trafficking in human beings**

One of the priorities determined by the IDWG is the provision of any form of assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings in the Republic of Slovenia, especially those who would be ready to testify in penal proceedings. It is therefore necessary to provide adequate assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings as set out in relevant instruments whose obligations apply also to the Republic of Slovenia. Carrying out these activities is thus defined in the Act Ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, no. 62/09 – International Agreements, no. 14/09 of 4 August 2009). Article 4 of the mentioned Act provides an adequate basis for co-operation of responsible ministries with non-governmental organisations and the procedure regarding their funding.

Such forms of assistance refer to victims in terms of their physical, psychological and social recovery or rehabilitation states, including assistance in settling their status and penal proceedings. These forms include:

- Adequate accommodation, food and care;
- Psychological assistance;
- Assistance in providing primary health care in compliance with the law regulating health care and health insurance;
- Provision of protection for victims and employees who co-operate during an individual case, if necessary;
- 24 hour availability provided for victims accommodated in emergency accommodation;
- Translation/interpretation services, if necessary;
- Assistance in providing adequate support to children – victims;
- Counselling and provision of information, especially in relation to their rights, in the language understood by victims;
- Assistance in settling a victim's return to their country of origin;
- Other measures in relation to socialisation and revitalisation;
- Raising awareness among young people and staff who work with young people regarding the dangers and traps of trafficking in human beings – the creation and distribution of information material in the Slovene language, printed in 15 000 copies;
  
- Assistance in regulating their status in the Republic of Slovenia;
- Assistance in informing children – victims of their rights, role and the contents as well as the schedule of procedures to solve their problems;
- Assistance ensuring that the rights and interests of victims of trafficking in human beings are represented and treated at relevant prosecution instances against perpetrators;

- Assistance in providing adequate support to children-victims during the entire legal procedure;
- Professional training for contractors providing care and for other participants (police, employees from centres for social work, etc.) during assistance and prosecution processes.

International experiences show that such forms of care and assistance provided to victims of trafficking in human beings are mostly dealt with by non-governmental organisations which may, due to their interrelatedness and exchange of good practice, carry out this activity most efficiently. Continuous training and education provided for contractors and participating organisations directly involved in assistance processes and the prosecution of perpetrators (is of key importance. Considering continuing practice from the past, selection of contractors by means of public tender should be continued.

The first set of the project activities consists of providing emergency accommodation, or elementary forms of care mentioned under sub-paragraphs from 1 to 11. This allows victims of trafficking in human beings to leave the environment in which they find themselves <sup>1</sup> If the victim of trafficking in human beings decides to co-operate with law enforcement and prosecution authorities, the project activities are then connected to the second set of project activities, i.e. **accommodation in a safe house.**<sup>2</sup>

The Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs will provide for implementing and funding the project entitled "Care for Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings" (emergency accommodation and accommodation in a safe house) based on a publication of a public tender. Contractors will be required to assure continuity and coherence of all procedures for which the ultimate goal is the assistance provided to victims of trafficking in human beings. Providing adequate assistance to children – victims of trafficking in human beings, together with their social reintegration and integrated physical and mental recovery will be taken care of by emergency centres for young people.

The project's contracting authority, selected in the public tender procedure, will also be responsible for raising awareness among the target population of young people and aliens (see project 1.6 mentioned in the section II - Prevention). Raising awareness among the risk group "Aliens" will be included in the tender Care provided for victims - accommodation in a safe house, whereas raising awareness among the risk group "Young People" will be included in the tender Care provided for victims – emergency accommodation. For this purpose, and in accordance with the Public Procurement Act, the contractor will be in charge

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<sup>1</sup> An emergency accommodation is usually the first accommodation provided for victims of trafficking in human beings. The period allowed for emergency accommodation usually lasts for up to 5 days; during this time a victim expresses his/her wish to return home or takes time (the period of three months as provided for by the law) to consider whether to co-operate with law enforcement and prosecution authorities. The aim of the emergency accommodation is to provide immediate assistance.

<sup>2</sup> An accommodation in a safe house provided for foreign citizens – victims includes settling accommodation status (the legal base is provided by the Aliens Act – AA) and providing assistance in relation to ensuring representation rights and trial during prosecution against perpetrators. On the basis of this, victims should be provided with the necessary protection in the safe house and during giving testimony before the court. If necessary, activities may include the continuation of providing elementary care as defined in the first six sub-paragraphs, although this usually applies only for a smaller number of users. Working with these persons, however, requires certain knowledge and skills to ensure the implementation of care defined in sub-paragraphs from 11 to 16.



of the production and distribution of relevant materials aimed at raising awareness among these risk groups as envisaged in Section II, Prevention – Project 1.6.

In 2010 and 2011, a total of **170,000 euro** will have to be provided for in the budget of the Republic of Slovenia, namely, **90,000 euro** by the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs, and **80,000 euro** by the Ministry of the Interior.

Holder of the project: Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs, Ministry of the Interior  
Provider of funds: Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs, Ministry of the Interior  
Contractor: Non-governmental or humanitarian organisations qualified to provide assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings.  
Deadline: January 2010

## **2. Continuation of the project entitled "Project for introducing mechanisms for detection, assistance and protection of victims of trafficking in human beings and/or sexual violence in procedures of granting international protection in Slovenia (PATS)"**

The project entitled "Project for introducing mechanisms for detection, assistance and protection of victims of trafficking in human beings and/or sexual violence in procedures of granting international protection in Slovenia (PATS)" is directly intended for "potential" victims of trafficking in human beings. Written in their language or in the language understood by them, the project offers intensive awareness raising information about the dangers of trafficking in human beings for individuals. Potential victims are informed about protection and assistance possibilities. Procedures for granting international protection often appear as one of the migration channels which may be abused by traffickers for transporting the "human cargo" to target countries.

For 2010 and 2011, the project value amounts to **36,000 euro**.

Holder of the project: Ministry of the Interior – Migration and Integration Directorate  
Provider of funds: Ministry of the Interior (European Refugee Fund and Ministry's own funds)  
Contractor: Non-governmental or humanitarian organisations qualified for providing such help  
Deadline: 2010 and 2011

## **3. Reintegration of victims of trafficking in human beings**

Due to the psychophysical consequences of captivity and violence, victims of trafficking in human beings face the danger of becoming victims once again unless comprehensive assistance, long-term and well-planned solutions as well as having the option to choose are provided to them. The basis of assistance is to establish a stimulating social environment in which a victim may be integrated; in this manner, education, training, social networking and acquisition of a profession or recognition of diplomas (in the event of aliens) as well as an opportunity to work is made possible to the victim. The programme enables an individual to find lucrative employment, structure their time, establish contacts with people outside the family (in the event that the person has a family), connect individual goals with common goals, acquire their status, identity, determine legality and gain control. The (re)-integration

programme, which is a logical consequence of the programme entitled "Care Provided for Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings" and it is actually interconnected with this programme, means a first step for a victim towards an independent life without violence, exploitation and human rights violation.

Solutions, which on the basis of public tenders would make it possible to implement the reintegration programme or the programme of social integration of victims of trafficking in human beings, should be searched for in this regard.

Holder: IDWG and Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs  
Participants: Non-governmental or humanitarian organisations qualified to provide assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings.  
Deadline: 2011

## IV. Support activities

### 1. Identification of systemic and legislative solution in relation to trafficking in human beings

Considering the fact that the field of preventing and countering trafficking in human beings is constantly upgraded, and, as a consequence, also it is changing, it is necessary to adequately respond to such development. One of the basic methods is an adequate modification or amendment of legislation which regulates the trafficking in human beings issue.

Thus, on the basis of cases of trafficking in human beings for the purpose of exploitation at work, which have been identified until now, a gap in the legislation with regard to a definition of the element of exploitation has been noticed. Namely, the existing text of Article 113 of the Penal Code (KZ-1) does not enable such an identification which, as a consequence, causes problems on an operational level during the prosecution of this criminal offence. **The IDWG therefore believes that it is urgent to study the possibility of amending the aforementioned Article of the Penal Code.**

In 2010, due to the implementation of individual EU directives, the Aliens Act, which, among other matters, regulates in detail the granting of a status to aliens – victims of trafficking in human beings, who co-operate with law enforcement and prosecution authorities as witnesses, will be modified again. **The IDWG believes it is reasonable to include its members in the process of amending the Aliens Act, especially their initiative on regulating the status of victims of trafficking regardless of their willingness to co-operate with law enforcement and prosecution authorities.**

Likewise, in the IDWG's opinion, the field of **health assistance provided to victims**, who are placed in the care of non-governmental or humanitarian organisations and who lack health insurance, is not regulated, or rather, inadequately regulated. In most cases, the "emergency aid" insured does not cover the actual medical care of victims whose medical problems are a consequence of exploitation and captivity as well as physical and psychological pressures. The IDWG therefore believes that it is necessary to study how to regulate this issue on a system level.

Holder: IDWG

Participants: Ministry of the Interior (Police, Migration and Integration Directorate), Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health

Deadline: the first or the second half of 2010

### 2. Co-operation within regional and international organisations for preventing and countering trafficking in human beings

Preventing and countering trafficking in human beings is not focused only on the territory within the borders of a single country. The activities are integrated at the interstate, regional and international levels with the goal of achieving greater effects. The role of professional staff working in governmental and non-governmental organisations is to contribute actively to the knowledge and to exchange experience in formulating common guidelines and measures in this field. Such activities will be ensured by the participation of Slovene representatives in international and regional consultations, workshops and conferences, and by their active role in the EU institutions.

Another aspect of international co-operation is of an operative nature, mostly as a reflection of co-operation among individual services (police, state prosecutor's office) in concrete cases of detecting and prosecuting criminal offences related to the field of trafficking in human beings. These tasks are also defined within the EU Plan on Best Practices, Standards and Procedures to Prevent and Combat Trafficking in Human Beings. On this basis, it is necessary to continue to carry out certain established forms of co-operation within EUROPOL, INTERPOL SECI Center, EUROJUST, and to enhance bilateral co-operation in the period from 2010 to 2011.

Holder: Responsible ministries and government services as well as other interested organisations  
Participants: Organisations and experts on countering trafficking in human beings  
Deadline: Continuous process in 2010 and 2011

### **3. Enabling to non-governmental organisations to have a more active role at expert meetings with international and regional significance**

Conferences organized annually by various international organisations are a great opportunity to improve knowledge and exchange information on good practice in the field of countering trafficking in human beings and providing assistance to victims. At the same time, these events provide an opportunity to strengthen ties and establish new connections among similar organisations. According to previous practice, regular meetings of governmental and non-governmental experts from this field coming from the states, which are members of organisations such as OSCE, UN (UN\_GIFT), IOM, Council of Europe, ICMPD, and the like, have been established.

Slovenian governmental representatives actively and successfully participate at all events mentioned. The IDWG believes that, following the example of other countries, national non-governmental organisations should also participate at such events. For this purpose, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will provide financial funds in order to support the participation of representatives from Slovenian non-governmental organisations, active in the field of providing assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings at least at some key international events. The funds to be provided for this purpose shall amount to approximately **5,000 euro**.

Holder: Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Provider of funds: Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Participants: Non-governmental organisations and representatives of civil society from the field of countering trafficking in human beings  
Deadline: Continuous process in 2010 and 2011

**Table 1: Cost overview per individual projects**

I. 1.1. Web page	10,000 euro
I. 1.6. Raising awareness for older primary school and secondary school students – prevention activities.....	20,000 euro
III. 1. Care for victims of trafficking in human beings	90,000 + 80,000 euro
III. 2. Continuation of the PATS Project	36,000 euro
IV. 3. Enabling to non-governmental organisations to have a more active role at expert meetings of international and regional significance	5,000 euro

**Table 2: Overview of project funding on the basis of public tenders per individual ministry for 2010 and 2011**

Budget user.....	budget item	2010	2011	Total
MLFSA	4072 Experimental and development programme of social assistance	45,000	45,000	90,000 EUR
Mol	6094 Care for migrants	40,000	40,000	80,000 EUR
Mol	9275 European Refugee Fund (25%)	18,000	18,000	36,000 EUR
MoFA	8270 Development co-operation and humanitarian aid	2,500	2,500	5,000 EUR
GOC	1322 Direct communication activities with the public and campaigns	5,000	5,000	10,000 EUR
GOC	1322 Direct communication activities with the public and campaigns	10,000	10,000	20,000 EUR
			120,500	120,500
<b>Grand total</b>				<b>241,000 EUR</b>

