



Save the Children

CHILD TRAFFICKING RESPONSE PROGRAM SOUTH EAST EUROPE

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PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES IN THE PROGRAM

Albania

Bosnia-Herzegovina

Bulgaria

Montenegro

Romania

Serbia

UN administered Province of Kosovo

OUR DONORS

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Recently published newsletters

⇒ August/September 2006 Newsletter from HumanTrafficking.org, a web resource for combating human trafficking.

http://www.humantrafficking.org/newsletters/2006_09_01

⇒ International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) Newsletter, September 2006

<http://www.icmpd.org/default.asp?nav=home&folderid=-1&id=618>

⇒ Stop Trafficking! Anti-human trafficking newsletter (click to October 2006).

<http://homepage.mac.com/srjeanschafersds/stoptraffic/>

⇒ Child Trafficking Research Hub, hosted by the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre (*please register to receive the newsletter*).

www.childtrafficking.org

Children continue to fear and experience violence in every country of the world," said Professor Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, the independent expert appointed by the Secretary-General to lead the study on Violence against Children. **"Violence cuts across all social, cultural, religious and ethnic lines. From extreme situations such as communities affected by armed gangs to the daily routine of schools, children face a range of very different forms of violence."**

The Secretary General's report on Violence against Children was presented on 11 October 2006, to the 3rd Committee of the [General Assembly](#), by the [Independent Expert, Paulo Sergio Pinheiro](#).
<http://www.violencestudy.org/a405>



Children playing, . Albania

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SEE REGION AND COUNTRY UPDATES

REGIONAL EVENTS

October 03-05,2006 – Budva, Montenegro.

The CTRP SEE regional office conducted a three day workshop with 40 participants including country coordinators and researchers on impact monitoring and the ongoing regional research project. This research project seeks to understand why some children are more likely to be trafficked than others. This research concentrates on children living in institutions and shelters, children living and/or working on the street, and children living in marginalized, impoverished and migrant communities. In parallel and plenary sessions, the workshop provided researchers with a forum to share their preliminary findings, methodological insights and experiences in the field. While challenging at a personal and professional level, the researchers found the research approach to be extremely rewarding and fruitful in terms of answering the research questions and meeting the project's objectives.

It was found that the specific qualitative, participatory and child-centered approach, adapted in this study has been successful in terms of providing information about children's lived realities, with particular reference to their decision-making, strengths, self-efficacy, social supports, safety and security, hopes and dreams. It has also provided in-depth information about the mechanisms and processes by which some children become trafficked. In particular, the researchers found that their child respondents perceived risk and resiliency, exploitation and trafficking

very differently from many academics, policy-makers and practitioners. It also found that in spite of the poverty and violence that many children are subject to on a daily basis, they continue to make decisions to secure their own survival, safety and happiness, and that of others. In a session on evidence-based policy, the manner in which these insights can be incorporated into policies and practices was discussed. A session on advocacy and information-sharing highlighted the need for a strategy by which the research findings can be turned into messages and used to target various audiences.

The other major topic addressed at the workshop was the establishment of an *Impact Monitoring System* for the CTRP. The impact monitoring system designed for the CTRP is quite elaborate, mainly due to the complex nature of the programme (its regional dimension and the wide range of activities implemented at country level). It is a comprehensive system covering all aspects of the CTRP and applicable at both regional and country level.

During the Budva workshop the new impact monitoring system has been presented by the regional management team and discussed with programme country coordinators. The features and components of the impact monitoring system were presented and analyzed; practical sessions simulated the application of the system at country level.

The impact monitoring system was generally welcomed by participants, who shared the need of assessing the accomplishment of the programme change-objectives in a systematic way. At the same time, country coordinators raised some issues related to the implementation of the monitoring system within their country programmes. Amongst the main challenges emerged, there were: the establishment of baselines half-way through the programme implementation, as well as the extra-time and resources needed for implementing the system.

Following the workshop, the impact monitoring system shall be implemented in practice. In close cooperation between the regional management team and country coordinators, specific monitoring framework will be prepared by adapting the overall impact monitoring system to each country programme, including a plan for implementation and time-line.



(Regional workshop, October 3-5, 2006, Budva, Montenegro)

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October 18, 2006 – Brussels.

The Round-Table “Child Trafficking in Europe – How to improve Prevention? Drawing lessons from field practice for an improved European policy” was held in Brussels by UNICEF and Terre des Hommes. The regional advisor attended this event representing the CTRP.

The round-table aimed at addressing the following crucial question: “Within the framework of the current European policies on children’s rights and trafficking, both at EU and national levels, *how will the EU, Member States and EU neighbour countries address the prevention of trafficking of children in a short, mid and long-term perspective?*”

During the round-table, the latest UNICEF/Terre des Hommes Report “Action To Prevent Child Trafficking In South Eastern Europe. A Preliminary Assessment” – compiled by the independent expert Mike Dottridge, was presented and discussed. Representatives of the Governments of Albania, Kosovo, Moldova and Romania (the four countries/entities surveyed in the Report) were present at the roundtable and invited to provide their comments to the report findings. The report is available at: <http://www.unicef.org.uk/publications/pdf/traffick3008.pdf>

Selected representatives from EU institutions, European governments, international agencies and NGOs exchanged their views on how to improve prevention of child trafficking both within EU and neighbour countries.

COUNTRY EVENTS**Albania**

RMT met with Anduena Shkurti (Country Coordinator) and partners in Albania to discuss and plan for the implementation of the impact monitoring system. Both the youth clubs in Cerric (*middle of Albania*) and Kuçova (*mid-south of Albania*) and the Socio-Educative Center for Reintegration (FBSH) in Tirana expressed great interest in trying to find ways of monitoring and document actual impact of intervention activities. Indicators were discussed and how to establish baselines (pre-testing) on on-going and planned activities. All partners are positive to the new system and think that with sufficient support from SC they can do it!

Bosnia-Herzegovina

September 28-30,2006 - Banja Luka. The **State Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Illegal Immigrations in BiH** conducted the 2nd out of 5 trainings on the “*Implementation of the measures of protection of Children against the Trafficking in Human Beings*”. The training aimed to increase the capacity of social workers, medical workers and police in the area of prevention and protection of children from trafficking. This training was part of SC Norway SEE Regional Office support to the Office of the State Coordinator.

October 3 & 4, 2006 - Sarajevo. The **Council for Children of BiH, Ministry of Work and Social Policy of the Federation of BiH, SOS Kinderdorf International, UNICEF and Save the Children Norway SEE Regional Office** conducted an International Conference on Violence against Children with the goal to help write a state strategy on prevention of child abuse. 10% out of 100 attendees were children. SC Norway, a host in this conference, conducted one of the round tables titled “*Violence in Community – Exploitation of Children*” This round table hosted 30 participants from local, international governmental and non-governmental structures. Children as well were among the attendees. 5 speakers introduced key problems in the area of child exploitation and facilitated the discussion. Conclusions and recommendations drawn out of the discussion would help future strategic plans to combat violence against children in BiH.

October 19-20, 2006 - Novi Sad. The **initial Conference of the SEE Children’s Rights Ombudsperson’s Network** has taken place. Save the Children Norway SEE Regional Office in Sarajevo in cooperation with the partner organization, the Provincial Ombudsman of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (Autonomous Province in Serbia) initiated a regional informal Network of Ombudsmen for children in order to establish the procedures and standards of child rights protection in South East Europe. The representatives of BiH, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Slovenia, UN administered Province of Kosovo and Vojvodina (autonomous province in Serbia) participated. This network is planning to expand in the near future.

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Bulgaria

End of September 2006. The Partners Bulgaria Foundation (PBF) conducted training for 18 professionals (social workers, psychologists and teachers) on Child Rights and Child Trafficking. The participants came from two towns located North-east of Bulgaria, which are considered as regions at risk of trafficking. The participants commented that the training was very useful and extremely important with regards to child trafficking prevention. At the training session, *the new PBF developed training manual on Child Rights* was piloted.



(Training session in Bulgaria)

October 13, 2006. "Animus Association" Foundation held the opening ceremony after having reconstructed the building of the *new Rehabilitation Centre for Women, Adolescents and Children, survivors of Violence* and purchased new equipment for the *Crisis Centre*. This is thanks to the financial support granted by the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, GTZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit) and the Tulip Foundation, Netherlands. The renovated premises look spacious and cozy. It is a well-designed facility for all programmes of the Rehabilitation Centre and a Training Centre as well. It is highly notable that the new building enables the staff to conduct programmes for adults separately from those for children.

October 28, 2006. The Resource Center staff in Kjustendil organized a Halloween Party for the children visiting the center. The children are competing on lantern, costume and pumpkin pie making. A Peace Corps volunteer has translated original American recipes to be used by children when preparing the culinary delights.

Romania

October 04, 2006. Save the Children, Timis branch was invited to take part in the inauguration of the Regional Center of National Anti-trafficking Agency for the areas of Timis, Arad and Caras Severin. Other stakeholders, like BCCO-Combating Organized Crime; Anti-Trafficking Brigade; DGASPC-General Assistance and Child Protection Direction; Analysis and Prevention of Criminality Department; SPVRSI-Victims Protection and Service of Social Reintegration of the Offenders and NGOs were invited too. A video on trafficking in human beings in Ukraine, Moldova and Turkey was presented and a discussion on future activities took place after the video presentation.

September 28, 2006. Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs has identified Moldova, Ukraine, Belarus, Bulgaria and Romania as countries, where trafficking in human beings is an important issue and where the governments are concerned with the prevention, prosecution and the assistance of victims of trafficking. The above countries are involved in the "*Neighbourhood Program*", funded by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the period 2005-2008. On September 28, 2006 the country Steering group meeting for Romania took place. The agenda covered brief program presentation, priorities and discussion about proposals.

September 29, 2006 - County of Iasi. Social Alternatives Association held a press conference to present the project outcomes on "*Youth Centers for reducing the vulnerability to Trafficking and Social Reintegration of children*" in Bucharest and 3 other counties (Iasi, Botosani and Giurgiu). The project was developed in partnership with Save the Children, Iasi branch and funded by ILO-IPEC. (See more at www.antitrafic.ro)

September 30, 2006 - County of Iasi. Social Alternatives Association has completed the 12 month "*Regional Network on Human Trafficking Prevention and Combating*" project, funded by "Empowering Civil Society in Romania" Phare Program of the European Union. The Project was implemented in 8 counties (Suceava, Botosani, Iasi, Vaslui, Bacau, Neamt, Galati, and Vrancea) with the assistance of member organizations of Regional Coalition against Trafficking in human beings. Iasi Border Police County Inspectorate was the main partner in the project. The regional

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Network on Human Trafficking Prevention and Combating gathers 120 governmental and non-governmental institutions, which maintain effective communication through a discussion group, envisaged to continue to function once the project's completed. One of the project outputs is the Information guide in the field of Trafficking in Human Beings – Prevention, Combating and Victims' assistance (See more at www.antitrafic.ro).

October 09-10, 2006. The Red Cross held a seminar (workshop) on experience exchange and elaboration of a collaboration strategy between the state institutions and NGOs in terms of child trafficking. Representatives of National Anti-trafficking Agency, National Authority for Child Protection, Child Protection Departments, Red Cross branches, ILO-IPEC, IOM and UNICEF took part in the event.

Serbia

September 19, 2006 - UN Study Day of Action in Serbia. The Day of Action was an opportunity for children from 10 Serbian cities to visit the Centers for Social Work and to see and ask their local municipal leaders about their plans on preventing and what they have done so far on the violence in their municipalities. They briefed the local leaders (officials) on the main UN Study Recommendations.

At the same time, a group of 6 children visited the Parliament and the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Policy and met respectively the Speaker of the Serbian Parliament and the minister of Labour. The children expressed their views on the violence against children and discussed the actions, they and their peers would expect from the Parliament and the Ministry to take. A press conference, where the children showed their resolution to promote the UN Study Recommendations and to present their views to the wider public, followed the meeting with the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Policy.

Finally, the group of children participated in one hour national radio show, where, their peers from the 10 cities were connected simultaneously to report directly and to share their impressions from the visits to the local municipalities to a broader audience of children and to general public.

September 26-27, 2006 - Krusevac. The Child Rights Centre with the support of Save the Children (CTRP II) held a two day seminar on "Child Trafficking – Threat and Reality" with the

participation of representatives from local centers for social work, media, police, school teachers, justice department and health workers, all coming from Rasina and Toplica districts (South of Serbia). The speakers were representatives of police, justice department I/NGOs and forensic medicine.



(UN Study "Violence against Children" Day of Action in Serbia)

October 02, 2006. Astra, the local NGO officially launched a media campaign on "Child Trafficking- Our Reality" targeting the wide public. As the child trafficking is a serious problem demanding continuous measures of prevention, this campaign is a continuation of the first one held in April-June 2006. The campaign aims at informing the public on the issue of trafficking in children. It is marked by street actions, promotional activities, press coverage and presence in various cultural events. As for the first one (held April-June 2006), ten video spots were produced and the message is delivered by celebrities, like singers, actors and sportspeople.

STAFF UPDATES

Romania

Mihaela Teodorescu, the local coordinator from Timisoara got married in September 2006.

CONGRATULATIONS & GOOD LUCK!



CALENDER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Bosnia-Herzegovina

November 12-14, 2006 - Tuzla. The Office of the State Coordinator and SC Norway SEE Regional Office will conduct the 3rd out of 5 trainings on the "*Implementation of Child Protection Measures against Trafficking in Human Beings*". The trainees are social workers, medical workers and police officers.

For more information, please contact Dzelila Mulic, dzilila.mulic@gmail.com

Romania

End of October 2006. Save the Children Romania is organizing a national seminar on "Good Practices in assisting children, victims of trafficking" in the framework of "*Improvement in care of children, victims of trafficking and their long-term re-integration*" project, which is funded by ILO-IPEC. The participants in the seminar are representatives of Child Protection General Directory, Police and Labour Units from the 4 following counties: Bucharest, Iasi, Botosani and Giurgiu.

November 27-28, 2006 - Chisinau, Moldova. **Save the Children Romania** is invited to take part in a regional workshop on "*Legal Assistance of Victims of Trafficking*" to be held by the *Moldovan Centre for Prevention of Trafficking in Women*. This event will be taking place in the framework of "Human Trafficking in Eastern and South Eastern Europe" Program, funded by the Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The workshop will be attended by judges, prosecutors, police officers and lawyers from I/NGOs directly involved with victims of trafficking. The publication of a handbook on best practices in legal assistance of victims of trafficking will follow the workshop.

Regional Office in Tirana

November, December 2006. During these 2 months the regional programme manager and programme advisor will pay a cycle of visits to all CTRP country programmes. The main aim of the visits is to support country programmes to design an impact monitoring framework in order to measure the CTRP impact at country level.

The regional research advisor will be visiting Romania, Montenegro and Albanian field sites in November.

November 7-9, 2006. The Regional Research Advisor will be presenting a paper on the research project at a workshop conducted by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD). This workshop seeks to develop research tools that will be used in a research project that is being developed under the Programme to Support the Development of Trans-national Referral Mechanisms (TRM) for Trafficked Persons in South-Eastern Europe.

GENERAL ARTICLES

Crime on Internet

(Extracted from www.b92.net. Submitted by Serbian CTRP team)

"Belgrade - In last decade, crime on the Internet augmented 20 times, according newest researches from FBI. One of most serious forms of this crime is the exchange of materials with child pornography.

Although Serbia is country in which chains of pedophilia have already been broke, Ministry of Internal Affaires still doesn't have specialized teams and equipments to survey distributors of those materials. With the increase number of Internet users in Serbia, we have more of those persons who are ready to involve themselves in trading child pornography. Police is expected to have more work, but also less money and appropriate legal

Regulative are tying their's hands. Zoran Djokic, chief of Service for repression of crimes, says that Crime Law isn't equal with world standards when it comes to certain crimes that are most usually committed on the Internet, such as abuse of minor persons. "In Serbia, only children age 14 are protected, and the standard would be 18. Threaten punishments are up to two years, and that is a small punishment for the exchange of photos and movies ", he says. Ambassador of USA in Serbia, Michael Polt says that United States are ready to help Serbia in combat against child pornography. "We are ready to help your police in adequate equipments and knowledge for combating this kind of crime", says Polt.

According to FBI researchers, most of pornographic materials come from Eastern Europe, especially from former republics of Soviet Union. Unlike in Serbia, where there are no defined sanctions, in USA penalty for Internet pedophilia can be up to 20 years in prison."

Note from editor: This article does not necessarily reflect the views of CTRP.