



Extracts of Presentations and Recommendations for Anti-trafficking work in the **BERATI QARK** from the 2006 CAAHT Annual Conference Report

This document extracts key data for Berati Qark from the report of the **2006 Annual Conference of the USAID program *The Albanian Initiative: Coordinated Action Against Human Trafficking (CAAHT)***. Information includes highlights from presentations and working groups regarding good practices and ideas for anti-trafficking programs and activities implemented by governmental structures and civil society actors. The full conference report is available in PDF format on the CAAHT website: www.caaht.com.

Recent developments in the work of the Regional Committee in the Fight Against Trafficking in Human Beings

Berat—Prefect's Office (Technical Secretariat) — Mr. Halim Koxhaj
(2006 AC Report, page 34)

Highlights of the presentation

- The Regional Anti-trafficking Committee and the Technical Working Table were established and the first meeting was organized.
- A regulation for the functioning of the Committee and the Technical Working Table was developed, whereas the Action Plan for the *qark* is in its final stages and will be approved in the second meeting of the Committee, by the end of November 2006.
- During 2006, police authorities reported only two cases of trafficking, while internal trafficking and exploitation is becoming an issue of concern.
- The Prefect, in cooperation with the Municipality and some business representatives, is working to improve the conditions for initial reception and interviewing in the existing facility at the Police Directorate.
- Government institutions have a good relationship with the NGOs that are represented on the Committee and their feedback and expertise is especially important in the activity of the Technical Working Group.

Highlights of the dialogue

- It is difficult to receive information about concrete trafficking cases. It is essential to increase the trust of the public in the law enforcement structures.
- Cooperation depends on good will. On the Berat Committee, both government and non-government structures work pretty well together and they feel as equals.

- The Committee needs more support from the government through clear instructions and allocation of funds.
- Legislation is in place and, according to international standards, authorities should take relevant measures to enforce the laws.
- In accordance with the objective of the National Coordinator's Office, the Committee will require hotels and motels not to rent rooms to minors.

CAAHT Grantee Presentations

Vocational training and job placement as tools to prevent trafficking of young women and children — Ms. Arta Dyrmishi, *In Help of Urban and Rural Women*, Berat
(2006 AC Report, page 11)

Highlights of presentation

- The organization has provided 30 information sessions on trafficking for about 400 young women and girls from both urban and rural areas of the prefecture. This group was among the 600 that participated in the vocational courses: tailoring, embroidery, hairdressing, and computers. The organization provided certificates of qualification to these trained women and girls.
- Awareness raising sessions were conducted with middle and high school students; about 210 sessions were held at nine schools for 1,600 students. Three dramas with anti-trafficking topics were given.
- Summer camps for children were conducted.
- There has been a strong cooperation with the school directors, heads of communities, anti-trafficking police, employment office, local NGOs, and the Regional Anti-trafficking Committee.
- Psychosocial, legal, and medical assistance was provided to victims of trafficking and visits to homes/families of actual and potential victims were conducted.
- The project with the CAAHT program has helped continue the work with other organizations.
- There has been cooperation with the Regional Anti-trafficking Committee to overcome challenges regarding potential and actual cases of trafficking.

Highlights of the discussion:

Question: Can government specialists of the table prevent a case, as there is no NGO in the prefecture in the table as well?

Answer: The presence of civil society is necessary and very helpful, because its presence is more familiar and comfortable to the community and provides necessary information to the table.

Question: How can the State help employ persons at risk?

Answer: Close cooperation with the employment office guarantees the employment of those at risk where priority is given to them. Two hundred girls and young women who went through the vocational courses and were certified have been employed.

Question: What are the other 400 doing?

Answer: They are looking for job opportunities and evaluating the offers. Thirty out of 200 were actual victims of trafficking.

- Regarding the possibilities of cooperation, through the Regional Committee, the door should be open to NGOs, so that we may provide our assistance as well.

Mediation and conflict resolution techniques to decrease stigmatization and improve reintegration of victims of trafficking — Mr. Oltion Kadaifçiu, *Albanian Foundation for Conflict Resolution*
(2006 AC Report, page 18)

Highlights of the presentation

- AFCR conducted a project to increase conflict resolution, reconciliation, and mediation for civil society organizations and local government institutions involved in anti-trafficking. Moreover, AFCR local offices deal concretely with mediation of existing conflict cases, focusing on mediation between victim and family. The most important step towards reintegration in the society is the reconciliation with the family and being accepted and not stigmatized. This process will, in the long run, decrease the stigma towards the victims and will make society more accepting of such human suffering.
- Project objectives to improve the reintegration included:
 - Increase the capacity of these structures to deal better with conflict cases between family and victims of trafficking.
 - Increase the training capacities of the involved actors by creating a sustainable structure.
 - Offer reconciliation and mediation for concrete cases between victim and family or other parties.
- Using appropriate survey and research techniques, they developed two manuals and corresponding training modules that demonstrated how to apply basic conflict resolution and mediation skills in cases related to vulnerability to trafficking and reintegration of victims of trafficking. Training participants considered the content and form of the produced manuals as good quality.

Highlights of the discussion

- Participants wanted to know about the concrete mediation of the cases and the techniques used. The AFCR representative described several specific cases from the organization such as victim-family conflict, or family-family conflict. Some of the conflicts that he reported to the group were resolved, some were in process, and some have not been able to be resolved.
- The AFCR representative gave participants additional information about the collaboration with and help provided by other organizations for the identification of the cases assisted by AFCR. He noted that they have had a good collaboration with anti-trafficking police officers, who have become one of AFCR's primary referral sources.
- Participants wanted information about specific conflicts and their solutions. These kind of specific cases of conflicts were explained to the group during presentation. The participants discussed particularly about this issue because they wanted to suggest some more ideas about solutions.

Identifying Actions in Qark Groups

Qarqe: Gjirokastra and Berati

(2006 AC Report, page 48)

Five chosen actions:

1. Improvement of legislation.
2. Strengthening/increasing the capacity of structures that work in anti-trafficking, especially the police.
3. Categorization of data.
4. Development of joint action plans and unifying the procedures.
5. Anti-trafficking experts stay in their jobs.

All actions from Qark Discussions

Qark Group: Gjirokastra and Berati

(2006 AC Report, page 69)

All Actions

- Need identification.
- Information, awareness of community of anti-trafficking structures and services offered by these structures.
- In school programs, including topics dealing with trafficking and fighting against it.
- Improvement of legislation.
- Strengthening/increasing the capacity of structures that work in anti-trafficking, especially the police.
- Categorization of data.
- Development of joint action plans and unifying the procedures.
- Anti-trafficking experts stay in their jobs.

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