



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

This document extracts key data for Elbasani 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](http://www.caaht.com).

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

**Elbasani—Prefect's Office** (Technical Secretariat) — Mr. Admirim Kongoli  
(2006 AC Report, page 29)

#### *Highlights of the presentation*

- Mr. Kongoli presented the work that the Regional Committee and Technical Table have done during this period. He mentioned that the Technical Table had existed in the past in a voluntary way. In June, the Technical Table was institutionalized.
- At the first formal meeting of the Technical Table of Elbasan, it was decided that a regulation manual should be prepared to specify the way the Technical Table functions. The draft is already prepared and will be approved at the second meeting in December.
- During this period, it identified cases of trafficked victims and those at risk and they are finding solutions.
- Twenty cases have been registered as at risk of trafficking. Six have already been resolved. The other cases are still pending.
- They have identified the number of children who have dropped out of school: 224 children with 116 in the city and 108 in the suburbs and villages. The committee is working on these cases in cooperation with other NGOs and government structures operating in Elbasan.
- Elbasan included all the actors and vice-prefectures of Peqin, Librazhd and Gramsh in the table and gave each the duty of creating mini Technical Tables in their regions.
- Mr. Kongoli focused on the work that the Technical Table has done in raising public awareness on the role and functions of Technical Table and the Regional Committee.

### *Highlights of the discussion*

- The participants discussed the positive experience of Elbasan in anti-trafficking work and the importance of including all actors that deal with anti-trafficking work.
- The Elbasan experience was positive because the Technical Table in the *qark* had been established two years ago. In Elbasan, NGOs work on anti-trafficking issues, and they have been helpful to the Technical Table by providing solutions and support. The work of governmental structures without NGOs collaboration would be very difficult and incomplete.
- Elbasan Technical Table is operational. It helps not only in treating different cases but also in prevention of trafficking.
- The participants focused on the importance of the establishment of governmental structures dealing with anti-trafficking issues. They stressed that the role of these structures should be increased in the future.
- Some participants emphasized the regulations manual of Elbasan as a good model.

### *Objectives and current activities of the municipality child protection structures*

#### **Elbasani Municipality Child Protection Unit — Mrs. Nadire Kreka** *(2006 AC Report, page 41)*

### *Highlights of the presentation*

Mrs. Kreka gave a brief presentation on the Child Protection Unit of Elbasani, which focused on the role and functions of this unit. The unit offers several services to the children including: social and psychological services, educational support, intermediary and health support, counseling, information, vocational services, legal support etc.

### *Highlights of the discussion*

- Participant discussion focused on the criteria that the unit uses to help children and families in need. Specific questions included:
  - How many families does this unit help?
  - Does the unit help only the children or also their families?
  - Is the children's protection unit part of the Technical Table?
- The presenter gave provided specific examples of what they have done to get children back to school.
- There is a national strategy for minorities that should be used to improve the work in helping children in need.
- The children's protection unit should have a more general panorama of the problem and should sign an institutional memorandum of understanding with the other NGOs and actors to create a complete solution scheme of services.
- Before the unit undertakes any initiative, it should have correct information on the impacted community.

## CAAHT Grantee Presentations

### **Community-based programming to prevent trafficking in children**

— Mr. Arjan Çala, *Another Vision*  
(2006 AC Report, page 13)

#### *Highlights of the presentation*

- “Another Vision” implemented the CAAHT-financed project entitled *Prevention and social integration of children at risk or victims of trafficking within Elbasan’s Prefecture* from May 2005 to July 2006.
- The project’s main goal was the rehabilitation and social integration of trafficked children and prevention through contribution of different social services within the prefecture of Elbasan. The project was aimed at providing the children and their families with the necessary instruments to face and prevent human trafficking.
- Objectives include strengthening staff capacities; providing trafficking prevention and residential and integrative services; and coordinating work with other anti-trafficking actors.
- A thorough needs assessment of both community and staff capacity preceded and determined the successful achievement of the project objectives.
- Strengthening the professional and educational capacities of operators who are working in the anti-trafficking field is one of the project’s key successes. The project helped increase the staff capacity (knowledge, skills, and behavior). The staff increased their knowledge on how to treat child victims of trafficking and those at risk of trafficking. The staff has improved communication with children by being calmer, softer in their communication with children, and more effective in the decision-making process.
- Important results were achieved in the shelter community services and protected and high autonomy apartments services. Out of 35 children and young people, 18 women benefited from residential services. These services increased the autonomy of youth and helped with their ability to face life’s problems. Vocational training has helped increase youth employment. (For example, five females attended sewing and cooking courses and four males attended auto-mechanics and welding courses.) The shelter has taken care of child registration at school and their social life. Another Vision has become a reference point for institutions and families at risk.
- Another Vision also has organized different educational, cultural and social activities that help prevention by increasing school attendance, decreasing illiteracy, improving the social-cultural life, etc. They organized these activities in Gramsh, one of most problematic districts relating to trafficking, as well as in Elbasan.
- One other important success of the project was the coordination between the organization and other national and international actors. Another Vision joined the National Referral Mechanism for victims of trafficking, the national anti-trafficking network, the Elbasan Regional Committee Technical Anti-trafficking Table, and the MOLSAEO working group to draft national standards for residential centers for trafficking victims.

### *Highlights of the discussion*

- Participants discussed need identification, where they emphasized coordinating actions with other actors including police, prosecutors' offices, the Director of Education, schools, municipality, NGOs, etc.
- The establishment of high-autonomy apartments was appraised to be a positive experience as it closes the reintegration cycle for persons at risk.
- Services that prevent, protect, and integrate are key for decreasing trafficking within the country.

### **House to house awareness raising to reach vulnerable communities and individuals** — Ms. Miranda Fishka, *Institute for Gender Applied Policies* (2006 AC Report, page 12)

#### *Highlights of the presentation*

- We implemented this project in the rural areas of Lezhe, Mirdite, Prenjas, Lushnje and Devoll.
- The target group is 12 to 16-year-old girls.
- Its services included awareness raising, prevention, advising and informing.
- The methodology included situation analysis, data analysis, determining intervention areas, training animators, home visits, and distributing information.
- In the areas where the project was implemented, partners included village elderly, the Education Directorate, Social Department, and the police.

#### *Highlights of the discussion*

- We focused on the mentioned areas because of their specific needs. There are other at-risk areas—the city of Pogradec and districts of Devoll and Shkodra.
- It is important to establish partnerships with different stakeholders—village elderly, Education Directorates, and the Social Department—for the successful implementation of such projects.
- There were initial difficulties with home visits because of different social and infrastructure problems.
- The contribution of teachers for the implementation of such projects is very important.
- It is important to measure success/results of such projects.

### *Identifying Actions in Qark Groups*

#### **Qarqe: Durrësi and Elbasani** (2006 AC Report, page 49)

Five chosen actions:

1. Efficient work and coordination of the Regional Committees.
2. Creation of action plans that will clearly define the needs for capacity building in the technical working groups.

3. Retaining qualified and trained specialists who know the anti-trafficking topic.
4. Using the knowledge and expertise of the experienced NGOs to help the work of the Regional Committee.
5. Victim's integration and work possibilities as well as returning them to normal life. Can the Regional Committees coordinate the vocational courses offered by local government and NGOs in our *qarqe*?

### *All actions from Qark Discussions*

#### **Qark Group: Durrësi and Elbasani**

*(2006 AC Report, page 70)*

#### **All Actions**

- Efficient work and coordination of the Regional Committees.
- Creation of the action plans that will clearly define the needs for capacity building in the technical working groups.
- Keeping in work the qualified and trained specialists that know the anti-trafficking topic.
- Using the knowledge and expertise of the experienced NGOs to help the work of the Regional Committees.
- Victim's integration, work possibility and returning them in the normal life. Can we Regional Committees work for a plan to coordinate the vocational courses offered by local government and NGO's in our *qarqe*?