

# NATIONAL SOCIAL PROTECTION SCHEMES AND BENEFITS FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS WITH FOCUS ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN KOSOVO

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## **Motivation/problem statement**

Employment rate and the standard of living in Kosovo is conditioned by the level of economic development. Low level of industrial development, agriculture, construction and processing of products and services, result in low employment level. Annual projected economic growth of 3.8% does not promise an improvement of the situation in the employment sector. According to data of MLSW, the unemployment rate in Kosovo in 1988 amounted to 36%, while for the past years 2009-2011 it ranges from 40% - 45%. Gross Domestic Product per capita in 2010 according to IMF was € 1.812. According to the World Bank statistics of 2006, 45% of Kosovo population lives below the poverty level, which is less than 1.42 Euro per day, while 17% of the population lives below the extreme poverty which is 0.93 Euros per day. The data shows that poverty is higher among larger families with low levels of education, which have many unemployed members. Poor population is mainly concentrated in rural areas, in some regions of the country. As a consequence of poverty in Kosovo there are many social problems, which are the preoccupation of all state structures and in particular the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare. Social problems have produced different categories of vulnerable persons such as: poor people, people with disabilities, elderly, retired, abandoned children, children without parental care, abused or maltreated children, children with antisocial behavior and delinquent juveniles, trafficked persons, etc. Trafficking of human beings dates since the ancient times of slavery, but the methods of trafficking of human beings have changed from phase to phase of the economic, social and political development, meanwhile this phenomenon has changed in its form, purpose, trends, destination, etc. Nowadays, trafficking of human beings is developed in the form of modern slavery, via recruitment, transportation, housing or acceptance of human beings, under the threat or use of force, as well as other means of compulsion, frauds, seduction with the aims of exploiting for benefits. The purpose of victims' exploitation by the trafficker in most cases is: sexual exploitation, forced labor, begging, trafficking of human organs, domestic slavery and other similar forms of exploitation.

In the Republic of Kosovo, this phenomenon is in progress, depending on the actors who cause it, or from the development of the reasons of motivations. Trafficking is an organized crime, which should be investigated as an illegal activity, but the anti-trafficking should also be treated from the perspective of basic human rights, protection of vulnerable persons and victims. The fight against trafficking contributes to the building of a responsible state in which the law rules. To fight this phenomenon, in the Republic of Kosovo, many laws have been promulgated, many local and international government and non-government institutions have been engaged and a lot of activities have been performed, but according to the data it is indicated that it cannot be managed successfully. Therefore, to highlight the priorities and weaknesses of the commitment of local and international institutions, it was necessary to do researches in advance, respectively studies that would recommend what improvements shall be made in the future in

order to manage this phenomenon appropriately. Since many commitments have been made up to now regarding the identification, treatment of trafficked persons, in particular regarding children and adult trafficking, Government of the Republic of Kosovo with relevant ministries such as; Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health and other social partners have treated this social field fairly enough up to now, and are organized in that way as to raise this issue of treatment on the national level, by ensuring the legal basis and by building the respective Strategy, according to which activities will be developed for achieving it. Many researchers have been done; many formal data have been processed, to reflect a clear landscape on the orientation and development of the reports that reflect the state of the process of children and adult trafficking, their resocialization, as well as their reintegration in the society, the building of the social protection schemes and their decentralization. Many professional advice have been considered in this study, which have resulted from their experiences and their approaches, who have given a special contribution in the enrichment of this study. Purpose of this study is a research concerning the National Social Protection Schemes and benefits in Kosovo, such as cash and/or in-kind transfers and assistances. Assuming that root causes for human trafficking are poverty, lack of alternatives, unemployment, different kinds of social risks, poor education and lack of access to social services, it is important to gain evidence based information about the situation of vulnerable groups. In order to find out where they live, where they migrate to, what is offered to them in a form of services and how the offered services are actually delivered, it is necessary to carry out several studies among which: By this study social situation in recent years is assessed, particularly some social programs for vulnerable and marginalized groups which have been established in Kosovo, in form of financial or other assistance. But at the same time, it was proven that social services are not known or difficult to access for the majority of the population, especially from the groups of people affected by poverty. That's why the study on National Social Schemes, different beneficiary groups and categories of people will be conducted. The study will help in producing guidelines and manuals which will assist the CSW's (Centre for Social Work) to provide approved services to vulnerable groups. Social protection schemes and other benefits can be divided into four broad categories: Financial Products, Cash Transfers, Services, Legal Support.

#### **Assessment of the current situation**

- Brief overview of the current situation (social, economic, affected population etc);
- Brief description of Government Policies concerning national schemes;
- Assessment of the technical capacity of Government and/or decentralized local structures to implement the respective policies.

National policies, on-going/proposed programs relevant for the study area

- Review of major national policies in the area of social protection of all Ministries and also the Municipal level;
- Assessment and review of the link of these national policies to the national schemes;
- Policy measures as part of the local self-government strategies and other policy documents with regard to social protection.

Finally, we will describe the needs for change in this field which shall be summarized in the form of recommendations.

#### **Methods/procedure/approach:**

This study has been performed according to the published official materials, regarding economic, social and political issues in the Republic of Kosovo, from professional and competent local and international institutions, as well as according to the data collected from official authorities of the government and non-government institutions of the Republic of Kosovo and international institutions. Exploitation of these information resources during the study, has served to make a review upon the applicability of the document of the National Strategy against Child's Trafficking.

### **Results/findings/product:**

Social and economic situation in Kosovo is characterized with low level of economic development in Kosovo, results with high levels of unemployment. Population lives with low living standard, with low level of education quality with low level of working skills, without quality alternative for stable and sustainable living. Sources and causes of human trafficking phenomena in Kosovo society, the causes are numerous risks. Roots of human trafficking, especially of children remain in poverty, interests for job. The goal of migration for many categories of the population, who undergo the process of trafficking human beings is personal lifestyle change, intended to go in western countries with a better standard of living. Trafficking development trends in Kosovo and the Situation of the victims of trafficking according to their origin 2001-2010 (Situation with number of victims of trafficking according to CSW (Centre for Social Work) of the municipalities of Kosovo during the 2001-2011 period.) reflected situation of victims of trafficking according to age, gender and national background. Trafficking in human beings, especially of children is a crime. Trafficking of human beings involved in the trafficking process: vulnerable families, criminals, civil society and state agencies to deal with. Since 2000 year Kosovo was place of generation of human trafficking. Category of poor children is a possible potential for trafficking, so it is necessary to complete the Social Assistance Law of 2001.

### **Legal framework**

Therefore, regarding this phenomenon of the organized crime, progressive societies have made efforts to prevent or even eradicate this type of crime, adopting Laws and international conventions, through which official authorities are authorized to combat it. International conventions have defined rights and basic human freedoms, prohibition of slavery, the right to life-safety, the right of individuals not to undergo the torture and degrading treatment, and freedom of movement. According to the legislation in effect, trafficking of persons is defined as recruitment, transfer, shelter or acceptance of persons, through threat or use of force or other forms of forcing, abuse, fraud, lying, or abuse of power, or difficult situation, or composition or receiving of payments or other benefits to obtain the consent of the person who has control over another person for the purpose of exploitation. The legal basis of domestic legislation is supported by an array of international documents and conventions. (National Strategy and Action Plan against the trafficking of human beings 2008-2011). So, to prevent and eradicate trafficking of human beings as organized crime, progressive societies have obtained the international legal instruments such as:

- International legal documents and
- National Legal Documents

International legal documents and domestic legal documents that regulate different aspects of trafficking of human beings. There existing institutional mechanisms, but low level of direct protection of victims of trafficking by traffickers and their punishment is lack of support of marginalized groups, the shortcomings and their specific needs. Inadequate denunciation of human traffickers by courts, and

involvement of politics through toleration of crimes are lack of it's important to complete Legal framework about human trafficking regulating and adequate sanctions According to existing laws in Kosovo, the categorization of persons in need was performed, in order to provide social protection through social schemes. National social schemes and benefits according to social categories needs social protection schemes and other benefits in financial products and cash transfers for all categories as follow: Social Assistance in Kosovo Support for Poor Categories, Support for the Families of Martyrs, KLA disabled persons, Veterans and Members, and Families of Civil Victims of the War, Beneficiaries of Pension Schemes, Pension scheme for persons with disabilities, Pension scheme for workers of Trepca, Scheme benefits to families who care for children with disabilities from 1-18 years.

The grouping of this social category is in function of increasing the efficiency rate of social protection, with a wider inclusion, as follows:

- National strata in extreme poverty
- Unemployed national strata
- Population with disabilities
- Old population, etc.

With this categorization of social schemes and with this social inclusion, 330,000 assignees are under care, including pension assignees, however with the configuration of these schemes adequate inclusion of marginalized groups was not done. Social services is concerned with: Protecting children, Adoption of children, Family housing for children without parental care, Abused and maltreated children, Protection of children with antisocial behavior and juvenile, Caring for the elderly and persons with disabilities. Strategic objectives for social protection of children (victims of human trafficking) and adult at risk of being trafficked are designed according to the applicable laws in Kosovo and according to the international documents for protection of human rights, especially children and adult. These policies are formulated to give an adequate response to issues of trafficking in human beings by means of new institutional legal methods, but the insufficient budget has led to the failure of the process of victims' protection, that must be addressed as a problem that requires solution in the future. National policies in the social field for children and adult protection are focused through: Prevention of trafficking and re-trafficking of human beings, Awareness of efficiency of educational system with the aim of preventing the trafficking, Promotion and implementation of children's right, Coordination Structure, Protection of victims and witnesses, Identification and referral of victims of trafficking, children and adults. Although Kosovo legislation excludes identified victims from the punishment for the illegal acts committed, as a direct result of trafficking, non adequate application of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) might have resulted in failing of proper identification for all victims of trafficking and return of the victims to their exploiters. Offering and coordination of efficient service for the victims of trafficking, children and adults requests advancement of legal framework as well as enforcement of institutional mechanism and institutional capacities, by ensuring sustainable service for the victims of trafficking while cooperating with other actors in the field of services, including: Coordination of services by social partners, Long term reintegration of victims of trafficking, Assistance in material support, Social Assistance through self-employment

### **Social services for human trafficking:**

Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare (MLSW) has taken care to support aid providers for victims in rehabilitation and reintegration, which deals with the care of rehabilitation of victims referring to Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the victims of trafficking in Kosovo. Through which is

done and offered the service plan containing: service provision, the schedule of service provision, and report on the provided services. Through training staff capacities have been increased for the implementation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the identification of victims of trafficking as well their familiarization with the roles and responsibilities of all parties in providing aid to these individuals. A small number of STHB officials have concluded a course for Children Interviewing Techniques, Rehabilitation assistance, Long term reintegrated services.

Return of victims of trafficking in their country of origin:

When the child returns to his/her country of origin, then the responsibility goes to the case manager and to relevant authorities, to draft and monitor a plan for child care (VT). The Center for Protection of Victims and Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings (*PVPT*) engages its own psychologist and psychiatrists to offer psycho-social support for the victims accommodated there. During the process of identification, social partners are involved: Directorate for Investigation of trafficking of human beings, Department for Social Welfare and Service Providers (NGOs), who in the process of return of victims of trafficking are also engaged with the social partners that are competent in handling the case such as: Office for Good Governance at the Office of the Prime Minister, IOM, NGOs. The victims return themselves, the combined forms of cooperation are used for the return of victims, and it is also possible that the victims of trafficking benefit assistance for return from the country of destination or even from the country of origin. NGOs that have in focus the treatment of local victims of trafficking, offer psycho-social support, as needed, individually at least once, could offer additional help as well, in conducting trainings, in education, also in support of employment, during the stay at home or in the shelter. Responsible for the repatriation of foreign victims of trafficking in their countries of origin, should be done according to the recommendations that gives the group for direct assistance but such thing is not supervised on how further activities for repatriation are conducted by the social services in the country of origin. We can conclude that the procedures for the return of victims of trafficking in their country of origin have improved, but a desirable standard is still not achieved, the lack of this entire process, the manner of continuous treatment of the cases of former victims, of which is not forwarded any information on how they reintegrate and involve in the society, in the country of origin (cases of foreign victims of trafficking that are trafficked in Kosovo). When we deal with victims who are originally from Kosovo, that are trafficked outside Kosovo, after the victim returns in the country, then the procedure for criminal report starts and the claim for compensation is filed. All these activities are conducted by social partners that are involved in the fight against trafficking of human beings according to the competences they possess: Ministry of Internal Affairs, Prosecution Office, Division for Assistance and Victims Protection, Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, Centers for Social Work. Local NGOs that have within their shelters to accommodate victims of trafficking and potential victims, offer psycho-social support as needed and on individual basis: psychiatric and psychological help. In order to prepare vocational training programs for the victims of trafficking, they make the evaluation of their needs and also offer training programs for building educational capacities as forms of support for sustainable employment.

Social assistance on legal support:

According to the personnel of Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare (MLSW), guidelines for identifying children victims were adopted directly from the Palermo Protocol for prevention, reduction and punishment of trafficking of human beings, which was used as a basis for the preparation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in accordance with the standards for human rights. This Protocol is the first mandatory legal instrument which contains one more definition of trafficking in human beings.

*Standard Operation Procedures (SOP) are coordinated by the members of the Direct Assistance and Support Group (DASG) for foreign victims approved in 2001, while those for local victims were signed in 2006.* According to these agreements, Investigation Unit against Trafficking of Human Beings (IUATHB) of Kosovo Police (KP), Ministry of Justice (MJ), Protection Unit for Victim Advocacy (PUVA), Temporary Secure Shelter (TSS), IOM, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare (MLSW), Center for Social Work (CSW), and the local NGOs, all have agreed to share their respective duties and responsibilities, and to secure comprehensive coordination and cooperation in providing social and legal assistance for the victims of trafficking.(40\*) After the implementation of local Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), members of the Group for Assistance and Direct Support – GADS have organized regional trainings for police officers, victims’ protectors, social workers as well as local NGOs for their awareness regarding the proper implementation of SOPs during their work, especially on the ways of identifying and referring the potential trafficking cases. Training included an explanation of SOPs, interviews with victims of trafficking, and directing the individual to the proper services.

#### Reintegration:

Reintegration is a long-term process and its duration depends from children’s needs involved in the process of trafficking. The process of children reintegration is always very difficult, partly because of the prejudices towards former prostitutes, who may have been forced to do such work. Reintegration of victims of trafficking is based on the special law provisions that are for the protection of children, such as: “Family Law” and ”Social Services Law”. Based on these laws as well as other respective legal provisions the role of the police in case of identification of the victim involved in the process of trafficking, that amends the initial referral procedures of the case investigator, informing other partners who have to deal with the treatment of the victim, isolating the victim from the potential risk, examination of the victims immediate needs, drafting an urgent plan in providing the assistance for the victim, giving information about her social circle, respectively family, providing necessary documents, safe transportation and security up to the place of commencement of criminal procedure and providing opportunity to draft the claim for compensation was also adjusted. The police in cooperation with MLSW, namely with SCW, offers 24 hour support to trafficking victim. Trafficked victims are also provided an opportunity of communication in respective national and official language. According to the Office of Special Prosecutor there is a list of interpreters which is kept by the Unit for Protection and Help of Victims UPHV in the MJ, which is used for engagement of interpreters according to the needs of trafficking victims.

Placed on regional bases according to the needs. It should be noted that lately there has been difficulties in reimbursing their services because of procurement procedures.

All this services are linked to the services which are provided by the Ministry of Justice, which has to do with the protection of the victim included in the process of trafficking. This services starts from the initial step of treatment by offering information on legal rights which are in service of the protection of victim, information on the aid possibilities and conditions, the offer of communication through interpretation, assessment of taking under care and the needs of victim, drafting of aid and security plan as well procedures of obtaining consent in applying help plan.

#### Investigation and punishment of trafficking crimes:

Investigation and punishment of trafficking crimes, Advancement of proactive and reactive investigations techniques, Enforcement and development of cooperation with other states and international organizations, Prosecution-Court efficiency awareness, Enforcement of legality appliance on confiscation of assets deriving from the criminal offences, Providing adequate and non-discriminatory treatment to victims of trafficking

#### Regulation of the database

Department of Judicial Administration is engaged in the preparation of Information System Case Management (ISCM). This database links: Minor offence courts, district and municipal courts with the Supreme Court and Public Prosecutor's Office, however, neither the police nor the MoJ are part of this system.

Case Management Information System (CMIS) within the MoJ for the arrested persons and those released on bail, foresees the creation and integration of databases, that can be accessed by courts, prosecutors, police and the MoJ. There is a need to coordinate the creation of the database between courts, prosecutors, police and the MoJ.

There is no database where the number of assisted victims of trafficking is recorded that would break down the number of identified and assisted victims, and there are many differences and overlapping in the reports drafted by relevant institutions. Security for prosecutors and judges is still extremely weak. Special Prosecutor's Office does not have statistics on the number of cases where protection is provided to the number of professionals who are threatened. Central database is still lacking, which would contain statistics on arrests, criminal prosecutions, convictions and clearings, which will be used for creating, updating and monitoring of assisted cases. Role and mandate of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare in child protection and decentralization of services: The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, namely the Department of Social Welfare, has been mandated to protect all categories in need for social and family services. These categories include victims of trafficking, both children and adult, local and foreign. MLSW has a mandate: policy, legislation, standards, strategies, overseeing the inspection of the quality of social services and family services, coordinates the activities of government and nongovernment agencies as well as the activities of international organizations in Kosovo. Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare is responsible for overall organization of the delivery of social services and domestic violence in Kosovo and ensure that all residents of Kosovo have equal access to social services and family without distinction, such as race, ethnicity sex, language, religion, political opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or something else. The Ministry is responsible for developing policies and preparing strategic plans for the provision of social and family services for the population of Kosovo, ensure standard implementation as appropriate of these policies and strategic plans by municipalities and other organizations that provide social and family services, as well as the regulatory framework for social and family services and coordinates the activities of international and government agencies and nongovernment organizations in order to promote coherent development and implementation of social welfare policies, encourage community participation and development initiatives and community activities in relation to social welfare. Social Welfare Department is responsible for directing and overseeing all operational functions under this Law, and it also suggests and gives advice on policy development for social and family services. Social Welfare Department also cooperates with other authorities in promoting and maintaining social and

family

services.

The Department collaborates with the Institute of Social Policy and the General Council for Social and Family Services, municipalities, academia, ministries and other interested parties for maintaining and promoting social and family services. The Department gives proposals, suggestions and advice to the Ministry and the Government of Kosovo on the development of policies dealing with social and family services.

On behalf of the Ministry, Department of Social Welfare is responsible for directing and overseeing all operational functions under this Law: a. preparation of regulations, directives and instructions relating to the provision of social and family services; b. issuing guidelines about the level of service standards to be met by social service providers and family; c. conduct inspections of social and family services; d. reviewing annual reports of the relevant municipal departments and approval of annual plans of work; e. approval of the establishment of residential care facilities by the providers of social and family services;

f. taking responsibility for the direct management of social and family services in cases where a municipality fails to consistently and seriously meet acceptable standards of service delivery; g. giving instructions regarding the submission of applications for guardianship orders before the courts, which deal with children and vulnerable adults; h. In special cases, the direct supervision of cases and family social services; The establishment and coordination of the panel for placing children in foster care or adoption;

j. complaints procedure development related to social and family services;

k. any form of protection that is not included in this Law. Department, on behalf of the Ministry, conducts inspections of social and family services provided by institutions and statutory, governmental organizations and the private sector. In connection with these activities, an annual report is published. For each inspection, the Department prepares a report highlighting the achievements and shortcomings in social and family services, which are subject to inspection by providing advice and guidance as needed. The report is sent to service providers and the municipality. All social service providers and family should always cooperate with Department inspectors and make it possible to immediately look at all records, documents and persons to which it requires. Failure to do so may result in a ban from the Ministry for them to continue providing such services.

The Department is authorized to provide guidance to service providers who fail to meet acceptable standards of conduct. The service providers should take measures to bring the quality of services to these standards. Failure to follow these instructions could result in being prohibited to further social and family services by their providers.

The Department of Social Welfare (DSW) on behalf of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MLSW) directly manages the professional work of: institutions, social service workers, who provide social services for the citizens in social needs. The Department of Social Welfare, with its Division of Social Services, under its legal mandate develops: professional supervising, monitoring, coordination, advising and enhancing of professional capacities. With the purpose of protecting the people in need for social and family services, especially for the protection of children in danger of being trafficked and the children who are victims of trafficking, MLSW is engaged and has given its professional contribution in drafting the National Action Plans and Strategies against Trafficking in Human Beings in different time periods:

- Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking – Government of Kosovo (2005-2007);
- National Plan and Strategy against Human Trafficking in Kosovo (2008-2011);
- National Plan and Strategy against Human Trafficking in Kosovo (2011-2014).



All this engagement is a result of coordinating the efforts of central government, civil society and international partners. The implementation and monitoring of these strategic documents is done in coordination with all factors involved in combating the human trafficking in the Republic of Kosovo.

Taking into consideration the monitoring role that the MLSW has, the main monitoring dimensions as well as the assessments of strategic documents are presented as below:

- a. Institutional capacities
- b. Monitoring indexes during and at the end of the three years period
- c. Information resources and measuring instruments
- d. Distribution and utilization of monitoring and assessment results

Institute for Social Policy - which develops and promotes professional knowledge, skills and standard in the field of social and family services, conducts research in the field of social and family services, promotes professional quality through training, consultation with experts, and publish relevant manuals, research reports and promotional material. The General Council of Social and Family Services - responsible for maintaining standards and discipline in the field of social and family services and acts as a licensing authority and recorder for professionals in this field. Assessment of the technical capacity of decentralized local structures to implement the respective policies, Management of Cases Regarding Children Trafficking and Benefits

#### **Conclusion/implications:**

1. Low level of economic development results in high levels of unemployment
2. Kosovo has low level of education quality, especially for children of vulnerable families
3. Vulnerable population lives in a low living standard
4. Vulnerable groups have no alternative in improving their quality of life
5. Causes are related to numerous risks present in Kosovo society
6. The goal of migration for many categories of the population, who undergo the process of trafficking in human beings, is lifestyle change, and quest for better standard of living.
7. Roots of trafficking in human beings are specially related to poverty
8. In the year 2002 first cases of local victims of trafficking were identified.
9. Trafficking in human beings involves vulnerable families, criminals, civil society and state agencies involved in its fighting.
10. Category of poor children is under threat of being trafficked, and it is necessary to complete the Social Assistance Law of 2001 which will involve this category.
11. Low level of direct protection of victims of trafficking by traffickers and their punishment
12. Trafficking in human beings, especially of children is crime.
13. Insufficient support of marginalized groups according to their specific needs
14. Current state support offered to potential victims of trafficking, through social services, is sufficient, but still remains room for improvement.
15. In most cases, support of victims of trafficking through social services is not based on their needs.
16. Lack of social support at national level needs continuous improvement of social policy designing, modeling social services, and building social cooperation partners, creation of adequate social schemes to the needs of victims of trafficking, establishment of mechanisms, in order to protect best children vulnerable to trafficking.
17. Access to social services provided by state institutions is poor, and as such cannot effectively influence the

effective prevention of trafficking in human beings.

18. Vulnerable groups have limited alternatives to social services which do not meet the needs of victims of trafficking.
19. Lack of improvement of social services, providing financial assistance to trafficking victims or their families in coordination with state and non-state actors.
20. Configuration of social schemes, there is no adequate inclusion of marginalized groups.
21. Social schemes which currently operate in Kosovo, are not sufficient to cover all social categories in need of social assistance.
22. Insufficient budget is an obstacle in victim protection, and this problem must be addressed and resolved in the future.
23. Public information campaigns, with special focus on rural young people and non-Albanian communities, which had two major objectives: creation of a rapport on trafficking in human beings and a viable scheme for compensating victims of trafficking
24. Low quality of the process of reintegration of victims trafficking in society and empower them for a long term period.
25. Other gaps are identified, information regarding the types of children family services provided by social services, and lack of cooperation between the actors involved in this process (the beneficiaries-children victims of trafficking).
26. Case coordination of activities to combat trafficking in human beings with neighboring countries is improving.
27. Social services, legal support regarding financial aid is not regulated as a defensive scheme for victims of trafficking.
28. Operations with the Fund for Compensation for victims of trafficking in human beings is pending without never operations, because there had never come to the budget itself, which will be used to support the work of VAAU and PSU work.
29. Based on the "Law on Social and Family Services in Kosovo" in Article 8, which supports MLSW local NGOs, which have within their shelters with a modest financial value: the protection, rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of trafficking, which according to the NGO sector is estimated to be insufficient for the period of long-term reintegration of victims.
30. Due to budgetary constraints, MLSW is not able to set a quality level of cooperation with agencies involved in protecting victims of human trafficking.
31. For foreign victims of trafficking, there has been International Organization for Migration, which has served to return to their countries of origin.
32. Repatriation of foreign victims of trafficking in their countries of origin must be based on the recommendations, which provides direct support group, but one thing has not forwarded it to repatriate to further develop the activities of these cases by the social services in the country of origin.
33. MLSW has developed good cooperation with international social services, but for victim's category of trafficking in persons does not have any situation that is assisted through this service (only with Albania there is a certain level of cooperation).
34. Kosovo Consolidated Budget provides no funding for witness protection.
35. Department of Labor and employment in the MLSW is responsible for providing opportunities for the development of alternative programming for reintegration and social inclusion of these categories.
36. A small number of officials of the THBS-ended interviewing techniques course on Children.
37. Advanced procedures for the return of trafficked victims in the country of origin have not yet reached a desirable level, because there is no follow-up on the treatment of former victims and their re-integration in the society from their country of origin.
38. CCTV systems are provided, which have so far not been used in cases of victims of trafficking, but are used to protect other categories of witnesses.
39. For anonymous tracking of victims from one place to another, six unmarked vehicles were purchased.
40. Regional THBS offices have access to the vehicles listed in the KPS, but need to share them with other units

due to their lack, and THBS's headquarters has two unmarked vehicles.

41. Traffickers usually receive lenient sentences, and following their appeal, they usually get free, thus tolerating them to continue the exploitation of their victims.
42. Low penalties for traffickers remain significant obstacles due to corruption, and cultural differences on trafficking, smuggling, obligation and permission.
43. According to reports, prosecutors do not seek greater penalties possible for traffickers due to wrong perceptions, lack of training as well as agreements with traffickers.
44. International organizations and experts report that the lack of an effective system of witness protection remained a serious impediment to effective encouragement of victims to participate in the prosecution of trafficking; no victim has helped so far in the investigation and prosecution of their traffickers.
45. Several meetings addressing combating of trafficking in human beings were held, but they are not held regularly and they have not included all neighboring countries.
46. THBS and KPS Money Laundering units are part of the same directorates, but at present there lack of coordination within the directorate.
47. Inadequate enforcement of laws makes prosecuting of traffickers also inadequate.
48. NGOs and international experts reported that trafficking related corruption continued to hamper government efforts against trafficking.
49. Department of Judicial Administration is engaged in the preparation of Case Management Information System (CMIS). This database is the link: minor offence courts, district courts and municipal courts to the Supreme Court and Public Prosecutor's Office, however, neither the police nor they are part of this system.
50. There is no database where the number of assisted VT-s is recorded, which register the exact number VTs identified, assisted, but there are many differences during the duplication and reports from relevant institutions
51. Security for prosecutors and judges is still extremely weak.
52. Special Prosecutor's Office does not maintain statistics on the number of cases where protection is provided or the number of professionals who are threatened.
53. Still lacks a central database which contains statistics on arrests, prosecutions, convictions and acquittals, which will be used for creating, updating and monitoring of assisted cases.
54. This process works to develop social workers in the field of human trafficking is not easy, due to social and economic circumstances in Kosovo, so they must be treated especially by law.
55. CSA currently have to engage a small number of professional staff. CSW also have a limited budget for the treatment of victims of trafficking.
56. Lack of decentralization of social service support mechanisms, regional structures at local or municipal level.
57. Decentralization of social services do not function adequately.