



**BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

**SITUATION REPORT  
ON TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS  
IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA IN 2016**

**State Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings**

**Sarajevo, March 2017**

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## ***1. Summary***

The Report is split into the following two thematic areas:

(1) the area addressing the indicators of THB in Bosnia and Herzegovina through statistic data on the number of identified victims of human trafficking and data on criminal prosecution of the perpetrators of the criminal offences of trafficking in human beings and related criminal offences,

(2) the area addressing the activities of the competent authorities, civil society organisations and international partners.

## ***2. Abbreviations***

**OSCE** - Organisation for Safety and Cooperation in Europe

**IOM** - International Organisation for Migrations

**TAIEX** - Technical Assistance and Information Exchange instrument of the European Commission

**ICMPD** - International Centre for Migration Policies Development

## ***3. Indicators of Trafficking in Human Beings in Bosnia and Herzegovina***

### **3.1 General overview of the state of play and statistical indicators relating to trafficking in human beings**

According to data obtained from the Prosecutor's Offices, law enforcement services, Social Work Centres, and non-governmental organisations, required for the annual Situation report on trafficking in human beings in Bosnia and Herzegovina, it was concluded that a total of 48 potential victims of trafficking in human beings/labour exploitation/incitement to prostitution and/or sexual exploitation/human trafficking for the purpose of begging/"sale for entering into forced marriage"/common law marriage with a minor/ production, possession and display of child pornography, were identified/assisted in the period from January – December 2016.

Of the total number of potential/identified victims of trafficking in human beings (48) in 2016:

- 38 were adults and 10 were minors.
- 30 were female and 18 males
- 7 refer to sexual exploitation, 12 refer to labour exploitation, 22 refer to exploitation of begging, 1 refer to sale for entering into forced marriage, 1 refer to labour exploitation combined with sexual exploitation, 5 refer to exploitation of begging combined with sexual exploitation.
- 5 were foreign nationals from Serbia, Gambia, Ukraine and Cuba (3 females – 2 males), while 43 remaining victims of trafficking were nationals of Bosnia and Herzegovina

During the stated period, 15 potential THB victims were assisted in safe houses/shelters, while 33 potential victims were not assisted in shelters. Within the framework of activities carried out by organizations and associations providing day-care services, 28 potential minor trafficking victims have been identified.

The Mobile Team of Sarajevo is an example of proactive action in the prevention and suppression of human trafficking. The Mobile Team for the Prevention of Begging operating in the Cantonal Centre for Social Work Sarajevo, implemented the activities related to accommodation and assistance to the children who were caught on the street. The reasons for conducting field visits were of different nature, usually initiated by field workers. Field visits were carried out in order to monitor the overall social picture within the family, obtain the information on situation on the ground / providing psycho-social support to the family and children and thus offering the children a

possibility to join the Service for Children in Need, promote a Mobile Team, register new children, establish the reasons for their stay on the street.

a) There were a total of 216 children recorded (of which 140 boys and 77 girls) in different locations of the local community, intersections and street focal points.

b) Of 216 children in the street focal points, intersections and city centre, 133 children were registered while performing any kind of street work such as collecting secondary raw materials, washing windscreens on cars and begging on the street (out of 133 recorded children, 88 were boys and 46 were girls, out of the mentioned number: out of the aforementioned number there were 35 parents who were caught in begging with minor children. We found 24 mothers who worked on the street together with their children, while there were fewer fathers, i.e. 11 who were present while their children were working on the street). Of the total number of children registered at street focal points, intersections and city centre of the city 133.

c) Every child registered in the streets of the Sarajevo Canton has been sent to the premises of the Child Care Services in the state of emergency through the field. Directly with parental consent and respecting the principle of volunteering, 7 children were brought by members of the Mobile Prevention Team (from the number of 5 boys and 2 girls).

d) There are 5 children (1 girl and 4 boys) in the Home without parental care.

e) There are 2 children (2 girls) in the safe house.

f) 11 children were taken to the Social Services Department.

g) During the period from January 2016 to December 2016, 24 emergency interventions were performed. Emergency interventions are related to cases of child trafficking, placement of children in institutions, provision of urgent assistance and assistance, finding locations and gathering evidence related to the suspect.

Based on the data presented by the Mobile Team of the Sarajevo Cantonal Social Work Centre and data submitted by competent police agencies and competent Prosecutors' Offices, there is considerable disparity in the number of identified potential and actual identified victims of trafficking. From these data it can be concluded that the competent police agencies and the competent prosecutors' offices are still not engaged in investigating the criminal offenses of trafficking in children who are staying and working in the street and that special attention should be paid in the forthcoming period to the problem

### **3.2 Criminal prosecution of trafficking in human beings and related criminal offences**

According to the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Prosecutor's Offices of Bosnia and Herzegovina received 27 complaints/ reports against 48 persons for the crimes of trafficking in human beings and criminal offenses related to trafficking in human beings in 2016. The Prosecutor's Offices ordered 7 investigations against 33 people. During the reporting period, the Prosecutor's Offices issued a decision to suspend the investigation in 2 cases against 3 persons and filed 5 criminal charges against 25 persons. In 2016, the courts rendered 4 convicting verdicts against 10 persons, out of which 4 prison sentences against 7 persons and 1 conditional sentence was imposed against 3 persons. There was also 1 one acquittal for 1 person.

For the criminal offence of trafficking in human beings from Article 186 of the Criminal Code of BiH, the Prosecutor's Office of Bosnia and Herzegovina received 13 complaints/reports against 21 persons and ordered 2 investigations against 1 person and filed criminal charges against 1 person. The Prosecutor's Office issued an order of suspension of 4 investigations against 12 persons. According to Article 187 of the BiH Criminal Code referring to international recruitment for prostitution, the Prosecutor's Office issued 1 order of suspension of investigation against 3 persons. In the reporting period, there were no pronounced prison sentences by the Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Pursuant to Article 250 of the BiH, CC in conjunction with Articles 186 and 187 of the BiH CC, the Prosecutor's Office of Bosnia and Herzegovina received 3 complaints against 7 persons and issued an order to conduct 1 investigation against 6 persons.

In the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, for the criminal offence "Incitement to Prostitution" from Article 210 of the FBiH CC, the Prosecutor's Offices received 11 complaints/reports against 29 persons and issued orders for 4 investigations against 24 persons, while 1 investigation against 2 persons was suspended; 5 criminal charges were filed against 25 persons. For the criminal offences covered by Chapter XIX of the Criminal Code of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2 convicting verdicts were rendered against 6 persons.

In Republika Srpska, the Prosecutor's Offices received 6 complaints/reports against 15 persons, ordered 1 investigation against 2 persons for the criminal offence from Articles 198a and 198b of the RS CC. There were no orders for suspension of investigations.

For the criminal offence of trafficking in human beings from Article 207a, 2 convicting verdicts against 2 persons, and one acquittal of 1 person were pronounced in the Brčko District of BiH.

#### ***4. Activities of competent authorities, civil society organisations and international partners***

##### ***Coordination and funding the activities on prevention and combating trafficking in human beings in Bosnia and Herzegovina***

#### **4.1 Coordination of activities**

Taking into account the competencies and roles of institutions on all levels of government in BiH, and the NGOs which are active in the fight against THB, with the aim to further develop institutional capacities for the implementation of the legal framework and for providing adequate assistance and protection to THB victims, and in accordance with Article 22 of the Rules on the Protection of victims and witnesses of victims of trafficking in human

beings citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ministry of Security BiH has established regional monitoring teams in Sarajevo, Mostar, Banja Luka and Tuzla. The regional monitoring teams operate in accordance with principles and common standards of work which refer to the procedure of identification, organisation of protection and assistance, primary and secondary prevention and other activities concerning the protection and the help to THB victims and witnesses of THB victims in BiH, which are defined in the *Rules on the protection of victims and witnesses of victims of trafficking in human beings of Bosnia and Herzegovina* and the *Rulebook on the protection of alien victims of trafficking in human beings*. During the reporting period, the regional monitoring teams Sarajevo, Mostar, Banja Luka and Tuzla, participated in regular activities, i.e. in meetings which were held periodically on the initiative of the Ministry of Security, i.e. the Department for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, and in monthly meetings which were initiated and organised by the appointed representatives of regional offices of the State Investigation and Protection Agency of BiH, which are responsible for the operations of these teams. In addition to information on the strategic activities, other information was exchanged during these meetings, such as the monitoring of trends and the state of play in the field of combating activities against THB. Just as in the previous period, the activities of the regional monitoring teams Sarajevo, Mostar, Banja Luka and Tuzla, received financial support from the Ministry of Security of BiH and OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## **4.2 Funding activities**

At the proposal of the Ministry of Security, the BiH Council of Ministers at its 42nd session held on 04.02.2016, issued a Decision on allocation of funds to non-profit organizations for accommodation and legal assistance to foreign victims of trafficking in human beings for 2015. The funds have been allocated to non-governmental organizations, signatories to the Protocol on Cooperation and Ensuring Adequate and Safe Accommodation for Foreign Victims of Trafficking in BiH and the Protocol on Providing Free Legal Assistance to Aliens Victims of Trafficking in Persons.

In the Law on the budget of the institutions and the international obligations of Bosnia and Herzegovina for 2016, the funds in the amount of KM 100,000 were approved within the budget of the Ministry of Security under the item of



Current Grants - Grants of Non-Profit Organizations - Accommodation and Legal Aid to Foreign Victims of Trafficking in Persons.

At its 77th session held on 13.10.2016, at the proposal of the Ministry of Security, the Council of Ministers of BiH adopted a Decision on criteria for the selection of one or more non-governmental organizations to be allocated funds from the current grant "Accommodation and Legal Aid to Foreign Victims of Trafficking in Persons" by 2016. Upon the adoption of the Decision, the Ministry of Security issued the public calls to select one or more non-governmental organizations dealing with "Accommodation to Foreign Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings" and "Legal Aid to Foreign Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings". The Public calls were published in three daily newspapers and on the BiH Ministry of Security website. **The Commission, composed of the representatives of the BiH Ministry of Security - Sector for International Cooperation and European Integration / Department for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Service for Foreigner's Affairs, SIPA, Sector for Legal, Personnel, General and Financial-Material Affairs and Sector for Immigration, conducted a review and evaluation of the NGOs' applications submitted upon public announcements.**

The Ministry of Security of BiH and non-governmental organizations "Medica" Zenica and the Association "Humanitarian Organization of the International Solidarity Forum - EMMAUS" Doboj Istok concluded the Protocols on cooperation and provision of accommodation for foreign victims of trafficking in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Protocols were effective until 31.12.2016.

The Ministry of Security of BiH and Non-Governmental Organization the association "Your Rights of Bosnia and Herzegovina" Sarajevo concluded the Protocol on Cooperation and Provision of Free Legal Aid to Foreign Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which was effective until 31.12.2016.

For several years now, the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina provides in its budget a grant for victims of trafficking. Based on public calls, the funds were allocated to non-governmental organizations

providing direct support to victims of trafficking. In 2016, the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of BiH provided a budget grant of 60,000 BAM for victims of trafficking in persons who are citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Accordingly, a Decision on grant criteria for non-governmental organizations providing direct assistance to victims of trafficking in BiH for 2016 has been drawn up and adopted by the Council of Ministers of BiH on 21.07.2016 ("Official Gazette of BiH", No. 80/16). Based on the Decision, a Commission for the Selection of Grant Beneficiaries - Non-Governmental Organizations providing direct assistance to victims of trafficking who are citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina for 2016, composed of representatives from the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of BiH, the Ministry of Security of BiH and the Prosecutor's Office of BiH. The public call was announced on 04.11.2016 and open for 21 days. After the public call was closed, the Committee held a meeting and proposed two non-governmental organisations for the grant allocation in the amount of 60,000.00 BAM. Based on the proposal of the Commission, a Grant Allocation Decision was adopted by the Council of Ministers of BiH on 29.12.2016. The Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of BiH and "Medica" Zenica, and the International Solidarity Forum - EMMAUS (MFS - EMMAUS) signed a Cooperation Agreement on 30.12.2016.

The grant beneficiaries accepted to spend the available funds of the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of BiH on direct assistance and protection of THB victims who are citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and sustainability of the safe houses.

## ***5. Legislative framework***

### **5.1 Legal framework**

The amendments to the FBiH Criminal Code that introduce the Article 210a referring to trafficking in human beings and Article 210b referring to organized trafficking in human beings have been adopted in June 2016. The penalties provided for by the FBiH Criminal Code for the criminal offense of trafficking in persons range from 6 months to long-term imprisonment. With the introduction of these Articles in the Criminal Code of BiH, the process of amending and supplementing all criminal laws in Bosnia and Herzegovina has been completed: the trafficking in persons is now prescribed by the state and entity laws as well as by the law of the Brcko District of BiH. It is important to note that

all the BiH laws dealing with human trafficking are now fully aligned with the international recommendations and standards. It is important to note that the aforementioned amendments to the FBiH Criminal Code resulted from the increased efforts made by the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina in advocating for the criminalization of trafficking in human beings in the FBiH Criminal Code.

The Draft Law on Assistance and Compensation of Victims of Human Trafficking in BiH was prepared within the project Balkans ACT (Against Crime of Trafficking)" project Now!, in cooperation with the Ministry of Security of BiH, the State Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and MFS-EMMAUS which is focused on engaging public awareness and lobbying government institutions to establish a state fund for compensation of victims of human trafficking and other violent crime. A working group of experts in the field of criminalistics and legal sciences was involved in its preparation. With the support of the Ministry of Security of BiH / Department for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, the draft law was addressed to the Ministry of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina thus initiating a process of passing a law.

## **5.2 Rulebook on Protection of Foreign Victims of Trafficking in Persons**

A new Rulebook on Protection of Foreign Victims of Trafficking in Persons, published in the "Official Gazette of BiH" No. 79/16 of 21 October 2016, was issued in 2016. The Rulebook is in compliance with the provisions of the Law on Aliens as well as international documents: Directive 2004/81 / EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on residence permit issued to third-country nationals who are victims of trafficking or assisted in their illegal immigration and cooperate with the competent authorities, Directive 2011/36 / EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 05.04.2011 on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Protection of Victims and the Council of Europe Convention Against Trafficking in Human Beings.

## **6. *International Cooperation***

### **6.1. State Coordinator Meetings**

In 2016, the International Centre for Migration Policy organized a meeting of national / state coordinators. A meeting of national coordinators for the fight against human trafficking in Central and South-Eastern Europe was held in Tirana (Albania) on 12.05.2016. The coordinators had the opportunity to discuss current and future challenges in the fight against trafficking, in particular the impact of the current refugee crisis on trafficking and the exploitation of separate and unaccompanied children in this region. The coordinators emphasized good practices and current initiatives to combat trafficking, assessed opportunities for future transnational cooperation and developed the appropriate recommendations. The Albanian Ministry of Interior hosted a meeting while the meeting was jointly organized by the ICMPD (as the Secretariat) and OSCE Mission in Albania.

The OSCE Mission supported the participation of the Head of Anti-Trafficking Unit at the meeting of the State Coordinators for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings of the Western Balkans, as well as the beginning of the work of the OSCE Special Representative Office and Coordinator's Office project entitled "Combatting human trafficking along migration routes ". The objectives of the project are to better identify and assist victims, as well as to improve the response of the criminal justice system when dealing with traffickers exploiting vulnerable groups of mixed migratory flows. The meeting was held on 16.06.2016 in Vicenza, Italy.

## **6.2 Conference on the prevention of trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labour exploitation**

The OSCE Mission supported the participation of the State Coordinator and Human Rights Ombudsman at the Conference on Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings for the purpose of labour exploitation in supply chains in Berlin. The purpose of the Conference was to promote the implementation of UN's UN Business and Human Rights Guidelines and Sustainable Development Goals, and try to present best practices in eradicating human trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation and forced labour within global supply chains. The conference also marked the official launch of an out-of-budget project called "Prevention of Trafficking in Supply Chains

through Practice and Measures of Authorities" conducted by the OSCE Anti-Trafficking Office. The overall objective of the project is to provide OSCE member states with practical tools for adopting concrete measures to combat human trafficking in supply chains and building their capacities to implement these measures, thereby protecting human rights through good governance.

In addition, the Mission assisted the representatives of the BiH governmental and non-governmental sector to participate in two regional workshops devoted to cross-border cooperation in dealing with trafficking in human beings and criminal offenses related to illegal migration.

### **6.3 Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings - GRETA**

From 6 June to 10 June 2016, GRETA held meetings with all actors dealing with the fight against human trafficking in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in accordance with Article 36 (1) of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking, conducted an assessment of the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. GRETA is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on the Suppression of Trafficking in Human Beings and publishes regularly reports on assessing the measures taken by the country in the field.

In September 2015, in the second round of evaluation, GRETA submitted a questionnaire to Bosnia and Herzegovina to which the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republika Srpska and Brcko District BiH submitted their responses. The questionnaire with united answers was submitted to the Council of Europe in January 2016.

Pursuant to Article 38 (4) of the Convention, GRETA has the possibility to organize visits to member states and accordingly it was requested to meet with representatives of the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as with non-governmental organizations dealing with the fight against trafficking in human beings.

### **6.4 TAIEX workshop entitled "Detecting, Collecting and Processing Information regarding Criminal Offence of Trafficking in Human Beings ", Sarajevo, 14th and 15th December 2016**

The Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in co-operation with the European Commission's Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument (TAIEX), organized a workshop titled "Detecting, collecting and processing information regarding criminal offence of trafficking in human beings" held in Sarajevo 14 and 15 December 2016.

The focus of the workshop was on detecting trafficking in human beings, and collecting and processing of relevant information. Also, the focus was on the protection of potential victims of trafficking at the stage of the investigation, as well as all other relevant activities that could lead to increased indictments related to this type of crime. During the workshop, participants were given the opportunity to present the problems they face in practice as well as to mutually exchange experiences. Also, the direct contacts between the workshop participants opened opportunities for potential new forms of cooperation in the field.

## **7. Project activities in cooperation with civil society organisations and other partners**

### **7.1 Project "Increasing the Expertise of Judicial Institutions on Trafficking in Human Beings in Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina"**

During the implementation of the project "Increasing the Expertise of Judicial Institutions on Human Trafficking in Albania and BiH: Treatment of Victims and Victims of Trafficking in Human Trafficking", three educational activities were conducted in co-operation with the Helsinki Committee of the Netherlands, the Netherlands Judicial Academy and the Judicial and Prosecutorial Training Centres of FBiH and RS, in March, May and December 2016 for 106 participants, as a continuation of capacity building activities of judicial employees. The educational activities were focused on current topics related to the rights of victims of trafficking: "Interviewing Techniques of Victims / Witnesses, including Child Interview," "Compensation for Victims of Trafficking" and "Trafficking in Human Beings for Labour Exploitation" (this seminar was conducted in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to BiH).

## **7.2 Project "Balkans ACT (Against Crime of Trafficking) Now!"**

Within the framework of the regional project "Balkans ACT (Against Crime of Trafficking) Now!", and in partnership with civil society organizations: ASTRA - Anti-Trafficking (Republic of Serbia), Otvorena porta (Open Gate) - La Strada (BJR Macedonia) For Women's Rights (Montenegro) and La Strada International from the Netherlands, MFS-EMMAUS conducted a regional conference "Protection of victims of trafficking in human beings - an approach based on the rights of victims in practice", in a small hall of the National Assembly of Serbia on 1 and 2 June 2016. The conference was organized to present the practices of four Western Balkan countries when it comes to access to the right to compensation for victims of trafficking in human beings. In addition, the results of the analysis of verdicts pronounced for the criminal offense of trafficking in human beings in Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Macedonia in 2015, as well as the results of monitoring of the national policies and practices in combating trafficking in human beings, based on specially designed methodology and indicators that allow an objective insight into / analysis of the mentioned areas, were also presented at the conference.

## **7.3 Prevention of Child Abuse through Information and Communication Technologies**

During 2016, in the field of protection of children from abuse through information and communication technologies (IKT), MFS-EMMAUS continued its activities on administering and promoting the interactive web portal [www.sigurnodijete.ba](http://www.sigurnodijete.ba), and enabled the continuous operation of a SOS hotline for reporting cases of child abuse and exploitation. Since 2010, MFS-EMMAUS has recorded over 500 reports, which shows the importance and usefulness of the web portal. All relevant reports were forwarded to the competent law enforcement agencies of the Entities for further handling and were updated in the INHOPE data base, which has the possibility to send feedback to the person who filed the report. Furthermore, intensive activities in the INHOPE association were continued, with MFS-EMMAUS becoming its full member, and the manager of the MFS-

EMMAUS internet SOS hotline presides over this international association, within which 51 internet SOS hotlines from more than 45 states from around the world act together in order to create a safer IKT surrounding for children. It is important to point out that the continuous operation of the SOS line since 2013 is based entirely on MFS-EMMAUS funds, without any support from state institutions or donators, except a period of two months, November – December 2016, when the administration and management of the SOS hotline was supported with funds from the Federal Ministry of Education and Science, as well as a 7 months period (June-December 2016) when the administration and management of the SOS hotline was supported with funds of Save the Children. A significant progress in the fight against child abuse is the membership of MFS-EMMAUS in the ECPAT network – a global network of civil society organisations dedicated to the fight against sexual exploitation of children and other forms of abuse.

As part of the project "Prevention of Child Abuse and Exploitation through Information and Communication Technologies", five educational workshops for children, young people, parents and teachers in elementary and secondary schools were conducted with the support of the Federal Ministry of Education and Science, in December 2016. The workshops were held in two primary schools (Primary School "Suljo Čilić - Jablanica and Primary School" Ćamil Sijarić "- Nemila) and in three high schools (Secondary Technical School of Travnik, Secondary School" Silviije Strahimir Kranjčević "- Livno, School Center of Fra Martina Nedić - Orašje), involving 116 pupils and 60 other participants (parents, teachers and other teaching staff). During the educational workshops, children, young people, parents and teachers have been informed on the website [www.sigurnodijete.ba](http://www.sigurnodijete.ba) and [www.e-school.sigurnodijete.ba](http://www.e-school.sigurnodijete.ba), as well as the SOS line for online abuse and exploitation of children in BiH.

As a member of the SID Committee of BiH (Safer Internet Day) and under the motto „Play your part for a better Internet", and in cooperation with the BiH Ministry of Security, the MFS-EMMAUS marked the Safer Internet Day on February 9, 2016. The cooperation with the NGO Center for Missing and Exploited Children (CNZD) from Osijek, Croatia has been achieved once again through the creation of a special website ([www.dansigurnijeginterneta.org](http://www.dansigurnijeginterneta.org)) and applications for online competition for elementary school age children on the topic of security on the internet. Throughout the contest, the interactive map available on the web site showed data on the number of children and cities of the participants of a quiz. There were 5237 BiH children



taking part in a competition, generating a significant success of SID Committee of BiH in animating children for participation in the competition. On 25 February 2016, on the occasion of the closing event of the Safer Internet Day, the MFS-EMMAUS organized a ceremony of awarding prizes to the winners of the quiz, in cooperation with partners from the SID of the BiH Committee, in the Primary School "Isa-beg Ishaković, Sarajevo, in the presence of all award-winning pupils / winners of competitions, their parents, schoolmates, representatives of relevant ministries, educational-pedagogical institutes and sponsors.

#### **7.4 European Resource Centre**

Within the framework of the European Resource Center for the Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings and other forms of exploitation, MFS-EMMAUS continued to provide useful and up-to-date information to all interested actors via the Human Trafficking Web Site [www.eurcenter.net](http://www.eurcenter.net) during 2016. As part of the Resource Centre's activity, the electronic library has been supplemented with new content, research and publications published in 2016, and the seventh edition of a specialized electronic newsletter has been prepared and distributed to over 500 addresses via email to provide useful and up-to-date information to EMMAUS communities and to all actors interested in the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings and related forms of exploitation.

#### **7.5 Activities of the OSCE Mission**

The capacity building activities represented a significant part of the Mission's work over the past year. Between 22 and 26 February 2016, the Mission has organized five roundtables on development of judicial practice related to trafficking in human beings in Bosnia and Herzegovina: in Banja Luka on February 22; in Tuzla on February 23; in Sarajevo on February 24; in Mostar on February 25 and in Bihac on February 26. More than 80 participants were involved, including representatives of the Court of BiH, the Prosecutor's Office of BiH, courts and prosecutors at the entity level, as well as representatives of the law enforcement agencies, social work

centres and non-governmental organizations. The participants were presented and distributed a publication called "Summary of Judicial Practice concerning the Human Trafficking." These roundtables were also used as a platform for open and constructive discussion of all actors involved in the fight against human trafficking, in particular regarding identification, prosecution and conviction in human trafficking cases in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Mission also co-operated with training centers for judges and prosecutors (CEST) in organizing and conducting the training. Specifically, on 26 April 2016, the Mission organized training for judges and prosecutors on trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labour exploitation and forced criminality, in cooperation with the CEST of Republika Srpska. In cooperation with CEST of the Federation of BiH, the Mission organized a training for judges and prosecutors on the topic of the best practices and problems encountered in prosecuting and tackling the trafficking in human beings, held on 19th October 2016. The trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labour exploitation was also a topic of the seminar held on 5 December 2016, organized in cooperation with CEST FBiH, the International Solidarity Forum Emmaus and the Dutch Helsinki Committee.

In May 2016, in co-operation with the International Solidarity Forum Emmaus, the training was organized for the holders of judicial functions in Konjic. The subject of the training was the submission of the property claim proposal and support to victims of trafficking before and during the main trial. Also, the Mission was a co-organizer of a three-day workshop on hearing a child victim of trafficking in human beings held at the Annual Conference of Prosecutors in Neum in September 2016.

In November 2016, the Mission, in co-operation with the CPRC, organized two two-day workshops on human trafficking for labour inspectors from all over Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The mission provided a technical and logistical support for the purpose of re-deploying four regional monitoring teams (RMTs) and in that sense participated in the organization of meetings of regional teams in Tuzla and Mostar.

With the aim of raising public awareness of trafficking in human beings and victims' rights as well as pointing to available tools to more effectively combat the trafficking of human beings by state bodies, the Mission has organized a campaign through social media on the official Facebook and Twitter profiles of the OSCE Mission to

BiH, from 28 to 30 July 2016 in order to mark the World Day of Combating Human Trafficking. More than 14,000 people have seen nine posts posted on Facebook. A similar campaign was organized on the occasion of marking the European Day for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings on 18 October 2016.

The Mission organized lectures on human trafficking for law students in Tuzla, in March 2016, and for students of the Human Rights Clinic in Mostar in December 2016. The students were given a lecture on the internationally agreed definition of trafficking in human beings and its essential elements, as well as on an institutional and timely framework for combating trafficking in human beings.

## **7.6 Project "Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Organized Crime" PHASE 2**

The project is being implemented under the EU Instrument Contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP). Relying on successes and results of the project Fight Against Trafficking in Human Beings and Organized Crime - Phase 1, conducted in Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova and Turkey from January 2013 until September 2014, this project aims to contribute to the prevention of transnational organized crime and especially trafficking in persons by involving countries participating in the project with legal and technical expertise and knowledge in policy-making areas.

The objectives of the project are : improving the identification of victims of trafficking in human beings, protection and support through the strengthening of national and transnational referral mechanisms; increased prosecution through the promotion of national and transnational co-operation of law enforcement agencies as well as strengthening the capacity of law enforcement agencies, judiciary and non-governmental organizations to effectively fight trafficking in human beings, upgraded co-ordination and co-operation between key actors through improved partnership between the EU and non-EU actors.

The project activities implemented in 2016: The project includes the following three components:

Component 1: Providing support for the establishment or improvement of victim-centred referral mechanisms

1. Analysis of the National Referral Mechanism in Bosnia and Herzegovina

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The International Center for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) hired an international expert (Mrs. Liliana Sorrentino) to assess the national / transnational referral mechanism in BH, in November 2015. The expert prepared an assessment of the current referral mechanism including the capacity of the competent institutions in BiH to refer the victims of trafficking , available assistance services as well as assessment of the legal framework and practice in the national referral mechanism. The survey includes an assessment of the existing mechanisms and a series of recommendations for the system enhancement. The survey and recommendations were presented at a workshop held in July 2016. The analysis text is available at: <https://www.fightagainsttrafficking.org/news/99-bosnia-and-herzegovina-assessment-of-the-national-referral-mechanism-in-bih-published>. 2.

## 2. Workshop on Promoting the National Referral Mechanism, 13 July 2016, Sarajevo

A workshop on improving the National Referral Mechanism was held in Sarajevo on July 13, 2016. On that occasion, the key findings and recommendations were presented based on analysis of the National Referral Mechanism for victims of trafficking in persons in BiH . The workshop was attended by representatives of relevant governmental, non-governmental and international organizations in BiH as key actors in the fight against trafficking in human beings in BiH. The workshop attendees had the opportunity to discuss the problems of identification, support, access to justice, return and repatriation of victims of trafficking. As a result of the workshop, the participants agreed and made recommendations for the next steps in improving the referral mechanism for victims of trafficking in BiH.

## 3. Developing a common set of indicators for the identification of victims of trafficking in human beings

The ICMPD hired an international expert (Mrs. Liliana Sorrentino) to draft a common set of indicators for the identification of victims of trafficking in human beings. Creating a set of indicators is one of the recommendations from the National Referral Mechanism Analysis. The indicators will be based on international standards and practices and will deal with various forms of exploitation. Particular attention will be devoted to

the development of a practical tool for recognizing victims of trafficking. The set of indicators will be presented within the framework of the Regional Monitoring Team (RMT) and a consultation process will be carried out with the relevant institutions in order to adapt the indicators to the local context and to ensure the use of indicators after the project is completed.

#### 4. Internal procedures for communication and coordination of regional monitoring teams

The ICMPD hired a national expert (Mrs. Nina Karađinović) to develop the communication and the coordination procedures between the regional monitoring teams in BiH as one of the recommendations from the Referral Mechanism Analysis. The main purpose of the development of internal procedures is to improve horizontal and vertical communication and coordination between the local trafficking mechanisms for trafficking victims.

The procedures developed will be presented and discussed in smaller teams and a wider consultation process will be organized based upon need.

#### 5. Transnational Training Seminar: National Referral Mechanism (6-7 December 2016, Tirana, Albania)

Within Component 1, a transnational training seminar was held in Tirana, attended by representatives of relevant institutions and organizations from BiH (prosecutors, law enforcement agencies, NGOs, social work centres). The seminar brought together relevant actors in the fight against human trafficking from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Moldova, as well as experts from Great Britain, Serbia and Macedonia to facilitate exchanges of experience and good practices regarding the protection of victims of trafficking. The focus of the seminar was to compare the progress and experience in the three countries with regard to the functioning of the national and transnational referral mechanism, the standard operational procedures in their implementation with a special focus on the identification of children victims of begging / living on the streets and through mixed migration flows.

Component 2: Capacity building on data collection on human trafficking, analysis and information management

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## 1. Training materials at police academies in BiH

As a continuation of the activities related to the institutionalization of human trafficking training at the police academies in BiH, within the framework of Phase 2 of this project, the training material was provided for the police academies teaching staff, in order to increase the teaching efficiency by adopting a modified curriculum related to trafficking in persons. The following manuals were submitted to the BiH police academies teaching staff:

- Trafficking in human beings-Manual for Advanced Training of Police Officers for the Rank of Junior Inspectors in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Trafficking in human beings-Manual for Advanced Criminal Police Training in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Trafficking in human beings-Manual for Basic Police Training in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Manual for Training of Law Enforcement Officers- Human Trafficking - How to conduct an investigation?

Training materials for law enforcement officers

Component 3: Transnational Partnership: Platform for Enhanced Co-ordination, Co-operation and Police Coherence:

### 1. Transnational Workshop (Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Netherlands), The Hague, The Netherlands

Within Component 3, a bilateral Transnational Workshop (Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Netherlands) was held in The Hague, 21 - 25.11.2016. The BiH delegation (Ministry of Security of BiH, Prosecutor's Office of BiH, Border Police of BiH, SIPA, NGO, and Service for Foreigner's Affairs) had the opportunity to get acquainted with

the work of EUROJUST, EUROPOL, Labour Inspectorate, the Dutch National Rapporteur on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and other competent institutions for combating human trafficking in the Netherlands. The main objective of the transnational workshop is to exchange experiences and good practices and to improve coordination, cooperation and coherent policies in the fight against trafficking in human beings.

### **7.7 Project "Act now! Help us fight the trafficking in human beings! "**

In 2016, the association "Novi put" (New Way) achieved the project "Act now! Help us fight the trafficking in human beings!" within the U.S. Embassy Small Grants Program. During the reporting period, the Association "Novi put" carried out a continuous distribution of information materials that were designed and printed for the needs of the project during the street campaigns in the region of the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton, the Western Herzegovina Canton and the southern part of Republika Srpska. Approximately 22,800 pieces of promotional material (leaflets - containing information on human trafficking risks, ways of recruiting, stages in the trade process and the latest statistics on trafficking in human beings, pencils, labels, markers, bracelets, lighters, key rings) were distributed to approximately 15, 000 people in urban and rural areas of the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton, the West Herzegovina Canton and the southern part of Republika Srpska. About 250 posters were placed in visible locations in these areas. It is assumed that about 65,000 indirect users were covered.

In addition to the public, the materials were distributed to the relevant anti-trafficking agencies. While distributing the information materials in the area of Mostar City and Čapljina, the members of the Association team noticed a large number of advertisements asking for an "escort girls" to work in Germany with a guaranteed monthly salary of 3,500 to 5,000 euros and providing accommodation and nutrition.

With a view to alerting the potential victims and the general public to the false advertisements for employment abroad, "Novi put" issued a public announcement to reduce the number of victims of sexual exploitation, in January 2016. In addition to the aforementioned, the project activities were focused on raising awareness of the groups vulnerable to human trafficking such as young, unemployed, Roma and the wider public on fraudulent advertisements for well-paid jobs abroad, safe migration, sex and labour exploitation, and the

problem of forced beggars among the general population. Most of the Roma population in Mostar, especially children, are forced to beg. During the summer months, they move to the Old Town area where they begged for money the foreign tourists who were not familiar with the trend of forced beggars in BiH. The citizens are informed of this problem. One of the project activities was to empower Roma children and their parents to raise awareness of the forced begging related problem. In direct work with children, it was noted that the children were feared and reluctant to any conversation. The vast majority of these children were not included in the regular educational process and were taken to the Old Town area of Mostar where they were engaged in begging on a daily basis. The available information on safe migration, work abroad and trafficking in human beings have been provided through the telephone and Internet helpline. 122 job inquiries were received in the country and abroad during the reporting period. The Association of Prevention and Education Officers organized 46 lectures for 827 students and 140 teachers and parents in primary and secondary schools in HNK and ZHK. During the lectures, it was noted that the pupils, especially the female pupils, were exposed to the risk of abuse through the Internet, especially Facebook and twitter, due to the very low awareness of the problem of child pornography and paedophilia. While implementing this activity the Team for Education and Prevention of the Association found out that many girls were already subjected to blackmails and threats via the Internet after they uploaded their photos of more explicit content to their Facebook and twitter friends. During the reporting period, three roundtables were organized for the Regional Monitoring Team of Mostar (RMT). Each RMT was attended by 23 members representing relevant anti-trafficking institutions (Ministry of Security of BiH - Anti-Trafficking Department and Foreign Affairs Department, SIPA, Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of BiH, Federal Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of the Interior, Centers for Social Work, Pedagogical Institutes, Border Police, NGOs). The main topics of the RMT were labor exploitation, forcible begging, sexual exploitation of minors, suspicious job adverts abroad, the issue of juvenile marriages involving the Roma population. The "New Way" Association organized a panel discussion on the occasion of marking on October 18th - the European Day of Trafficking in Human Beings on "Human Trafficking in BiH - Causes and Consequences", which aimed to exchange information and experiences on trafficking and harmonize activities To reduce the number of potential and actual victims of this problem.

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The representatives of the relevant institutions, such as the Service for Foreigner's Affairs , the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Welfare, SIPA-RA Mostar, the HNM MUP, the Mostar Social Work Centre, the SOS Family Centre, the Red Cross, the OSCE Mostar as well as representatives of elementary schools and NGOs participated in discussion. All participants agreed that the problem of trafficking was present, while some of its forms were significantly expressed, such as forcible begging, especially in the City of Mostar, and child abuse via the Internet. Given the current trend where the young people are going abroad to find jobs and the presence of advertisements offering various suspicious jobs, there is a high likelihood that some of the young people who have accepted such jobs have become victims of sexual or labour exploitation. It is worrying that such advertisements are published in an undisturbed manner and remain visible for a long time.

The representatives of elementary schools have pointed out that they face child abuse cases via the Internet on a daily basis, and in most cases the parents are either unaware of how their children spend their time on the Internet or do not know how to deal with consequences. It is alarming that the age is lowered so that there are cases of abusing elementary school pupils. All participants agreed that it is necessary to maintain a lecture for parents and children, with the aim of preventing such cases and further escalation.

It is also noted that the awareness of the problem of trafficking in human beings is still very low, enabling the recruitment of new victims of sexual and labour exploitation both in BiH and beyond.

Given the relevance of the problem, this project has involved a significant media interest. The Association "Novi put" (New Way) provided 97 interviews for many electronic and print media from BiH, but also from the region (**BHT1, FTV, City TV, AlJazeera Balkans, FENA, Dnevni avaz, Dnevni list, Večernji list, Radio Slobodna Evropa, BH radio , Federalni radio, etc.**).

## **7.8. Project of Labour Inspectors Inclusion in the Referral Mechanism for Combating Human Trafficking - CPRC**

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Bosnia and Herzegovina is faced with the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as a country of origin, transit and destination. The statistics on detected cases of trafficking in human beings and rescued victims indicate that the BiH children belong to the most vulnerable group that traders find and exploit. According to the latest U.S. Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report (TIP), Bosnia and Herzegovina does not fully meet the minimum standards for combating trafficking in human beings. The efforts of the state of BiH to protect victims of trafficking are particularly reduced when it comes to the identification of victims of trafficking (TIP Report), which directly affects the small number of prosecuted cases of trafficking in human beings. Also, BiH is currently on Tier 2 Watch List when it comes to an effective fight against human trafficking. In line with the recommendations of the Council of Europe Committee for the Monitoring and Implementation of the European Convention on Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA), it is necessary to strengthen the referral mechanism with all staff members who can identify potential victims of trafficking, such as labour inspectors. Also, this project was created in accordance with the BiH Strategy for Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings and the Action Plan for 2013-2015, while also following the recommendations of the Action Plan recommended by the US State Department. The aforementioned recommendations focus on the strengthening and institutionalization of the national regional monitoring teams for the fight against human trafficking (RMT), as well as other entities providing assistance to victims of human trafficking in BiH.

In this regard, the CPRC has recognized the lack of cooperation between the State Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Illegal Migration (State Coordinator) and representatives of the three Labour Inspectorates (FBiH, RS and BD BiH) when it comes to identification of potential victims of human trafficking and has created a "[Handbook for Labour Inspectors - Detection and Identification of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings for Work Exploitation](#)" (Handbook). Furthermore, the project has improved the referral system through organizing training for labour inspectors from all regions of BiH.

Although significant steps have already been taken, the immediate challenge is to establish a systematic and long-term sustainable approach to successful fight against trafficking in human beings. It is imperative to continuously raise awareness about human trafficking and promote concrete actions in identifying and reporting potential trafficking cases with a particular focus on labour inspectors.

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The project "**Inclusion of Labour Inspectors in the Referral Mechanism for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings**" is intended to strengthen the co-operation between the CPRC, the BiH Ministry of Security State Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, and the Labour Inspectorate in FBiH, RS and BD BiH to improve the multi-sectoral approach in identifying and providing quality and comprehensive assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labour exploitation, which is financially supported by the US Embassy in BiH. The project activities are aimed at creating "**Handbook for Labour Inspectors in Detection and Identification of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings for Purpose of Labour Exploitation**" and implementing the training for professional staff from these institutions. This is a pilot project whose positive practices will be replicated for the remaining staff of labour inspectorates in BiH.

The main objective of the project is to improve a national anti-trafficking mechanism by involving labour inspectors in regional monitoring teams to facilitate co-operation and participation in identifying, supporting and protecting victims of trafficking and establishing cooperation between labour inspectors, NGOs and the State Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Illegal Migration.

Specific objectives of the project are:

- Establish new and improve existing procedures in identifying, assisting and providing protection to victims of trafficking and
- Increase the knowledge and skills of labour inspectors in identifying, assisting and providing protection for victims of trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation.

The project has built up a successful co-operation between the CPRC, the State Coordinator Office (Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina) and the Labour Inspectorate in FBiH, RS and BD BIH in order to improve the multi- sectoral approach and cooperation of the mentioned organizations and institutions in identifying victims of trafficking, i.e. reporting potential trafficking cases. All these organizations and institutions have jointly participated in the design of the Handbook to be used by the labour inspectors in the process of identifying and reporting potential human trafficking cases with special emphasis on labour exploitation. As a result of work of the Working Group a, the Handbook was adopted by the State Coordinator and relevant labour Inspectorates in BiH.

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In the first part of the project implementation the CPRC has established cooperation with the State Coordinator who coordinated the whole process of developing the Handbook. The labour Inspectorates of FBiH, RS and BD BiH have nominated members of the working group for the purpose of creating the Handbook. With the support of the State Coordinator, the CPRC organized four working group meetings whose members actively participated in the process of creating this document. The Handbook is designed to respond to the needs of field labour inspectors who are in a position to meet these phenomena on a daily basis and to report them promptly to the relevant judicial bodies. During this process, the need to involve the Labour Inspectorates in the Regional Monitoring Teams was confirmed.

Representatives of all these institutions and organizations jointly participated in the implementation of two (2) two-day training sessions held in Lukavac and Teslic in order to provide effective and stronger cooperation between all institutions and organizations in identifying and reporting human trafficking cases with focus on labour exploitation. In addition to the labour inspectors, the participants in these trainings were professionals from the Prosecutor's Offices, Social Work Centres and Police. As a result of the mentioned training, there was an increase in the knowledge of labour inspectors in the identification of potential victims of trafficking and the reporting of suspected situations based on the presented indicators. Following the evaluation of these educational workshops, the results show that more than 90% of the participants were satisfied with the organization of these events, facilitators and materials, as well as with the benefits gained through the implementation of the trainings. All training participants were informed about the Handbook and procedures of all subjects involved in the fight against human trafficking, including the prosecution of cases of trafficking in human beings and the assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings.

Finally, this project contributes to the strengthening of partnership between governmental and non-governmental organizations to prevent trafficking in human beings and provide assistance to victims of trafficking.

With the support of the OSCE, the CPRC organized 2 interactive trainings for the professionals from the Labour Inspectorate of the Federal Administration for Inspection Affairs, Republic Administration for Inspection Affairs, the Inspectorate of the Brcko District of BiH, as well as the Cantonal Inspectorate for Inspection Affairs. The aim of these trainings was to strengthen the compatibility and effectiveness of regional monitoring teams, i.e.

to include labour inspectors in these teams in order to strengthen the National Referral Mechanism in the Fight against Trafficking and Assistance for Trafficking in Persons in BiH. The Created Handbook was used as a base material for the implementation of these training sessions held in Lukavac and Teslic for a total of 85 participants. In addition to the labour inspectors, the aforementioned training was attended by the State Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Illegal Migration, competent prosecutors, police officers, and representatives of non-governmental organizations and social work centres.

### **7.9 SAVE THE CHILDREN IN THE REGION OF NORTH WEST BALKANS - Connected and confident - to meet the virtuous environment that is safe for children**

Using children for pornographic purposes is a global crime that is largely widespread on the Internet. It represents the most serious and widespread form of sexual exploitation and abuse of children and underage girls and boys by adults. Cyberspace harassment is not just a virtual. It also involves a real threat to the physical and mental security of all Internet users, especially children who are the most vulnerable groups. How much exploitation on the Internet can affect a child ranges from victims that are abused for shooting purposes involving exploitation of children for pornographic purposes on one side, to children using the Internet and therefore have access to such material and other similar content or platforms, on the other side. The children become victims of sexual violence through the production of this kind of material, and through each of its subsequent appearances; they are again victimized and traumatized, thus reducing the possibility of their psychological recovery and socialization.

Save the Children is the leading organization in solving the issue of child abuse on the Internet in the region. Our experience in this area has grown through a pilot project implemented in BiH in cooperation with the Ministry of Security of BiH. The same project was implemented in Serbia several years later with the aim of establishing a system of protection of boys and girls from abuse and exploitation on the Internet in both countries, which has resulted in:

- (1) Developing Compatible State Action Plans (DAPs) for the Protection of Children on the Internet;
  - (2) Establishing Internet Abuse Reporting Services;
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### (3) Targeted public awareness activities.

In cooperation with the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the activities have been undertaken in the implementation of certain components of DAP, including the development of a Road Map for establishing of an effective systems for combating sexual violence on the Internet and other forms of child abuse on the Internet, the implementation of a specialized program " Train the Trainers - TOT on the subject related to an effective conducting of investigations, the integration of Internet abuse prevention into an educational curriculum or a targeted public awareness campaign. There was a need to support Save the Children in terms of provision of financial resources for the implementation of these activities.

During 2016, the following activities were implemented:

- support and assistance in developing a Road Map for establishing effective systems for combating sexual violence on the Internet and other forms of child abuse, which will serve as a program to strengthen the fight against criminal offenses on the Internet:
- A detailed analysis of existing structures, mechanisms, system gaps and obstacles to the full implementation of existing strategies and relevant Action plans has been prepared and a broad consensus and commitment to the future direction of action has been prepared in relation to the safety of children on the Internet.
- A road Map draft proposal supported. It will represent a program to strengthen the fight against child pornography and improve the success of previous strategies and action plans to combat child abuse on the internet by identifying specific goals and priorities at all levels; to strengthen cooperation between government bodies, the private and civil sector as well as internationally,
- Development and piloting a curriculum for primary and secondary schools, including the Internet safety in selected regions, and piloting activities in the Tuzla Canton
- A survey on children's behaviour on the Internet, including the most common threats and risks, and how many parents / guardians know what their children are doing online and what are the potential threats, has been conducted across the country.
- A related training was organized for teaching staff of Tuzla Canton

This project aims to determine the further activities in BiH, in order to implement the activities on combating sexual violence and child abuse on the Internet and ensure the commitment of the authorities to continue with

these efforts. The implementation of the Road Map implies changes in law and public policies, which will last even after the completion of this project. This project will also contribute to long-lasting preventive efforts through the development and testing of a curriculum that can be adopted at the state level and will largely outlast the project. Additionally, the project will develop the necessary resources for a strong capacity building of professionals and thus enable effective combat against this phenomenon. All of the efforts outlined above will facilitate institutional stability and, more importantly, systematic and planned collection of funds by governmental institutions / ministries, which will result from their commitment.

### **7.10 Project ENVISION**

In cooperation with the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the following activities were implemented:

1. Developed guidelines for dealing with children involved in life and / or street work for professionals from regional monitoring teams (RMTs) for the prevention of trafficking in human beings.
2. Specific steps / interventions have been developed in the treatment of competent institutions and organizations in the regional monitoring teams in the situations of working with children involved in life and / or street work in Bosnia and Herzegovina
3. Developed and piloted training program for implementation of guidelines for dealing with children involved in life and / or street work for professionals from regional monitoring teams (RMTs)
4. The training program was piloted and two-day training was held for RMT Mostar professionals

### **7.11 Project "Child protection Hub"**

The Child Protection Hub project is a regional initiative that promotes the continuous improvement of child protection practices and policies in South East Europe through participative approach and shared experiences. This interactive platform brings together professionals dealing with child protection in Europe and beyond; it is a place where we share experiences and knowledge, learn from each other, offer and get support.

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The Regional Resource Centre for Child Protection / Child Protection Hub aims to develop a strong regional community of practices and innovations in Southeast Europe, among the decision makers who directly contribute to the development and provision of child protection services (experts, academics, decision-makers, beneficiaries). The project strategically articulates 3 types of interventions (knowledge management, capacity building and advocacy) around the regional network of experts and agencies that are supported on the online platform. The focus of this platform is to provide services and skills in dealing with situations of abuse and violence against children.

The Child Protection Hub provides networking and professional co-operation among participants in the countries of South East Europe. This will increase the opportunities for improving knowledge and skills and generating a continuous improvement process (through training, peer-to-peer exchange, online library or resources available in 5 languages). The Child Protection Hub also offers a platform for policy development and innovation. The target groups are (a) 1,000 experts, academics, policy makers from the region, and (b) a pool of 150 child protection specialists who will act as service and policy modernization activators. It is expected that more than 500,000 children and families will have positive effects from project implementation (as final beneficiaries).

The project is managed by the regional office Terre des Hommes in Budapest, in cooperation with partners from 8 countries of the region.

The Save the Children Office for the North-Western Balkans is the implementing partner for Bosnia and Herzegovina, in cooperation with the relevant resource persons, the representatives appointed on behalf of the relevant state and entity ministries, the representatives of the academic community and civil society organizations

In 2016, in co-operation with the BiH Ministry of Security, more specifically in cooperation with the resource person appointed on behalf of the Ministry of Security of BiH (Mrs Samira Huncek), the following activities were carried out:

- Participation in Train the Trainers training/ ToT (First session in November 2015; second session in January 2016) to improve training skills as well as knowledge on specific topics;
  - Preparation of a one-day training plan for professionals working with/for children;
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- Preparation and organization of online case discussion in our language (Topic: Child exploitation – in accordance with relevant legislation, a case of human trafficking is treated as abuse and neglect)
- Implementation of 4 presentations of the Child Protection Hub online platform for members of the Regional Monitoring Team for Human Trafficking / RMT (for a total of 62 experts, of whom 36 women and 26 men);
- Distribution of the Child Protection Hub flyer to the BiH professionals;
- Carrying out two one-day training sessions on the topic '*Multidisciplinary approach to work and prevention of inadequate forms of behaviour of children and young people*', for 40 professionals working with children and for children from both Entities (FBiH - USK, Sarajevo and Zenica-Doboj Canton, RS - Banja Luka, Istočno Sarajevo);
- Participation of SIPA representatives in the regional training in Budapest (December 2016), on the topic 'Multi-agency cooperation in the best interest of the children victims of sexual violence' was agreed.

### **7.12 Activities of the Ring network**

During the year 2016, the "Lara" Foundation was the coordinator of activities of the he RING Network, the BiH network against trafficking in human beings. The network consists of 11 organizations: Women's Association "Derventa"; Center for Legal Aid to Women of Zenica; Association of Roma Women "Better Future" Tuzla; Foundation "Lara" Bijeljina; Women's Association "Goraždanka" Goražde; Association of women "Maja" Kravica; Citizens Association "Budućnost" Modriča; Foundation of "Associated Women" Banja Luka; Association of Women "Bridge" Višegrad; Association "Žena BiH" Mostar and INFOTEKA Zenica.

During the year 2016 the following activities were implemented:

Over the last year, the members of the RING Network maintained a regional cooperation and exchange of experience with the Anti-Trafficking network systems in the region. On that occasion, a study visit to members of Anti-Trafficking Network from Serbia was conducted in two cities, Vrnjacka Banja and Belgrade.

During this visit, a meeting was held in Vrnjačka Banja with 5 representatives of AT network from three different organizations: the Center for Girls Niš (coordinating organization of the network), the SOS for Women and Children- Victims of Violence Vlasotince and the Independent Women's Center Dimitrovgrad.

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The second meeting was held with the ASTRA organization with which RING network has a successful cooperation for many years. The meeting held at ASTRA premises was attended by Marija Anđelković, President and Jovana Krotić, coordinator of SOS phones.

Drafting of the Law on Assistance and Compensation to Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings at the Republika Srpska and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

In 2016, a team was established to pre-draft the Law on Assistance and Compensation to Victims of Trafficking at the Republika Srpska and Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This team made a Draft Law for the Republika Srpska, which will be presented to all relevant institutions in the forthcoming period, while the drafting of legislation for the Federation of BiH is in the final phase.

In addition, there were also certain activities of importance for this law, namely: meeting with GRETA on 6 June 2016 in Sarajevo under the second round of evaluation and implementation of the Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Beings Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Meeting of the Working Group to Draft the Law on the Establishment of a Fund for Compensation to Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings at the State Level.

The Round Table "Widespread and Experiences in Detecting Cases of Human Trafficking in Republika Srpska and Brcko District"

The Round Table entitled "Widespread and Experiences in Detecting Cases of Human Trafficking in Republika Srpska and Brcko District" was held in March 2016 in Banja Luka.

The aim of the Round Table is to consider the effects of legal changes and the functioning of the protection of victims after the amendments of criminal laws in the Republika Srpska and Brcko District, in cooperation with key law enforcement institutions (police and prosecution).

The round table was attended by police, judicial and social work professionals as well as representatives of the "RING" network.

A working meeting "Opportunities to Develop Compensation Scheme for Trafficking in Persons in BiH"

A working meeting "Possibilities to Develop a Compensation Scheme for Trafficking in Persons in BiH" was held in May 2016 in Sarajevo.

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The aim of this meeting was to present the Pre-Draft Law on Assistance and Compensation to Victims of Human Trafficking in Republika Srpska, which was the result of the Initiative for the Establishment of a Victim Assistance Fund launched and run by the Network RING in 2013. The meeting was also an opportunity for other interested parties who are not from the RING Network to present their views on the Pre-Draft Law and exchange views on the importance of this topic for improving the position of victims of trafficking in human beings.

The Implementation of the monitoring over the work of institutions for the prevention of trafficking in persons, sanctioning of traffickers and providing assistance to victims

One of the key activities implemented through the project "Support to the activities of RING Network" is monitoring of the work of institutions for the prevention of trafficking in human beings, the sanctioning of traffickers and assistance to victims, and the writing of a report to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, in accordance with the Reporting Procedures CEDAW.

During the requested period, all information relevant to monitoring (state bodies and judiciary reports) was collected and monitoring tools were created. The monitoring of the courts in BiH is conducted by the Associated Women from Banja Luka, the Women's Legal Aid Center from Zenica, UG "Budućnost" from Modriča, the Women's Association of the Bridge from Visegrad and the "Lara" Foundation from Bijeljina.

### **7.13 Citizen's Association for the Promotion of Education of Roma "Otaharin (UGO)**

In 2016, the Citizen's Association for the Promotion of Education of Roma "Otaharin (UGO) has actively participated in the prevention / suppression of trafficking in human beings. The UGO has implemented two projects through which the activities aimed at preventing combating trafficking in human beings, were supported.

During the year, the UGO field employees identified thirty (30) children injured in begging (20 boys, 10 girls) when visiting the focal points (at least once a week) in Bijeljina. Also, sixteen (16) adults were identified and found in begging, out of which 3 male and 13 female.

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According to the Protocol on street actions to suppress beggary , signed between the relevant entities for the protection and care of children caught in begging, which includes cooperation with the Public Security Centre, the Centre for Social Work and the City Administration, the children caught in begging were brought to the Daily Centre for Children Living and / or Working on the street and who are at risk to become Otaharin, where they have been given a care (counselling with UGO expert, meal, shower, etc.). 15 children found in begging (10 boys and 5 girls) have been given a care by the Daily Center.

At the initiative of the Bijeljina Social Work Centre the Protocol is planned to be revised in 2017.

It is also important to emphasize the existence of working groups for the protection of the child's safety in Bijeljina, Živinice and Brcko District. The working group in Bijeljina exists since 2014, in Živinice since 2015 and in the Brcko District it was established in 2016.

The members of the working groups are representatives of all institutions / organizations relevant to the child's safety and fulfilment of the best interests of the child. Through the multidisciplinary approach, which is the basis for the functioning of the working groups, the complex cases of children who are at medium and high risk when it comes to their safety have been resolved. In 2016, the Bijeljina Child Protection Working Group worked on seven cases.

UG Otaharin also participated in marking the World and European Day of Combating Trafficking. The World and European Day against Trafficking in Persons was marked by street action, with the presence of the media, on 30 July. The street action was aimed at raising the awareness of the citizens about the dangers facing children who are engaged in begging. UGO's volunteers and field workers stick the posters and shared leaflets in the city centre and city cafes.

The European Day of Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, 18 October 2016, was marked by a series of activities in Bijeljina. Organized by the UGO, with the support of the BiH Ministry of Security and the Child Safety Working Group from Bijeljina, Brcko District and Živinice, these activities were also supported through the project *The street is only the way to get home-not home, secure a child rights*, funded by USAID within the framework of PPMG Project and Better Access to Social Services, funded by GIZmbH (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit).

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As part of the European Day of Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, the following activities have been organized: The Round Table (Theme: Trafficking in Human Beings), Street Action with the aim of raising awareness of citizens about the dangers of children involved in life and / or street work, sharing of promotional material and interesting performance on the city square.

The representatives from institutions of Bijeljina, with Deputy Ombudsman for the Children of Republika Srpska, Zlatoljubic Mišić, discussed what has been done to tackle trafficking in human beings so far. It has been pointed out that the problem of trafficking in human beings should be in the public focus, summing up the current situation and the institutions' interest in this problem as well as the capacity to deal with it.

Among the important results of the suppression of begging / suppressing human trafficking during 2016, we would particularly emphasize the inclusion in the school system of the two beneficiaries of UGO (E.DŽ, V.DŽ) who actively participate in begging from their birth, whose older brothers and sisters have never been included in the school system. The children continue to be proactive, and with continual efforts by UGO's expert team and field workers, they are included in the school system and despite the large number of absences, there is a high chance that children will successfully complete the first class (with additional supervision in the second half).

The older brother of the aforementioned beneficiaries (M.DŽ), a twelve-year-old who has been practically all-time practicing in the street since his birth, became one of the most important beneficiaries of the Day Centre, in September 2016. He attends the workshops twice a day.

This is our great achievement and we hope that we will make more and more results in 2017.

#### **7.14 Project: Marking the European Day of Combating Trafficking in Human Beings**

In line with the Strategic Documents and the Action Plan for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings 2016-2019, and the Program of Marking Significant Human Rights Issues in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the BiH Ministry of Security issued a public call for allocation of the grant funds from the Bosnia and Herzegovina budget for 2016, to co-finance the project marking the 18<sup>th</sup> of October, the European Day of Combating Trafficking in Human Beings.

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Bosnia and Herzegovina like many other countries in the world is recognized as a country of origin, transit and destination of trafficking victims. This event aims to draw attention to the problems encountered in combating trafficking in human beings and solving the difficult situation of victims of trafficking in human beings.

The European Day of Combating Trafficking in Human Beings was marked by partnership cooperation with NGOs. The activities and manifestations took place simultaneously in Sarajevo, Mostar, Banja Luka, Tuzla, Brcko, Derventa, Zenica, Višegrad, Bijeljina, Modriča, Gorazde and Bratunac.

Based on the previous positive experience, the following associations participated in marking this important date : the "New Generation" Association from Banja Luka, "New Way" from Mostar, "The Country of Children in BiH" from Tuzla, "Medica" from Zenica, the International Solidarity Forum - EMMAUS , Association of Citizens for the Promotion of Education of Roma "Otaharin" from Bijeljina, "Lara" Foundation from Bijeljina, Association of Women "Maja" from Kravica, Women's Association "Most" from Visegrad, Women's Association "Goraždanka" from Gorazde, Association "Women BiH" Mostar, Women's Legal Aid Center from Zenica, Women's Association "Better Future" from Tuzla, Citizens Association "Budućnost" from Modriča, Women's Association "Derventa" from Derventa and "Associated Women" Foundation from Banja Luka.

## **8. Day Care Centres for Children Working in the Street**

### **8.1. Day Care Centre "Medica" Zenica:**

A total of 40 children (25 girls and 15 boys) were supported by the Day Care Centre "Medica" Zenica - Children's Daily Center "Medica" Zenica, of which 2 children (2 girls) were forced to beg. After the school, the children who were placed in the Safe House, stayed on a regularly basis in a Day Care Centre "Medica" Zenica together with other children from the Day Care Centre "Medica" Zenica, where they have been provided assistance in learning and mastering the school subject-matter through various workshops and group work. They have also obtained certain knowledge about violence, non-violent conflict resolution, and the adoption of positive forms of behaviour

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Support for inclusion in education process:

Prior to their arrival to the Safe House "Medica" Zenica, two underage girls / potential victims of trafficking did not attend the school even though they had met the required conditions in terms of age. As a result of cooperation between the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Zenica-Doboj Canton and "Medica" Zenica, they regularly attended the first and second class of the primary school in 2014/15. During the reporting period, i.e. in 2016/207 the two underage girls / potential victims of trafficking were regularly attending the third class of the primary school and passed the fourth class of the primary school as non-regular pupils.

**10. Annexes:**

Table 1 - Criminal Offenses of Human Trafficking and Related Criminal Offenses - Prosecutorial and Judicial Decisions issued in 2016 (by persons and cases)

Institution name	Law	Article	Legal ground	Status	Case number (first defendant)	Number of persons	Jail sentence/conditional sentence
CANTONAL PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OF SARAJEVO CANTON	CC FBIH	210	INCITEMENT TO PROSTITUTION	ORDER FOR SUSPENSION OF INVESTIGATION	1	1	
				ORDER FOR CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION	1	14	
				INDICTMENT FILED	1	14	
				CONVICTION - CONDITIONAL SENTENCE	0	3	2 year prison Conditional 5 months
				REPORT	2	11	
CANTONAL PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OF LIVNO CANTON (10)	CC FBIH	210	INCITEMENT TO PROSTITUTION	ORDER FOR CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION	1	1	
				REPOT	1	1	
DISTRICT PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE	CC RS	198	INCITEMENT TO PROSTITUTION	REPORT	1	1	

BANJA LUKA			TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS FOR PROSTITUTION	REPORT	1	1	
REPUBLIC PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE - SPECIAL SECTION FOR COMBATING CORRUPTION, ORGANIZED AND THE MOST SERIOUS FORMS OF ECONOMIC CRIME	CC RS	198	INCITEMENT TO PROSTITUTION	REPORT	1	1	
		198b	TTRAFFICKING OF MINORS	ORDER FOR CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION	1	2	
				REPORT	3	12	
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OF BIH	CC BIH	186	INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS	ORDER FOR CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION	1	1	
				REPORT	5	8	
		TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS	ORDER FOR CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION	1	1		
				1	1		
			CONVICTION - IMPRISONMENT	0	2	3 year prison	
			REPORT	5	5		
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OF BRČKO DISTRICT OF BIH	CC BD BIH	207a	TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS	ACQUITTAL	0	1	
				CONVICTION - IMPRISONMENT	2	2	8 months prison
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OF TUZLA CANTON	CC FBIH	210	INCITEMENT TO PROSTITUTION	ORDER FOR CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION	1	1	
					0	2	
					0	4	
				INDICTMENT FILED	0	2	
					0	4	
				REPORT	4	6	
					0	2	
					0	4	
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OF THE CENTRAL BOSNIA CANTON	CC FBIH	210	INCITEMENT TO PROSTITUTION	ORDER FOR CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION	1	2	
				INDICTMENT FILED	2	3	
				CONVICTION - IMPRISONMENT	1	1	4 months prison
				REPORT	0	1	
		210a	Trafficking in persons	REPORT	1	3	



PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OF HERZEGOVINA-NERETVA CANTON	CC BIH	186	TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS	REPORT	1	1	
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OF THE CENTRAL BOSNIA CANTON	CC FBIH	210	INCITEMENT TO PROSTITUTION	ORDER FOR SUSPENSION OF INVESTIGATION	0	1	
				INDICTMENT FILED	2	2	
				CONVICTION - IMPRISONMENT	1	2	3 year prison





