



**GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

**DECISION NO. 461**

**of 22 May, 2018**

Chisinau

**On the approval of the National Strategy for Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings for the years 2018-2023 and the Action Plan for the years 2018-2020 regarding its implementation**

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In order to enforce Art. 7 of the Law no. 241-XVI of 20 October 2005 on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings (Official Gazette of the Rep. of Moldova, 2005, No 164-167, art.812), as subsequently amended and supplemented, the Government DECIDES:

**1. To approve:**

1. The National Strategy for Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings for the years 2018-2023, according to Annex no. 1;

2. Action Plan for the years 2018-2020 on the implementation of the National Strategy for Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings for the years 2018-2023, according to Annex no. 2.

3. Financing the actions provided in Annex no. 2 shall be made from the account and within the limits of the budget approved by the public authorities, as well as from other sources, according to the legislation in force.

4. The authorities responsible for the implementation of the provisions of the Strategy and of the Action Plan nominated shall submit to the Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, on a half-yearly and annually basis (by 15 July and 15 January respectively) the information regarding the degree of implementation thereof.

4. The Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings:

1) will coordinate and monitor the process of implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan nominated;

2) analyze the information and submit to the Government annually, by 31st of March, a national report on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings.

**Prime Minister**

**PAVEL FILIP**

Countersignatures:

Minister of Foreign Affairs and  
EU Integration

Tudor Ulianoschi

Ministry of the Interior

Alexandru Jizdan

Minister of health, labour  
and social protection

Svetlana Cebotari

Minister of Finance

Octavian Armasu

Endorsement:

Secretary General of the Government

Lilia PALII

Approved in the Government Session of

**NATIONAL STRATEGY**  
**for Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings**  
**2018-2023**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Trafficking in human beings (THB) is a violation of individual freedom and dignity. It is a serious form of crime that has major consequences on the life and health of a human being, a threat to the security and sustainable development of the modern society, and a transnational danger. In the context of globalisation, the TFU types and forms of manifestation are becoming more complex and latent. The stakeholders involved in fighting THB encounter the following main challenges: limited research data, mixed flows of immigrants, insufficient identification of victims, fear to cooperate with authorities, cultural barriers, limited legal culture, the low capacity of national frameworks.

The Republic of Moldova remains a country of origin, to a lesser extent - a transit country. In recent years there have been cases where the Republic of Moldova was also a country of destination. The geographical area of the countries of destination for our citizens has been constantly changing in the recent years, with some new destinations emerging, and others disappearing. The main countries of destination (by the number of victims) are still the Russian Federation, Turkey, Ukraine, the North Cyprus region and the United Arab Emirates. At the same time, other new destinations, such as Israel, Azerbaijan, Austria, Norway, Switzerland, etc., are emerging. There have also been cases in the European Union (EU), such as: Germany, Czech Republic, Italy, Romania, Spain, Poland, France, Greece. At the same time, we mention that, according to the statistics of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the number of victims, exploited within the country and in the territorial administrative units (ATU) on the left bank of the Nistru river, has increased in the last years.

By ratifying international instruments, the Republic of Moldova has committed to fight against THB and is therefore monitored by external evaluators (the Council of Europe's Independent Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA), the United States Department of State (USA), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Prevention (UNODC), etc.) to determine the extent to which the provisions of these instruments are implemented. National reports are prepared annually in order to monitor the achievement of the planned objectives and expected results, the prevention and combating of THB, and the risk management. The conclusions and recommendations of these reports reflect the need to strengthen the national policies for the next implementation phase.

To date, the national policy in this area has been carried out in line with the national plans on preventing and combating THB, approved by the Government (6 plans implemented since 2001) and the Strategy on the National Referral System (NRS) for the Protection of and Assistance to Victims and Potential Victims of THB (2009-2016), adopted by the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova. The implementation of the 2014-2016 National Plan and NRS Strategy finished in 2016. Monitoring and coordination of the activities included in 2 distinct policy papers highlighted a number of gaps, such as: overlapping efforts and resources, different reporting periods and indicators, different statistical data collection systems, etc. In this context, it was necessary to draw up a common strategic document covering all existing policy development segments in this area. Hence, the 2018-2023 National Strategy on Preventing and Combating THB was developed in order to incorporate the Government's strategic objectives in fighting THB, to harmonise and strengthen the efforts of the competent institutions and organisations.

***The National Strategy aims at the sustainable development of the national system for preventing and combating THB through the 4P paradigm.***

The strategy will ensure continuity of the state policy on reforming the national and transnational cooperation between governmental, non-governmental and intergovernmental organisations to implement measures aimed at preventing and combating THB in order to promote the rights of victims

and presumed victims of THB, and gender equality. The Strategy will also contribute to the implementation of the 2017-2019 National Action Plan implementing the RM-EU Association Agreement and the 2018-2022 National Human Rights Action Plan.

## II. SITUATION ANALYSIS AND PROBLEM STATEMENT

During the ten years of implementing policies on preventing and combating THB, the competent institutions have gained experience in the field concerned. The Republic of Moldova is a party to the CoE Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime and the Additional Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. It is also a party to the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, European Convention on the Exercise of Children's Rights, Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, etc.

These international acts have been transposed into the national legal framework by the Law on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, passed by the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova in October 2005, with the regulatory documents for law enforcement being developed and approved subsequently. The Criminal Code (CC) of the Republic of Moldova defines THB as an offense in Article 165 entitled 'Trafficking in Human Beings' and Article 206 entitled 'Child Trafficking'. The CC also has provisions on offenses related to THB, such as the use of the results of the work or services of a person who is a victim of trafficking in human beings (Article 165<sup>1</sup>), slavery and conditions similar to slavery (Article 167), forced labour (Article 168), illegally taking children out of the country (Article 207), use of prostitution practiced by a child (Article 208<sup>2</sup>), pimping (Article 220), advertisements for illicit procurement of human organs, tissues and cells or for their illicit donation (Article 213<sup>1</sup>), trafficking in organs (Article 158), organisation of begging (Article 302), organisation of illegal migration (Article 362<sup>1</sup>).

At the national level, consultative bodies have been set up and developed to monitor and coordinate the work of public authorities, non-governmental organisations and international organisations: National Committee for Combating THB (NC CTHB), Co-ordinating Council of Law Enforcement Agencies in charge of Combating THB under the Prosecutor General, Joint Group on Risk Analysis in Combating Cross-Border Crime, THB and Illegal Migration, territorial committees in charge of combating THB (TC) and territorial multidisciplinary teams (TMT). Specialised public structures were also set up: Center for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (CCTHB), Specialised Section of the General Prosecutor's Office (GPO), Office of Specialised Prosecutors in the Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases (POCOCSC), Specialised Prosecutors Bureau of the Head Prosecutor's Office in Chisinau, National Coordination Unit (NCU) (supported by external sources until August 2017) and the Permanent Secretariat (PS) of the NC CTHB within the State Chancellery.

On the one hand, victims and potential victims of THB received assistance and protection within the NRS, which has the goal to organise optimally the protection and assistance provided to victims of THB, to implement THB prevention measures and to strengthen the efforts of all stakeholders involved in preventing and combating this phenomenon. In order to develop the NRS, TMTs, Assistance and Protection Centers for victims and potential victims of THB (CAP), and 6 regional placement centers have been created, trained and equipped, which also provide services to victims and presumed victims of THB, funded by the state budget. A new specialised service for child victims and potential victims of violence, neglect, exploitation and THB was inaugurated on 2 June 2016 within the CAP of the Chisinau municipality, which provides temporary, emergency or long-term placement. According to the legal framework in force, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection (MHLSP) is responsible for carrying out all the actions related to the preparation and initiation of the repatriation procedures, with financial resources provided annually in the state budget for this purpose. Given that the mechanism for the implementation of this service is being set up and perfected, the MHLSP is still enjoying financial support and additional expertise from the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) Mission to Moldova. We also mention the establishment and operation of the 116 111 Freephone Service for Children, managed by MHLSP and provided by La Strada International Center, having the goal to enhance the protection of children's rights through direct and free access to psycho-emotional counseling and information about children's rights and how they can be achieved and defended. This

service also has the advantage of preventing child trafficking by referring to qualified assistance and protection for children.

On the other hand, law enforcement institutions have gradually strengthened their capacities and efforts to investigate and prosecute THB cases. International evaluators welcomed the efforts of law enforcement institutions to foster international cooperation, particularly by introducing legal provisions on the establishment of Joint Investigation Teams and the initiation of their creation with some states. Law No 113 of 28 May 2015 ratified the Cooperation Agreement between the Republic of Moldova and the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (EUROJUST) with the aim of strengthening the cooperation between parties in the fight against serious crimes, especially organised crime and terrorism. The trainings conducted for law enforcement specialists, based on a multidisciplinary approach, as well as the efforts made to investigate and prosecute criminal cases, including those involving officials, have been appreciated. Harmonisation and systematisation of statistical data is also an important positive result for the analysis of the THB dynamics and trends, as well as for the monitoring of the situation in the field, which needs to be strengthened.

For an effective implementation and monitoring of the policy in this field, a Strategy on the Communication of the PS with stakeholders in prevention and combating of THB has been developed, which has the mission to ensure an inter-institutional communication among all anti-trafficking stakeholders and the visibility/transparency of the obtained results. [www.antitrafic.gov.md](http://www.antitrafic.gov.md) has become an effective communication/information tool.

The achievements of the Republic of Moldova in this field were also possible thanks to the international technical assistance offered under various projects and the valuable support of the implementing partners, but the Government needs to make additional efforts to ensure the sustainability of the obtained results. We would add here that there are still socio-economic phenomena that favor THB, such as poverty, unemployment, domestic violence, corruption, etc., as well as the economic crisis in the countries of destination.

The aforementioned challenges require strengthening the joint efforts of public administration authorities with national non-governmental organisations, cooperation with other states and competent international organisations in order to maintain and develop a coherent and systemic policy in this field. In response, the Government commits to implement this Strategy, which contains objectives of preventing and combating THB, set in line with the 4P policy paradigm, recommended by international standards in this field: prevention; protection; punishment; partnership to meet the challenges.

## **Section 1 General Support Measures**

### ***1.1. Coordination of actions aimed at preventing and combating THB***

A mechanism was set up at the national level to ensure the coordination of the national policy on combating THB, the trafficking activities of law enforcement agencies, and the direct support provided to victims and potential victims of THB within the NRS. It operates at all levels of public administration, and includes not only central public authorities (CPAs) and local public authorities (LPAs), but also interdepartmental consultative bodies (*Schedule*). On 26 July 2017, the Government of the Republic of Moldova adopted the Decision No 594 on the Restructuring of the Central Specialised Public Administration. Based on this decision, a number of ministries, members of the NC CTHB, were reorganised, which resulted in the modification of both the competences of these institutions, and the institutional composition of the NC CTHB.

At the same time, by Law No 80 of 5 May 2017 on Amendments and Addenda to Some Legal Acts and the Government Decision No 314 of 22 May 2017 establishing the Public Services Agency, two other important institutions in the anti-trafficking community: State Information Resources Center 'Registru' SOE and Licensing Chamber - administrative authority subordinated to the Ministry of Economy have been reorganised through transformation and merger (absorption) with the newly created Public Institution 'Public Services Agency', respectively. In this context, Diagram 1 presents an updated formula of NC CTHB composition.

The duties of the coordinating bodies are reflected in the normative framework as follows:

*a)* Regulation approving the composition of the NC CTHB (Government Decision No 472 of 26 March 2008), establishing the composition, functions and status of the Committee, the functions of the president and secretary, frequency of the meetings, etc.;

*b)* Framework Regulation of Territorial Committees for Combating THB (Government Decision No 234 of 29 February 2008);

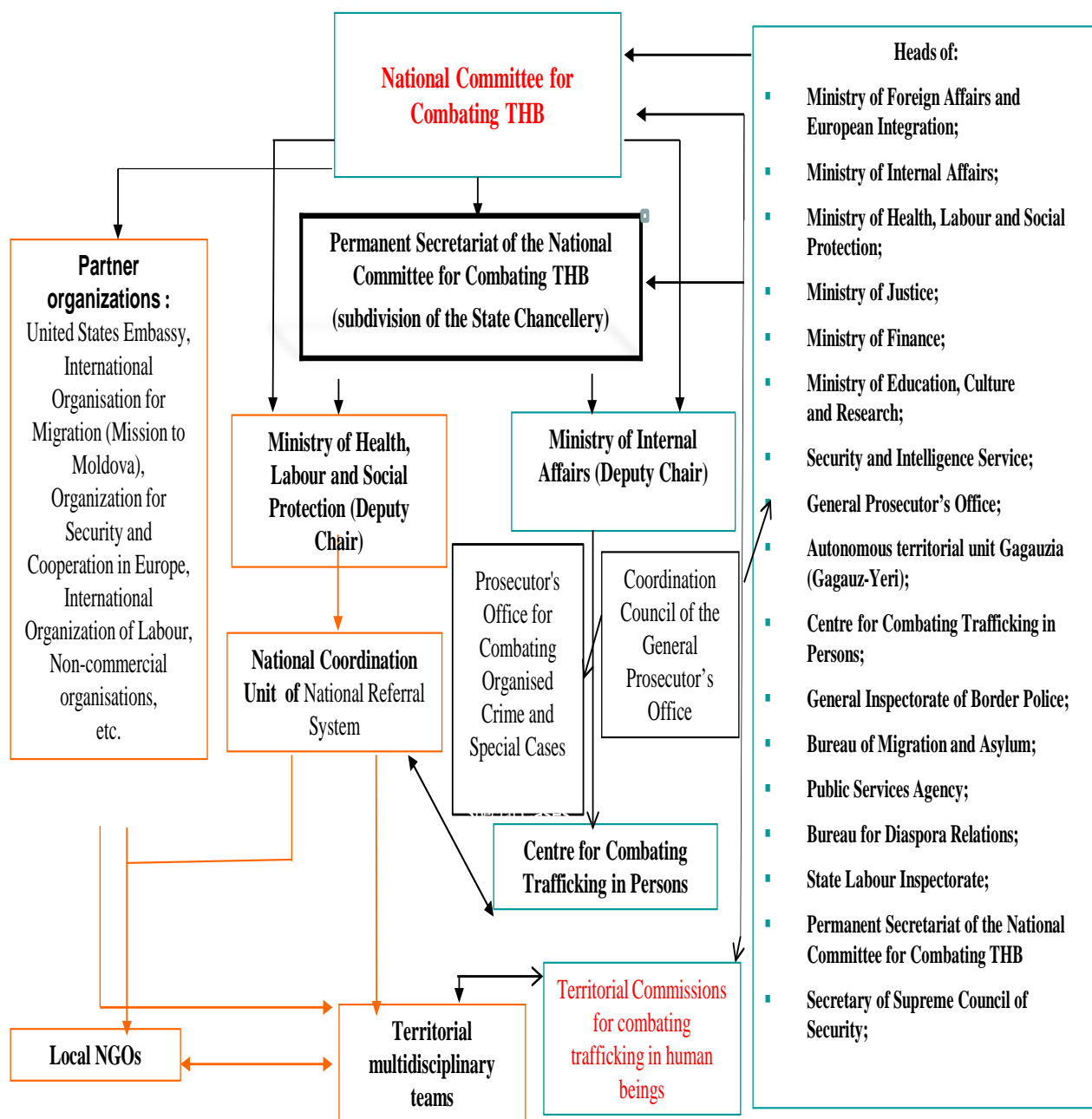
*c)* Regulation of the Coordinating Council of the Law Enforcement Offices in charge of combating trafficking in human beings under the General Prosecutor, approved on 28 June 2013 by the order of the General Prosecutor;

*d)* Regulation on TMT work in the NRS (Government Decision No 228 of 28 March 2014);

*e)* Regulation on the Organisation and Modus Operandi of the Joint Group on Risk Analysis in Combating Cross-Border Crime, THB and Illegal Migration, approved on 28 July 2014.

The working process found that the coordination mechanism allows for a multidisciplinary and intersectoral approach, as well as the participation of the civil society in addressing issues in this field, in line with international and regional standards. At the same time, there have been identified situations where some links of the mechanism do not work in line with the current challenges.

# Institutional policy making mechanism



## Identified issues:

1) Large workload for the PS staff due to the removal of one position as a result of the reform of the State Chancellery.

2) Insufficient TC activity and low collaboration capacity with local non-governmental organisations.

3) Insufficient professional capacity of the NCU of the NRS, recently institutionalised in the MHLSP, and the fragmentary approach of the referral mechanism from the perspective of the new legislative provisions on the rehabilitation of victims of crime.

### ***1.2. Legal and regulatory framework***

Law No 241 of 20 October 2005 on Preventing and Combating THB defines the institutional framework for preventing and combating THB, the obligations and duties of the Government and specialised bodies of the central and local public administration, the rights of THB victims, and regulates important aspects related to cooperation with other states and relevant international and regional organisations.

The Criminal Code of the Republic of Moldova criminalises THB in 2 distinct articles (Articles 165 and 206), and the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Moldova regulates the activity of criminal prosecution bodies and courts and provides for special procedures for hearing adults and children, which apply also to victims of THB, witnesses and is intended to protect the person.

The 2009-2016 Strategy on the NRS for the Protection of and Assistance to Victims and Potential Victims of THB aimed at ensuring a systemic approach to the protection and assistance of victims of THB and observance of their human rights. In order to implement the above-mentioned acts, regulatory acts were passed to approve: The Framework Regulation on the Organisation and Modus Operandi of the Service for Assistance and Protection to Victims of THB and the Minimum Quality Standards; Regulation on the Procedure of Repatriating Child and Adult Victims of THB, Illegal Trafficking of Migrants, as well as Unaccompanied Children (subsequently amended), Guidelines on Identification of Victims and Potential Victims of THB (approved by Order of the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family (MLSPF) No 33 of 20.02.2012), Guidelines for Professionals 'Case Management for Children Identified without Legal Accompanying Persons in the Territories of Other States' (approved by MLSPF Order No 52 of 25.04.2014). The recommendations of national and international experts have identified the need to amend and complement the legal framework in line with developments in the field.

#### **Identified issues:**

1) Law No 241 of 20 October 2005 on Preventing and Combating THB neither defines clearly the notion of presumed victim, nor stipulates the NRS elements and manner of identifying the victims and presumed victims of THB, nor establishes the duties of the institutions in charge of NRS implementation.

2) The Guidelines on Identification of Victims and Potential Victims of THB does not provide the profile of presumed victims of THB and is not updated in line with the new legal changes.

3) Aa mechanism needs to be set up to refer disadvantaged persons to the social assistance system.

4) The system of rehabilitation of victims of crime, including victims of THB, is not regulated by the legal framework on social assistance.

### ***1.3. Developing the professional skills of specialists***

Developing the professional skills of specialists is crucial for an effective implementation of the policy in this field. Note that the training modules are included in the system of ongoing training and professional re-qualification of specialists from the relevant state institutions. Prosecutors and judges are trained according to the ongoing training curriculum of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), focusing on the priority areas set out in strategic documents, including the fight against THB, changes in the legislation, the need for implement uniformly the legislation, knowledge of international acts which the Republic of Moldova is a part of, the jurisprudence of the national and international courts. The multidisciplinary training, held both in the country and abroad, has an important role in improving the quality of work in various central and local public authorities, as well as in non-governmental organisations. These trainings allow participants to acquire new knowledge and skills, establish relationships and co-operate with counterparts from other states.

The social assistance sector did not have a staff training system, with them being trained sporadically, on the basis of the assistance provided by development partners. The training on the multidisciplinary approach in different public policy areas in the social protection sector was also



conducted with international support. Thus, in order to solve this discrepancy, we mention that the National Social Assistance Agency has been established, which among its main duties has the function of facilitating the strengthening of the professional capacities of staff in the social assistance system.

The multidisciplinary training ensures an efficient functioning of TMT within the NRS, of Joint Investigation Teams, etc.

Currently, there are no approved curricula for the training of TMT specialists. Taking into account the institutional reforms, the high staff turnover, new needs for continuous training are identified. It is worth mentioning that training is largely funded from external sources.

#### **Identified issues:**

1) The THB modules has not been yet incorporated in the system of professional training and retraining of relevant public authorities specialists: police officers, social workers, health professionals, psychologists, community mediators, lawyers, paralegals etc.

2) Insufficient professional skills of the specialists from law enforcement agencies who perform the investigation, criminal prosecution of THB cases.

3) Lack of specialised trainings on THB prevention for the crews of trans-national air, rail and road transport.

4) Failure of state institutions to organise mixed trainings for specialists from the social protection system and law enforcement agencies.

5) Limited financial resources to train specialists.

6) After the reorganisation, the specialised section of the GPO has underdeveloped analytical capacities and limited resources.

7) Insufficient capacity of the National Social Assistance Agency staff to provide training from a multisectoral perspective.

#### ***1.4. Collection and analysis of statistical data, researches***

The systematic collection of statistical data is carried out by the institutions in charge of preventing and combating THB. Until 2009, data collection and analysis had been fragmented, mainly done by civil society and international organisations. The lack of reliable information about this phenomenon generated criticism from the international partners during 2005-2010, which led to the establishment, in 2011, of the PS in charge of monitoring the implementation of the National Plan on Preventing and Combating THB and development, on an annual basis, of the National Report on Preventing and Combating THB. These can be accessed at [www.antitrafic.gov.md](http://www.antitrafic.gov.md). The PS has developed, piloted and amended the Electronic Statistical Data Collection Program, which contains 6 forms with specific indicators. The forms are filled in by institutions according to their competencies, but it is necessary to review them in line with developments and trends in the field.

Since 2009, the MLSP has been developing annually monitoring reports on the implementation of the Strategy on the NRS for the Protection and Assistance to Victims and Potential Victims of THB. At the same time, public events have been organised with the anti-trafficking community/representatives of LPAs in order to validate the developed reports and to discuss the problems, the identified obstacles and the proposed remedial recommendations. In order to ensure the transparency of the performed analyzes and the organised events, they were placed on the Ministry's website.

In order to improve the social assistance data system, the MHLSP has developed a social services module within the Social Assistance Automated Information System.

Besides, since 2013 the CCTHB has been developing Annual THB Monitoring Reports - analysis of the crime status and dynamics, with conclusions, forecasts and recommendations, which are public and placed on [www.igp.gov.md](http://www.igp.gov.md). At the same time, in order to strengthen the national risk analysis capacities in combating cross-border crime, THB and illegal migration, the Joint Group on Risk Analysis, composed of representatives of the law enforcement agencies has been developing analytical half-yearly reports in this area. At the same time, according to Article 11 (8) of the Law No 241 of 20 October 2005 on Preventing and Combating THB, the GPO periodically analyzes the phenomenon and trends in preventing and combating THB and informs the NC CTHB and the Supreme Security Council (SSC).

In spite of the above, the data collection tools mentioned above are not enough to render the overall picture at the national level. The collection of data, research and studies currently carried out are sporadic and do not aim to reflect certain THB segments.

**Identified issues:**

- 1) Forms of the PS Electronic Statistical Data Collection Program do not correspond fully to the new trends in the field.
- 2) The social assistance data collection forms, as well as those from the NRS platform, do not meet fully the new requirements.
- 3) CCTHB specialists are still processing manually the statistics on criminal cases, because the license of the Automated Electronic Program expired and not all CCTHB specialists are trained to use the Program.
- 4) Insufficient relevant researches/studies on THB.

***1.5. Effective management of financial resources***

The activities of preventing and combating THB, included in the Action Plan, are financed not only from the state budget, but also from external sources. Co-operation with external donors provides support for the complex achievement of the set goals. Annually, funds are appropriated from the state budget within the Government's financial capacity. The 2017 state budget envisaged MDL 8.4 million for the prevention and combating of THB and family violence, of which MDL 3.4 million were appropriated to MHLSP budget for the maintenance of CAP, MDL 0.4 million — for the repatriation of victims of THB, and MDL 4.6 million were approved as earmarked transfers from the state budget to the local budgets for the maintenance of the social centers in this field. The budgetary means cover only partially the real needs for the provision of services, the other means being allocated from external sources, mainly by the IOM Mission in Moldova.

Youth-friendly health centers (YFHC) are funded by the Mandatory Health Insurance Funds. In 2017, the NHIC contracted 41 YFHCs in the total amount of about MDL 21200.1 thousand.

The State, through its commitments, will gradually take over the full responsibility for the prevention and combating of THB.

**Identified issues:**

- 1) As a result of the reform of administrative and budgetary decentralisation, the social services system is exposed to the risk of shortage or lack of financial resources for a proper operation of the created social services and for the development of additional services and new services.
- 2) CPAs and LPAs do not allocate enough money to fund actions of THB prevention, campaigns, information actions, etc.
- 3) Insufficient capacities of state institutions' employees in estimating the costs of policy implementation actions and lack of methodology for their calculation when developing the medium-term budgetary framework (MTBF).

**Section 2**  
**Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings**

***2.1. Informing the general public***

The general public is informed by mass media (TV, newspaper articles, publication of information and social advertising on billboards, social networks, etc.). Information campaigns were aimed not only at raising public attention to the problem of THB, but also at changing the patterns of behavior in the society, as an example: avoiding blaming the trafficked victims, especially victims of sexual and labour exploitation. At the same time, the campaigns conducted so far have not focused on specific groups of specialists, branches of the economy or employers. The agricultural and livestock sectors have been identified as sectors where most of the domestic THB for labour exploitation takes place. Thus, it is necessary to strengthen the capacity of specialists in these sectors, to prevent cases of THB and decrease the demand for THB for labour exploitation.

School-aged children are informed by teachers in line with the school curriculum, which contains the topic of THB and methods of self-defense as part of extracurricular activities in primary and

secondary general educational institutions. The topic is complemented by others, such as gender equality, human rights and human dignity. Additionally, non-governmental organisations carry out a variety of interactive activities on prevention of THB and related phenomena in schools, summer camps for children, and residential institutions, as part of international technical support. These measures are complemented by social theater through thematic shows, contests and exhibitions of works of art, photo and film, fine arts, etc.

Note that all mass information campaigns are mainly carried out by non-governmental organisations with the support of external technical assistance in partnership with public institutions. However, in recent years, this experience has also been taken over by the state. Every year actions are conducted at the national level during the week, dedicated to the European Day against THB - 18 October, coordinated by the PS.

**Identified issues:**

- 1) The population is not informed sufficiently about the evolution of the phenomenon of THB and the existing risks.
- 2) Sufficient measures are not taken to inform employers of the legal liability to decrease the demand for labour exploitation within the country
- 3) Employers in the agricultural and livestock sector are not sufficiently informed to increase their knowledge of legal employment and avoidance of labour exploitation.
- 4) Insufficient collaboration of public institutions with the media to reflect the THB phenomenon.
- 5) The Diaspora is insufficiently informed about the THB, its consequences and the stakeholders that may be contacted, if needed.

**2.2. Reducing vulnerability**

Since 2006, NRS has been developed as a unitary system for the prevention of THB by reducing vulnerability and is regarded as one of the good regional practices. The most vulnerable groups that have been helped and protected under the NRS are victims of domestic violence, graduates from boarding schools, children left without parental care, unemployed, rural youth, Roma children, people with disabilities, the solitary elderly as a result of migration, single mothers, etc. These people have received not only information assistance but also direct assistance to reduce vulnerability - guidance and training, inclusion in the labour market, assistance in developing entrepreneurial skills, and other forms of protection, where appropriate. We also note that the Analysis Reports on NRS Strategy Implementation have identified a wide range of issues with regard to NRS functionality, as well as gaps in the multidisciplinary approach to the cases referred to TMT for reintegration and monitoring. As several mechanisms for assistance and protection of vulnerable groups have been developed during this period, for the future, the new NRS concept will reflect the strategic vision of the sector, on the basis of the new competencies of MHLSP regarding the identification of victims of crime, including victims of THB, providing support services for their rehabilitation, specialisation and training of staff, by conducting information campaigns to raise awareness of support services and the conditions for granting them. Reducing the vulnerability of the population remains a major objective of the national social assistance system.

The employment policy is also geared towards reducing vulnerability by additional support for certain categories of the unemployed, including victims of THB, diversifying the active measures in this respect.

At the same time, it is necessary to integrate the subject of preventing and combating THB in the annual training of the specialists of territorial employment agencies (TEA), and in this context a specific curriculum is to be developed. The trainers are also specialists from the competent institutions, who share their professional experience, but are not guided by a program in this area. It is thus necessary to include a distinct module on THB prevention in the process of informing and training job seekers.

We have to mention that a series of hotlines are managed, which can be accessed on [www.antitrafic.gov.md](http://www.antitrafic.gov.md). The hotline of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration (MFAEI), launched in 2010, aims to inform people who have decided to emigrate (emigrants, potential emigrants). In December 2017, the GPO established the Green Anti-Trafficking Line at (+373) 69999021 or [anti-trafficking@procuratura.md](mailto:anti-trafficking@procuratura.md) email address, where THB and related crimes can be reported.

**Identified issues:**

- 1) Lack of concept regarding the social reintegration programs, insufficient skills and resources of LPAs in order to reduce the vulnerability of the population.
- 2) Insufficient interaction between the NRS mechanism and the intersectoral cooperation mechanism for the identification, assessment, referral, assistance and monitoring of child victims and potential victims of violence, neglect, exploitation and trafficking.
- 3) Lack of a training program for TEA specialists to inform job seekers about the risks of THB.

**2.3 Administrative control**

Monitoring the work of private economic agencies in vulnerable sectors regarding their possible involvement in THB schemes must remain a prerogative of the Government. For certain types of activities, such as employment of citizens in the country and/or abroad, involvement/enrollment of students in cultural and educational exchange programs, which offer a temporary paid job during the summer vacation, as well as the tourism activity, it is necessary to obtain a license according to the legal framework. At the moment, the institutional administrative control powers are being restored as a result of CPA reform.

**Identified issues:**

- 1) The Government has no control over the activity of matrimonial agencies with foreign citizens, as well as over escort and hotel services that are vulnerable to THB and exploitation within the country.
- 2) No instructions are issued for the employment and observance of social rights and working conditions of employees (agriculture, livestock and constructions).
- 3) There are no clear mechanisms for monitoring and controlling private agencies offering employment opportunities abroad.

**Section 3****Social assistance and protection of victims and presumed victims of THB****3.1. Identifying victims and presumed victims of THB**

It is important that all stakeholders involved in identifying victims and presumed victims of THB use the same identification mechanism. The institutions empowered in this field apply identification methods and tools, taking into account the sectoral and intersectoral identification procedures stipulated in the Regulation on the Activity of Territorial Multidisciplinary Teams within the NRS, approved by the Government Decision No 228 of 28.03.2014 and Guidelines on the Identification of Victims and Potential Victims of THB. Neither a mechanism, nor the competent institution for granting the status of presumed victim of THB have been established so far. The undocumented individuals are also an obstacle to identification. The competent institutions have taken steps to improve the documentation procedures by amending and complementing the legal framework, but there are still some procedural gaps, such as: identifying children born to mothers who have no act of identity; children repatriated from other countries, who had been left without supervision by their migrant parents, citizens of the Republic of Moldova; the duration of the issuance/restoration of documents for persons placed in specialised social centers; the presumed victims of THB do not benefit from the free of identity documents and the difficulty of obtaining the set of civil status documents that are needed to issue identity documents.

Proactive identification of victims of THB by staff of the Border Police General Inspectorate (IGPF) uses the risk profiles developed by the Joint Group on Risk Analysis in Combating Cross-Border Crime, THB and Illegal Migration. The obligation of the following stakeholders has a major importance in ensuring the rights of a victim and presumed victim of THB: the official examiner, where the victim and presumed victim of THB file their complaint about the committed crime; prosecuting officer and prosecutor handling the case; other stakeholders in charge of rehabilitating victims of crime, to inform them, in writing or in another accessible form, if special conditions require so, about the support services that they can benefit from. Victims are also informed about the subjects that provide these services and the general conditions for granting them, the procedural rights and the protection measures available under the law, other requested information.

In identifying victims and presumed victims of THB, civil society representatives also contribute, through hotlines and awareness raising campaigns, with information materials and good practices. In the same context, we mention the role of the media in this segment.

So far, the issue of monitoring how police officers inform the victims of THB about their rights at the first contact has not been raised yet (no statistical data). In this respect, for the future, it is necessary to collect and analyze these data.

According to the current trends, some of the presumed victims of THB are not associated with this status and/or refuse to cooperate with law enforcement institutions for the following reasons:

- a) do not want to be stigmatised;
- b) fear of being rejected by close people and the community;
- c) fear of traffickers of human beings;
- d) lack of trust in the services of public institutions;
- e) fear of being arrested, expelled and/or sanctioned for violation of the residence regime in the country of destination;
- f) do not recognise their experience as THB;
- g) dependence on their exploiters, etc.

Also, information materials, especially for victims of THB, are prepared sporadically by implementing partners in line with the objectives of the implemented projects and the organisations they represent. There is a need to assess the capacity of public authorities to develop informative materials in relation to institutional competences and focus on the interests of the beneficiaries they are assisting.

The Regulation on the Organization and Modus Operandi, and the Staffing Limit of the Bureau for Migration and Asylum (BMA) - the institution that implements the policy on migration, asylum, statelessness and integration of aliens, does not provide for any duties in identifying victims or presumed victims of THB among foreign citizens. Thus, in connection with the massive fluctuation of migrants in Europe, including the increasing number of foreign citizens in the Republic of Moldova in the recent years, it is necessary to collaborate in this respect in order to strengthen the specialists' capacities in this area.

At the same time, the phenomenon of child begging has increased recently, especially in Chisinau, but also in other settlements of the country. They are often forced to beg by their parents or other persons in whose care they are, being affected by the phenomenon of parents' migration or coming from families at risk.

#### **Identified issues:**

- 1) Some TMTs have not demonstrated the same level of performance and efficiency in identifying and assisting victims and presumed victims of THB.
- 2) Lack of a mechanism and competent institution to assign the status of presumed victim of THB.
- 3) Imperfect procedures of registration and issuance of civil status and identity documents for victims and presumed victims of THB, which consist in establishing their identity and the identity of their children.
- 4) Law enforcement agencies do not always inform victims of THB in a form accessible for their understanding.
- 5) Insufficient information materials on the rights of victims and presumed victims of THB, as well as services that can be accessed if necessary.
- 6) Low capacity of specialists to identify victims amongst aliens, especially refugees and asylum seekers.
- 7) Lack of an institutionalized mechanism for early identification of THB cases.

#### ***3.2. Repatriation of victims and presumed victims of THB***

The current regulatory framework (Government Decision No 948 of 07.08.2008) establishes the procedure for the repatriation of children and adults - victims of THB, persons in difficulty, as well as unaccompanied children. These provisions are used as a basis for the repatriation of victims of THB (adults and children), children unaccompanied by their parents or legal representatives on the territory of foreign states and victims of illegal trafficking of migrants; for the identification of parents or other legal representatives of children, victims of THB who have been assigned protection measures and

receive emergency protection. Most of the expenses incurred in the repatriation process are covered by budgetary resources, with the remark that until 2008, the expenses related to the repatriation of persons had been covered only by IOM and Terre des Hommes Foundation.

The evaluation of the repatriation missions organised and realised by the MLSPF revealed several procedural difficulties, which conditioned the promotion and approval of amendments referring to: paying the daily subsistence allowance for the designated attendants from the specialised institution subordinated to MHLSP or Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), as the case may be; specifying a new category of beneficiaries for repatriation - persons in difficulty; including the expenses for the procurement of food, clothing, footwear, medicines, as appropriate, for adult and children beneficiaries. In line with the principle of sound use of public financial resources, the repatriation procedure requires a more detailed documentation of cases, as well as the risk justification for the transferred funds, unrealised repatriation missions, impossibility to forecast the cases of repatriation, so the planned annual resources can not be executed fully. Due to the above, MHLSP continues to carry out repatriation missions in partnership with IOM.

Hence, in order to make the repatriation procedures more effective, the Republic of Moldova is making efforts to conclude bilateral agreements. Thus, since 2013 sample agreements have been developed with the Russian Federation and Ukraine (countries from which most of the victims of THB have been repatriated in the last years) and sent by diplomatic channels to the respective countries for review and presentation of their positions with regards to cooperation. Thus, consultations on consular issues were held with both countries, where the proposal to negotiate and sign cooperation agreements on the repatriation procedure for victims of THB (adults and children), unaccompanied children and people in difficulty was addressed. The actions undertaken were also based on the need to update the cooperation agreements between the CIS countries, dating back to 1993 and 2002. Note that the relationship with the Ukrainian side has progressed, with the organisation of ministerial meetings and round tables for professionals, which tackled the legislative and operational framework in the field of social protection, prevention and combating of THB, in order to improve the repatriation procedures and align them to the international standards.

#### **Identified issues:**

- 1) The need to continuously train CPA professionals involved in repatriation procedures.
- 2) Impediments to the implementation of the repatriation procedure resulting from the difficulty of documenting adult beneficiaries.
- 3) Lack of the methodological framework for the specialists involved both in the repatriation procedure and in the reintegration of the repatriated persons at major social risk and totally dependent on the social assistance system.

### ***3.3. Rehabilitation and (re)integration of victims and presumed victims of THB***

Victims and presumed victims of THB are offered assistance, protection, socialisation, reintegration into the family and community from a human rights perspective. Unconditional observance of these rights takes place in accordance with individualised support plans. TMT monitors the process of social, professional and family rehabilitation and social inclusion of victims and presumed victims and provides the necessary support to prevent their social marginalisation. Support to the victim and presumed victim of THB is provided by both public institutions and NGOs.

Crisis services are offered only by the CAP (high specialisation services), being complemented also from external funds.

The referral mechanism within the social protection system of crime victims between the three levels of public administration remains to be strengthened to ensure sustainable social rehabilitation and reintegration. It is also important to ensure active measures on the labour market, focused on the individual needs of the unemployed, as well as on the employers' needs, such as: vocational training, subsidised employment of vulnerable categories of people on the labour market; supporting the creation and adaptation of jobs for people with disabilities; internship, on-the-job training; supporting self-employment.

Ensuring the sustainability of medium and long-term rehabilitation and reintegration programs is a challenge and requires strengthening the funding mechanism and redistributing budgetary resources for the proper operation of regional assistance centers and other services. At the same time, it is

important to regulate clearly the responsibilities of the NRS stakeholders (in particular the national and local authorities involved) in the post-rehabilitation coordination and monitoring with the aim of developing their competencies in the long-term monitoring of cases within the NRS.

**Identified issues:**

- 1) Insufficient development of (public) social services and too low approved thresholds for the money that can be spent on food, medicines and dressing materials, clothing, footwear, soft inventory, hygiene-sanitary products, games and toys of people accommodated in CAP, compared to the actual needs of beneficiaries.
- 2) Low level of reintegration of victims into the labour market.
- 3) Low numbers of victims referred by law enforcement officers to the NRS.
- 4) Low level of knowledge of subject-matter specialists about the existing rehabilitation and socio-economic reintegration opportunities.
- 5) Inefficient cooperation between the three levels of the NRS (community, rayon and national).
- 6) Lack of a mechanism to regulate the payment procedure for the placement of victims of THB between local public authorities.

## **Section 4 Punishment**

### ***4.1. Criminal prosecution and trials***

CCTHC was established in 2005 as the body in charge of the official examination, criminal prosecution and special investigation of THB and related crimes throughout the Republic of Moldova, subordinated directly to the Minister of Internal Affairs. CCTHC was created according to the Task Force principle, consisting of representatives from law enforcement institutions (Intelligence and Security Service (ISS), Customs Service (CS), General Inspectorate of Border Police (GIBP), National Anticorruption Center (NAC), etc.). As a result of MIA reform, CCTHC was transferred under the subordination of the National Investigation Inspectorate (NII) of the General Police Inspectorate (GPI). Over the last few years, the CCTHC has significantly developed the skills of its specialists in managing and analysing data on THB, and assessing the risks of THB and related crimes. Since 2014, it has developed and published annually THB Monitoring Reports - Analysis of the Crime Status and Dynamics. One of the tasks of the CCTHC is to carry out special investigative measures and proactive investigative measures in order to identify victims and presumed victims of THB.

Since its establishment, the CCTHC has been performing criminal prosecution together with the GPO's specialised subdivision for combating THB. Since 1 August 2016, following the GPO reform, the responsibilities of this subdivision have been revised, maintaining its methodological management functions, and being also empowered to promote anti-trafficking policies, monitor and unify the work of prosecutors in the anti-trafficking area. At the same time POCOCSC was set up, in charge of exercising and conducting criminal prosecution, jointly with CCTHC investigating officers, of the THB crimes committed by organised criminal groups. The low-complexity cases are investigated by the police and the territorial prosecutor's offices, as well as by specialised prosecutors from the territorial prosecutor's offices.

The cooperation between the Territorial Police Inspectorates and the CCTHC is difficult. Having a multiple hierarchical subordination, CCTHC does not have the right to request information about THB cases directly from the territorial offices.

At present judges are not specialised in examining THB cases, training is provided by the NIJ for all judges. When courts are examining criminal cases, there are some deficiencies with regards to the proper treatment of victims, observance of the victims' rights and avoiding their re-victimisation.

During the last years prosecutors have become actively involved in parallel financial investigations, seizure of property used for committing crimes or resulting from crimes for subsequent confiscation for the benefit of the state, which would be used to support the mechanism of financial compensation for victims.

Criminal prosecution of trafficking cases often encounters difficulties due to the victim's specific behavior in criminal proceedings, such as refusal to participate in the court proceedings, going abroad, etc. This behavior is caused, to a certain extent, by the failure to provide information and psychological

counseling to victims, which can be overcome by implementing effectively Law No 137 of 29 July 2016 on the Rehabilitation of Victims of Crime.

Another difficulty lies in the cross-border nature of most cases of THB. Having a strong cross-border nature, trafficking in human beings (THB, trafficking in children, trafficking in migrants) as a rule takes place in two or more countries or in regions not recognised by the Republic of Moldova, which complicates the criminal prosecution and the management of the necessary evidence to establish the truth. These challenges determine even more law enforcement agencies to use the potential of investigating cases of THB in joint investigative teams, as well as the support offered by international organisations.

#### **Identified issues:**

- 1) Insufficient training of judges in addressing criminal cases of THB and related crimes.
- 2) Difficulties in conducting the criminal investigation and prosecution due to the lack of relevant skills and resources in the territorial bodies.
- 3) Insufficient resources at POCOCS to achieve the set objectives.
- 4) Lack of control by Moldovan authorities over an ATU on the left bank of the Nistru river, hindering the performance of criminal prosecution actions and summoning of witnesses or victims.
- 5) Insufficient development of the material base, software programs, and their maintenance.
- 6) Deficiencies in the interaction between the law enforcement agencies involved in the criminal trial of THB cases.
- 7) The procedure for conducting financial investigations to confiscate the property acquired through THB for the benefit of the State and investigations of the use of IT technology is not applied sufficiently.
- 8) Due to the multiple hierarchical subordination of CCTHC within the MIA, several stages need to be passed to adopt the final decision, which hinders the interaction and immediate response to challenges.
- 9) CCTHC does not have an institutional development strategy.

#### ***4.2. Protection of victims and witnesses in criminal proceedings***

Law No 198 of 26 July 2007 on State Guaranteed Legal Aid regulates the conditions, volume and mode of granting legal aid guaranteed by the state for the protection of the fundamental human rights and freedoms, and the legitimate interests of a person. The law expressly provides for granting state-guaranteed legal aid to child victims of crime, but does not explicitly provide this rights for adult victims of THB. In 2008, Law No 105 on the Protection of Witnesses and Other Participants in the Criminal Proceedings was enacted, which provides for the security of participants in the criminal proceedings. A subdivision of the MIA is in charge of protecting witnesses and other participants in the criminal proceedings.

In order to make the justice system more friendly to the child victim/witness, Article 110<sup>1</sup> was introduced in the Criminal Proceedings Code in 2012, which requires that underage witness are heard in specially arranged premises, equipped with audio and video devices, using the help of an interviewer. In addition, in 2012, with the support of international technical assistance, a special hearing system was officially launched in the form of video conferences, which was installed in the courts of appeal and three buildings of the Prosecutor's Office. Subsequently, the GPO has set up and is operating 8 rooms for hearing minors, funded from the state budget, and has developed and implemented the following departmental acts: Instruction on the hearing of victims of THB and Methodological Guidelines on handling cases involving child victims/witnesses of crime.

It is necessary to develop minimum quality standards for the conduct of hearings in accordance with international standards.

#### **Identified issues:**

- 1) There are no explicit legal rules for the provision of qualified state-guaranteed legal aid to adult victims of THB.
- 2) Admitting inappropriate treatment of victims by law enforcement officials, contrary to international standards.
- 3) Revictimisation through unjustified repeated hearings of adult and child victims of THB.



- 4) Lack of standards on the operation of rooms for the hearing of an underage victim/witness.

#### ***4.3. Restoring the rights of victims of THB and granting compensations***

Access to information on relevant judicial and administrative procedures in a language understood by the victim is ensured by the fact that the victim can have an interpreter in the criminal proceedings. If the victim asks to be recognised as a civil party, the criminal prosecution body recognises him/her as such, initiating a civil action that may involve requests to recover both material and moral damages from the trafficker.

The Law No 137 of 29 July 2016 on the Rehabilitation of Victims of Crime aims to set up the legal framework in order to ensure the minimum conditions for the rehabilitation of victims of crime, as well as to protect and ensure observance of their legitimate rights and interests. Also, the legislative act regulates the categories of victims of crimes for whom its provisions apply, the organisation and functioning of the mechanism for the protection and rehabilitation of victims of crime, the manner and conditions of financial compensation by the state of the damage caused by the crime. The provisions of this law on granting compensations came into effect on 1 January 2018. In this context it is worth mentioning the approval, on 14 November 2017, of the Regulation of the Interdepartmental Commission for the financial compensation by the state of the damage caused by the crime, by Government Decision No 965.

#### **Identified issues:**

- 1) The insufficient mechanism to enforce the Law No 137 of 29 July 2016 on the Rehabilitation of Victims of Crime with regards to the financial compensation of victims.
- 2) Ineffective application of the civil action institute in the criminal proceedings on cases of THB.

### **Section 5 International Partnership**

Signing cooperation agreements between states and similar institutions from these states are tools of particular importance for cooperation in the area of criminal prosecution of THB, identification and repatriation of victims of THB, including the provision of the necessary assistance, since THB is most of the times an organised and transnational crime. In this respect, the Republic of Moldova has signed multilateral and bilateral agreements, especially with countries of destination.

Signing of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the Government of the Russian Federation on cooperation in the field of repatriation of child and adult victims of trafficking in human beings, persons in difficulty and unaccompanied children and the Agreement between the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine on cooperation in the field of repatriation of child and adult victims of trafficking in human beings, persons in difficulty and unaccompanied children remains challenging. In order to establish formal and informal contacts for the prevention and combating of THB with the competent anti-trafficking authorities of countries from the Middle East and Asia, several measures have been taken by Moldovan authorities, but so far we have not signed any document.

An important role in organizing the prevention and combating of THB is the cooperation of the Republic of Moldova with various international organisations and missions of international organisations in Moldova, with competencies in the field concerned, which provides expertise and external assistance to the Government of the Republic of Moldova.

In order to intensify and develop the international cooperation against THB, a new article - 540<sup>2</sup>, regulating the establishment of Joint Investigation Teams (JIT), was added in the Criminal Procedure Code on 5 April 2012. Besides, the Joint Order of the GPO, MIA, Director General of CS and Director of NAC, dated 23 July 2014, approved the Instruction on the Establishment and Work of JIT. In order to streamline their activity in this area, prosecutors have been trained in this field. In the previous years, prosecutors have submitted several requests to set up JIT with the requesting countries, but they either did not respond to requests or refused joint actions.

The Cooperation Agreement between the Republic of Moldova and EUROJUST was signed on 10 July 2014, ratified by Law No 113 of 28 May 2015, which entered into force on 21 October 2016 and

constitutes a platform for international judicial cooperation in the field of THB. Also, in order to ensure the interaction with all representatives of law enforcement agencies from other countries, as well as from international/European organisations and specialised structures of the EU (Southeast European Law Enforcement Center (SELEC), the European Police Office (EUROPOL), the International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL), the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM)), the Center for International Police Co-operation was established in the GPI.

**Identified issues:**

- 1) Lack of bilateral legal assistance agreements with some countries of destination and transit.
- 2) Deficiencies in setting up JIT.

### **III. GENERAL OBJECTIVES. IMPACT AND EXPECTED RESULT**

#### **Section 1**

#### **General Support Measures**

##### ***1.1. Coordination of prevention and combating of THB***

**Main Objective:** Ensure the implementation of the national policy on preventing and combating THB, based on effective coordination and enhanced cooperation with implementing partners.

**Expected Impact:** National policy on preventing and combating THB effectively coordinated and implemented by state institutions in partnership with non-governmental, international and intergovernmental organisations.

**Expected Results:**

- a) New actions undertaken with the purpose of developing the partnership between representatives of the consultative bodies (NC CTHB, Technical Coordination Group (TCG) of the PS, the Co-ordinating Council of Law Entities, General Prosecutor, CT, TMT), state institutions with non-governmental, international and intergovernmental organisations.
- b) Professional enhancement of NCU capacity within the NRS.

##### ***1.2. Legal and regulatory framework***

**Main Objective:** Regulate the relationships related to preventing and combating THB, in accordance with the principles of human rights and gender equality.

**Expected Impact:** National legal framework harmonised with principles of human rights and gender equality.

**Expected Results:**

- a) Enhanced national legal framework to provide assistance and protection to victims and presumed victims of THB.
- b) Definitions, notions, regulations adopted on new forms of exploitation, criminalisation of begging by adults.

##### ***1.3. Developing the professional skills of specialists***

**Main Objective:** Develop the professional capacities in the field of preventing and combating THB in order to promote effectively the policy on preventing and combating THB.

**Expected Impact:** Specialists have professional capabilities to effectively promote the policy on preventing and combating THB.

**Expected Results:**

- a) New modules for professional training and retraining of specialists from the state authorities: police officers, social workers, health professionals, psychologists, community mediators, lawyers, paralegals, etc. developed and incorporated into the respective curricula.
- b) Specialists of the law enforcement agencies, who carry out the investigation, criminal prosecution and trial of THB cases, have the necessary professional skills.

- c) Specialised staff from the trans-national road, air, rail and naval transport trained in prevention of THB.
- d) Joint trainings of specialists from law enforcement agencies and the social protection system conducted.
- e) Financial resources budgeted for training of specialists
- f) Conceptualized intersectorial training courses of specialists with competencies in preventing and combating THB.

#### ***1.4. Collection and analysis of statistical data, researches***

**Main Objective:** Ensure availability of and accessibility to the relevant and accurate statistical information and data on THB.

**Expected Impact:** Available and accessible statistical information and data relevant to THB in the process of promoting the policy on preventing and combating THB.

**Expected Results:**

- a) The electronic program of PS adjusted and updated to the requirements of international evaluators and new trends of THB phenomenon and specialists trained in this area.
- b) Functionality of the Social Assistance module from the SAAIS ensured.
- c) Information program for processing the data on criminal cases in the renewed CCTHC and specialists trained how to use this program.
- d) Researches/studies aimed at reflecting the trends of committed THB.

#### ***1.5. Effective management of financial resources***

**Main Objective:** Strengthen the mechanisms for planning and managing the state budget resources appropriated for actions in the area concerned.

**Expected Impact:** Mechanisms for planning and managing the state budget resources appropriated for actions in the area concerned strengthened.

**Expected Results:**

- a) Financial resources planned in the state and local budgets in order to implement actions to prevent and combat THB
- b) Specialists trained in planning the MTBF and next year's budget, and in attracting external sources.
- c) Methodologies developed and expenditure rules approved for specialised social services for victims and presumed victims of THB.

## **Section 2**

### **Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings**

#### ***2.1. Informing the general public***

**Main Objective:** Raise the general public awareness of THB.

**Expected Impact:** People's response to forms of TFU and related crimes.

**Expected Results:**

- a) The population of the Republic of Moldova, foreign citizens informed about THB and related crimes;
- b) Employers, including from the private sector, familiar with the legal liability for committing THB and related crimes.
- c) Employers from agricultural sector informed about/trained on the legal procedure for employment and on avoiding labour exploitation situations.
- d) Media representatives trained how to cover topics related to the prevention and combating of THB.
- e) Diaspora informed about the THB, its consequences and the institutions that may be contacted, if needed.

#### ***2.2. Reducing vulnerability***

**Main Objective:** Reducing people's vulnerability to THB

**Expected Impact:** The population informed about the danger of THB, provided with reference information materials on the protection available, and has access to assistance and protection programs.

**Expected Results:**

- a) Vulnerability reduction programs developed and accessible to vulnerable people, including job-seekers;
- b) Access of potential emigrants to the national and foreign labour market facilitated under fair and protected conditions;
- c) Access of vulnerable people to the necessary services ensured;
- d) Professional and entrepreneurial competences of vulnerable people, including job-seekers, developed and strengthened.

**2.3. Administrative control**

**Main Objective:** Strengthen regulatory and control mechanisms of the activities of private economic operators in order to prevent exploitation.

**Expected Impact:** Private economic operators discouraged from creating conditions that generate THB and exploitation.

**Expected Results:**

- a) Activity of private economic operators in vulnerable sectors strictly regulated and controlled by the state.
- b) Instructions for employment and observance of social rights and working conditions of employees (agriculture, livestock and construction) developed.
- c) Institutional collaboration and exchange of information at local and national level, in particular between labour inspectors and prosecuting officers strengthened.

**Section 3**

**Social assistance and protection of victims and presumed victims of THB**

**3.1. Identification and referral of victims and presumed victims of trafficking in human beings**

**Main Objective:** Strengthen the systemic cooperation between institutions in charge of identifying victims and presumed victims of all forms of THB.

**Expected Impact:** Systemic mechanism of cooperation in identifying, referring and assisting victims and presumed victims of THB developed and applied on the basis of crime victims rehabilitation system.

**Expected Results:**

- a) Specialists trained and effective mechanisms for identifying victims and presumed victims of THB established.
- b) Mechanism set up and clear competencies established for line institutions to assign the status of presumed victim of THB.
- c) Procedures for documenting victims and presumed victims of THB strengthened.
- d) The presumed victims of THB have a reflection period of at least 30 days in accordance with the provisions of the legal framework and their monitoring is ensured. Information materials on the rights of THB victims updated and distributed.
- e) Capacities of specialists from the relevant institutions to identify victims amongst aliens, especially refugees and asylum seekers, strengthened.
- f) Mobile Service aimed at early identification of THB cases and related crimes piloted.

**3.2. Repatriation**

**Main Objective:** Strengthen the institutional capacities of the competent authorities in the field in order to make the repatriation procedure more efficient.

**Expected Impact:** The repatriation procedures of adults and children performed safely.

**Expected Results:**

- a) Specialists from central and local public administration trained how to apply repatriation procedures.

b) Mechanisms for the use of financial resources adapted to the nature and context of organising the repatriation missions.

### ***3.3. Rehabilitation and reintegration of victims and presumed victims of THB***

**Main Objective:** Access of victims and presumed victims of THB to the national social protection system.

**Expected Impact:** All identified victims and presumed victims of THB provided with access to quality services.

**Expected Results:**

- a) (Public) social services developed, including financial resources appropriated for these purposes.
- b) The analysis of long-term assistance and protection system for the rehabilitation and reintegration of victims and presumed victims of THB realized.
- c) Programs for the development of entrepreneurial skills and (re)integration of victims and presumed victims on the labour market implemented.
- d) Mechanism for referring NRS beneficiaries to competent specialists enhanced and effective cooperation between the three levels of the NRS (community, district and national).
- e) People with hearing disabilities informed about THB, its consequences and their rights to assistance and protection in this context.

## **Section 4 Punishment**

### ***4.1. Criminal prosecution and trials***

**Main Objective:** Strengthen the investigation, criminal prosecution and judiciary process according to international standards of criminal justice.

**Expected Impact:** Investigation, criminal prosecution and judiciary process strengthened according to international standards of criminal justice.

**Expected Results:**

- a) Qualified specialists in law enforcement agencies.
- b) Interaction and rapid exchange of information between the institutions involved in the criminal proceedings on cases of THB.
- c) Well-structured specialised law enforcement agencies, empowered and equipped appropriately.
- d) CCTHC directly subordinated to the head of the GPI of the MIA and the institutional development strategy approved.
- e) The procedure for conducting financial investigations in order to confiscate the assets acquired as a result of the committed THB (redistribution of certain resources for financial compensation), as well as investigations into the use of the developed information technology.
- f) Fair penalties for the committed crimes.

### ***4.2. Protection of victims and witnesses in criminal proceedings***

**Main Objective:** Strengthen the system for the protection of victims and witnesses according to international standards.

**Expected Impact:** The right to life safety and bodily integrity of witnesses and witnesses ensured in the criminal process according to the international norms.

**Expected Results:**

- a) Explicit legal rules that would ensure qualified, state-guaranteed legal aid for adult victims of THB approved and enforced.
- b) Victims and witnesses informed of their rights in the criminal proceedings.
- c) Unreasonable repeated hearings of adult and child victims and witnesses of THB unaccepted.
- d) Standards for the operation of the rooms for underage victim/witness hearing developed and approved

### ***4.3. Restoring the rights of victims of THB and granting compensations***

**General Objective:** Ensure the rights of victims of THB to compensation and reparations for the sustained damage

**Expected Impact** Enhanced mechanisms to ensure fair satisfaction for victims of THB.

**Expected Results:**

- a) Functional mechanism of compensation and reparations for victims of THB.
- b) Victims informed of the compensation mechanism.
- c) Institute of civil action on THB cases implemented efficiently.

## **Section 5 International partnership**

**Main Objective:** Strengthen the cooperation between competent authorities and implementing partners from countries of destination, transit and origin in order to enhance the prevention and combating of THB.

**Expected Impact:** Effective international assistance on cases of THB and related crimes and effective cooperation between law enforcement agencies and similar institutions in the countries of destination.

**Expected Results:**

a) International investigations carried out, including by Joint Investigation Teams. Assistance in preventing and combating THB provided by specialised international and European organisations (INTERPOL, SELEC, etc.) and EU structures (EUROPOL, EUROJUST, European Border Police and Coast Guard Agency (FRONTEX)).

b) Victims identified, assisted and repatriated in collaboration with similar institutions from the countries of destination, including with the support of implementing partners, on the basis of signed agreements.

c) Instruments of cooperation established with the competent authorities from the countries of transit, destination, origin

## **IV. IMPACT AND COST ESTIMATES**

This Strategy comes to respond to the commitments of the Government of the Republic of Moldova, assumed by the ratification of international instruments, on the effective prevention and combating of THB, in order to respect citizens' rights to a safe life. The feminisation of poverty is still notices, keeping the number of victims and presumed victims of trafficking in women, sexual exploitation and forced prostitution, forcing women into even a greater financial dependence. The number of victims exploited through work and exploited in the country has increased in the recent years. The victims' age is getting younger, new forms of exploitation emerge, which should be criminalised by the national legal framework. The Action Plan implementing the Strategy will therefore reflect concrete actions to discourage the demand for these phenomena and provide a new impetus for strengthening human rights, especially of women, and promoting gender equality.

**The socio-economic impact** of the Strategy implementation consists in developing viable mechanisms for qualitative assistance and protection of victims and presumed victims for their socio-economic rehabilitation and (re)integration and especially the establishment of favorable conditions for the harmonious growth and development of child. Preventing the phenomenon of THB by strengthening the efforts of specialists of competent institutions, development partners, and civil society will help mitigate the consequences of this phenomenon on the human beings, especially women and children. At the same time, the investigation, criminal prosecution and punishment persons who have committed THB will help restore the rights of THB victims and compensate for moral and material damages by ensuring social equity.

**Financial impact:**

About MDL 9500.0 thousand are planned in the state budget to finance the Placement Centers/services for victims and presumed victims of THB, the repatriations, and the 116 111 Freephone Service for Children. At the same time, the state budget also finances the Placement and Rehabilitation

Centers for young children from Chisinau and Balti municipalities in the amount of MDL 36095.5 thousand. The allowances for integration or reintegration, professional guidance and training services, information and counseling services are also funded and paid from the state budget - MDL 700.0 thousand. Resources are also provided to document these categories of beneficiaries. State budget resources were used to set up hearing rooms for child victims/witnesses of crime (about MDL 922.9 thousand) in Prosecutor's Offices.

In addition to these resources, it is necessary to cover the following from the state budget: add a new position in the staff list of the Ministry of Justice in order to ensure the fulfillment of the ministry's duties related to the implementation of the mechanism of financial compensation by the state of the damage caused by crime (MDL 110 thousand), extension of the POCOCS (by at least 3 positions) according to the legislation on the prosecutors' salary. Financial resources are also needed to carry out information campaigns, including publish materials (MDL 500.0 thousand). The amount of MDL 2250.1 thousand is needed to modernise the infrastructure for combating THB, especially the material and technical basis of CCTHC.

The means needed to implement this Strategy will be regularly and thoroughly evaluated during the implementation process, in line with the measures proposed in the national and institutional action plans for its implementation. The competent public authorities/institutions will take this strategy into account when drafting the medium-term budgetary plans in accordance with the legislation in force.

## V. SWOT ANALYSIS

The factors that might impact (strengths and weaknesses of the internal environment, as well as opportunities and threats of the external environment) the implementation of this Strategy are presented in the table below.

<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Weaknesses</b>
<p>1. PS is a subdivision of the State Chancellery in charge of organising the activity of the NC CTHB by coordinating and ensuring an efficient management of the national policies on preventing and combating THB in order to achieve the objectives of NC CTHB and strengthen the collaboration with public authorities, development partners and similar institutions from other countries to develop the national and transnational cooperation mechanism in the field.</p> <p>2. Advisory bodies for policy coordination in preventing and combating THB at national and local level with the participation of international organisations/missions and the civil society active in this field.</p> <p>3. Legal framework harmonised with the international and regional anti-trafficking standards.</p> <p>4. Well-trained specialists in the institutions in charge of preventing and combating THB.</p> <p>5. Mechanism developed for the coordination and referral of victims and presumed victims of THB to assistance and protection in the NRS (National Coordination Unit/NCU of the NRS and the Territorial Multidisciplinary Teams/TMT)</p>	<p>1. Removal of a staff position following the reform of the State Chancellery, staff turnover and failure to plan financial resources in MTBF to carry out the activities planned by PS.</p> <p>2. Administrative reforms, parliamentary and local elections that bring into the system specialists from other fields than preventing and combating THB, not enough involvement of specialists in the performance of duties.</p> <p>3. The law enforcement framework underdeveloped in the field concerned.</p> <p>4. New trends of THB phenomenon and new forms of exploitation uncriminalised by the national legal framework.</p> <p>5. Lack of a mechanism for granting the status of presumed victims of THB.</p> <p>6. Multiple hierarchical subordination of CCTHC in the MIA, staff turnover, insufficient modern equipment.</p> <p>7. POCOCS was established with an insufficient number of specialists, and the</p>

<p>6. CCTHC — subdivision of NII, GPI, MIA in charge of proactive investigation of THB and related crimes, as well as monitoring and analysis of crime status and dynamics, and THB trends.</p> <p>7. GPO reform, which strengthened its specialised anti-trafficking unit with powers to monitor and coordinate policies on combating THB and related crimes, and established the POCOCS in charge of leading and performing the criminal prosecution of THB and related crimes.</p> <p>8. Operation of CAP and 6 regional placement centers, which also provide assistance to victims and presumed victims of THB, the Emergency Placement Center for child victims of trafficking, funded from the state budget with the transition to local budgets.</p> <p>9. National and international cooperation partnerships established.</p>	<p>existing ones require specialised training.</p> <p>8. Underdeveloped mechanisms for contracting services.</p> <p>9. A limited number of local cooperation partnerships. Outdated collaboration agreement between 3 CPAs and 3 partner organisations. Draft cooperation agreements with the Russian Federation and Ukraine are not signed.</p>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p>	<p><b>Threats</b></p>
<p>1. International and regional instruments governing the prevention and combating of THB</p> <p>2. The prevention and combating of THB is a topic included in the agenda of the Moldova-EU Dialogue, in the text of the RM-EU Association Agreement (Article 16), and in the list of priorities of the 2017-2019 Association Agenda.</p> <p>3. Prevention and combating THB has been recognised by the UN as one of the priorities of international cooperation - a separate goal (8.7) of Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.</p> <p>4. Evaluation of the Government of the Republic of Moldova by GRETA, US State Department, UNODC, etc. in the area concerned, strengthens the efforts of anti-trafficking stakeholders.</p> <p>5. Government supported by the Community of donors and development partners in implementing policies in this field.</p> <p>6. Joint Investigation Teams, an effective tool for the investigation and management of THB cases.</p>	<p>1. New forms of exploitation and new trends in the field are not regulated by the law.</p> <p>2. Underdeveloped transnational mechanism of beneficiaries referral in countries of origin and destination.</p> <p>3. Underdeveloped funding of actions to prevent and combat THB.</p> <p>4. Evaluation indicators are not entirely in line with the relevant policies applied by countries of origin.</p> <p>5. The Republic of Moldova has not been included in the international projects funded by the European Commission and in the CoE/ICMPD project on transnational cooperation in identifying victims of THB and referring them to support services (designed for EU countries).</p> <p>6. Countries of destination are less interested in setting up Joint Investigation Teams. Delay in the execution of rogatory commissions.</p>



## **VI. STAGES OF IMPLEMENTATION. MONITORING AND REPORTING PROCEDURES**

The Strategy will be implemented in two stages:

- 1) Stage I - 2018-2020;**
- 2) Stage II - 2021-2023.**

To implement this Strategy, the 2018-2020 Action Plan was developed (**Stage I**).

The Action Plan for **Stage II** will be developed in late 2020 for the period of 2021-2023 and will be approved by the Government of the Republic of Moldova. This Action Plan will be a continuation of the first stage, so as to eliminate all the issues addressed in the Strategy's content.

The specific objectives and activities for the implementation of this Strategy are included in the 2018-2020 Action Plan implementing the Strategy (Annex 2).

The implementation of this Strategy and Action Plans will be monitored as follows:

- a) half-annually and annually, by developing briefing notes and detailed reports on the strategy implementation level, on the basis of the established indicators and outcomes;
- b) after the first implementation stage (mid-term), a 3-year report will be prepared;
- c) upon completion of the Strategy implementation period, a report will be prepared for 6 years.

The half-yearly briefing notes, the annual and periodic reports as well as the final monitoring report on strategy implementation will be developed by the PS on the basis of the information and data provided by the competent public authorities/institutions and implementing partners, civil society, etc. with expertise support from the donor community.

The monitoring reports will be submitted for review and approval by members of NC CTHB and subsequently sent to the Government of the Republic of Moldova. The monitoring reports are public and will be available at [www.antitrafic.gov.md](http://www.antitrafic.gov.md).

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS:

NEA – National Employment Agency  
CPA – Central Public Authority  
LPA – Local Public Authority  
TEA – Territorial Employment Agencies  
CAP – Center for Assistance and Protection of Victims and Potential Victims of THB  
MTBF – Medium-Term Budgetary Framework  
CMHC – Community-based Mental Health Center  
CCTHB - Center for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings  
IC ‘La Strada’ – Public Association International Center for Women Rights Protection and Promotion ‘La Strada’  
NC CTHB – National Committee for Combating TBH  
NAC – National Anti-Corruption Center  
NHIC – National Health Insurance Company  
CoE – Council of Europe  
CC – Criminal Code  
CCP – Code of Criminal Procedure  
YFHC – Youth Friendly Health Center  
TC – Territorial Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings  
BPD – Border Police Department  
TMT – Territorial Multidisciplinary Team  
EUBAM – European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine  
EUROJUST – European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation  
EUROPOL – European Police Office  
FRONTEX – European Border Police and Coast Guard Agency  
GRETA – Council of Europe's Independent Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings  
TCG - Technical Coordination Group of PS of CN CTFU  
ICMPD – International Centre for Migration Policy Development  
GPI – General Police Inspectorate  
NII – National Investigation Inspectorate  
NIJ – National Institute of Justice  
INTERPOL – International Criminal Police Organisation  
MFAEI – Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration  
MIA – Ministry of Internal Affairs  
MLSPF – Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family  
MHLSP – Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection  
IO – International Organisation  
ILO – Mission of the International Organisation for Migration to Moldova  
NGO – Non-governmental organisation  
UN – United Nations  
POCOCS – Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases  
GPO – General Prosecutor's Office  
SELEC – Southeast European Law Enforcement Center  
SAAIS – Social Assistance Automated Information System  
ISS – Intelligence and Security Service  
NRS – National Referral System  
PS – Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings  
Strategy - National Strategy on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (2018-2023)  
CS – Customs Service  
CT – Child trafficking  
THB – Trafficking in human beings

ATU – Administrative Territorial Unit  
EU – European Union  
NCU – National Coordination Unit  
UNODC – United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**2018-2020 ACTION PLAN**  
Implementing  
The National Strategy for Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings for 2018-2023

Activities	Responsible entities	Partners	Deadlines	Costs, MDL thousand			Indicators
				budgetary sources of public authorities	other sources	sources not covered	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Section 1</b>							
<b>GENERAL SUPPORT MEASURES</b>							
<b>1.1. Coordination of activities aimed at preventing and combating trafficking in human beings</b>							
<b>General Objective 1:</b>							
<b>Ensure the implementation of the National Policy on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, on the basis of an effective coordination and strong cooperation with implementing partners</b>							
<b>Specific Objective 1.1:</b>							
<b>Develop new mechanisms for the cooperation of state institutions, non-government organisations and other stakeholders</b>							
1.1.1. Carry out a feasibility study to identify whether it is appropriate to establish a National Rapporteur Office/Unit to evaluate	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National	International Organization for Migration, Organization for Security and	2020	Within the approved budget	360.0	External sources	Study carried out Number of organized round tables Study report submitted

national policies	Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings)	Cooperation in Europe					
1.1.2. Conclude memoranda between different national stakeholders in the anti-trafficking field	Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, General Prosecutor's Office	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings), Partners	2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Number of concluded memoranda
<b>Specific Objective 1.2:</b>							
<b>Ensure that the Territorial Commissions for combating trafficking in human beings strengthen the coordination mechanisms</b>							
1.1.3. Develop the Framework Communication Strategy of the Territorial Commission for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings with the help of the specialists from the administrative-territorial units, including level-one authorities, and local non-commercial organisations	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings),	Non-commercial organisations	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of round tables organised, Framework Strategy developed and piloted

	territorial committees for combating trafficking in human beings						
1.1.4. Develop the communication strategy of the Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee with the specialists from the central and local (level-one and level-two) public authorities, development partners	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings)	International Organisation for Migration	2019	Within the approved budget	External sources		Strategy reviewed and piloted Number of round tables organised
1.1.5 Provide methodological guidance to Territorial Commissions for combating trafficking in human beings in order for them to develop local annual plans	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings), territorial committees for combating trafficking in	Local public authorities, Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of annual plans developed and implemented

	human beings						
<b>1.2. Legal and regulatory framework</b>							
<b>General Objective 2:</b>							
<b>Regulate relationships in the field of preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, adhering to principles of respect for human rights and equal opportunities for women and men</b>							
<b>Specific Objective 2.1.:</b>							
<b>Improve the regulatory framework to provide assistance and protection to victims and presumed victims of trafficking in human beings</b>							
1.2.1 Amend and complete the Government Decision No 234 of 29 February 2008 approving the Framework Regulation of the Territorial Commissions for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings	Ministry of Internal Affairs	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings)	2018-2019	Within the approved budget	External sources		Decision developed and approved by the Government of the Republic of Moldova

1.2.2. Adjust the Methodology for planning and monitoring of the national anti-trafficking policy in accordance with the policy document	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings),  Ministry of Health,  Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection,  Ministry of Education, Culture and Research	International Organisation for Migration,  Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	100.0		Methodology finished and piloted
1.2.3. Promote the draft amending and supplementing the Law No 241-XVI of 20 October 2005 on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings	Ministry of Justice	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in	2018	Within the approved budget			Draft Law passed



		Human Beings), Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection					
1.2.4. Review the regulatory framework in order to regulate the issues related to the legal representation of the rights and interests of the child and the establishment of the custody institute	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection	Non-commercial organizations	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Revised regulatory framework
1.2.5. Amend and supplement the Government Decision No 472 of 23 March 2008 approving the Membership of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and the Regulation of the National Committee	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings)	2018	Within the approved budget			Regulatory document approved
1.2.6. Adjust the Guidelines on the Identification of Victims and Potential Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection	International Centre 'La Strada'	2019	Within the approved budget	External sources		Guidelines adjusted to the new trends in human trafficking and approved

1.2.7. Amend the regulatory framework (Government Decision No 520 of 15 May 2006 approving the Limits of Expenditures for the Upkeep of the Persons Accommodated in Social Institutions)	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection	International Organisation for Migration	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Draft Government Decision developed and submitted
1.2.8. Amend the Law No 198 of 26 July 2007 on State-Guaranteed Legal Aid in order to include the victims of human trafficking in the category of persons entitled to qualified legal aid, regardless of their income level	Ministry of Justice	International Organisation for Migration	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Law amended
<b>Specific Objective 2.2.:</b>							
<b>Improve the regulatory framework in order to criminalize all forms of trafficking in human beings and to establish appropriate punishments</b>							
1.2.9. Amend and supplement the Criminal Code in order to criminalize the new forms of exploitation	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Internal Affairs	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings),	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Criminal Code amended and supplemented

		Supreme Court of Justice, partners					
<b>1.3. Building the specialists' professional skills</b>							
<b>General Objective 3:</b>							
<b>Build the professional skills of specialists in order to promote effectively the policy of preventing and combating trafficking in human beings</b>							
<b>Specific Objective 3.3.</b>							
<b>Train specialists from law enforcement bodies on enforcing the law and investigating the cases of trafficking in human beings</b>							
1.3.1. Train border police officers, specialists from Bureau for Migration and Asylum, community police officers and labour inspectors on how to react effectively to cases of trafficking in human beings	Ministry of Internal Affairs	International Organisation for Migration,  International Centre 'La Strada'	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of specialists trained,  number of modules/themes developed
1.3.2. Develop an e-learning course on trafficking in human beings for the Centre of Excellence in Border Security (according to the skills, profile mode)	Ministry of Internal Affairs (General Inspectorate of Border Police)	International Organisation for Migration	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		E-learning course developed, piloted
1.3.3. Organise training courses on the identification	Ministry of Internal Affairs	International Organisation for	2018-2019	Within the approved	External sources		Number of training courses conducted,

of victims of trafficking in human beings for border police officers from state border crossing points	(General Inspectorate of Border Police)	Migration		budget			number of specialists trained
1.3.4. Organise training courses on legal and operational issues in combating of trafficking in human beings for investigation officers of the General Inspectorate of Border Police	Ministry of Internal Affairs (General Inspectorate of Border Police)	International Organisation for Migration	2018	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of training courses conducted Number of specialists trained
1.3.5. Organise a workshop on the establishment and operation of joint investigation teams on issues related to trafficking in human beings	Ministry of Internal Affairs	International Organisation for Migration	2019	Within the approved budget	External sources		Workshop carried out, number of participants trained
1.3.6. Provide equipment for high quality training courses to the General Inspectorate of Border Police	Ministry of Internal Affairs (General Inspectorate of Border Police)	International Organisation for Migration	2019	Within the approved budget	External sources		Equipment purchased, in operation
1.3.7. Carry out regional (international) workshops with specialists from the Territorial Commissions for	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of	International Organisation for Migration	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		6 regional workshops carried out in Moldova, Belarus, Ukraine, Georgia

combating trafficking in human beings	the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings), Ministry of Internal Affairs						
1.3.8. Organise a round table on the identification of victims of trafficking in human beings with the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, identified with Romanian identity documents	Ministry of Internal Affairs (Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings)	International Organisation for Migration	2019	Within the approved budget	External sources		Round table organised, number of participants
<b>Specific Objective 3.4.:</b>							
<b>Strengthen capacities of the specialized unit from the General Prosecutor's Office</b>							
1.3.9. Train prosecutors from the specialized section of the General Prosecutor's Office and specialists of the Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in drafting policy documents and analytical approach to human	General Prosecutor's Office, Ministry of Internal Affairs (Centre for Combating Trafficking in	Superior Council of Prosecutors, international organisations, development partners	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of specialists trained, number of modules/themes developed

trafficking phenomenon, including other criminal phenomena	Human Beings)						
<b>Specific Objective 3.5.:</b>							
<b>Develop an ongoing training mechanism for the staff of the competent authorities, empowered by law to investigate, prosecute and pursue in court the cases of trafficking in human beings</b>							
1.3.10. Develop the necessary professional skills of specialists from law enforcement bodies for the investigation, prosecution and trial of the human trafficking cases	National Institute of Justice, General Prosecutor's Office, Ministry of Internal Affairs	Superior Council of Magistracy, Superior Council of Prosecutors, International Organisation for Migration	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of specialists (policemen, prosecutors, judges, judicial assistants) trained, number of modules/themes developed
1.3.11. Train the police staff how to investigate money laundering cases and how to use some financial investigation techniques in human trafficking cases and develop the Guide on Financial Investigation of Trafficking in Human Beings	Ministry of Internal Affairs	National Anti-Corruption Centre, International Organisation for Migration	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of training courses conducted and number of beneficiaries, Guide developed
<b>Specific Objective 3.6.:</b>							

<b>Conduct specialized training courses (on preventing trafficking in human beings) for the staff from (air, road, railway and maritime) transport area</b>							
1.3.12. Train the specialised staff in the field of air, road, railway and maritime transport to prevent trafficking in human beings	'AIR Moldova' Airline Company SOE, 'Calea Ferata din Moldova' SOE, National Auto Transport Agency, Harbour Master Giurgiulesti, State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings)	Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure  International Organisation for Migration	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of specialised staff trained annually
<b>Specific Objective 3.7.:</b>							
<b>Improve the knowledge of anti-trafficking specialists working in the institutions at the level of administrative-territorial authorities</b>							
1.3.13. Improving the professional capacities of officials from the Territorial Commissions for combating	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National	Local public authorities,  International Organisation for	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of specialists with competencies in the field trained

trafficking in human beings	Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings),  Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection	Migration					
1.3.14. Train the specialists from the institutional mechanisms coordinating and monitoring anti-trafficking policies	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings),  Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection (National Social Assistance	Local public authorities, International Organisation for Migration	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of training courses conducted, number of study visits, number of workshops, number of specialists trained



	Agency)						
1.3.15. Organise mixed training courses, including gender-based courses, for the specialists from the social protection system and law enforcement bodies	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings), Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection (National Social Assistance Agency)	General Prosecutor's Office, local public authorities, International Organisation for Migration, Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of training courses conducted, number of specialists trained
1.3.16. Develop and update the initial and ongoing training modules of the specialists from state authorities: policemen, social workers, health professionals, lawyers,	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of Internal	Local public authorities, International Organisation for Migration	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of modules/themes developed, number of curricula supplemented

paralegals	Affairs, National Institute of Justice						
1.3.17. Conduct training courses for community mediators	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, Bureau for Interethnic Relation	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings), International Organisation for Migration, local public authorities, Voice of the Roma Coalition	2018	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of training courses carried out, number of mediators trained
1.3.18. Develop and pilot a training program for lawyers providing state-guaranteed legal aid in the field of assistance to victims and presumed victims of trafficking in human beings	National Legal Aid Council, Ministry of Justice	International Organisation for Migration	2018-2019	Within the approved budget	External sources		Program developed and piloted, number of training courses conducted, number of specialists trained
<b>1.4. Statistical data and researches collection and analysis</b>							
<b>General Objective 4:</b>							

**Ensure availability of and accessibility to the relevant and accurate statistical information and data on trafficking in human beings**

**Specific Objective 4.1.:**

**Ensure the adjustment of the data and information system, analyses and reports on the situation in the field and trends of trafficking in human beings**

1.4.1. Organise training courses on the implementation of the Electronic Program of the Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings for the relevant specialists	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings)	International Organisation for Migration	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Specialists from the Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and data providers trained
1.4.2. Adjust and update the Electronic Program of the Permanent Secretariat to the new trends in the human trafficking phenomenon	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings)	International Organisation for Migration	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Electronic Program adjusted and updated
1.4.3. Carry out a survey on the level of people's knowledge about trafficking in human beings	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for	International Centre for the Development of Migration Policy	2020		External sources		Survey carried out

	Combating Trafficking in Human Beings)						
<b>Specific Objective 4.2.:</b> <b>Ensure systematic collection of data, analysis and reporting in line with the anti-trafficking requirements</b>							
1.4.4. Develop specific guidelines on the procedure of analysis/monitoring of the situation of trafficking in human beings	Ministry of Internal Affairs  (Centre for Combating Human Trafficking)	Partners	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of specific guidelines developed
1.4.5. Ensure that territorial social assistance bodies implement the Social Services Module in the 'Social Assistance' Automated Information System	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection  (National Social Assistance Agency)	Partners	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		The Social Services Module from the 'Social Assistance' Automated Information System implemented
<b>Specific Objective 4.3.:</b> <b>Strengthen the information management mechanism in the human trafficking area</b>							
1.4.6 Adjust the central database on criminal cases involving trafficking in human beings	Ministry of Internal Affairs  (Centre for Combating		2018-2019	Within the approved budget			Centralised database adjusted

	Human Trafficking)						
1.4.7. Train specialists on how to use the Central Data Bank	Ministry of Internal Affairs  (Centre for Combating Human Trafficking)		2018-2019	Within the approved budget			Number of training courses conducted, number of specialists trained
<b>Specific Objective 4.4.: Carry out researches to reflect the trends of trafficking in human beings</b>							
1.4.8. Ensure that master students address topics related to prevention and combating of trafficking in human beings in their master theses	Ministry of Education, Culture and Research	Higher educational institutions	2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Number of papers and theses developed, topic addressed
1.4.9. Carry out researches to reflect the phenomenon and trends of trafficking in human beings	Ministry of Education, Culture and Research;  Ministry of Internal Affairs	Higher educational institutions	2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Number of researches carried out, topic addressed
1.4.10. Develop a study on the risks of trafficking in human	Ministry of Internal	International Centre 'La	2018-2019	Within the approved	60.0		Study developed and published

beings in the context of the recent migration crisis	Affairs, General Police Inspectorate  (Bureau for Migration and Asylum, General Inspectorate of Border Police,  (Centre for Combating Human Trafficking)	Strada'		budget			
<b>1.5. Effective financial management</b>							
<b>General Objective 5:</b>							
<b>Strengthen the mechanisms for the planning and management of the funds from the state budget to implement actions in this area</b>							
<b>Specific Objective 5.1.:</b>							
<b>Increase gradually the financing of anti-trafficking actions from the state and local budgets</b>							
1.5.1. Plan financial resources in the state and local budgets in order to implement actions to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection,  Ministry of Internal	Local public authorities	2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Funds planned

	<p>Affairs,</p> <p>Ministry of Education, Culture and Research,</p> <p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration,</p> <p>Ministry of Justice,</p> <p>Ministry of Finance,</p> <p>General Prosecutor's Office</p>						
1.5.2. Identify funds at LPA level in order to carry out activities of preventing and combating trafficking in human beings	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings)	Local public authorities	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Funds identified

1.5.3. Improve the repatriation procedures by amending and supplementing the Government Decision No 948 of 7 August 2008 approving the Regulation on Procedure for Repatriation of Child and Adult Victims of Human Trafficking, People in Difficulty and Unattended Children	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection	International Organisation for Migration	2018-2019	Within the approved budget	External sources		Draft Government Decision developed and promoted
<b>Section 2 PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS</b>							
<b>2.1. Informing of the general public</b>							
<b>General Objective 6:</b>							
<b>Increase the level of the general public's awareness of the human trafficking phenomenon</b>							
<b>Specific Objective 6.1.:</b>							
<b>Inform the general public about the current trends in the human trafficking phenomenon</b>							
2.1.1. Coordinate the conduct of the National Information and Awareness Raising Campaign	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in	Local public authorities, International Organisation for Migration non-commercial	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Campaign conducted



	Human Beings)	organisations					
2.1.2. Conduct training sessions on the threats of the human trafficking and related phenomena	Ministry of Internal Affairs Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, General Prosecutor's Office	Local public authorities, non-commercial organisations and mass-media, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of training sessions held, number of participants
2.1.3. Organise information campaigns on the trafficking in human beings and related crimes	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings), Ministry of Health, Labour and Social	Local public authorities, non-commercial organisations and mass-media	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of actions carried out, number of participants

	Protection, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, Ministry of Justice, General Prosecutor's Office						
2.1.4. Provide information and advice on legal employment in the country and/or abroad to applicants and business entities	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection (National Agency for Employment), Public Services Agency	Non-commercial organisations	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of actions carried out, number of participants, topic addressed

	(Department of Registration and Licensing of Legal Entities)						
<b>Specific Objective 6.2.: Inform employers about the characteristics of crime, real cases of trafficking in human beings and related crimes</b>							
2.1.6. Provide employers training on human trafficking crimes, real cases of human trafficking and legal liability for committing trafficking in human beings and related crimes	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings), Ministry of Internal Affairs	General Prosecutor's Office, non-commercial organisations, employers' associations, trade unions, International Organisation for Migration	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of training courses conducted, number of specialists trained, employers' fields of activity
2.1.7. Ensure that the employers from agricultural sector are informed about/trained on the legal procedure for employment and on avoiding labour exploitation situations and preventing trafficking in human beings	Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment, Ministry of Health, Labour and Social	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings), National Centre	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of training courses conducted, number of specialists trained

	Protection, (National Agency for Employment, State Labour Inspectorate)	for Training, Assistance, Counseling and Education of Moldova 'NCFACEM', non-commercial organisations,  employers' associations, trade unions					
<b>Specific Objective 6.3.:</b>							
<b>Inform the media about the correct coverage of topics related to trafficking in human beings</b>							
2.1.8. Train media representatives on how to cover topics related to the prevention and fight against trafficking in human beings	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings)  Ministry of Internal Affairs  Ministry of Health, Labour	National Audiovisual Council,  International Centre for the Development of Migration Policy	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of training courses conducted, number of participants, printed/online local/national mass-media

	and Social Protection						
<b>Specific Objective 6.4.:</b> <b>Inform the diaspora about the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings and its consequences</b>							
2.1.9. Organise information, education and communication activities, especially for young people, on trafficking in human beings and the social danger of this phenomenon, as well as of the related issues	State Chancellery (Bureau for Diaspora Relations), Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, Ministry of Internal Affairs  (Centre for Combating Human Trafficking), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings), General Prosecutor's Office, non-commercial organisations	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of activities organised, number of participants, number of countries involved, number of information materials published and distributed

2.1.10. Inform the diaspora about the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings, its consequences and the institutions where they can seek help, if needed	State Chancellery (Bureau for Diaspora Relations), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings), non-commercial organisations	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of activities organised, number of participants, number of countries involved
2.1.11. Organise a (photography/drawing) art contest aimed at raising awareness of trafficking in human beings and related crimes among young people	Ministry of Education, Culture and Research	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings), local public authorities, non-commercial organisations	2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Number of contests organised, number of participants
<b>2.2. Vulnerability reduction</b>							
<b>General Objective 7:</b>							

## Reduce citizens' vulnerability to human trafficking

### Specific Objective 7.1.:

Ensure that groups at risk are informed about the new trends in human trafficking and related crimes

2.2.1. Inform children/pupils/students/young people/disadvantaged people about the risks related to the new trends in trafficking in human beings, related phenomena and protection mechanisms	Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection	Ministry of Internal Affairs, non-commercial organisations, local public authorities	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of meetings, public lessons held, number of beneficiaries, number of persons informed
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### Specific Objective 7.2.:

Develop mechanisms for safe employment of Moldovan citizens both in the country and abroad

2.2.2. Inform potential emigrants about migration	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of Internal Affairs, (General Inspectorate of Border Police)	International Centre 'La Strada', non-commercial organisations	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Methods and tools used, number of persons informed
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2.2.3. Conclude bilateral/multilateral agreements between public authorities, non-commercial organisations, international organisations in order to ensure the safe employment of Moldovan citizens, both in the country and abroad	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration	Non-commercial organisations	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of agreements concluded, countries with which agreements have been concluded
2.2.4. Ensure the access of potential emigrants to the national and international labour market under fair and protected conditions	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection	International Centre 'La Strada'	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of services provided, number of persons employed
<b>Specific Objective 7.3.:</b>							
<b>Ensure that children and adolescents have access to information on possible dangers of human trafficking, gender equality, children's rights</b>							
2.2.5. Include information on trafficking in human beings, gender equality, child rights in the lower secondary education curricula	Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection	Non-commercial organisations	2018-2019	Within the approved budget			Number of curricula supplemented



2.2.6. Train teachers on the topic related to trafficking in human beings	Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, Ministry of Internal Affairs	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, non-commercial organisations	2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Number of teaching staff trained, number of universities included in training
<b>2.3. Administrative control</b>							
<b>General Objective 8:</b>							
<b>Strengthen regulatory mechanisms and control of the activities of private agents in order to prevent exploitation</b>							
<b>Specific Objective 8.1.:</b>							
<b>Ensure administrative control mechanisms for vulnerable economic sectors that can influence trafficking in human beings</b>							
2.3.1. Establish the regulatory mechanism for the strict state control of the activity of private business entities from vulnerable sectors (agriculture zootechnic and construction)	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection	Local public authorities (Territorial Commissions for combating trafficking in human beings), non-commercial organisations	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Control tools applied
<b>Specific Objective 8.2.:</b>							
<b>Ensure the control of labour relations in the formal/informal economic sectors that are vulnerable to labour exploitation across the country</b>							
2.3.2. Develop a mechanism	Ministry of	Trade unions,	2018-2020	Within the	External		Monitoring mechanism developed and

to monitor the economic sectors that are vulnerable to domestic trafficking/labour exploitation, such as construction, agriculture, livestock and others.	Health, Labour and Social Protection, (State Labour Inspectorate), Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure	employers' associations, non-commercial organisations		approved budget	sources		piloted
2.3.3. Ensure institutional collaboration and exchange of information at local and national level, in particular between labour inspectors and prosecuting officers	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, State Labour Inspectorate, Ministry of Internal Affairs		2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Number of joint controls at economic operators

**Specific Objective 8.3.:**

**Inform economic operators about the need to respect the social rights and working conditions of employees**

2.3.4. Develop instructions for employment and observance of social rights and working conditions of employees (agriculture, livestock and construction).	Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure, Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection	Trade unions, employers' associations, non-governmental organisations	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of instructions developed
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**Section 3**

**SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION OF VICTIMS AND PRESUMED VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS**

**3.1. Identification and referral of victims and presumed victims of human trafficking**

**General Objective 9:**

**Strengthen systemic cooperation between institutions empowered to identify victims and presumed victims of all forms of trafficking in human beings**

**Specific Objective 9.1.:**

**Strengthen and develop multidisciplinary methods and tools for identifying victims and presumed victims of human trafficking in the NRS**

3.1.1. Train the specialists from the National Referral System on how to implement effectively the mechanisms for the identification of human trafficking victims	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection	Ministry of Internal Affairs, International Organisation for Migration, non-commercial organisations, local public authorities	2018	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of specialists trained, number of activities organised, number of victims and presumed victims identified
3.1.2. Train the specialists from the Ministry of Internal Affairs, who get into a direct contact with foreign citizens, asylum seekers, stateless persons, especially the ones placed in specialised centres, on how to identify victims among foreigners	Ministry of Internal Affairs (Bureau for Migration and Asylum, General Inspectorate of Border Police)	State Chancellery (Bureau for Diaspora Relations), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, non-commercial	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of specialists trained, number of activities organised, number of victims and presumed victims identified

		organisations					
3.1.3. Pilot the Mobile Service aimed at early identification of cases of trafficking in human beings, and related crimes	Ministry of Internal Affairs  (Centre for Combating Human Trafficking)	Local Public authorities,  , non-commercial organisations	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Mobile Service piloted
3.1.4. Identify the institution and establish the mechanism for the granting the status of presumed victim	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection,  Centre for the Assistance and Protection of Victims and Potential Victims of Trafficking	International Organisation for Migration	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Institution identified,  mechanism for granting of the status of presumed victim institutionalised
3.1.5. Assign specialists from territorial subdivisions of the Public Services Agency, to optimise the procedures of registration, drawing up of the civil status documents and issuance of identity documents to victims and	Public Services Agency		2018-2020	Within the approved budget			List of specialists approved,  number of beneficiaries who obtained their civil status and identity documents

presumed victims							
<b>Specific Objective 9.2.:</b>							
<b>Ensure that presumed victims of human trafficking are granted a reflection period, as provided by the legal framework</b>							
3.1.6. Establish the mechanism for the recording of the victims and presumed victims of trafficking in human beings, who have had a reflection period of at least 30 days, as provided for by the regulatory framework	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection  Ministry of Internal Affairs  (Centre for Combating Human Trafficking)		2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Number of victims and presumed victims who benefited from a reflection period
3.1.7. Develop and distribute informative materials on the rights of victims of trafficking in human beings	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection  Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, Ministry of Internal Affairs	Local public authorities, non-commercial organisations, partners	2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Number of materials drafted, number of materials distributed
3.1.8. Monitor the functionality of the	Ministry of	Non-commercial	2018-2020	Within the approved	External		Number of cases in which the services of

mechanism for providing an interpreter and translator, in line with the Law No 264 of 11 December 2008	Justice, Ministry of Internal Affairs,  Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases,  General Prosecutor's Office	organisations		budget	sources		a translator/interpreter are provided,  number of cases where the services of a translator/ interpreter are not provided
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### 3.2. Repatriation of victims and presumed victims of trafficking in human beings

#### General Objective 10:

**Strengthen institutional capacity, including in diplomatic missions and consular offices, to streamline the repatriation procedure**

#### Specific Objective 10.1.:

**Build capacity of specialists in applying repatriation procedures**

3.2.1. Train specialists from central and local public administration on how to apply repatriation procedures	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration,  Ministry of Health, Labour	Local public authorities, non-commercial organisations	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of specialists trained,  number of activities conducted
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	and Social Protection						
<b>Develop mechanisms for spending funds</b>							
<b>3.3. Rehabilitation and reintegration of victims and presumed victims of trafficking in human beings</b>							
<b>General Objective 11:</b>							
<b>Ensure the access of victims and presumed victims of trafficking in human beings to quality social assistance and protection</b>							
<b>Specific Objective 11.1.:</b>							
<b>Ensure that victims and presumed victims are informed of their rights to services</b>							
3.3.1. Ensure that, with the support of sign language interpreters, the specialists who provide assistance to the hearing-impaired are informed about trafficking in human beings, its consequences and the rights to assistance and protection	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection	Association of the Deaf of the Republic of Moldova, non-governmental organisations, local public authorities, mass-media	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of specialists informed, number of informative meetings
<b>Specific Objective 11.2.:</b>							
<b>Ensure that adult victims and presumed victims receive assistance and protection via long-term rehabilitation and reintegration programs</b>							
3.3.2. Develop specialised services for men victims of trafficking in human beings	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social	Non-commercial organisations, local public	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of services developed, number of male victims and presumed victims assisted

	Protection	authorities					
3.3.3. Implement programs for the development of entrepreneurial, professional skills and re/integration of victims, presumed victims with disabilities on the labour market	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection (National Agency for Employment), Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure (Organisation for Small and Medium Enterprises Sector Development)	Non-commercial organisations, local public authorities	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of programs implemented, number of beneficiaries included in the programs
<b>Specific Objective 11.3.:</b>							
<b>Ensure long-term protection and support in the rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of trafficking in human beings</b>							
3.3.4. Perform the analysis on long-term assistance and protection system for the rehabilitation and reintegration of victims and presumed victims of trafficking in human beings	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection	Non-commercial organisations, local public authorities, partners	2019-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Report realized



<b>Specific Objective 11.4.:</b>							
<b>Strengthen the cooperation mechanism between the three levels of the NRS (community, district, national)</b>							
3.3.5. Adjust the methodological framework of the social worker's activity to Law no. 137 of 29 July 2016 on rehabilitation of crimes victims	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection	Local public authorities, non-commercial organisations, partners	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		The order of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, no. 55 of 12 June 2009 amended, referral mechanism strengthened
<b>Section 4 PUNISHMENT</b>							
<b>4.1. Criminal investigation and trial</b>							
<b>General Objective 12:</b>							
<b>Strengthen the investigation, prosecution and trial according to international standards of criminal justice</b>							
<b>Specific Objective 12.1.:</b>							
<b>Strengthen investigation and prosecution capacities of the institutions specialised in combating trafficking in human beings</b>							
4.1.1. Increase the number of specialists with analytical duties in the Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings	Ministry of Internal Affairs  (Centre for Combating Human Trafficking), Ministry of Finance		2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Number of newly employed specialists

4.1.2. Develop a database (based on I2base)	Ministry of Internal Affairs  (Centre for Combating Human Trafficking)	Non-commercial organisations	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Database developed
4.1.3. Train police officers and prosecutors how to manage and use the database (I2base)	Ministry of Internal Affairs,  (Integrated Training Centre for Law Enforcement),  General Prosecutor's Office	Non-commercial organisations	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of specialists trained
4.1.4. Provide appropriate equipment for quality investigation and documentation of human trafficking cases	Ministry of Internal Affairs,  (Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, General Inspectorate of Border Police),	Non-commercial organisations	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Equipment purchased, in operation

	General Prosecutor's Office						
4.1.5. Develop tools to streamline the interaction and exchange of information between institutions involved in investigation of the human trafficking cases	Ministry of Internal Affairs, General Prosecutor's Office	Partners	2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Tools developed, approved and applied in the exchange of information
4.1.6. Increase the number of prosecutors from the Anti-Trafficking and Cybercrime Investigation Bureau under the Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases and provide appropriate equipment for this subdivision	General Prosecutor's Office, Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases, Ministry of Finance		2018-2019	Within the approved budget			Number of prosecutors from the Anti-Trafficking and Cybercrime Investigation Bureau under the Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases increased and equipped appropriately
<b>Specific Objective 12.2.:</b>							
<b>Ensure a fair trial and comply with international standards in the area</b>							
4.1.7. Monitor and analyse the judiciary practice in cases of trafficking in human beings in terms of applied punishments and legal classification of	General Prosecutor's Office, Supreme Court		2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Number of studies conducted and recommendations drafted

criminal acts	of Justice						
<b>Specific Objective 12.3.:</b>							
<b>Adjust the regulatory framework regarding the revise of the status of the Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings</b>							
4.1.8. Revise the competencies of the Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and transfer it into direct subordination of the General Police Inspectorate (action directly dependent on the institutional reform)	Ministry of Internal Affairs		2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Competences and subordination revised
4.1.9. Draw up the Institutional Development Strategy of the Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings	Ministry of Internal Affairs (Centre for Combating Human Trafficking)	Non-commercial organisations, partners	2018-2019	Within the approved budget	External sources		Strategy developed and approved
<b>Specific Objective 12.4.:</b>							
<b>Develop procedures for conducting financial investigations in parallel with investigations of cases of trafficking in human beings and use of information technology</b>							
4.1.10. Develop a tool for the financial investigations and train investigation officers and criminal investigation officers	Ministry of Internal Affairs,	Non-commercial organisations, partners	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Financial investigation tool developed and applied,

<p>from the Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, prosecutors from the Anti-Trafficking and Cybercrime Investigation Bureau under the Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases, district prosecutors specialised in criminal investigation of money laundering, perform financial investigations in parallel with investigation of cases of trafficking in human beings and related crimes</p>	<p>(Centre for Combating Human Trafficking) General Prosecutor's Office, Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases</p>						<p>number of specialists trained, number of activities conducted</p>
<p>4.1.11. Carry out financial investigations to confiscate property acquired as a result of or used when committing trafficking in human beings, and recover the damages</p>	<p>Ministry of Internal Affairs  (Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings), General Prosecutor's Office, Prosecutor's Office for Combating</p>		<p>2018-2020</p>	<p>Within the approved budget</p>			<p>Number of investigations carried out, of goods seized and/or confiscated,  financial investigation tool developed and applied</p>

	Organised Crime and Special Cases						
4.1.12. Provide modern equipment to investigate cases where information technology was used to commit human trafficking and related crimes	Ministry of Internal Affairs  (Centre for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings), General Prosecutor's Office, Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases	Non-commercial organisations, partners	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Modern equipment purchased, in operation
4.1.13. Purchase equipment for the Witness Protection Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs	Ministry of Internal Affairs	International Organisation for Migration	2019	Within the approved budget	External sources		Equipment purchased, in operation
<b>4.2. Protection of victims and witnesses in criminal proceedings</b>							
<b>General Objective 13: Strengthen the system for the protection of victims and witnesses in line with the rules of international legal aid</b>							

<b>Specific objective 13.1.:</b>							
<b>Inform the victims of trafficking in human beings about their right of access to justice and other special rights</b>							
4.2.1. Inform victims and witnesses about their rights in criminal proceedings in an understandable language	Ministry of Internal Affairs, General Prosecutor's Office, Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases	Non-commercial organisations, partners	2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Number of victims/witnesses informed, methods and tools used for information purposes, number of victims/witnesses assisted by lawyer, number of civil actions submitted
<b>Specific Objective 13.2.:</b>							
<b>Use special methods of hearing victims and witnesses of trafficking in human beings</b>							
4.2.2. Develop standards for the operation of the hearing rooms for minor victim/witness	Ministry of Justice, General Prosecutor's Office, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Health, Labour	National Centre for Prevention of Child Abuse	2018-2019	Within the approved budget	External sources		Standards developed and approved

	and Social Protection						
4.2.3. Carry out a Study on cases of repeated hearing of victims and witnesses in criminal cases of trafficking in human beings and in children	General Prosecutor's Office, Supreme Court of Justice, Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases	International Centre 'La Strada', non-commercial organisations, partners	2018-2019	Within the approved budget	External sources		Study carried out, recommendations developed
4.2.4. Hear victims and witnesses under the conditions stipulated in Article 115 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and ensure that courts of law use the records	General Prosecutor's Office, Ministry of Internal Affairs, (Centre for Combating Human Trafficking), Supreme Court of Justice	International Centre 'La Strada', Centre for Assistance and Protection of Victims and Potential Victims of Trafficking	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of victims/witnesses heard under the conditions stipulated in Article 115 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, number of records used in the court



**4.3. Reinstatement of rights and granting of compensation for victims of human trafficking**

**General Objective 14:**

**Ensure the human trafficking victims' rights to compensation in proportion to the damage suffered**

**Specific Objective 14.1: Ensure the access of human trafficking victims to information about the possibilities to receive compensations and relevant judicial or administrative procedures**

4.3.1. Inform victims about the compensation mechanism	Ministry of Internal Affairs, General Prosecutor's Office, Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases	Non-commercial organisations	2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Number of victims informed
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**Specific Objective 14.2.:**

**Ensure that human trafficking victims obtain financial compensation from the State**

4.3.2. Implement the Regulation on the activity of the Interdepartmental Commission for financial compensate by the State of the damage caused by crime and monitor the financial	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health, Labour and Social		2018-2020	Within the approved budget			Interdepartmental Commission in operation, number of human trafficking victims that received financial compensation
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compensation of victims of human trafficking	Protection						
<b>Section 5 INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP</b>							
<b>5.1. International partnership</b>							
<b>General Objective 15: Strengthen the cooperation between competent authorities and implementing partners from countries of destination, transit and origin in order to enhance the prevention and combating of trafficking in human beings</b>							
<b>Specific Objective 15.1.: Develop international collaboration with the main countries of destination and transit</b>							
5.1.1. Conclude bilateral agreements on repatriation, assistance, protection and prosecution with the countries of destination and transit	Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, General Prosecutor's Office, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases	International Organisation for Migration	2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of agreements concluded, countries with which agreements have been concluded

5.1.2 Carry out international investigations, including through joint investigation teams	General Prosecutor's Office, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases		2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of international investigations conducted, number of joint investigation teams created
<b>Specific Objective 15.2.:</b>							
<b>Ensure exchange of information and other forms of international legal aid</b>							
5.1.3. Use forms of international legal aid for cases of trafficking in human beings and related crimes	General Prosecutor's Office, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organised Crime and Special Cases		2018-2020	Within the approved budget	External sources		Number of commissions rogatory, number of persons extradited, number of criminal proceedings transferred

<b>Specific Objective 15.3.:</b>						
<b>Strengthen the cooperation with international agencies</b>						
5.1.4. Develop cooperation relations, through international organisations, with the competent authorities of the countries of origin, transit and destination of trafficking in human beings	Ministry of Internal Affairs		2018-2020	Within the approved budget		Contact points established and used, agreements signed/used; number of victims released from exploitation; number of persons apprehended following the exchange of information; organised criminal groups documented/annihilated