



Strengthening the Capacity of the Central Asian Republics to Protect and Assist Victims of Human Trafficking and Smuggled Migrants in Partnership with NGO and Civil Society Actors



Project implemented by UNODC and UNFPA

Project funded by the European Union and the United States

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UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia ©

«Human trafficking is a crime that strips people of their rights, exploits people's dreams of a better future, robs people of their dignity. It can cause physical and psychological damage. It can even kill. I hope you will join forces with the UN family — with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other partners who are keeping trafficking high on political and social agendas around the world»

The UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

Remarks at the World Premiere of «Trade» film, New York,
19 September 2007.

«Migrant workers often face dangerous working conditions, workplace harassment, or lack of adequate social protection. Irregular migrants are particularly vulnerable to becoming victims of human trafficking and of forced labour with traffickers exploiting vulnerable individuals by putting them in slave-like conditions and victims being physically, psychologically or sexually abused»

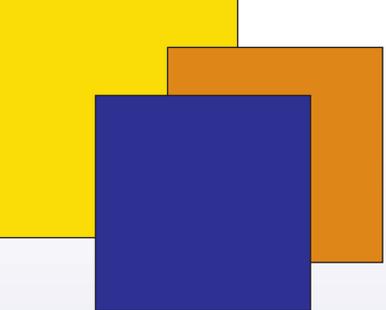
Yuri Fedotov

Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
Statement on behalf of the Principals of the Global Migration Group, Mauritius,
21 November 2012.

«Globalisation is not just about positive economic links; in fact transnational threats are developing even more quickly. From terrorism and organised crime to maritime piracy and human trafficking, these are problems that put at risk our democracies and the security of our citizens. The European Union pledges to strengthen its own capacities to face these dangers, but more importantly to help our partners and the UN as a whole to strengthen theirs.»

José Manuel Barroso

Statement at the High Level Meeting on the Rule of Law,
24 September 2012.



Facts and Figures

Context of Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants in Central Asia

The Central Asian countries are source, transit and destination countries for human trafficking and migrant smuggling. The long established destination for migrants from the region have been Western Europe – in particular Germany, Italy and Greece – and Central and South-East Europe – in particular Bosnia and Herzegovina, Poland, Albania and Bulgaria. In addition, Turkey is a major destination for victims trafficked for sexual exploitation. The Russian Federation and Kazakhstan are often destination countries for victims trafficked for forced labour exploitation. However, many victims of trafficking from Central Asia pass through Kyrgyzstan and the Russian Federation en route to other destinations in Europe. Asia and the Middle East have become growing destinations for trafficking victims including China, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, South Korea, Thailand and the UAE. Within Central Asia, trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced labour and forced begging occurs between each of the countries. Central Asian countries (Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan) although mainly transit countries, have increasingly become countries of destination for smuggled migrants from Afghanistan, due to higher standards of living compared to Afghanistan.

Globally (2007–2010):

Victims of Human Trafficking detected: 55, 000

Offenders detected: 50,000

Gender and Age Profile of Victims: Women — 59%, Men — 14%, Girls — 17%, Boys — 10%

Prosecutions: Males — 68%, Females — 32%

Convictions: Males — 67%, Females — 33%

Forms of exploitation: Sexual — 58%, Forced Labor — 36%, Organ removal — 0.2%, Other types — 6%

Eastern Europe and Central Asia (2007–2010):

Victims of Human Trafficking: 4,000

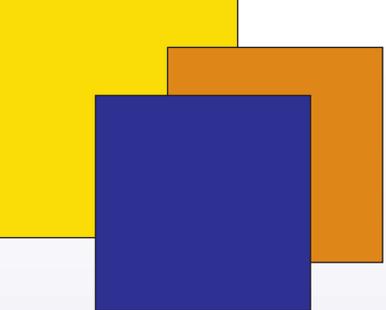
Gender and Age Profile of Victims: Women — 78%, Men — 13%, Girls — 6%, Boys — 3%

Prosecutions: Females — 62%, Males — 38%

Convictions: Females — 77%, Males — 23%

Forms of exploitation: Sexual — 62%, Forced Labor — 31%, Organ removal — 0.1%, Other types — 7%

Source: UNODC, *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2012* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.V.1).



Project Information

Project Title: Strengthening the capacity of the Central Asian Republics to protect and assist victims of human trafficking and smuggled migrants, especially women and children, in partnership with NGO and civil society actors (XAC/X44)

Duration: 2 years (November 2011 – October 2013)
Executing Agency: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
Implementing Partner: United Nations Population Fund
Total Budget: € 873,671.80 (\$ 1,244,690)

Main Funding: The European Union (80%)
Co-funding: United States of America
Countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

Project Objectives, Outcomes and Indicators

Objective

The project aims to enhance the capacity of the target countries to more effectively identify victims of human trafficking and the needs of smuggled migrants and protect and assist both trafficked persons and smuggled migrants.



Outcomes

1. Criminal justice personnel better identify victims of human trafficking, witnesses to both human trafficking and migrant smuggling crimes as well as needs of smuggled migrants and protect and assist these persons in accordance with international legal instruments
2. Law enforcement agencies, NGOs and other actors actively cooperate to respond to the needs of victims of human trafficking and smuggled migrants and to protect their rights
3. Shelters and victim support services improve availability and quality of services to victims of human trafficking and smuggled migrants especially women and children



Indicators

1. Increased number of victims of human trafficking and smuggled migrants receiving assistance
2. Cooperative mechanisms between Governments and civil society actors in place
3. Number of prosecutions of human trafficking and migrant smuggling cases in which adequate protection and assistance has been provided



Project Activities

From 25 to 27 June 2012, in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, UNODC held — in cooperation with UNICEF, IOM and OSCE — a regional train-the-trainers course for judges and prosecutors entitled «Applying international standards to ensure protection and assistance measures towards victims of human trafficking and smuggled migrants». 28 trainers/instructors from all five Central Asian countries representing national training centers under Supreme Courts, Ministries of Justice and General Prosecutor's Offices participated in the course. The project developed a training manual which had the set of tools and instruments for practitioners developed by UNODC, UNICEF, IOM and OSCE. The participants provided a positive evaluation on the training methodology, quality of materials and the high professionalism of international experts from Serbia and Israel.



From 25 to 27 September 2012, UNODC held the regional train-the-trainers course for law enforcement officers on international best practices and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) in effective identification and protection of victims of human trafficking and smuggled migrants in Almaty, Kazakhstan. 24 trainers/experts currently working at the specialized national training centers which provide advanced training for law enforcement officers under the Ministries of Interior, National Security Services and Migration Agencies of all Central Asia countries. The course allowed the participants to study main topics of the SOP manual including the tools by which law enforcement personnel can provide assistance and protection including the modules on pro-active and re-active investigation techniques, criminal intelligence gathering, analysis, and information exchange.



UNODC conducted a series of National Consultative Meetings, which took place in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in order to discuss the ways to improve the mechanisms of cooperation among governmental agencies and NGOs to ensure protection and assistance to the victims of human trafficking and smuggled migrants. These meetings were conducted with participation of the members of the National Anti-Human Trafficking Interagency Commissions and representatives of State agencies, local NGOs, OSCE, IOM and the donors (the EU, US Embassy). The meetings reviewed the assessment report with regard to the existing status of cooperation mechanisms among NGOs and law enforcement agencies. The main outcomes of these meetings in some countries were the agreement between NGOs and Government agencies to sign MOUs or Joint Plans of Actions to provide better assistance and protection services to victims and further strengthen national referral mechanisms in line with the existing National Action Plans to combat human trafficking.





UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
Regional Office for Central Asia

About UNODC

UNODC's presence in Central Asia began in 1993 with the establishment of UNODC Regional Office for Central Asia in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Today there are Programme Offices in all five Central Asian States and in Azerbaijan. The value of the programme portfolio has increased from \$26 million in 2004 to more than \$90 million in 2013. With a traditional emphasis on building capacity in counter-narcotics through technical assistance, UNODC activities in the region link national projects on border control with regional projects developing intelligence analysis systems and joint operations. These include: the Central Asia Regional Information and Coordination Centre in Almaty, precursor chemical control, border liaison office project, national drug control agencies and intelligence lead policing. All this work is carried out in close cooperation with national and international partners and donors. Significant trends in UNODC in recent years have seen the shift towards activities within the crime mandates of UNODC and towards an increasingly regional programming structure. Within the framework of a number of political initiatives concerning Afghanistan and its neighboring countries, UNODC is seeking to build synergy between its drugs and crime mandates. With the introduction of the regional programming approach, UNODC aims to augment the delivery and impact of its work. The new UNODC Regional Programme for promoting counter narcotic efforts in Afghanistan and neighboring countries (2011–2014) is designed to provide a platform for coordination and facilitation of counter-narcotics efforts across the region. The legislative platform for UNODC's crime mandates has grown out of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols, as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the UN legal instruments against drugs and terrorism. Much effort has gone into promoting adherence to these instruments and in supporting States in bringing their domestic laws into compliance with them. Since laws mean little without effective implementation, UNODC also helps to strengthen criminal justice institutions through training and equipping national governments to enforce and adjudicate the law. To this end a number of regional and national training activities for investigators, lawyers, prosecutors and judges have been implemented. Human trafficking is now a major problem facing the region, and the multi-billion dollar opium economy in Afghanistan combined with limited institutional capacity fosters conditions that leave Central Asian countries and Azerbaijan vulnerable to the incursion of illicit money from drug trafficking and other crimes. UNODC, as a co-sponsor of the Joint Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS), is the lead agency in the region for HIV and AIDS prevention and care among injecting and other drug users and in prison settings. On these and other issues, regional and national projects continue to be developed, in close coordination with regional and national partners, which support and contribute to improving human security in Central Asia and Azerbaijan.

For more information please visit: www.unodc.org/centralasia



About UNFPA

UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, delivers a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person's potential is fulfilled.

The mandate of UNFPA, as established by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 1973 and reaffirmed in 1993, is (1) to build the knowledge and the capacity to respond to needs in population and family planning; (2) to promote awareness in both developed and developing countries of population problems and possible strategies to deal with these problems; (3) to assist their population problems in the forms and means best suited to the individual countries' needs; (4) to assume a leading role in the United Nations system in promoting population programmes, and to coordinate projects supported by the Fund

UNFPA's Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office (EECARO) was established in July 2008 to provide a key link between UNFPA's organization-wide vision, strategies, policies and analyses, on one hand, and the needs of the region and the programme countries therein, on the other. The UNFPA Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office comprises teams of technical, programme, security, and operations staff, and provides UNFPA Country Offices in the region with integrated support to strengthen national and regional capacities in support of population and development activities in the region.

Through partnership with UNFPA, an additional value added is the focus on the rights of child and female who are victims of human trafficking or smuggled migrants and ensuring that all trainings and services take into consideration the unique needs of these groups.

For more information please visit: www.unfpa.org



About European Union

The European Union is a unique economic and political partnership between 27 European countries. In 1957, the signature of the Treaties of Rome marked the will of the six founding countries to create a common economic space. Since then, first the Community and then the European Union has continued to enlarge and welcome new countries as members. The Union has developed into a huge single market with the euro as its common currency. What began as a purely economic union has evolved into an organisation spanning all areas, from development aid to environmental policy. Thanks to the abolition of border controls between EU countries, it is now possible for people to travel freely within most of the EU. It has also become much easier to live and work in another EU country. The five main institutions of the European Union are the European Parliament, the Council of Ministers, the European Commission, the Court of Justice and the Court of Auditors.

The European Union is a major player in international cooperation and development aid. It is also the world's largest humanitarian aid donor. The primary aim of the EU's own development policy, agreed in November 2000, is the eradication of poverty.

For more information please visit: www.europa.eu

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