

Transnational Action against Child Trafficking” (TACT)

Started in 2001

- * Supported by many international donors
- * Based on the accumulated experience of Albanian initiatives against child trafficking.

AIM: Prevention of child trafficking,
Protection &
Reintegration of trafficked children.

Under the frame of International Campaign against Child Trafficking brought over by the **International Federation of Terre des hommes (TDHIF)** and other partners.

STOP CHILD TRAFFICKING

Implementing Partners

- Terre des hommes Mission in Albania
 - ARSIS

Phenomenon & Responses

- Phenomenon develops both internationally & internally
- Related to unsafe environment
- Third party **versus** parents exploitation
- Roma children most vulnerable

TACT

- Comprehensive project, seeks durable solutions for the child.

- Every child is a social actor.

Article 12-13 CRC

- Empowerment of the family and the child

Transnational Cooperation

A. Mixed teams

- Outreach work in Greece implemented by mixed teams of Albanian and Greek street-workers.
- Complementarity of the team members both for the identification of the child, as well as for the assessment of the case.

Proposed tool:

- *Short-term exchange of professionals*

Transnational Cooperation (cont)

B. Transnational exchange and cross-checking of information

- Constant and direct exchange and cross-checking of information between local offices for the needs of specific cases.

Challenges:

- *Gain the child's trust so that the child confides in the street-workers*
- *Lack of birth registration / birth registration with false data*

Assessment

A. Axes of Assessment

- Individual needs of the child and will of the child
- Options and prospects in the country of origin (Albania)
- Options and prospects in the country of destination (Greece)

Assessment (cont)

B. Criteria for the implementation of the solution

- voluntary
- prepared with the child
- prepared with the family
- legal
- safe
- adopted to the vulnerability of the child

Assessment (cont)

C. The procedure of return in practice

1. Identification of the child victim from the competent authority (Prosecutor for Minors in Greece).
2. Referral of the child to a specialised shelter for temporary accommodation/ possible referral to the child to medical services.
3. Location of the family in Albania and request for a social investigation to identify the reasons for the child's departure, the situation in the family, the future of the child, any risks of future revictimisation, possible danger for other children in the family.

Assessment (cont)

C. The procedure of return in practice (cont.)

4. The competent authorities of the shelter and of the Office of the Prosecutor for Minors communicate with the child in order to find out his/her opinion and determine his/her best interest
5. The social investigation form is submitted to the Office of the competent Prosecutor for Minors.
6. The decision is taken based on the social investigation report, the assessment of the case and the will of the child.

Assessment (cont)

C. The procedure of return in practice (cont.)

7. In case of return the family and the child are prepared for the return.
8. The competent authorities of both countries are coordinated for the return
9. The optimum is that the child is not transported in police vehicle and that is escorted by person of trust.

Integration in Greece

- Children victims detected at the beginning of the phenomenon, before the implementation of the project started.
- Children who have migrated to Greece together with their family and are actually victims of exploitation by their own parents.

Reintegration in Albania

- Effective child protection system essential to prevent child trafficking & protecting the rights of child victims.

Follow UP

enable the child to progressively regain the capacities to make free choices

Family Assistance:

- Psycho-social support
- Assistance in-kind,
- Legal and administrative assistance,
- Social support, etc.

Economic Empowerment – Income Generating Activities

Short term: Provide with material (in-kind) assistance

Long term: Empower throughout income generating activity.

The scheme:

→ Families receive a subsidized micro-loan

→ TACT matches the loan with a subsidy.

Conditioned loan: send children to school.

Reinforce Child Protection at local level

- Local government - a central actor in child protection.
- Supported the establishment of 6 Child Protection Units: a section of the local government (municipality)

Tasks:

- monitor the situation of children and families at risk;
- coordinate protection and referral activities at the local level;
- identify and manage individual cases in a multi-disciplinary network of professionals.

Community Mobilization

- Awareness raising
- Mobilization: Community Counseling
Groups .

Child Protection Specialist at schools

Keeping children in school - a basic strategy which reduces the likelihood of them being abused or exploited.

- Awareness raising + information about the risks of the phenomenon
- Provide tutoring for children to catch up with other pupils, enjoy school more and be less inclined to drop out.
- Set up **Child Protection Specialists** (school psychologist), able to identify within the school environment children who are neglected, abused, exploited, and trafficked or at risk to be subject to other psychosocial problems. The Child Protection Specialist within the school is also responsible for the referral of high risk cases to the local child protection unit/ structure.

Improve State ownership

All the above elements of the project have proven to be successful:

Introduced them in the new National Strategy for the Fight Against Child Trafficking and the Protection of Child Victims of Trafficking 2008-2010. The National Strategy and Action Plan 2008-2010 was drafted in a consultative process with all involved actors.



child relief - www.tdh.ch

TACT Transnational Action
Project against Child Trafficking



ARSIS, ASSOCIATION FOR THE SOCIAL SUPPORT OF YOUTH

www.tact-project.com



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