



ANTI-TRAFFICKING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

EUROPE AND EURASIA ANTI-TRAFFICKING WORKSHOP SINAIA, ROMANIA

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CONTENTS

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|-----|
| List of Abbreviations | | ii |
| Executive Summary | | iii |
| SECTION I | The View From Washington | |
| | A. USG/USAID Perspective | 1 |
| | B. Europe and Eurasia Review | 2 |
| SECTION II | Best Practices and Lessons Learned | |
| | A. Albania | 5 |
| | B. Romania | 6 |
| | C. Central Asian Republics | 7 |
| | D. Uzbekistan | 8 |
| | E. Ukraine | 9 |
| | F. Russia | 9 |
| SECTION III | Data Collection/Monitoring and Evaluation | |
| | A. Data Collection | 11 |
| | B. Monitoring and Evaluation | 12 |
| SECTION IV | Collaboration and Coordination | |
| | A1. Moldova | 13 |
| | A2. Kosovo | 13 |
| | A3. Bulgaria | 14 |
| | A4. Armenia | 15 |
| | B. Cross Border Collaboration | 16 |
| | C. NGO Networking | 17 |
| SECTION V | Anti-Trafficking as a Cross Cutting Issue | |
| | A. Anti-Corruption, Judicial, and Media | 20 |
| | B. Integration with On-going Activities | 21 |
| Annex A | Workshop Agenda | 22 |
| Annex B | Site Visits | 24 |
| Annex C | Bibliography of Resources | 27 |

List of Abbreviations

| | |
|-------|---|
| ACTA | Anti-trafficking Anti-corruption Action |
| AT | Anti-trafficking |
| ATTO | Anti-Trafficking Task Order |
| CAAHT | Coordinated Action Against Human Trafficking |
| CAR | Central Asian Republics |
| CBRM | Cross Border Referral Mechanism |
| DOD | Department of Defense |
| DOJ | Department of Justice |
| DV | Domestic violence |
| ICMPD | International Centre for Migration Policy Development |
| ILO | International Labor Organization |
| INL | State Department International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Bureau |
| IO | International organization |
| IOM | International Office of Migration |
| IQC | Indefinite Quantities Contract |
| NATO | North Atlantic Treaty Organization |
| NGO | Non-governmental organization |
| OSCE | Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe |
| PITF | President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and combat Trafficking in Persons |
| STC | Save the Children |
| SEE | South Eastern Europe |
| SPOG | Senior Policy Operating Group on Trafficking in Persons |
| SPTF | South Eastern Europe's Stability Pact Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings |
| RO | Reaching Out |
| TACT | Transnational Action Against Child Trafficking |
| TIP | Trafficking in persons |
| TVPA | Trafficking Victims Protection Act |
| UN | United Nations |
| UNDP | United National Development Program |
| USG | United States Government |
| WID | Women in Development |
| WLR | Women's Legal Rights |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since the fall of the communist regimes in Europe and Eurasia (E & E), trafficking has developed as a serious human rights abuse. As criminal networks developed and expanded, the phenomenon flourished throughout the region, touching every country. Responses by the international community and donors have included public awareness and prevention programs, shelter services, advocacy for new legislation, and technical assistance to improve prosecution services. USAID has been at the forefront of this fight with funding for anti-trafficking programs and support to organizations working to combat this modern day form of slavery. In each E & E USAID mission, an anti-trafficking “focal point” works to ensure the integration of anti-trafficking activities into their programs. These “focal points” gathered for the first time in late August for a three-day workshop. The purpose of the workshop was for participants to share their experiences and lessons learned, to discuss the challenges of anti-trafficking work, to increase their knowledge of the issue, and to find the way forward.

The USAID Europe and Eurasia bureau took the lead in organizing this workshop with their anti-trafficking advisor, Ruth Pojman, spearheading the effort. The EGAT/WID office Anti-Trafficking Task Order, implemented by Chemonics International Inc., provided technical support to the workshop while Acuirre International Inc. provided logistical support. Early in the process, participants provided information about what they hoped to achieve at the workshop and how they could contribute to the program in response to a workshop questionnaire. The agenda was developed through a collaborative process designed to respond to the needs of the participants. A workshop website developed by Acuirre, provided participants with substantive information, updated agendas, and travel information. The workshop was organized as an internal USAID working meeting to support the efforts of the AT focal points. External speakers focused on regional approaches and were limited to targeted areas to ensure that participants could work together on common issues. Participants received a CD-rom, which contained numerous anti-trafficking reports and resources specific to the E & E region.

From August 23-25, 2005, thirty-five people attended the workshop in Sinaia, Romania. Participants included 22 USAID anti-trafficking focal points from 13 missions, three USAID/Washington personnel, three State Department officers from Romania, and several anti-trafficking experts, representing 17 nationalities. The workshop format was a participatory one with significant time devoted to discussion. The first day focused on the status of anti-trafficking work in the region, best practices and lessons learned from USAID’s work in this field, and the challenges of data collection and evaluating program impact. The second day focused on various forms of collaboration and coordination including cross border collaboration and NGO networking. A panel discussion focused on the cross cutting nature of trafficking in persons, which segued into the practicum exercise. The practicum exercise, through a case study, exposed the many people and institutions affected by one victim. During a small group activity, participants utilized their knowledge to develop cross cutting anti-trafficking projects. On the final day, participants traveled to Bucharest for site visits to three locations.

One of the most valuable aspects of the seminar was the opportunity for USAID focal points to meet one another and share their experiences. Due to the success of the workshop, participants requested that this event be held annually. Participants left the workshop enthusiastic and empowered to follow through with anti-trafficking support to their missions. They took with them not only specific examples of best practices but contacts with fellow colleagues, allowing for better coordination. As a result of the workshop, the AT focal points are now well versed in methods of integrating anti-trafficking efforts into other programs and leveraging already limited resources.

SECTION I

The View from Washington

A. USG/USAID Perspective

Roger Garner, Mission Director of USAID/Romania, opened the workshop with some observations about trafficking in the E & E region. Trafficking in persons (TIP) is a low investment, low risk, high profit venture. In addition, it is a complex crime, often involving multiple countries, requiring specialized responses. Coordination among many agencies, including the Department of Justice (DOJ), State Department (DOS), and other law enforcement agencies is required to work effectively in combating trafficking in persons. Merely catching criminals is not enough; we must expand our efforts to work with prosecutors and judges thereby ensuring the implementation of new anti-trafficking legislation. Director Garner further noted that criminals always seem to be one-step ahead and their cross border tactics make coordination essential in this fight.

David Atwood and Mary Knox set the stage for the workshop by providing the United States Government and USAID perspective. This workshop, held in Sinaia, Romania from August 23-25, 2005, was the first opportunity for the USAID Europe and Eurasia anti-trafficking focal points to meet and share best practices and lessons learned. Anti-trafficking programming is a relatively new area for USAID and one that requires specialized responses. One of the measurements of success for developing countries is their level of response to the trafficking issue. While much of the world agrees that slavery is a horrendous act, many are surprised to find out the extent to which it continues to exist. According to Kevin Bales of Free the Slaves, there are more people in slavery today than at any other time in history. It affects every region and every country in the world.

Mr. Atwood made three admonitions to the participants. First, he spoke of the need to look more at integrating anti-TIP as a cross-cutting issue within the various sectors of USAID's programs in the E & E region whose overall goal is to help the transition to democracy and a market-oriented economy, with socially healthy societies. Second, he emphasized the importance of monitoring and evaluation. As a new issue area, it is especially important to be able to measure the impact of our programs and to tell the story of how we are making a difference in a compelling way. Third, Mr. Atwood pointed out the need to build a constituency that goes beyond USAID, other donors, and the limited field of anti-trafficking NGOs. To strengthen the fight against trafficking we need increased support from actors worldwide. This process requires creative thinking to help people understand the issue and empower them to fight it. Initially this fight was limited to working with donor non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and a few courageous prosecutors. Now we need to move beyond this limited partnership to engage a broader group, willing to support anti-trafficking work.

Ms. Knox gave an overview and update on the United States Government's (USG) anti-TIP responses and policy issues. Since the beginning of his administration in 2000, President Bush has shown a strong commitment to the abolition of trafficking in persons worldwide. In 2002,

he organized the President's Interagency Task Force (PITF) to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, comprised of the heads of governmental agencies and chaired by the Secretary of State. They convene annually for a formal discussion on the issue of trafficking and interagency coordination. The Senior Policy Operating Group on Trafficking in Persons (SPOG) was created by Executive Order and the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act. Chaired by the Director of the State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, SPOG brings together senior policy officials for an in depth and influential discussion on anti-trafficking initiatives.

Beyond the President, the U.S. Government has acted strategically in their trafficking efforts. The Trafficking in Victims Protection Act (TVPA) adopted in 2000 criminalized trafficking in persons, established guidelines and required that DOS prepare an annual report on trafficking in persons. This report categorizes foreign countries based on their efforts to eliminate trafficking in persons. The TVPA requires the U.S. Government to prosecute and punish traffickers, protect and rehabilitate the victims, and prevent these criminal activities. In 2003, the U.S. Congress passed the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA), which expanded the DOS's role in combating TIP by providing new tools to address the problem. The TVPRA increased the focus on convictions and sentencing of traffickers, required better monitoring and access to law enforcement trafficking data, and created a special watch list.

At the request of the USAID administrator, the Office of Women in Development (EGAT/WID) led the process in USAID to create an anti-trafficking strategy. USAID became the first U.S. Government agency to have such a strategy. EGAT/WID serves as the coordinator for USAID's anti-trafficking efforts, including the gathering and dissemination of information on anti-trafficking (AT) programming. The WID office also leads a USAID working group and participates in interagency anti-trafficking initiatives. Coordination and coherence is the goal of EGAT/WID's anti-trafficking efforts.

USAID works to assist countries in their social, economic and democratic transitions. It is important that developing countries improve the treatment of their citizens and respond appropriately to their social needs. Trafficking is intimately connected to a country's ability to provide safety nets for its citizens. Since the early 1990s, poverty in the E & E region has increased twelve fold. People are seeking better opportunities elsewhere and although they may have knowledge of the perils of trafficking, they are still willing to take the risk. Corruption is a serious issue in all regions and profoundly manifests itself in the trafficking area. Despite the cross cutting nature of TIP, programming is typically implemented as a separate issue. USAID programs need to focus on incorporating TIP as a cross cutting issue encompassing the rule of law, gender, poverty, health, girl's education, children and youth.

B. Europe and Eurasia Review

Ms. Pojman gave an overview of the TIP situation in the E&E region. Trafficking in persons emerged as a prominent challenge in this region after the fall of the Berlin wall and the opening of the regions borders subsequent to the collapse of the USSR. Transition in the region has been accompanied by high unemployment and poverty, rampant corruption and a

dislocation in values, the disenfranchisement of significant populations, and, in some countries, violent conflict. The economic situation has also led to “brain drain” with many well-educated people leaving to find suitable employment abroad or in areas with more job opportunities. The breakdown of family support coupled with the erosion of the state support system has left many people vulnerable to traffickers. Furthermore, violence and discrimination against women has increased in the region, making them even more vulnerable.

Women and children are primarily trafficked for purposes of sexual exploitation and men for forced and legally unprotected cheap labor. Most countries in the region are countries of origin or transit, but several are countries of destination (Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Croatia, Cyprus, Kazakhstan, Russia, Serbia and Montenegro (SaM) and Turkey). In addition, internal trafficking is increasing (Bulgaria, for example). The largest known E & E source countries for Western Europe are Albania, Moldova, Ukraine, Romania and Russia. Within Eurasia, there may be a large incidence of TIP from Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan.

While most countries in the region have criminalized trafficking, weak rule of law systems have created an environment for traffickers to work with impunity. Despite that fact, prosecution rates are higher than in any other developing region of the world. The trafficking trade has proven very lucrative and has increasingly become more sophisticated over the years. Traffickers are often part of organized criminal networks. Organized crime groups from the Balkans and the former Soviet Union are reputed to be the most pernicious in the world. Corruption is a significant issue in the region that permeates all levels of society allowing these criminal networks to flourish.

Although it is a very complex issue to tackle, and a relatively new focus, almost all missions are currently implementing anti-trafficking programs. Efforts in the E & E region have resulted in many successes in combating TIP. The South Eastern European (SEE) region in particular has become a leader in global anti-TIP efforts due to the incentive to join the EU and NATO. The response to TIP in Eurasia has generally been slower and weaker, with destination countries to the East and the South (Mid-East and Asia) less aware, cooperative and transparent than the destination countries in the West. Most E & E governments have now criminalized TIP in their national legislation, have established national plans of action (NPA), and have increased NGO-government and cross-border cooperation for the prosecution of traffickers and protection of victims.

While impressive efforts have been undertaken, governments have uneven records in taking responsibility for combating TIP, in implementing new legislation, and in allocating adequate financial and human resources to sustain and effectively combat trafficking without donor assistance. Governments of the E & E region, whether source, transit or destination, increasingly acknowledge that they must take primary responsibility for anti-trafficking efforts both domestically and internationally and further improve regional cooperation. The DOS has contributed to this by successfully engaging governments to acknowledge trafficking as a serious problem and to take measures to combat it. This year no E & E countries are on Tier Three of the U.S. State Department TIP report, however, five countries remain on the Tier Two watch list.

Studies have shown that with the presence of UN and NATO peacekeeping troops in Eastern Europe's conflict ridden areas, trafficking in persons increased. In the Balkans, peacekeeping operations had the unfortunate consequence of providing the demand for trafficking women and children into prostitution. In 2004, the heads of the UN, NATO and the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) took a significant step in the fight against trafficking and exploitation by implementing a zero tolerance policy.

The three Ps (i.e. prevention, protection and prosecution) approach remains the best framework we have to address trafficking. Activities under each are often interlinked and TIP can best be addressed by balanced, holistic programming. USAID's comparative advantage is in the prevention of TIP and addressing root causes of TIP through an array of development programs.

In the prevention field, an assessment was recently conducted on lessons learned and best practices in E & E. One lesson learned was that in awareness raising campaigns, scare tactics do not work but that awareness on the realities of trafficking, education on safe migration and marketable job skills are crucial. It is important to improve our understanding of how to address the demand side of trafficking, including to conduct more research in this area. To date, most demand reduction initiatives have focused on young men and international peacekeepers, as well as targeting youth groups through awareness raising programs. Women and youth empowerment programs are also essential to preventing trafficking, including those that addresses violence issues and discrimination against women.

While bilateral efforts have primarily focused on prevention efforts, USAID also supports protection programs. It is critical to increase the local ownership and sustainability of victim assistance services through national referral systems that provide the appropriate legal, medical and shelter services; improved cooperation between government agencies and NGOs; training law enforcement and networks of social workers; raising the capacity of NGOs running shelters or safe houses; and reintegration programs that ensure that victims can reestablish themselves and fully participate in their community.

It is vital that prevention programs emphasize the development of effective rule of law and anti-corruption so that offenders are prosecuted and sentenced. To ensure effective prosecution, judges and prosecutors need better training on the complexities of trafficking and on the appropriate treatment of victims who agree to cooperate with them in investigations and prosecutions. Victim-witness protection measures need to be expanded to protect survivors who do agree to cooperate from harassment or harm by their traffickers.

SECTION II

Best Practices and Lessons Learned

The session on best practices and lessons learned was one of the most popular of the workshop, generating extensive discussions. USAID anti-trafficking focal points from the Albania, Romania, Central Asia Republic (CAR), Uzbekistan, Ukraine, and Russia missions gave presentations.

A. Albania

USAID/Albania kicked off the presentations by sharing the successes of the mission's two anti-trafficking projects, Coordinated Action Against Human Trafficking (CAAHT) and Transnational Action Against Child Trafficking (TACT). These two programs, coupled with their rule of law anti-trafficking pilot project, bring the total amount of money invested in anti-trafficking to \$7.2 million in Albania.

Albania is currently a Tier Two country due to the government's increased efforts to fight the trafficking problem. Albania was previously a significant country of transit because of its proximity to Italy. The city of Vlora, on Albania's coast, was famous for speedboat trips carrying victims of trafficking across the Adriatic Sea to Italy. However, the government made efforts to reduce this practice and the number of victims transiting through Albania has decreased significantly.

The factors contributing to the trafficking phenomenon in Albania are similar to those in other Balkan countries. One specific challenge is the discrimination against ethnic groups, particularly the Roma population. Other factors include poverty, lack of job opportunities, and the subordination of women. Communities often blame victims for their own fate, not understanding how they became enslaved into trafficking.

USAID/Albania's anti-trafficking programs take a comprehensive approach to programming by employing the three Ps (i.e. prevention, protection, and prosecution) approach. The CAAHT project focuses on the trafficking of women and children. A major component of the project focuses on building the capacity of civil society to respond to trafficking. Over three years, the CAAHT project will provide \$2.1 million in grants to civil society organizations. CAAHT has reached out to the regions where trafficking is prevalent, bringing together NGOs and governments to form cluster groups. By reaching out to isolated areas, this project has seen an increase in local stakeholders and their knowledge base. To date, there have been 23 grantee organizations, 3,412 people have been involved in prevention activities, and 76 persons have received reintegration assistance.

The TACT project focuses on prevention efforts for children, most of whom are Roma and gypsy. Their area of focus is also outside of Tirana, in central and southeast Albania. The project recently completed summer camp activities for street beggars, many of which are highly vulnerable Roma children. TACT has activities in 19 out of 36 districts where 23,344

children have received prevention services, 1,189 have received protection services, and 571 children were reintegrated into the community.

Both of these projects have strengthened bilateral and international cooperation and improved the government's capacity to respond to trafficking in persons. One of the challenges of the program is the relatively recent trend of parental involvement in trafficking. Previously trafficking of children involved a third party, but now parents send children to beg in the streets or "sell" them into marriage. Another challenge is the difficulty of keeping Roma children in school and providing them with realistic life and job opportunities. Despite working with Greece for several years now, Albania has not succeeded in concluding a bilateral agreement between the two countries.

B. Romania

USAID/Romania funded a successful shelter model known as Reaching Out. The Reaching Out (RO) project began as a grass roots initiative in 1999, providing the first shelter services for victims in Romania. At that time, there was little awareness of trafficking, a lack of victim services, an absence of trafficking legislation, and no local resources for programming. By the end of 2001, the environment had improved slightly with the adoption of an anti-trafficking law, but victims' services were sparse and it took the government one and a half years to issue the implementation norms for the new law. Today there are 22 shelters operated by NGOs and the government. The NGO shelters are dependent on donor support and will likely close if financial support ends. Most of the government shelters are new and have not yet served many victims, making it difficult to evaluate the effectiveness of their services or their prospects for sustainability.

The RO model was successful because of very strong leadership from its inception. Even before donors were contributing to this effort, RO took the initiative and became the first organization to provide support for victims. From the start, RO was involved in networking and forming partnerships with other local and international organizations, the police, media, faith-based organizations and government. This networking allowed them to diversify their resources, not depending on a single donor. On the downside, the RO model is very costly and sustainability is a serious concern. Shelter operations cost approximately \$50,000 annually and can assist only twelve victims at a time.

The RO approach to dealing with victims is different from other organizations. They are flexible about who they allow to reside in their shelters, accepting pregnant women and women with children. The victims reside in the shelter for a year or more, depending upon their particular needs. Victims residing in RO receive individual and group counseling, medical assistance, educational support, job placement assistance, and support when testifying in court. The shelter also has a life skills program that teaches women menu planning, shopping, cooking, budgeting, cleaning, personal hygiene and grooming. Vocational training activities include sewing, knitting and drawing. Their success stems from a high quality of services and the length of the program, which ensures successful reintegration and prevents re-trafficking.

RO currently has a small in-house workshop that provides vocational training and short-term employment opportunities for beneficiaries. The workshop produces bed linens for sell to local businesses, or to foreign individuals and it is a self-sustainable activity. RO is promoting sustainability of the shelter through income generating activities. They have already purchased a property in a mountain area to build a pension with 20 rooms and a conference/training facility. This social enterprise will train and employ victims of trafficking housed at the shelter or vulnerable youth from poor families at risk of being trafficked.

To ensure effective coordination, Romania needs a better national referral system. The government shelters established in Romania were organized and staffed in haste, and thus have been less successful. Unless the victim is a trial witnesses who receives special court approval, their stay in the government-operated shelter is limited to 10 days, which is impractical and does not provide the necessary support. In the future, the government should complete a needs assessment to ensure that shelter locations are appropriate. They should also develop a sustainability plan during the inception phase.

Another program in Romania provides a six-month intensive program focusing on Roma mothers. Participants receive intensive job training but are required to keep their children in school to remain in the program. Eighteen to 25 women participated in each group, which now has almost 100 graduates. The women were “hand-picked” to participate in the program. While the program has been very successful, it has also proved very expensive, with costs of almost \$500,000.00.

A. Central Asian Republics

The situation in the Central Asian Republics (CAR) differs from that of Eastern Europe. They are much further behind in terms of legislation, government and regional cooperation, and prevention measures. Countries in the region do not want to admit that women leave for prostitution or that men need to leave to find work. Trafficking for the purposes of forced labor appears to be a larger problem than trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. Available data indicates that there is one person trafficked into commercial sexual exploitation for every 40 trafficked into forced labor in CAR. However, most of the AT work to date has focused on trafficking for prostitution because it is considered more dangerous.

Each CAR country has an NGO network providing anti-trafficking interventions including law enforcement training, hotlines, study tours and shelter support. Using drama to raise awareness has been one of the most successful interventions. Theater groups reach a wider audience by traveling around the country, particularly to the more remote areas where typical media outlets may not be available. The use of hotlines and brochures in rural areas has been the least successful of the interventions, though hotlines work well in more urban settings. This is probably due to the low literacy levels and lack of telephone service in rural areas.

USAID anti-trafficking programs in CAR require a higher level of caution for awareness raising activities. The CAR region tends to be more conservative than Eastern Europe and each country has its own level of conservatism. This accounts for the stigma against trafficked women, and the unwillingness of victims to come forward. Anti-trafficking awareness raising activities could be more successful if religious leaders were involved in delivering the

messages. These religious leaders are very visible and respected in the community and, with proper training on AT issues, could be a vital force in protecting citizens.

There are a number of gaps in victim support in CAR, including the need for more shelter space for returned victims, psychological and medical support, and vocational training. Migration continues to grow and few services are available to support those who wish to go abroad and find employment. Without proper assistance and awareness, many migrants end up trafficked into forced labor.

Corruption remains a significant issue with government and law enforcement agencies, which are often complicit. The International Organization of Migration (IOM), with funding from USAID and the State Department's International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL) bureau, provided some initial training for law enforcement personnel. Law enforcement officials generally take the attitude that if you engage in prostitution, you are a prostitute, with no concept of the trafficking aspect.

D. Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan faces many challenges in the fight against trafficking. These challenges include high levels of corruption, lack of awareness, poverty, and little coordination between civil society and government. The government of Uzbekistan does not take the problem of trafficking seriously, refusing to recognize the magnitude of the problem or make any credible efforts to address it. Law enforcement officers need trafficking training, particularly on victim identification techniques. Traffickers easily transport victims across borders in the region, undetected by law enforcement.

Awareness raising campaigns have failed to generate much response from potential victims. Ordinary citizens do not respond well to posters displaying scantily clad women. Therefore, NGOs re-designed materials to conform to community standards. Future campaigns should be more targeted and focus on nontraditional partners including the local government, thereby ensuring participation at the community level. Anti-trafficking programs in Uzbekistan have focused on trafficking of women for commercial sexual exploitation. There are currently no labor trafficking efforts in Uzbekistan and men are very reluctant to admit to being trafficked.

Despite the many obstacles, civil society has achieved some success in combating trafficking. A trafficking prevention program trained 80 youth for 10 days in a summer camp program. At the end of this peer education training, participants returned to their villages and taught other youth. The NGO network in Uzbekistan is coordinating with other NGOs in the region on a regular basis. USAID recently established shelter services in Uzbekistan, with funding through December 2005. It is too early to determine whether the shelter has successfully prevented victims from being re-trafficked.

Uzbek consular officers were trained in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Now consular officers make direct inquiries about trafficking victims to the Ministry in Tashkent. Many Uzbek victims are found in Dubai, where there is a lack of shelter services and victims are typically kept in jail. Uzbek consular officers, posted in Dubai, now contact NGOs in Tashkent to file documents for these victims with the Ministry of Interior. NGOs follow-up on

these requests and respond directly to the consular officers in Dubai, thereby ensuring a faster and safer return for victims.

E. Ukraine

In Ukraine, the majority of victims are women and children trafficked into commercial sexual exploitation. Ukraine has seen an increase in the number of minors trafficked and an increase in trafficking for labor exploitation, especially of men. In fact, 34% of the trafficking cases in 2004 were trafficking for the purposes of labor exploitation. The number of Ukrainian victims found in EU countries is increasing with destination countries including Turkey, Poland, the Czech Republic, and Israel.

Ukraine was the first country in Europe and Eurasia to have an anti-trafficking program, beginning in 1998. As a result, a recent public survey revealed that 99% of Ukrainian citizens are aware of the trafficking problem. However, despite this awareness, only 20% believe they are at risk of being trafficked and 60% reported that it would be impossible for them to become a victim. Twenty percent of the respondents, which are university educated, would still take the risk of working abroad without proper documentation.

Despite an early start with AT programming, many gaps still exist in Ukraine. The political instability has further hampered anti-trafficking efforts. Some of the gaps include the lack of a witness protection program and weak anti-trafficking legislation. There are 100,000 “social orphans” of parents who are working abroad, some as young as three years old and labor exploitation is increasing. The average age of a trafficking victim is 26.4 years and 4-5% are minors. This year Ukraine is on the Tier Two watch list for the first time because of weak government efforts to eliminate trafficking.

The successful Ukrainian Referral and Reintegration System provides safe assistance and reintegration of victims into society to provide them with a normal life. This program assists victims seeking shelter services, including a transit shelter, and a medical rehabilitation center. The program also utilizes a hotline for victims and is already seeing positive results. When it began in 2003, there were only 22 NGOs in their network and today there are 40. In addition, 81% of those completing the program have found employment, a 16% increase from 2002. Seven percent of the victims have returned to the education system and only 3% have gone back abroad.



F. Russia

Russia has a significant trafficking problem, with a number of issues unique to the region. The sheer size of Russia makes the fight against trafficking a monumental task. Regional

differences, levels of poverty and education vary greatly calling for different approaches. While internal trafficking is considered significant, there are no official statistics or reports that provide a clear picture of the magnitude. Despite a high level of interest in USAID/Russia, there is a lack of funding for AT initiatives. The mission does not have one person dedicated solely to the issue of trafficking. Instead, a number of mission personnel work occasionally on anti-trafficking efforts.

USAID/Russia has implemented two successful AT programs, including a prevention program for youth in Russia's Far East Region. This program trained teachers to help their students avoid falling prey to traffickers. Classroom dramas conveyed lessons about the dangers of trafficking. Using role-plays, a "recruiter" attempts to entice victims by describing a glorious future for them. The program does not discourage migration, since many youth do go abroad and find legitimate work. Rather, the program emphasizes the dangers of trafficking and focuses on safe migration.

The other program, Trafficking Prevention and Information Dissemination, is an economic development and trafficking prevention program. This three-year program works to reduce trafficking by creating viable alternatives for at-risk women. Women, ages 15 to 30, are empowered through individual training, confidence building and professional experience to create new economic opportunities. The program teaches women to organize and operate their own businesses. The program also disseminates information through innovative education campaigns, engaging the local communities.

Russia's shelter services are insufficient, especially outside of Moscow. In Russia, victims can only live in premises located in the district where they are registered. This results in vacancies in some areas while other shelters are overflowing. Those shelters with vacancies have taken in victims of domestic violence (DV), but there are divergent opinions about the appropriateness of combining trafficking and DV victims. One positive factor is that many Russian NGOs have been working on trafficking issues for at least a decade and have a very good understanding of the problems.

Lack of support from the Russian government is also an obstacle. Although there is a new anti-trafficking law, prosecuting traffickers remains difficult and seldom happens. One lesson learned in Russia is that traffickers rapidly and successfully change their methodology. While programs have been successful in reducing the flow of trafficked women to East Asia, traffickers have merely changed the destination to Israel. Anti-trafficking programs need flexibility to respond to the changing techniques of traffickers.

SECTION III

Data Collection/Monitoring and Evaluation

A. Data Collection

Stephen Warnath, of the Nexus Institute, made a presentation on data collection, looking at historical aspects and recommending future improvements. Trafficking has become an increasingly important policy priority for governments, but the empirical basis for counter-trafficking efforts has not kept pace. Research based data collection techniques relying on interviews with a few key actors in government and NGOs is still the norm today, as it was in the late 1990s. Questionnaires and surveys provide data categorized either by country or regionally. In order to respond to the unique issues of trafficking, researchers and organizations must modify their data collection systems.

The overarching challenge in data collection is to move beyond general research. Trafficking research should be multidisciplinary and include baseline data that will generate measurable results. For example, victim assistance should be based on solid research that outlines long-term recovery needs. Despite the array of anti-trafficking programs, there is little evidence that their implementation is actually reducing the rates of trafficking. Little information is available to inform policy and promote appropriate action. To provide appropriate prevention and prosecution response, in depth research and analysis is needed.

An applied research approach should be utilized, framing specific questions to address issues such as the rates of re-trafficking, the reasons for declining assistance, trauma rates and their implications. Research should also focus on the relationship between law enforcement training and rates of convictions, and compare differences between internal and international trafficking. The trafficking field needs more research about why certain people or groups of people become victims and why some victims refuse assistance. Very little information on trafficking investigations and prosecutions has been collected and warrants further exploration.

The collection of trafficking data presents unique challenges. Research groups are typically small, and therefore not necessarily representative of the majority of victims. Given the “underground” nature of this phenomenon, interviewing victims is difficult. An additional challenge is protecting victims from further trauma as part of the research process. Working with children is a special challenge, given their need for greater protection and special interviewing techniques. Protection of data collected is critical and access should be limited due to high levels of corruption. If information gets into the wrong hands, it can pose a serious threat to the victim.

There is no standard methodology for collecting trafficking data, making for inconsistencies in comparisons. Service providers collect most of the trafficking related data. These services providers may have a particular agenda and may not be research specialists. The data obtained under these circumstances may prove unreliable. In addition, the agenda of the organization may skew the data to that organization’s goals or their desire to obtain funding. Using

secondary data is also problematic unless you have verified collection methodologies, questions asked, and research objectives.

Better analysis of the available data is also crucial. Facts must be questioned and interpreted accurately. Culture and language differences, as well as value judgments about victims, also affect data collection efforts and the analysis process. This can prove particularly difficult for translated material. Subtleties in language and culture must be taken into account in reviewing information. It is dangerous to make general assumptions about victims, such as linking poverty and low levels of education to the vulnerability of being trafficked. While some trafficking victims are poorly educated and impoverished, others in similar situations do not fall prey to traffickers.

Appropriate terminology is needed to classify trafficked persons. Service providers hold varying opinions on designating trafficked persons as “victims” or “survivors.” The classification has both policy and funding implications. Some women prefer to be acknowledged as victims, at least initially, and later to be recognized as survivors. Romanian NGOs have typically used the term “trafficked persons.” However in Central Asia, you cannot “traffic a living thing” and therefore, this terminology is not appropriate in the local language.

B. Monitoring and Evaluation

The lack of significant research and particularly the lack of baselines have made monitoring and evaluation for trafficking projects problematic. To promote better M & E systems for trafficking programs, workshop participants received a package of trafficking specific indicators. While a significant number of indicators have been developed, they have proven difficult to put into practical use. USAID has a long and successful history developing M & E systems in other fields of work, which can be drawn upon to capture the results of their AT programming.

One of the traps to be wary of in M & E systems is the checklist mentality. Simply counting persons, facilities, or victims reintegrated does not necessarily yield useful information. While it is easy to count the number of shelters and persons assisted, it is more important to know, for example, how long residents can remain in the shelter. M & E systems should measure real outcomes to respond to the long-term nature of this problem.

Monitoring and evaluation was noted by participants as one of the most critical areas for additional support. All USAID missions are struggling to evaluate AT activities and capture the successes they are achieving. Baseline studies are needed to ensure proper measurement of progress in anti-trafficking efforts. The International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) is developing indicators for their project (*see discussion in section on cross border collaboration*) that can contribute to this ongoing discussion. While M & E was an active discussion topic, the issue was too significant to be resolved during the workshop. Therefore, developing M & E systems, specific to anti-trafficking, is a priority recommendation for future work.

SECTION IV

Collaboration and Coordination

A. With other US agencies and Implementing Partners

A1. Moldova

Moldova has one of the highest rates of poverty in the region at 40%. Based on a survey conducted in Moldova, 99% of trafficking victims are from rural areas. This is a result of the severe shortage of employment opportunities in rural Moldova. The survey also showed that 71% of those surveyed had been exposed to domestic violence and abuse prior to becoming victims of trafficking. Fifty-seven percent of those surveyed considered themselves to be socially vulnerable, lacking professional training and coming from broken homes. Fourteen percent are child victims with 77% of them subject to sexual exploitation. Seventy percent are single mothers, with 33% having between one and three children.

The U.S. Government has funded a variety of initiatives in Moldova designed to reduce trafficking rates. USAID/Moldova funds the New Perspectives for Women (BIZPRO) project, which focuses on the development of employment and business opportunities for women. The project goal is for women to develop the necessary leadership skills to become entrepreneurs. Under the USAID/BIZPRO program, internships and mentoring programs are offered through 500 participating enterprises around the country. Service providers offer legal services to victims in remote areas through regional mobile units and in cities through legal clinics. USAID funds the Women's Wellness Centers that provide medical assistance as well as a land privatization program that assists victims in obtaining their private property rights. In addition, grants are provided to women through USAID's Agricultural Development Program. A pilot project in three villages links women with in-kind grants, while a vocational skills course is offered through U.S. Department of Labor funding. USAID works to integrate their activities with those of other local and international partners, including participation in regional coordination meetings.

Grants designed to offer opportunities for women and youth in Moldova will establish ten social reintegration centers. Local Moldovan authorities will provide the buildings and the programs will be managed by local NGOs. The grants also fund vulnerable youth, upon graduation from orphanages and border schools, to ensure their socio-economic reintegration into society. Additionally, the project will enhance victims' access to health and counseling services, education and life skills, income generation and employment.

A2. Kosovo

Kosovo's post conflict situation does not differ much from the rest of Eastern Europe. Prior to 1999 and the presence of NATO forces there were few criminal networks. However, after the war ended, criminal networks formed and expanded. It is widely believed that NATO troops created a demand for prostitution of women from the region. While that demand may have initially come from NATO, 80% of the demand is currently from Kosovars.

There is an assumption that the large number of raids conducted by the Special Trafficking and Prostitution Investigation Unit (TPIO) has driven trafficking underground. Between 2000 and 2001, the TPIO unit raided a chain of nightclubs finding mostly Moldovan and Ukrainian women. Victims were also found in a series of hotels located on the two major roads



connecting the region. Since 2001, internal trafficking has increased with more underage victims being found. In 2002, IOM began a program focused on internal trafficking. Kosovars generally do not believe that trafficking is a problem in their country; a survey revealed that only 9% believed that trafficking in persons even exists in Kosovo. They believe it is a problem brought in by internationals and that the internationals should solve it.

USAID/Kosovo works with the IOM to provide direct assistance to Kosovar victims of trafficking. IOM has also helped develop a referral system and formed good working relations with law enforcement. Funding to combat corruption in law enforcement has been significant, resulting in the Kosovo Police Service (KPS) being viewed as one of the best institutions in the country. All of the institutions in Kosovo were organized by international organizations. The long process of developing these institutions delayed the implementation of a referral system. Additionally, IOM/Kosovo excluded others from the process, causing a good deal of friction with NGOs and International Organizations (IOs). Despite these problems, local NGOs have been active in fighting trafficking in recent years. In 2005, the government approved the Kosovo National Action Plan for Trafficking, which sets out a series of actions and has a budget to support those actions.

A3. Bulgaria

The Bulgarian government has not demonstrated a significant commitment to fight trafficking, as is evidenced by their failure to provide the necessary funding for victim support services or for the National Commission on Trafficking. The National Commission is mandated to have an information database on trafficking but it has not been developed. Prior to the release of the TIP report, the government met to discuss trafficking issues but has not followed through with any additional activities since then.

USAID/Bulgaria will be implementing a trafficking program focused on building the capacity of local and international organizations to work with victims and on prevention activities. The program will cooperate with current IOM shelters. The U.S. DOJ implemented a successful AT training program on legal issues for Bulgarian law enforcement. The U.S. Government has also taken an active role by forming a donor coordination group, accounting for increased NGO involvement in this issue. This group, which began with fifteen organizations, continues to expand with each quarterly meeting.

Although there is good communication among NGOs in Bulgaria, documentation of data on trafficking and trafficking victims is lacking. The high level of coordination between NGOs ensures that activities do not overlap and there is no duplication of efforts. The current challenge is to develop an effective referral mechanism and methods for information sharing. NGOs have different skills that need to be effectively coordinated into a referral system, ensuring a broad range of services for victims.

A4. Armenia

Armenia is still at a nascent stage in the fight against trafficking. The downgrading of Armenia in the State Department's TIP report's to Tier Two watch list this year will likely increase government and donor anti-trafficking efforts. The TIP report states that Armenia was downgraded due to weak law enforcement efforts to fight trafficking.

Although statistics are sparse, it is estimated that 1000 Armenian women have been trafficked to Turkey (61.4%) and the United Arab Emirates (29.5%). Armenian victims have also been found in Russia, Greece and Germany. Anecdotal evidence indicates that the majority of Armenian victims are trafficked from urban areas. Despite these statistics, only two cases of human trafficking and 11 cases of pimping were registered in 2004. However, Armenian law enforcement officials claim to have prevented the trafficking of 100 women in 2004.

There are many obstacles in the fight against trafficking in Armenia. Although trafficking is illegal, the legislation is vague and penalties are too low. Many sectors of the government deny that trafficking even exists in Armenia. In fact, the Minister of Justice stated that trafficking does not exist as a phenomenon in Armenia. Corruption is an additional challenge, with court officials and border guards believed to be accepting bribes from traffickers. The number of convictions is low with only one woman sentenced to prison for two years. The absence of a witness protection program for victims is another obstacle, reducing the number of people who are willing to file charges or testify.

In 2004, the Government of Armenia approved the National Program of Combating Trafficking in Persons (2004-2010). The government contributed \$11,000 to support the work of Armenia's National Anti-Trafficking Commission. However, the government has not completed any of the elements in the national plan.

The number of investigations is increasing and cooperation between the police and NGOs has improved. Armenian law enforcement is also coordinating with Georgia and the United Arab Emirates on the investigation and apprehension of traffickers. The Armenian Department of Migration and Refugees initiated anti-trafficking discussions on several talk shows and featured the national police in AT training films and television programs. Additionally, the Ministry of Education has approved anti-trafficking lectures for secondary and university students. The government is also providing housing for recently graduated orphans to decrease their vulnerability to trafficking.

The United States has provided the majority of the funding to fight trafficking in Armenia. Members of the Government of Armenia's Interagency Group to Combat Trafficking received training in the United States on concrete approaches to combating trafficking. With U.S.

government funding, the Armenian Center for Women's Rights held 14 training courses on trafficking, published a bulletin on women's issues, and developed media campaigns for trafficking prevention. The Armenian Sociological Association and the Armenian Relief Society conducted a survey on the trafficking in persons in 2004. The U.S. DOS funded victim assistance programs, public awareness campaigns, and investigative journalism training for media representatives. Support was provided for investigations conducted by Armenian journalists in Dubai on the trafficking of Armenian women.

A Memorandum on Combating Organized Crime has been signed by twelve Armenian NGOs. Armenian and Georgian NGOs are negotiating a similar memorandum for their future cooperation. The UNDP funded a shelter project where victims received legal, medical and psychological assistance. The UN Program for Combating Trafficking in Persons plans to develop an AT monitoring system. Finally, the OSCE provided an international expert to conduct a three-day training session of experts and interviewers from two local NGOs.

B. Cross Border Collaboration

Gerda Theuermann, Director of Consultancy Services for the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), led the discussion on cross border collaboration in South Eastern Europe (SEE). ICMPD is an organization that promotes comprehensive and sustainable migration policies and information exchange for governments and organizations, primarily on European migration issues. ICMPD employs a regional human rights based approach to the trafficking of persons and migration. They encourage local ownership of projects to ensure sustainability by employing a multi-disciplinary, multi-agency approach between police, government and civil society. They stress close cooperation and coordination with international actors in the field of trafficking and migration.



ICMPD's range of services includes training, strategy development, and capacity building. Their experts developed modules and curriculum for training police, judges and prosecutors. These trainings are well established and have become institutionalized. They have also developed a framework model for national anti-trafficking responses that integrate best practices and successful strategies from the region. ICMPD based their strategies on the three Ps (i.e. prevention, protection and prosecution) approach. This framework can be adapted to a specific country's needs. With the assistance of the International Labor Organization (ILO), ICMPD works on capacity building efforts to combat forced labor of trafficked persons. ICMPD has also conducted training for consular staff.

USAID is currently negotiating assistance to ICMPD to implement the Anti-trafficking Cross Border Referral Mechanism (CBRM) project in Southeastern Europe (SEE)¹ that proposes to support the establishment of comprehensive, effective and institutionalized cross-border referral mechanisms for victims of trafficking SEE. The CBRM will be designed, piloted and endorsed by participating SEE countries based on best practices as well as identified victims' needs with due respect to data protection and privacy regulations. In the context of U.S. assistance phase out in the E & E region, it is important to work to increase sustainability of anti-trafficking efforts, and to continue to facilitate the transfer of skills and responsibility from international organizations to national, local, and civil society institutions. The project will thus strive to enhance local ownership of the regional TIP agenda, creating a cross-border referral mechanism of governments and civil society actors for anti-TIP interventions and continuity in cross-border TIP casework in SEE and key destination and source countries. As a result of this project, participating SEE governments would be assisted in making serious and significant efforts to combat trafficking as measured in the U.S. State Department's annual TIP report, in assuming primary responsibility for anti-trafficking measures, and in fulfilling their commitments under the OSCE Action Plan. The activity would contribute towards the goals under Table III of the Stability Pact.

The project is expected to contribute to significant improvements in the framework for the provision of TIP victim protection in the region, which should lead to more victims identified and treated properly, and less trauma. It is expected that the cooperative relationships of anti-trafficking actors will have been strengthened and improved within and between participating SEE countries, especially between governmental and non-governmental actors. Each anti-TIP actor will know how to apply the mechanisms necessary for comprehensive and appropriate victim assistance and support across borders and as a result of this activity there will be: improved management of individual trafficking cases across international borders in SEE; templates for measures to be taken in cross-border TIP cases, such as risk assessments and individual safety plans for victims including their families in countries of origin; adequate and sustainable return and reintegration or resettlement support and safe court procedures; proper identification and treatment of victims; quality standards and standard operational procedures (SOPs) for each of these measures; a roster of governmental as well as non-governmental actors involved in the management of cross-border trafficking cases; and modes of data/information exchange with due respect to privacy and data protection.

The CBRM project's monitoring and evaluation plan is based on a country assessment conducted during the inception phase of the project. There will be an evaluation at the end of the project to measure the project results through use of official reports, case protocols and standardized surveys. One year after the completion of the project, a long-term evaluation will be conducted with qualitative interviews among participants, victims and service providers, and using official reports and statistics.

C. NGO Networking

¹ Countries included: Albania, BiH, Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia; additional involved at own expense: Ukraine, Turkey, Greece, Italy and possibly Russia

Nermina Komaric, president of Anti-Trafficking Anti-Corruption Action (ACTA), led a discussion of the NGO perspective on anti-trafficking work. ACTA members are anti-trafficking NGOs from each SEE country. This is the first international anti-trafficking NGO organized in the region. Their priority is to protect victims of trafficking and to fight corruption. ACTA members formed this NGO to widen their visibility and pursue their anti-trafficking activities on a regional basis. ACTA's vision is an "international, regional, non-governmental, non-partisan organization advocating for a society without trafficking and corruption, which are extreme forms of human rights violations." ACTA members include the following:

ACTA Member Organizations

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Albania | Center of Gender Alliance for Development |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Lara |
| Bulgaria | Bulgarian Gender Research Foundation |
| Croatia | Women's Room |
| Macedonia | Open Gate, La Strada |
| Moldova | La Strada, Moldova |
| Montenegro | Safe Women's House |
| Romania | Reaching Out |
| Serbia | ASTRA |
| Slovenia | Centre Klujuc |

NGOs tend to be driven by the priorities and funding of donor agencies. It is difficult for NGOs to determine a long-term, sustainable strategy based on short-term funding opportunities. When funding ends, NGOs often end up moving to a different issue. However, just because donors are not funding an issue, like trafficking or corruption, does not mean it is not an important issue.

Ms. Komaric asked workshop participants to discuss what they felt the roles of NGOs should be. Several participants thought that local NGOs played a very important part in a community, acting as its voice. Others noted that civil society should advocate for the betterment of society. Some participants see the role of NGOs as grass root advocates who can influence policy changes at the government level. Many participants believed that NGOs could be sustainable with the help of their community. USAID is particularly concerned about capacity and sustainability issues in phase out countries. One example is the USAID/Albania anti-trafficking project, CAAHT, which hopes to ensure sustainability through their grants and training of small local NGOs.

From the donor point of view, it is important to have a strong civil society operating in the community. Donors and governments do not always have the same inside perspective as local NGOs. There is a long history of distrust between NGOs and governments in SEE, based partially on differing agendas. However, in the field of trafficking, NGOs have been working actively to stamp out trafficking, forcing governments to take action. Ms. Theuermann

(ICMPD) pointed out that it is easier for donors to work with international and government organizations because they are generally more established, use similar methodologies and are accustomed to working with donors.

SECTION V

Anti-trafficking as a Cross Cutting Issue

A. Anti-corruption, Judicial, and Media Issues

Court systems in Europe & Eurasia face many obstacles in the prosecution of traffickers. Victims are reluctant to testify for a myriad of reasons, including the lack of protection, intimidation and financial constraints. The Department of Justice conducted a study about witnesses and the assistance they receive in the courtroom. The study found that victims typically do not know anyone in the courts, usually testify far from their home, and are particularly vulnerable in this environment. Obtaining effective testimony from victims under these circumstances can prove very difficult and prosecutors seldom win trafficking cases without the testimony of the victim.

In the U.S. court system, victim/witness support is a fundamental part of the process. Social service providers maintain contact with the victim/witness, provide them with case information and help demystify the process. Witnesses are provided with information about a variety of services available to them and have access to government assistance programs. A successful experience as a witness can actually be empowering for the victim. However, if not done properly victims may suffer additional trauma. To support trafficking victims, Romania is presently piloting a “virtual courtroom” witness protection project. Courtrooms have been equipped to utilize video testimony from victims/witnesses, thereby relieving witnesses of the need to be physically present at the trial.

Judges often treat trafficking victims poorly by blaming them or viewing them as criminals. Specialized training for judges is needed to improve their knowledge of trafficking laws, witness protection, and victim psychology. Judges need gender sensitivity training as a base from which to understand how women and men respond differently to trauma. Under USAID’s Women in Development (WID) Indefinite Quantities Contract (IQC), the Women’s Legal Right (WLR) Initiative is implementing a judicial training program in Albania. The WLR activity trains future judges and prosecutors on gender sensitivity, domestic violence, and trafficking. Participants in the program reported changing their attitude towards victims because of the training. Some of the participants even utilized a role-play from their training to create awareness among their colleagues during a law day program. WLR also trained all members of the newly formed Serious Crimes Court in Albania on the new trafficking law and victim psychology.

There has been very little training of judges and prosecutors in the Central Asian Republics. Judges are reluctant to learn about new laws or information on trafficking. Rather than working for TIP victims, the trafficking protocol is actually used to dismiss cases or to criminalize victims. Prosecutors often have difficulty working with trafficking victims, viewing them as criminals. The training of judges and prosecutors on the proper treatment of trafficking victims is likely to be a difficult process due to the conservative nature of Central Asian society.

Another critical element in the fight against trafficking is the role of the media. Newspapers that advertise victim services have led to an increase in hotline calls. Reports of those prosecuted can serve as a deterrent to others. However, the media often fails to understand and respect the rights of victims. The identity and rights of trafficking victims are seldom, if ever, protected by the media in Central Asia. Cases are sensationalized and the names and faces of victims appear regularly in the newspapers. IOM and USAID have worked on a media sensitivity project to overcome these abuses. USAID plans to work with CAR media on how to properly report on TIP cases. ICMPD has developed media training materials that are available on their website.

Media can also work against the fight on trafficking. Traffickers use the Internet to advertise false jobs to recruit new trafficking victims. These modern recruitment methods make it vitally important for organizations to monitor advertisements and provide safe migration information to vulnerable persons.

B. Integration Into On-going Activities

The final segment of the workshop provided participants with an opportunity to utilize their knowledge and the skills gained during the workshop. The practicum session, led by Teresa Cannady, Chief of Party of the WID IQC Anti-trafficking Task Order, focused on the crosscutting nature of anti-trafficking initiatives. Participants reviewed a case study and engaged in a brainstorming activity that focused on the experience of one trafficking victim. Participants identified the adverse effects on the victim, her family, friends, and community. This case study illustrated the wide reaching affect that trafficking has on people, governments, and economies.

With this perspective in mind, the participants worked in break out groups, preparing a scope of work for a “mini RFP.” The groups were tasked to develop an anti-trafficking program that would respond to the cross cutting nature of TIP and integrate other on-going programs and implementers. Groups were also required to develop indicators for evaluating the success of their project. Each group presented their “mini RFP” in a plenary session.

ANNEX A

E & E Regional Anti-Trafficking Workshop August 23-25, 2005 Sinaia, Romania

Day One

Tuesday August 23, 2005

- 8:30 - 9:00 Registration
- 9:00 – 9:20 **Welcome** by Roger Garner/Romania MD
Setting the Stage by David Atwood, Director DGST
- 9:20 – 10:00 **WID office update**, Global responses and Policy Issues Update
by Mary Knox-EGAT/WID
- 10:00 - 10:45 **Overview of TIP situation in E & E** (including the assessment of USAID prevention programs in the E&E region)
Ruth Pojman, E & E Senior Anti-trafficking Advisor
- 10:45 – 11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:00 – 12:00 **Best Practices and Lessons Learned** in anti-trafficking –
Presentations by missions of what has been successful and could be replicated elsewhere – (three missions)
- 12:00 – 2:00 Lunch on your own and free time
- 2:00 – 3:15 **More Best Practices and Lessons Learned** in Anti-trafficking (three additional missions)
- 3:15 – 3:30 Break
- 3:30 – 4:30 **Challenges of data collection and methodology:**
Stephen Warnath, Director, Nexus Institute
- 4:30-5:00 **Anti-trafficking Task Order** – presentation of activities to date and services offered
Teresa Cannady, Director Anti-trafficking Task Order
- 5:00-5:30 **Monitoring, Evaluation and Research**, discussion on indicators and tracking impact

7:00 Reception

Day Two

Wednesday - August 24, 2005

- 9:00 – 10:00 **Coordination with other partners** (USG, donors, implementing partners)
Panel Discussion -- Issues also to be discussed include: Law Enforcement/USAID initiatives, victim-witness Protection, migration issues/restrictive government practices
- 10:00 – 11:15 **Cross Border Collaboration** in the SEE (focus on sustainability, civil society and Government collaboration, local ownership and ICMPD cooperation with USAID missions).
Gerda Theuermann, Director, Consultancy Services, ICMPD
- 11:20 – 3:30 Group sightseeing trip and lunch to Bran Castle
- 3:30 – 4:15 **NGO Networking**
Nermina Komaric, President, ACTA
- 4:15 – 5:00 **Panel discussion** on Anti-corruption and anti-trafficking initiatives; Media sensitivity training on TIP; and Judicial issues
- 5:00 – 5:15 Break
- 5:00 – 7:00 **Practicum/exercises** built around issues pre-selected from participants (based on responses to questionnaires we sent to you) about programming and challenges faced
- 7:00-7:30 Conference Wrap-up/The Way Forward – Prioritizing a list of outcomes

Day Three

Thursday, August 25, 2004

- 8:30 Depart for Bucharest
- 11:30 - 1:00 Arrive at Hotel in Bucharest, lunch on your own
- 1:00 - 3:00 **Sites visits** – participants to select one of three options (selections to be made on first day of conference) - NGO Roundtable; Save the Children; Shelter (Three participants at most, ideally those from missions who support shelter programs)
- 4:00 Return to hotel

ANNEX B

SITE VISITS

USAID/Romania coordinated three site visits for the workshop. Participants selected their preferred venue. These site visits took place in Bucharest on the final day of the workshop and included a shelter visit, an NGO roundtable held at USAID, and a visit to the offices of Save the Children. Detailed below is the information from these site visits.

A. IOM Shelter – led by Cate Johnson

Three workshop participants (only three persons were allowed due to confidentiality of the shelter) visited the Transit and Assistance Center for Victims of Trafficking, managed by IOM with assistance from the Ministry of Interior and the Orthodox Church. The MoI provides the shelter premises and five social workers employed by the Romanian Patriarchy work there. The shelter has 12 spaces for long-term victims and four places for transit victims.

The shelter team, with the assistance of volunteers, provides medical care; basic life skills training including cooking, cleaning, managing personal budgets, and job search skills; occupational and art therapy including IT courses, painting, poetry, knitting workshops, and volunteer work in kindergartens; and group discussions about sexual education, labor law and social skills.

NGOs prepare social reintegration plans for victims, after referral by the IOM team. They base the plans on victims' needs and focus on psychological counseling, vocational training and acquisition of employment.

B. NGO Roundtable – led by Gabi Manta

Presenters at the roundtable included Romanian civil society representatives who are actively involved in anti-trafficking efforts. The presenters briefly described their activities, successes and challenges, and cooperation with similar organizations in the region.

Investigative Journalist: Paul Radu, an investigative journalist, had a different perspective on TIP than NGOs and donors. Based on his experience, he feels that internal trafficking is on the rise in Romania. In addition, Romanian women are now found in Western Europe rather than in Eastern Europe. Romanian trafficking routes have changed due to lifting of travel restrictions for Romanians. Spain seems to be the current hotbed of organized crime and trafficking.

Romanian Orthodox Church: Orthodox priests have been very involved in raising the level of awareness of the Romanian population. They participated in several anti-TIP projects, including one with the IOM and the Ministry of Interior. A recent anti-trafficking project educated priests in religious and theology schools about trafficking issues. In addition, priests throughout Romania have received TIP materials and victim assistance training. An assessment conducted recently found that 40% of Romania's priests discuss trafficking in addition to

providing assistance to victims and their families. The church plans to open shelters for victims in various regions throughout Romania. They hope to receive government funding to continue implementing their anti-trafficking activities.

ADPARE: ADPARE is an NGO that offers prevention and victim assistance services in Romania. They provide both emergency and long-term assistance including education, legal services, psychosocial assistance and other medical assistance. IOM refers victims to ADPARE. Among their prevention efforts, ADPARE provides peer training for high school volunteers.

World Learning: World Learning conducts a ChildNet life skills project, which is funded by USAID. The project develops independent living skills for children and youth who are receiving child welfare services. The chief functions of the project are to 1) assess the children's life skills, abilities and resources to become self-sufficient adults; 2) create and monitor the implementation of their different independent life skills program around the country; 3) support social integration of youth leaving the residential care facilities; and 4) to enhance the interest of different fields of activity toward the independent life skills sector and to increase the interdisciplinary participation in those programs.

IOM/Romania: IOM/Romania operates a shelter, provides victim referrals, prevention and awareness raising, research, training, and the development of curriculums. They refer victims to NGOs, such as ADPARE. Through their regional coordination with other IOM offices, they support Romania victims. They also operate a shelter in Bucharest staffed by social workers from the Orthodox Church. IOM's has worked to raise awareness among government officials, the local community and the church. They have recently conducted research about internal trafficking to design projects that are more responsive to the current trends. IOM also provides training on victim support for practitioners and priests. They developed a training curriculum for religious schools and a set of guidelines for priests.

C. Save the Children - led by John Riordan

Save the Children (STC) began operating in Romania in 1990. Their work is based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. STC works with street children, refugee children, and child victims of trafficking. Since 1994, they have also worked on reducing HIV/AIDS rates for children. They have 15 branches around the country and are a member of a number of inter-ministerial groups within the government. Last year, the Romanian Government contracted with Save the Children to open ten shelters throughout the country—one in Bucharest and the others in nine separate regions. The shelters opened in only eight months and required the cooperation of many government agencies.

Cooperation for opening the shelters was difficult. STC concluded numerous agreements for premises with different government authorities. They had to define the role of various stakeholders and work with a team of psychologists, legal counselors, teachers, and various professionals. Developing methodologies for repatriation proved difficult as the Law on Repatriation is very complex and involves a lengthy process involving a myriad of agencies. Social services agencies are required to conduct home studies before returning children to their

homes. The process includes three levels of work including intervention, prevention, and rehabilitation.

Both sexual and labor exploitation are occurring in Romania. Most of the labor exploitation is under the control of the parents, while the sexual exploitation occurs in children separated from their families. Ninety-nine percent of victims of sexual abuse are girls. The National Institute for Statistics states that 70,000 children are involved in the worse forms of child labor, usually working to pay the debts of their parents. Some children work as much as 18 hours per day in primitive conditions. In one specific case, a child worked for \$10 per month, 18 hours per day on a pig farm. The “master” took the child from a small village in Moldova with the parent’s consent. The police detained the “master” for four hours and found only “bad treatment” of a child. The police do not like to get involved in these situations.

In response to the plight of these children, STC provides educational opportunities and support. They do not want to arrest parents, unless there is physical abuse, preferring instead to work with the parents to change the situation. Save the Children opened a special school for victims, which has experienced a 70% completion rate. Children want to attend school, but because they can make \$20-30 per day begging in the city, parents force them to work. For families with five children this is substantial income.

STC engages parents in their activities, providing them with food or other support to allow the children to go to school. Initially, they ask the parents to allow the child in school for two to three hours and then increase the hours over time. The children who are street beggars are 90-95% Roma. The Roma families feel it is the role of the child to bring money in every day. STC has a team of street social workers who work in collaboration with Social Services department to support these children.

ANNEX C

Bibliography of Resources

(Note: Participants were provided with this bibliography as well as a CD-rom that contained the reports listed below.)

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