



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

P.O. Box 259, MD-2012, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova

Tel.: (+373 22) 23 49 06, Fax: (+373 22) 23 49 07

Email: office@lastrada.md

Web: www.lastrada.md

SUMMARY

ACTIVITY REPORT

on counteracting Trafficking in Human Beings

January – December 2015

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 on Domestic Violence issues 0 8008 8008

24/24, confidential

National Child Help Line 116 111

24/24, confidential

ACTIVITY AREA I	COUNTER-ACTING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS (THB), ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN
Strategic objective 1	To support the Government of RM in streamlining national anti-trafficking (AT) policies and promoting good practices
Activity stream 1.1.	Provide expert support to the National Anti-Trafficking Committee (NC) in developing AT policy management system
<p data-bbox="164 441 336 472">Activity 1.1.1.</p> <p data-bbox="164 969 395 1001">Additional activity</p> <p data-bbox="164 1312 395 1344">Additional activity</p> <p data-bbox="164 1686 395 1718">Additional activity</p>	<p data-bbox="443 441 1270 472">Expert Support in finalization of Monitoring & Evaluation Guideline</p> <ul data-bbox="488 477 1485 1283" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="488 477 1485 813">• In October, the Permanent Secretariat (PS) invited La Strada as co-trainer/speaker, along with an international trainer from UK, at the Training for the AT focal points of relevant national bodies on results-based planning and reporting of AT policy. During the training, the international trainer presented new internationally-recognized good practices in elaboration of outcome indicators for an AT policy (2 countries of Balkans region and ASEAN region). Following to the training and debriefing with experts the PS decided to rebuild the structure of next NAP (2017- 2019) and to change AT policy's management system, using outcome standard indicators. The PS asked follow-up expert support from the trainers in implementing this new approach in Moldova planned already in 2016. <li data-bbox="488 846 1485 1283">• "La Strada" played active role in the conceptualization of the regional conference "<i>Ten years of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings: Results and Perspectives in Eastern Europe (Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine)</i>", organized by the IOM in Chisinau at the end of September 2015. As IOM partner in the event, La Strada both proposed and detailed conference tasks and further moderated and made key presentations in the session dedicated to the national AT coordination mechanisms. The presentation was focused on the conceptual aspects of coordination, main coordination's tools, logical connection of coordination with democratization of social processes and development of information technologies. Further, La Strada representative had a presentation at the session dedicated to the Changing Role of NGOs in the counter-trafficking area with particular accent on the Moldovan Anti-trafficking NGOs experience. The Conference was attended by high-level regional AT community including from GRETA and US Expert group of trafficking in persons. <p data-bbox="443 1312 1458 1344">Participation in the meetings of the National Coordinating Task Force under the PS</p> <ul data-bbox="488 1348 1485 1662" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="488 1348 1485 1471">• On February 26 "La Strada" representative took part in the meeting of the Task Force under the PS, composed of representatives of GOs, NGOs and IGOs active in AT field. The meeting was dedicated to discussing on the draft national Report on the NAP implementation in 2014. <li data-bbox="488 1482 1485 1662">• On July 2 "La Strada" representative took part in the second meeting of the Task Force, organized by the PS dedicated to selected issues of the NAP implementation in the first half year 2015, way to mark the EU AT Day (October 18) and plans for the second half of the year. "La Strada" was included as partner of different state institutions for the implementation of 11 items of the NAP 2014-2016 (for activities planned for 2015). All planned activities were fulfilled. <p data-bbox="443 1691 1481 1753">Support to the PS in conducting of the research to assess the work of Territorial Commissions to Combat THB</p> <ul data-bbox="488 1758 1485 1937" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="488 1758 1485 1937">• In the middle of July "La Strada" expert provided expert assistance for conducting a research organized by the PS and supported by the OSCE Mission to Moldova. The research aimed at assessing the work of Territorial Commissions over the last 3 years (2012-2014) and developing recommendations for improvement of their activity. "La Strada" expert prepared comments and suggestions to the research tools drafted by PS.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In August, by the request of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, "La Strada" expert offered the assistance in completing the OSCE-wide survey on progress achieved by the states –members of the OSCE in responding to all forms of THB and implementing the OSCE AT commitments. The PS was responsible for filling in the questionnaire (about 100 questions), elaborated by OSCE, Vienna to reflect on the RM Government degree of implementation of the AT commitments to OSCE plans (<i>the OSCE Action Plan and Addendum</i>). "La Strada" expert elaborated the alternative report with answers to the selected questions (about 30 questions) with a view to identifying areas in which more attention may be required. The alternative report was submitted to the PS and directly to the OSCE.
Activity stream I.4.	To promote good AT strategies and approaches within Moldova and in the region
Activity I.4.1.	<p>Consultancy for the creation of the NRM in the Republic of Belarus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "La Strada" representative elaborated the concept of Guidelines for NRM creation in Belarus and presented it to the NRM Task Force in the framework of the 1-st workshop in Minsk. The first draft Guidelines was disseminated among participants of the NRM Task Force for comments. In June the improved draft Guidelines was presented and validated in the framework of the 2-nd workshop, organized by IOM Minsk. The participants of the workshop have proposed to supplement the text with analysis of existing legislation and recommendations for official establishment of NRM in Belarus. In September the draft Guidelines was officially disseminated between main state AT stakeholders in Belarus. It is expected that the draft Guidelines will be officially published in 2016. <p>Advancing Moldovan good practices in the region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In April "La Strada" representative participated in a regional workshop in Athens organized by NGO "KEPAD", Greece-based. During this event "La Strada" representative presented the new publication - "<i>Guidelines on Rehabilitation and (Re)integration of Trafficked Persons</i>"- <i>Manual for the Western Balkan Region</i> developed by "La Strada" within the 5th ARIADNE project in 2014 based on good practices, novation and lessons learnt. At the end of July the "<i>Guidelines on Rehabilitation and (Re)integration of Trafficked Persons</i>"- <i>Manual for the Western Balkan Region</i> was published and distributed to members of the ARIADNE Network (NGOs from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine). The publication is available on www.lastrada.md. <p>Expert support for the development of the first AT NAP in Turkmenistan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> La Strada continued to provide expert support to the Government of Turkmenistan, within a Project lead by the IOM Mission in Turkmenistan, for the development of the first AT NAP (2016-2018). In June, "La Strada" expert conducted the 3-rd training for the officials – members of specially created working group and moderated the 3-rd training follow-up meeting of the mentioned working group. In November, "La Strada" expert moderated the final meeting of working group leading to the finalization of the draft NAP. In December the draft NAP was successfully presented to the Turkmenistan AT community within a specially organized event and later submitted to the Government for approval.
Strategic objective 2.	To contribute to reducing vulnerability of women and young persons to exploitation and trafficking
Activity stream 2.1.	To ensure availability of information and counseling on safe migration and dangers of trafficking and exploitation
Activity 2.1.1.	<p>To provide individual case-based counseling via National Toll Free Hotline 0 800 77777</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Out of 14603 total calls counseled, 13440 calls are on safe migration tips and 208 - SOS calls with various type of assistance granted on related to

	<p>trafficking/exploitation cases;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Out of above mentioned 208 SOS calls, 83 calls regarded adults' cases (reflecting cases of 33 presumed THB cases, 35 cases reflect vulnerable migrants (smuggling, domestic violence, sexual abuse abroad) and 15 cases of missing persons. As for minors, La Strada provided assistance in 29 cases including: 4 cases of CSCE, 6 cases of child neglect and at high risk of trafficking, 13 cases of various forms of sexual abuse and 6 cases of missing- presumed victims of CSCE or sexual abuse. <p>To facilitate access to work migrants to official information on legal work opportunities abroad, specifically to Israel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "La Strada" conducted a series of activities envisaged in the framework of the Project "<i>Implementation of the Agreement between the Government of the State of Israel and the Government of the RM regarding the Temporary Employment of Workers from the RM in Specific Sectors in the State of Israel</i>" as a party to the Contract with the Center for International Migration and Integration (CIMI) from Israel. Moldovan Government (being represented by the National Employment Agency/NEA) serves as a main Project partner based on Bilateral Labor Agreement between Moldova and Israel. Thus, "La Strada" offered phone counseling on the legal job opportunity in Israel to more than 11000 potential migrants, and offered logistical support to CIMI in organizing the professional examinations for the candidates, visa issuance, pre departure orientation sessions and assisting the workers up to their departure to Israel. • During 2014, a total number of 1123 workers from Moldova have been selected and facilitated access to employment in Israel in fair and protected conditions, as a result of the bilateral interstate agreement implementation, all with info support on behalf of "La Strada".
<p>Activity 2.1.2.</p>	<p>To organize awareness raising campaign to prevent THB and exploitation cases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2015 the International Center „La Strada” was involved in the implementation of the Millennium Challenge Compact (MCC) Project on national M2 road rehabilitation and rehabilitation of irrigation systems intended to generate employment and economic growth that could have a tangible and positive effect on the issue of migration, and indirectly on the problem of trafficking and domestic violence by reducing the drivers of human trafficking through addressing poverty reduction and increasing awareness among local populations of the dangers of trafficking. • An awareness raising campaign was organized with the <i>MCC Project</i> and included developing and distribution of info materials, delivering seminars for the community population along the M2 national road in 24 communities. A total of 458 adults and 671 youngsters have been informed about dangers of THB and means of protection. • As a tradition, upon invitation and request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, "La Strada" experts took part in training on Identification of THB victims for 25 new consular staff. <p>To disseminate information via printed materials and media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2500 copies of booklets "<i>Know your rights</i>" (in Romanian and Russian) targeting potential migrants and victims of trafficking have been distributed during prevention activities; • 4000 copies of Block-Note "My Travel Journal" promoting Hot Line services for potential migrants has been printed and partially distributed during trafficking awareness and prevention activities; <p>To disseminate the information by means of info portal for migrants www.migratiesigura.md</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2015 the informational portal on migration issues www.migratiesigura.md has been maintained by the means of informational and legal support online serving the info needs of potential migrants and informing them about their rights and ways to protect themselves from various forms of exploitation as well as

	informing/counseling victims of trafficking and stranded migrants. In 2015, the website was accessed 12531 times. The site has been accessed by 8216 unique visitors.
Activity 2.1.4.	<p>To facilitate access of public and professionals to information</p> <p>Running of the thematic website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2015, "La Strada" continued running organizational webpage www.lastrada.md, placing the news items and also thematic reports as per each direction of activity. <p>Provision of interviews to TV, radio and press agencies and articles arranged by „La Strada” staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 thematic interviews were given to media agencies, primarily national; 2 newspaper articles have been written for national press primarily in the area of safe migration and THB prevention. <p>Providing thematic information to young people</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 Peer to Peers Educators of "La Strada" have been trained on the implementation of training course "Prevention of human trafficking" for youngsters; A total number of 65 seminars for 1969 pupils have been conducted by specially trained Peer to Peer Educators in schools on course "The prevention of Human Trafficking. Also the volunteers were actively involved in the European Anti-Trafficking week; they have organized a series of activities for young people and teachers in the country in this period. <p>Media monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 national publications / newspapers (<i>Timpul, Ziarul de Gardă, Jurnal de Chişinău, Literatura şi Arta, Adevărul, Ziarul National, Evenimentul zilei, Panorama, Moldova Suverană, Glasul.md and Panorama, last three in online version</i>), 11 regional/rayon publications (<i>Cuvântul</i> from Rezina/Orhei/Soldanesti, <i>Unghiul şi Expresul</i> from Ungheni, <i>Gazeta de Sud</i> from Cimişlia, <i>Observatorul de Nord</i> from Soroca, <i>Ora locală</i> from Ialoveni, <i>Cuvântul liber</i> from Cantemir, <i>Glia drochiană</i> from Drochia, <i>Ecoul nostru</i> from Sangerei, <i>Est-Curier</i> from Criuleni, <i>Cnroc u Предложение</i> from Bălţi), 6 press agencies (<i>Info-Prim Neo, Infotag, Mediafax, Agerpress, IA Regnum and Moldpres</i>) as well as 15 media portals (<i>UNIMEDIA.md, Realitatea.net, Noi.md, Newsmaker.md, Publika.md, Jurnal .md, Moldova.org, News Molodva, Puterea.ro, EVZ.ro, stirileprotv.ro, Today.md, site of Free Europe, trm.md, viza.md</i>) have been monitored as related to coverage of THB and related issues. Totally, 524 articles, interviews, reportajes and news have been monitored by „La Strada" Press Officer in 2015.
Strategic objective 3.	To increase accessibility to protection and support for (presumed) victims of trafficking and exploitation
Activity stream 3.1.	To ensure availability of information about trafficked persons rights and protection mechanism
Activity 3.1.1.	<p>Reports and provision of social/legal protection and mediation on presumed cases of trafficking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 83 new cases have been identified by "La Strada" as THB/presumed THB/exploitation cases; among these - 33 are victims of trafficking, 15 missing persons or presumed victims of trafficking and/or exploitation and 35 (vulnerable migrants) victims of associated crimes smuggling, domestic violence, sexual abuse abroad etc. As for minors, a total number of 29 cases of trafficking in children have been registered by "La Strada" in 2015, including 4 cases of CSCE, 6 cases of neglect and at high risk to trafficking, 13 cases of various forms of sexual abuse and 6 cases of missing- presumed victims of CSCE or sexual abuse; 208 calls have been received and counseled regarding social assistance for victims of THB/exploitation as related to above 83 cases, among which 50 calls from victims, 114 from relatives and 44 from professional groups; Among 33 cases of victims of trafficking identified mostly via Hotline by "La Strada" in 2015, 17 were males and 16 females, trafficked mostly to Russia (13),

	<p>Turkey (5), Israel (3), and to other various countries one case per country (12);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 39 cases of (presumed) THB cases have been referred to IOM, NRS Coordination Unit and CCTP of the MoI; • 15 missing persons (8 women and 7 men) identified as presumed cases of THB, have been registered and access of missing persons' relatives to corresponding assistance has been facilitated.
Activity stream 3.2.	To mobilize and enhance skills of front-line specialists effectively respond to the needs of trafficked persons
Activity 3.2.1.	<p>Expert and training support in capacity building events targeting front line specialists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 27th of the March, La Strada representative was invited to present „Hot Line – tool for promotion of safe migration and prevention of human trafficking” within a Round Table „Labor Migration: Risks and Protection” organized by Information Center of Migrant Workers. The event aimed at promoting the dialogue between social partners in what regards the subject of labor migration, risks of illegal migration, effective methods to protect migrants. The event gathered representatives of various Governmental Structures (MPSFC, ANOFM, Labour Inspection, National Confederation of Trade Unions, representatives of Ministry for Internal Affairs), representatives of International Organization and NGO's. • The good practices applied by La Strada in VoTs' identification have been presented during a training co-organized by "La Strada" targeting 25 new consular staff of RM Consular Officers in foreign countries.