



From Counter Child Trafficking to the Creation
of a Protective Environment around Children

TACT Best Practices

Prevention of Modern Slavery:

“An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure”

Vienna 14 – 15 September 2009



TACT model of action: **4 phases**

1. **Immediate** intervention / substitution
2. **Transnational** work & **national** network
3. **Evidence based** advocacy & concrete work on **laws and regulations**
4. Reinforcement of local child protection mechanisms (**value** the service providers & **empowerment** of communities)
→ Towards a **Child Protection Safety Net**



Tdh activities in South East Europe

- Experience of Terre des hommes in the fight against child trafficking in SEE
 - **1998**, Practical Guide for NGOs,
 - **1999**, Investigations
 - **2000**, First Operations on the Field
 - **2001**, International Campaign with TDHIF
 - TACT Model of Action is implemented over different geographical axis in the region:
 - Albania – Greece (**2000**)
 - Moldova – Russia (**2004**) – Ukraine (**2009**)
 - Romania – France (**2003**) – Italy (**2005**) – Spain (**2007**)
 - Kosovo – Albania – Macedonia (**2005**)



Since 2000, facts and figures

■ Albania – Greece:

○ Prevention:

- **Sensitization:** 40'047 Children
- 1'507 teachers and 139 school directors
- 1'809 community members
- **Training on child protection:** 83 school directors; 122 school psychologists; 40 Child Protection Workers/Supervisors

○ Protection: 2'098 Children

○ Assisted Voluntary Return & Deportation: 134 Children

○ Integration in Greece: 191 Children

○ Re-integration in Albania: 839 Children

➔ 40 children have been re-trafficked



Root causes and factors

- The **ethnic origin is a key factor**
- Protected children:
 - a) **Alleged & former victims of trafficking**
 - “Egyptian” 24% + Roma 70% = 94%
 - Mixed 3% + Majority 3% = 6%
 - b) **‘At risk’ of trafficking**
 - “Egyptian” 55.2% + Roma 29.2% = 84.4%
 - Mixed 7.8% + Majority 7.8% = 15.6%



Root causes and **factors**

■ Socio-economic **vulnerability**

- **91%** of the families receiving direct assistance are **unemployed**
- Education of children: **38.2% with only 1 to 4 years of primary school** (60% never went to school or never completed the first grade)
- Education of parents: **the majority of them have 1-4 years of schooling.**
- **28% of the families are headed by women** (widow, divorced, single mother) and facing high difficulties (elderly, sickness, conflict with the law, alcohol etc)



Consequences on children

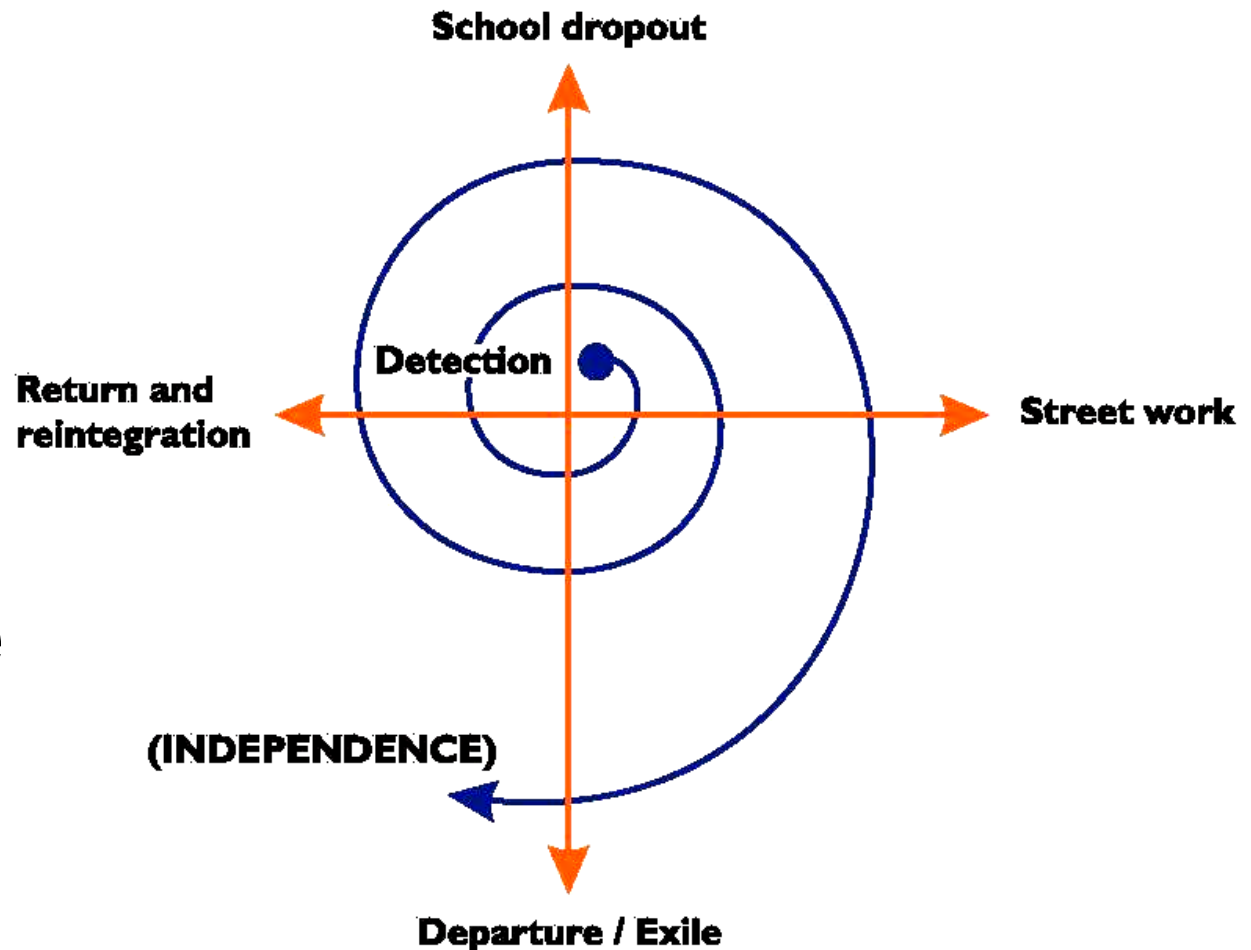
- By type of mistreatment:
 - **10% have suffered from severe mistreatment:** sexual abuse, burning/scars, and other forms of domestic violence
- By type of trouble behavior:
 - **3.1% have troubled behavior** mainly caused by mental problems due to mistreatment
 - 1 beneficiary accused of pedophilia



Child **Victim** ≠ Child **Actor**

Systemic approach:

- Prevention
- Detection
- Path of the Child



HOW to **approach** the children (and parents)?

- **TRUST**, the Key Concept:
 - **Sincerity** (telling the truth, offering realistic prospects and sticking to commitments)
 - **Complicity** (respecting confidentiality and offering a listen ear)
 - **Proximity** (geographical and emotional)
 - **Reciprocity** (opening up, not judging, respecting and focusing on the positive elements).

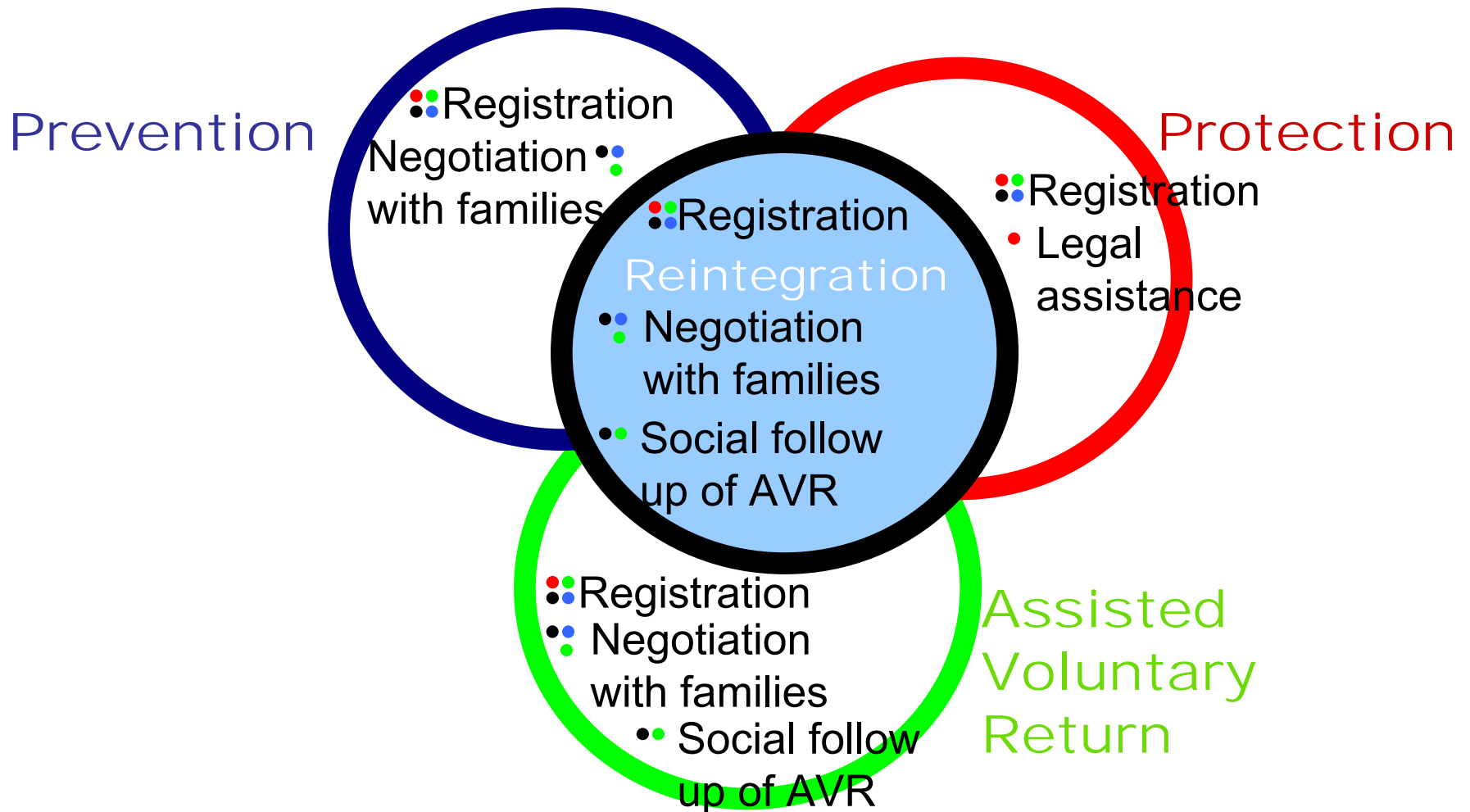


Counter Strategy = Parallel Strategy

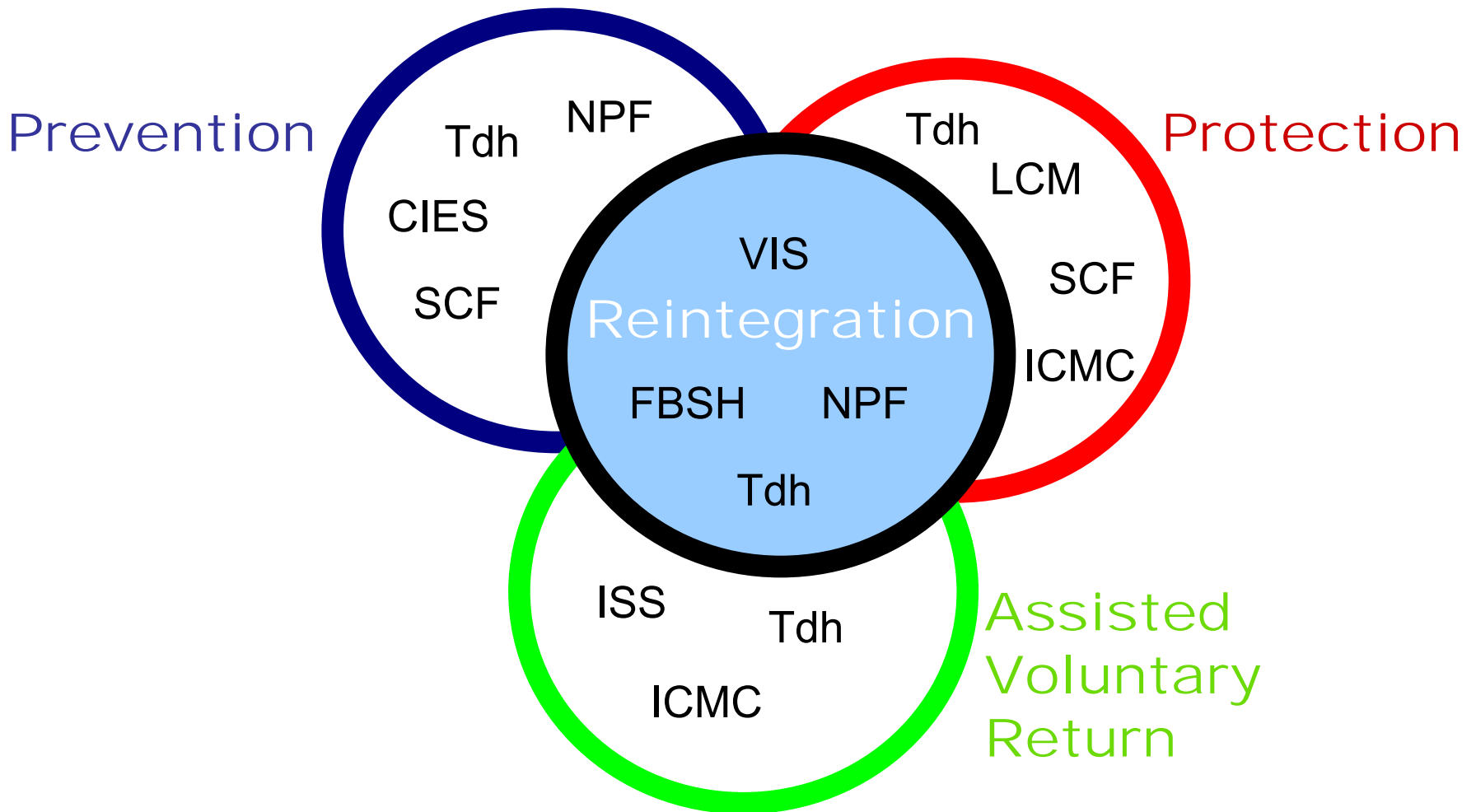
- To counter the phenomenon, **each project's phases corresponds to each phase of trafficking process**, and they are interlinked:
 - Prevention
 - Protection
 - Assisted Voluntary Return
 - (Re)Integration
 - Coordination & Advocacy
- ➔ National and/or Transnational levels.



WHAT to do about it? Examples of activities



Who is doing it? Examples of coordination



Challenges ^{1/2}

- National or Transnational **Dimensions** (geographic, political factors)

and **Rapidly Changing** Phenomenon

(from illegal activities to organized crime and sexual exploitation networks)

- Capacity of **NGOs** to adapt Operations
- Ability of **Authorities** to adapt the Services
- **Strategic Parallelism**
- Reinforcement of **Child Protection Mechanisms.**

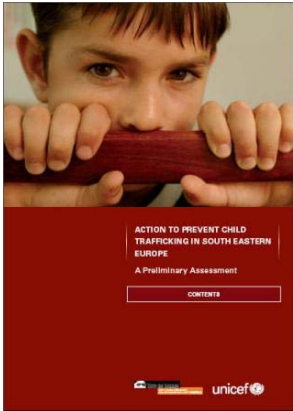


Challenges ^{2/2}

- **Local child protection structures:** existing or to be developed?
 - ➔ Towards a **Child Protection Safety Net!**
- **Decentralization** process (decision and budget)
- Training of the **service providers**
- **Genuine political will** ≠ International pressure
- Social inclusion policies for **minorities**
- Genuine **transnational** collaboration.



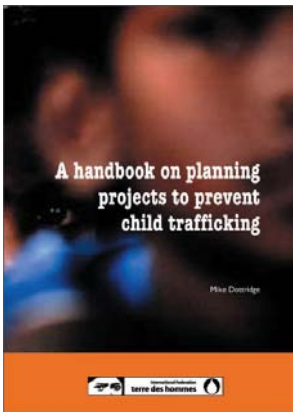
Some publications ^{1/2}



"Action To Prevent Child Trafficking in SEE"

Assessment of the prevention projects

2006

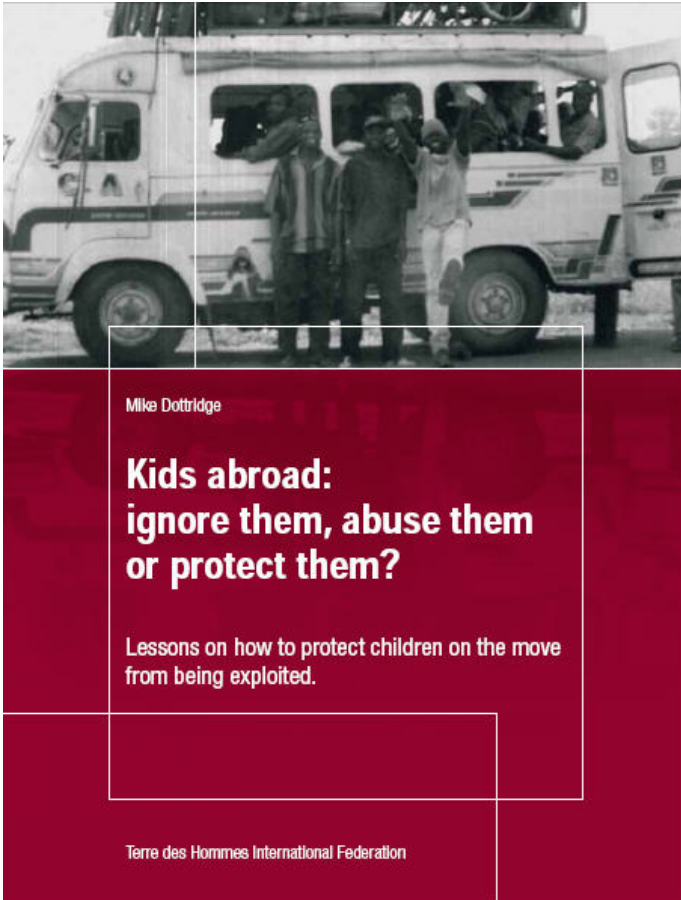


"A Handbook on Planning Projects to Prevent Child Trafficking"

2007



Some publications 2/2



- “Kids abroad: ignore them, abuse them or protect them?”

Lessons on how to protect children on the move from being exploited

Nov 2008



‘Kids abroad’: 3 recommendations for the region

From child trafficking to **broader migration issues**, children on the move:

- School education (initiative to stop children **dropping out of school**)
- Giving adolescents **advice** and suggesting **precautions** when they travel
- Developing child protection mechanisms at the **community level**.





Terre des hommes

More info on:

tdh-childprotection.org

Thank you



Terre des hommes

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TACT Best Practices

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