



International Center for Women Rights  
Protection and Promotion „La Strada”

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## SUMMARY

### ACTIVITY REPORT 2015

January – December 2015

### Prevention of Domestic Violence

National Toll Free Hotline on Safe Migration

0 800 77777 - nationally

(+373 22) 23 33 09 - from abroad

08.00-20.00/week-round, confidential

National Trust Line 0 8008 8008

24/24, confidential

National Child Helpline

116 111

24/24

<b>ACTIVITY AREA</b>	<b>PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</b>
<b>Strategic objective 1</b>	<b>To support the Government of RM in streamlining national ADV policies</b>
<b>Activity stream 1.1.</b>	<b>To advocate for better legal leverages for the protection of the rights of victims of DV</b>
<b>Activity 1.1.1.</b>	<p><b>To provide expert opinion in advancing legal framework</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upon request of the MLSPF, the International Center "La Strada" provided individual expert opinion on the draft Law on amending current legislation as related to aspects of prevention and combating domestic violence. Additionally, La Strada expert opinion on the draft Law, was integrated into the common position paper of the National Coalition "Life without violence".</li> <li>• La Strada expert participated in the Public Forum "Partnership for an Inclusive and Prosper Moldova: Women count!" as member and key speaker of the working group "Women affected by domestic violence". The Forum enabled round of thematic meetings with representatives of political parties, both members in Parliament and non-members, aimed at increasing their awareness about violence against women and pleading that women's rights protection is expressly integrated into the their political platforms and agendas.</li> </ul>
<b>Activity 1.1.2.</b>	<p><b>Expert opinion on improving ADV policies coordination and monitoring mechanism/ recommendation provided to the MLSPF</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "La Strada" representative attended all meetings organised by the Inter-Ministerial Coordination Council and actively participated in all events organised, advocating for the signing and ratification of the Istanbul Convention.</li> </ul>
<b>Activity stream 1.2.</b>	<b>To provide information in support of policy development process</b>
<b>Activity 1.2.1.</b>	<p><b>To conduct studies in the field of interest</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under support of USA Embassy in Chisinau, "La Strada" conducted the study "<i>Ensuring access of victims of sexual violence to adequate legal and social protection</i>". The study allowed researching experience of 14 women and girls victims of sexual violence (who have been in contact with the legal/social protection system and benefited/not benefited from assistance) and collecting opinion of 20 managers of service providers for victims of domestic violence (since in Moldova there are not specialised services for women affected by sexual violence), 35 specialists from legal and social area. Major conclusions are: sexual violence is the least recognized and reported form of violence; the biggest majority of cases don't get into the attention of the authorities; the main factors which favour this situation are multiple: (i) stereotyped social norms in which maleness is associated with domination and aggression, while femininity with obedience and silence; (ii) blaming persons who are victims of these situations, as being guilty for the producing of these offences; (iii) the fear of the persons to denounce such cases, in order not to be blamed, marginalized, etc. The key scope of this exercise was to emerge professional discussion around the need to improve law and implementation mechanisms in support and protection of the rights of victims. The report on the study will be presented and discussed with main stakeholders on February 2016.</li> <li>• Under the support of OSCE mission to Moldova La Strada conducted the study "<i>Access to justice for victims of domestic violence in Moldova</i>". The study allowed researching experience of 40 women affected by DV who benefited/not benefited from assistance and also collecting opinion from both state and non-governmental organizations – advocates and lawyers from NGO' and state-supported centres, (public) advocates and para-lawyers under Territorial Offices for the Free State-guaranteed assistance, judges, prosecutors, and also psychologists. The study provides series of recommendations for the professionals that strive for the improvement of the access of victims of DV to legal assistance services and overall that would facilitate non-conditional access to justice. The report has been printed in 2015 and is available in Romanian Russian and English on <a href="http://www.lastrada.md">www.lastrada.md</a></li> </ul>

	<p><a href="http://www.lastrada.md/publicatii/ebook/A5-Raport_DV_24_02_2015.pdf">http://www.lastrada.md/publicatii/ebook/A5-Raport_DV_24_02_2015.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.lastrada.md/publicatii/ebook/Practices_on_access_justice_for_VDV_RUS_A5.pdf">http://www.lastrada.md/publicatii/ebook/Practices_on_access_justice_for_VDV_RUS_A5.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.lastrada.md/publicatii/ebook/Practices_on_access_justice_for_VDV_ENG_A5.pdf">http://www.lastrada.md/publicatii/ebook/Practices_on_access_justice_for_VDV_ENG_A5.pdf</a></p>
<b>Activity 1.2.2.</b>	<p><b>To edit and publish the Report of 5 years of activity of "La Strada" in prevention of DV field</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "La Strada" compiled and printed the Report of 5 years of activities in the field of prevention of DV, prepared in Facts &amp; Figures format. The Report is available in Romanian on: <a href="http://www.lastrada.md/publicatii/ebook/TrustLine_5_ani_de_activitate.pdf">http://www.lastrada.md/publicatii/ebook/TrustLine_5_ani_de_activitate.pdf</a></li> <li>• "La Strada" compiled and printed a Brochure dedicated to 5 year of activities in the field of prevention of domestic violence and promoting rights of women affected by DV <a href="http://www.lastrada.md/publicatii/ebook/TrustLine_5_ani_de_activitate.pdf">http://www.lastrada.md/publicatii/ebook/TrustLine_5_ani_de_activitate.pdf</a></li> </ul>
<b>Activity stream 1.3.</b>	<b>To contribute to the international monitoring and evaluation mechanisms on women's rights protection</b>
	<p><b>To promote better transparency of Government efforts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "La Strada" provided contribution US HR Report, reflecting the main facts and findings from Trust-Line calls and reported cases perspective, legal assistance to victims of DV and providing recommendations for better prevention and protection of women affected by DV.</li> </ul>
<b>Strategic Objective 2.</b>	<b>To contribute to reducing vulnerability of women to DV</b>
<b>Activity stream 2.1.</b>	<b>To ensure availability of information on non-violent life for youngsters</b>
<b>Activity 2.1.1.</b>	<p><b>To conduct training of trainers for peer educators on non-violent life style</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As a tradition already, "La Strada" conducted at the beginning of year the training "Prevention of Domestic Violence" for the Peer-to-Peer educators so that <b>23</b> newly recruited young educators had a possibility to familiarize themselves with the theoretical and conceptual aspects of DV phenomenon, identify the first signs of power and control during a relationship, and build skills and abilities in delivering a seminar for the youngsters. After one month of field work and first experiences, the second practical stage of the training for peer educators "Prevention of domestic violence" was organized. The training focused primarily on techniques for organizing and delivering seminars for youngsters, steps to be followed in training, methods of encouraging discussions about the topic "Prevention of domestic violence by identifying the first signs of power and control during the period of dating". The training also allowed each educator to go through two seminar simulation exercises using and not-using video support. In summer, after the school year was over, "La Strada" conducted midterm "Evaluation and planning Workshop for peer-to-peer educators" aiming at improving the training module, based on feedback from field, and developing new awareness raising materials.</li> </ul>
<b>Activity 2.1.2.</b>	<p><b>To conduct info outreach activities for pupils and teachers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1758 pupils (904 girls and 854 boys) took part in 72 seminars organized in schools by "La Strada" Peer-to-Peers educators at the request of Education Departments from different regions of Moldova, under the MoU with ME;</li> <li>• "La Strada" staff and volunteers took part in the national Campaign „16 days of activism against gender-based violence” organized under auspices of MLSPF, and took part in events (ex.: flash mob held at the Shopping Mall) organized by the Secretariat of the National Coalition "life without violence". During awareness campaign "La Strada" representatives distributed booklets promoting Trust Line for women and other LS services. More than 200 persons have been directly reached out.</li> </ul>
<b>Activity 2.1.3.</b>	<p><b>To disseminate info and educational printed materials on DV issue</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than 100 posters promoting the Trust Line Service have been distributed to various target professionals groups (policemen, social workers, psychologists and others) who took part in capacity building events organized by "La Strada" and its partner organizations;</li> <li>• 2000 educational leaflets have been distributed to young people during awareness rising activities conducted by "La Strada" Peer-to-Peer Educators.</li> </ul>

<b>Activity stream 2.2.</b>	<b>To mobilize the professionals and society to recognize the issue of DV as a matter of HR violation</b>
<b>Activity 2.2.1.</b>	<p><b>To organize national public awareness campaign to promote 0-tolerance to domestic violence, particularly to marital rape</b>  <b>Elaboration of a TV spot</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A thematic video spot has been produced tailored revealing the problem of marital rape as a form of DV and encouraging women affected by this form to seek support by facilitating access to Trust Line. The video spot has been broadcasted via 4 TV nation-wide stations for a total of 233 minutes and 25 seconds. Video spot is available on <a href="http://www.lastrada.md">www.lastrada.md</a> and YouTube <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cRZ0j_w6m-Q">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cRZ0j_w6m-Q</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Public presentation of the movie "Culorile" (Eng. "Colours") and post-screening discussions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2015, 10 presentations of the movie have been organized by "La Strada" in the regions, mostly in partnership with Educational Departments (Cimislia, Ungheni, Singerei, ) but also in partnership with Peace Corp Volunteers, Leaders of the Local Children and Youth Council from Adolescent Center of the General Direction of Education, Youth and Sports; In this way, a total number of 1390 persons (pupils, stakeholders and community members) took part in the movie presentation, followed by the post-film discussions.</li> <li>Starting with June 2015 the movie "Colors" is available on YouTube <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f3HDJMo_K08">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f3HDJMo_K08</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Media interviews and articles</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15 media titles/interventions were undertaken by "La Strada" representatives for different media sources (4 for newspapers/press agencies, 8 for TV and 3 for radio);</li> <li>29426 visitors visited <i>Facebook</i> page via specifically created (in Romanian) page providing information on types of services provided via Trust Line <a href="http://www.facebook.com/telefonuldeincredare">http://www.facebook.com/telefonuldeincredare</a>; 88 articles have been placed on the Facebook page during 2015 and 754 "likes" have been registered ;</li> <li>51 info pieces on DV issues have been placed by auditory on <i>Odnoklassniki</i> webpage counter <a href="http://www.odnoklassniki.ru/violenta.in.familie">http://www.odnoklassniki.ru/violenta.in.familie</a>, describing services provided via Trust Line, and 175 registered "likes" have been registered.</li> </ul>
<b>Activity 2.2.2.</b>	<p><b>To pilot and validate school curricula among school staff on promotion of harmoniois relationships</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the beginning of 2014, under the recommendation of ME, "La Strada" started piloting the curriculum "<i>Harmonious Relationships in the family</i>". The process started with a workshop organised on April 4-6 where 11 teachers enhanced their skills to implement the curriculum and take part in the piloting process. The piloting process envisaged evaluation of the effectiveness of the course by means of pedagogical experiment and included 423 school-children who took part in the post-course evaluation process in 11 pre-selected high schools from various regions of Moldova. On June 18, a Round Table on validation of the Piloting phase has been organized by "La Strada" in cooperation with the ME. As a result, the piloted/improved Curriculum and the Report of the piloting results have been handled to ME. On Sep 2nd, the Council for National School Curricula has finally approved it by recommending for including it the list of optional courses for high school institutions. In 2015 LS experts worked on elaboration of the pupil's book. In 2016 LS will continue cooperation with the ME to empower them implement the course.</li> </ul>
<b>Strategic Objective 3.</b>	<b>To contribute to the development of human capacities to effectively address cases of domestic violence</b>
<b>Activity stream 3.1.</b>	<b>To enhance skills and abilities of service providers to effectively respond to the needs of victims</b>
<b>Activity 3.1.1.</b>	<p><b>To organize capacity building for service providers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In July, La Strada organised a 3-days national training Workshop "Psychological assessment report – a mean for ensuring the protection of domestic violence victims" for 18 psychologists mainly from organizations members of the Coalitions "Life without violence"; The Workshop had as key trainer a clinical psychologist and psychotherapist from Sibiu, Romania with vast experience in assisting women affected by various forms of violence. The event aimed at discussing best practices on writing psychological evaluation reports and</li> </ul>

	<p>agree on a uniform/standardize the structure of the psychological assessment reports as a response to the requests from law enforcement and prosecutors delivering such aiming at strengthening the evidence of the case during the legal and court proceedings. The training resulted in a uniform structure of the psychological report which was later approved at the Coalition Board Meeting on July 23 as a uniform document to be used by the service providers until new legal reform on psychological assistance will be initiated;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In December, a 3-days national training "Preventing and combating sexual violence – international best practices" was organised. The event was delivered by international experts from Global Rights for Women, a USA-based NGO, with extensive knowledge and practice in protection of the rights of women affected by DV. The event was attended by the main stakeholders in the country: governmental representatives, law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, forensic experts, service providers for victims of domestic violence. The participants highly appreciated the multidisciplinary response (Sexual Assault response Team) model presented by the USA experts and well as specialised line-protocols available with the law enforcement institutions.</li> </ul>
<b>Activity stream 3.2.</b>	<b>To provide info support to practitioners on approaches to DV cases</b>
<b>Activity 3.2.1.</b>	<p><b>To organize debriefings with front line specialist on identification and protection of DV victims' rights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>La Strada psychologists participated as co-trainers in 5 seminars "Good practices of the law enforcement response to the cases of domestic violence" for 125 law enforcement representatives aiming at streamlining cooperation between service providers (members of National Coalition "Life without violence") and relevant state authorities. The events are part of a larger effort meant to strengthen the National Coalition "Life without violence".</li> <li>La Strada representative accepted membership with the Coalition Board and provided active inputs for the development of all Coalition policies and documents (ex.: Coalition Regulation and Communication Strategy), participated in all meetings and seminars organized for the members, took leadership and represented the Coalition at various public events (press conferences, high-level meetings with policy makers, etc.).</li> </ul>
<b>Strategic objective 4.</b>	<b>To ensure availability and accessibility to specialized services for victims of DV</b>
<b>Activity stream 4.1.</b>	<b>To provide victims of DV with easy-to-access protection tools</b>
<b>Activity 4.1.1.</b>	<p><b>Provision of psychological counseling and info/legal support via Trust-Line for victims of domestic violence 0 8008 8008</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1715 calls have been received and counseled as related to 719 cases of DV;</li> <li>Out of 1715 total calls, 852 calls were received from victims of DV; 233 - from community members; 72 - from professionals, 10 - from aggressors, and others;</li> <li>473 of Trust Line beneficiaries enjoyed legal counseling, social mediation and protection;</li> <li>27 new and 14 on-going cases enjoyed specialized assistance on behalf of the lawyer/attorney and represented in the court; out of these 34 are civil cases and 7 are criminal cases.</li> </ul>
<b>Activity 4.2.2.</b>	<p><b>Organize individual referral to specialized service providers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A total number of 140 beneficiaries of Trust Line service have been referred to specialized services from the country, among them 72 referred for legal assistance, 14 to state agencies (Police offices, Prosecutors Office, social workers, Bureaus for free legal assistance, etc.), 54 for shelter services and other assistance measures according to the identified needs.</li> </ul>