

The Albanian Initiative:



# Baseline Survey Report

## *Section IV* Eastern Region

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CREATIVE ASSOCIATES INTERNATIONAL

## Background

This report supplements the main findings of the baseline survey for USAID/Albania's Coordinated Action Against Human Trafficking (CAAHT) initiative. CAAHT, a three-year USAID initiative implemented by Creative Associates with World Learning, strengthens the capacity of Albanian NGOs to prevent trafficking in humans and improve services that assist the victims of trafficking to reintegrate into their communities. The CAAHT Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) team conducted the survey between June and August 2004 to better understand the nature and extent of the anti-trafficking efforts of Albanian NGOs and to acquire data against which the impact of CAAHT activities will later be measured.

Because the survey was designed to meet the specific needs of CAAHT, it concentrated solely on one element of Albania's civil society: the registered Albanian NGO. The CAAHT M&E team distributed a six-page questionnaire to 157 local NGOs throughout the country and received 52 responses, a 33 percent return.

For purposes of organizing its regional outreach, CAAHT divided the country into four regions, according to prefecture (*qarku*): northern cluster (Shkodra, Kukësi, Lezha and Dibra), central cluster (Durrësi, Tirana and Elbasani), eastern cluster (Korça with districts of Përmeti and Skrapari), and southern cluster (Vlora, Gjirokaster except Përmeti, Berati except Skrapari, and Fieri). Figure 1 depicts the number of NGOs responding from each of the four regions.

The information gathered during the survey offers insight into the efforts Albanian NGOs are making to combat human trafficking, suggestions for improving anti-trafficking services and programs, and guidance for USAID/CAAHT programs.

## Summary of the Data for the Eastern Region

### Eastern Region Organizations

Baseline Survey questionnaires were distributed to 36 Albanian NGOs in the east of the country (in Korça, Pogradeci, Gramshi, Erseka, Librazhdi, Skrapari). Of these, 5 completed questionnaires were returned to the CAAHT office. These are 13% of the total baseline surveys delivered to the Eastern Region and 3% of the total baseline surveys distributed throughout the country.

The types of organization's registrations in the Eastern Region are:

1. Registered as an NGO \_\_\_\_\_ 3 organizations
2. Registered as a Center \_\_\_\_\_ 0 organizations
3. Registered as an Association \_\_\_\_\_ 2 organizations
4. Registered as a Foundation \_\_\_\_\_ 0 organizations

### *Mission Statements of the Organizations*

The mission statements of the organizations reveal the following basic categories of organization:

#### *Child Organizations*

- Fight prostitution and children trafficking
- Help children and youth in need
- Support for children with social issues, those with a single parent, the orphans and families with low incomes for the solution of social issues.

#### *Organizations focused on women and girls*

- Solve disagreements peacefully
- Fight drugs, AIDS, tobacco smoking, criminality, etc.
- Domestic gender equality
- Gender equality for the development of democracy, woman, family, youth
- Re-animation of the socio-cultural and economic life.
- Develop the educational and cultural level of mothers and children
- Protect the rights of mothers and children
- Women's awareness about their values and roles in the democratic society

## *Major activities of the organizations*

The major activities of the organizations reveal the following basic categories of activities.

### *Child Activities*

- At school: staff's qualification on human rights and fight against trafficking
- English and computer courses for disadvantaged children who risk to be trafficked during summer time
- Activities with children that have trafficking issues at the end of each academic year
- Activity with the parents of the orphan children and the children themselves to get acquainted with what they are fond of, their talents and abilities and to introduce them to the teachers and the collectives they belong to
- Work in the families of 5 trafficked children in the district
- Collaboration with the city's businessmen and the foundation EDU PRO. Equipping disadvantaged children with school supplies

### *Activities with the minorities*

- Leaflets were distributed to the schools and Roma families. They contained methods for the reintegration of the Roma in the society.
- Support for the integration of the Roma children in the society and their removal from the streets and trafficking
- Distribution of aids for the social institutions in order to support children with family or health issues such as: orphans, the handicapped, and the Roma community

### *Organizations focused on women and girls.*

- "Open Doors" in the women's social center for the trafficking victims
- Anti-trafficking shelter
- Public and informative meetings, as well as presentations in Korça district
- Financial, moral and economic support for vulnerable families which are not only in poor economic conditions, in order to fulfill the aim of the association
- Talks with the mothers on the risk of trafficking
- Project to build a center for the vocational development like the ones in Tirana and Elbasani for the employment of teenagers with issues, the employment of rural girls that have abandoned school, the employment of orphan children in economic difficulties
- Services for rural girls in their senior year of school to raise their awareness of the risk of trafficking since Pogradeci is a boundary zone potential for girls and children trafficking

### *Research Activities*

- Study of 5-year-old disadvantaged children with trafficking risk factors such as:
  - a) Divorced families with possibilities of family custody
  - b) Families with many children and in difficult economic conditions
  - c) Families that live in villages that hope to be helped by the children. Children unregistered since they were born

- d) Orphan children that nobody takes care of
- e) Families with parents that work abroad
- f) Children that have beggars in their families
- Studies and diagnosis on the prefecture's social conditions and the layers on which the association is built

### ***Biggest Successes Over the Last Year***

The major successes of the organizations reveal the following basic categories of successful activities.

#### *Child Organizations*

- Accomplishment of "The Week of All Life Learning" where about 20 activities were carried out. Among the most important ones were: the NGOs fair, seminars on AIDS, children trafficking, programs on local TV.

#### *Organizations focused on women and girls.*

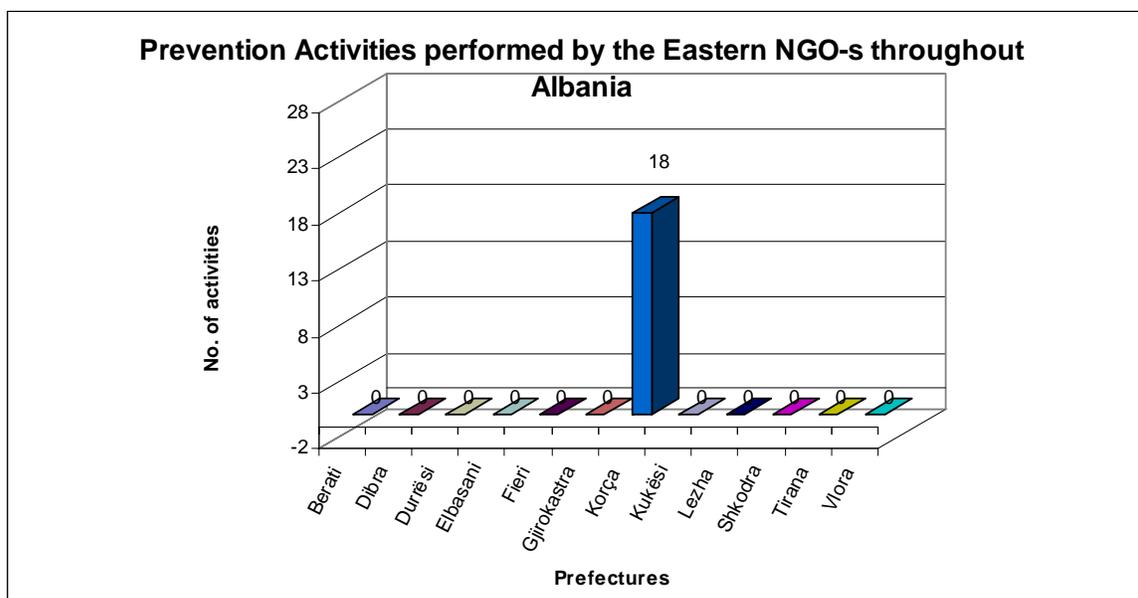
- Employment of 30% of females that have attended courses, 20 of whom had returned after emigrating
- Anti-trafficking shelter, euro regional relations, interaction with CSDC
- Provision of a questionnaire on the trafficking issue

## ***ANTI-TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES of the Eastern Region NGOs over the Last Year***

### ***PREVENTION ACTIVITIES: Eastern Region***

#### ***PREVENTION PROGRAMMING***

Eastern Region organizations perform prevention activities primarily in Korça, while almost none are performed in the other region's prefectures. The following graph demonstrates this.



### ***Awareness Campaign***

1. Distribution of brochures published by IOM, American Embassy, UNDP.

### ***School-based Prevention Activities***

1. Growth of children's participation in schools
2. Provision of the necessary conditions for the children that are a trafficking contingent in order for them to have a normal beginning of the new academic year
3. Awareness-raising of school children on the risk and consequences of trafficking.

***Camp-based Prevention Activities*** - none

***Prevention Activities with the families*** - none

***Day facilities for children and youth*** - none

***Community Centers -Community Self-Help Projects*** - none

***Micro-Credit Programs*** - none

***Media and Communications*** - none

### ***Prevention Activities in Minority Communities***

1. Integration of Roma children in the society (children at-risk to be trafficked)

## Support to Prevention Programming: Eastern Region

### *Seminars, Workshops, Meetings*

1. Conference: the family role in trafficking prevention
2. Activities with the mothers of children who were sold in Greece (trafficked children)
3. Activities with orphan children, children with socioeconomic issues or the disadvantaged ones who are at risk of being trafficked
4. The intellectual development of children at risk of being trafficked through talks, communications, various meetings, etc.

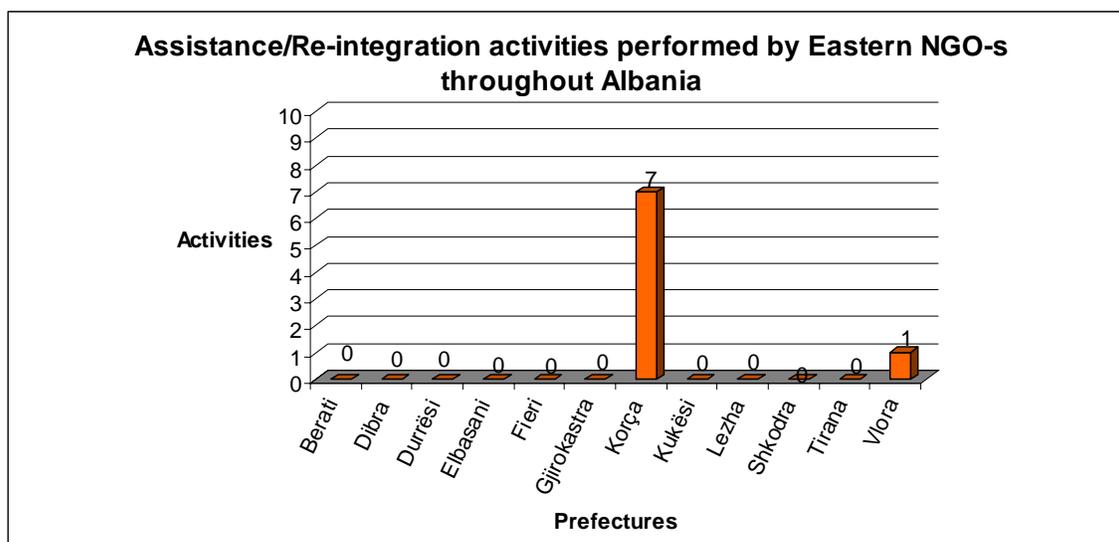
### *Legal Framework* - none

### *Research*

A joint study with the District's Educational Directorate and Municipality concerning children that have abandoned school or are trying to do so based on the statistics of the Educational Directorate and the Department of Economic Assistance in the Municipality. The aim of the study is to design a joint project where this contingent is treated as a primary risk for child trafficking (being a boundary district, the risk in Pogradeci is potentially higher).

## ASSISTANCE AND RE-INTEGRATION SERVICES: Eastern Region

A characteristic of the Eastern Region organizations is the concentration of assistance and reintegration programs performed by them mainly in Korça and a little in Vlora. The following graph demonstrates this.



## *Types of Assistance and Reintegration Services*

*Residential Shelter* - none

### *Services Support for Victims of Trafficking*

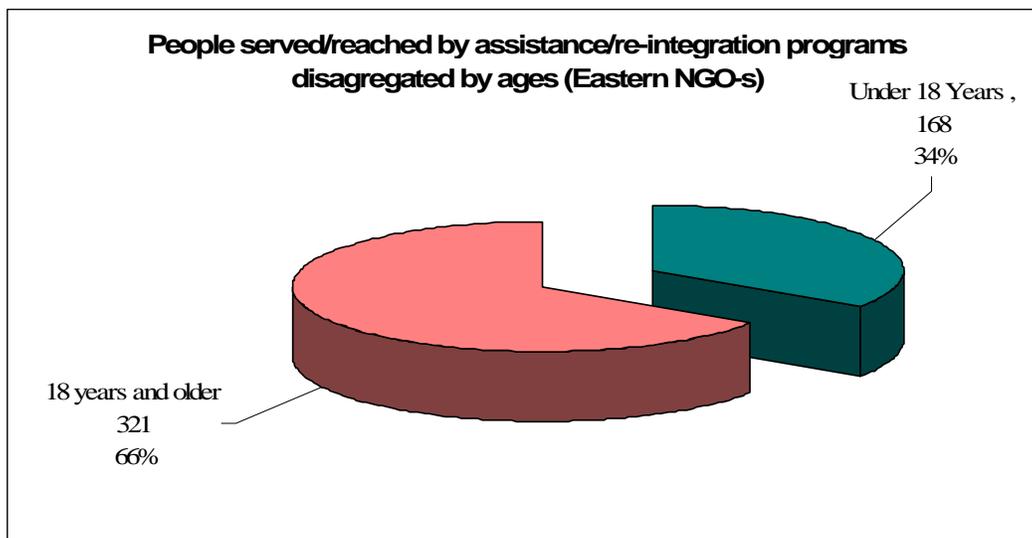
- Registration and delegation of unregistered babies born in traffic to the legal clinic for minors

### *Re-integration services*

#### *Mediation with victim's families*

- Family conversations with people returned after having been trafficked and pursuance of their education
- Repatriation of four children trafficked in Greece

The following graph demonstrates the percentage of services delivered to female victims of trafficking over and under age 18.



### *Vocational Training and Education of victims*

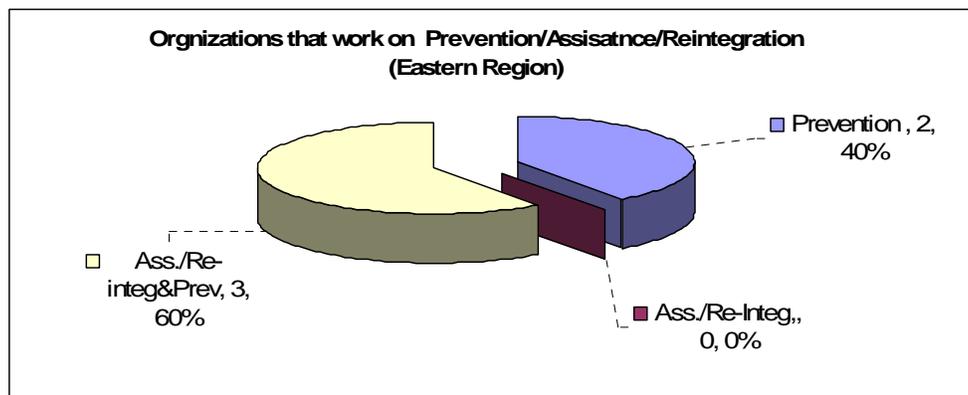
- Vocational courses at the Training Agency for the Employment of Girls and Women

*Media* - none

*Grants and Funds* - none

*Coordination activities* - none

The majority of Eastern Region organizations perform prevention activities as well as assistance and reintegration services. Only a few of them perform only prevention activities and none of them perform assistance and reintegration services.



### ***Institutional Strengthening/ Capacity Building***

i.) Training Received by the organizations over the last year:

<b><u>Training Topic</u></b>	<b><u>Training organized by</u></b>
	CSDC Korça
Child trafficking	UNICEF
Gender issue	Women's Center/ SOROS
Millennium's objectives	UNDP
Training on school objects for the qualified observers	USAID
Trafficking as a form of slavery	US Embassy
Training of Trainers – Education on Human Rights	The Albanian Center of Rights
Environmental Protection and Management	The Ministry of Environment

ii. Training Provided by the Eastern Organizations to:

➤ *Law Enforcement, Prosecutors, Judiciary*

- Training course intended for the state police in collaboration with IOM
- Training course to increase knowledge of the anti-trafficking laws
- Legal assistance for trafficking victims
- Legal and domestic support on trafficking prevention
- Apply the legal framework set by the normative provisions for the families of children that abandon school

➤ *Government*

- Initiative to change a school into a community school in order to make it more flexible on issues that are of interest to the community. This would serve to prevent school abandonment (training courses for the teachers, courses for children education after school)
- Training for teachers in the psycho-pedagogical field to prevent teacher-student conflict which often becomes a reason for children to abandon school
- Collaboration with the Social Assistance Office near the Municipality of Korça

➤ *Community*

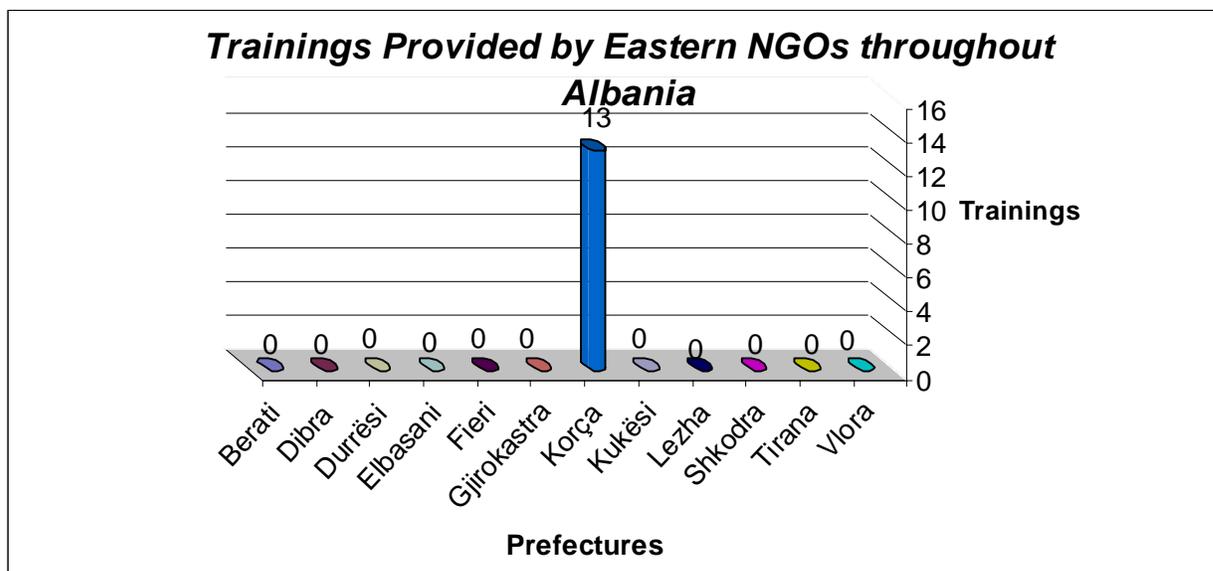
- Awareness-raising through various meetings with the topic “Don’t Become Victims Of Trafficking And Violence”

➤ *Other NGOs*

- Meetings with Roma women
- Training on human and children’s rights for various NGOs

The geographical distribution of trainings provided by the Eastern Region is illustrated in the following graph.

**Note: One organization declared that they do not provide training and technical assistance**



***Other programs that may have an opportunity to prevent trafficking***

- Cross border program among Albania, Greece and FYROM; Stop to Gender Violence and Trafficking
- Cross boarder awareness-raising
- Meetings, conversations and exchange of experiences (the Roma community)

- Talks with the mothers of girls that have not gone through the compulsory education and about their awareness on the risk of trafficking, since statistics show that most of trafficked girls were not attending school. This initiative was taken by the association “Intellectual Women of Pogradeci” after the training provided by USAID in 2003 on the topic “traffic as form of slavery”
- Legal assistance for girls that do not have identification documents –clarification of the respective procedures and the practical need to be provided with an ID which would help them in cases where there is the risk of victims’ trafficking or reintegration

## Collaboration / Relationship to Government Agencies

<u>Government office</u>	<u>Type of collaboration</u>
Prefecture (Korça) Municipality (Devolli) The Department of Economic Assistance (Korça)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement: The Establishment of the anti trafficking shelter</li> </ul>
The Office for Social Assistance (Korça)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange Information</li> </ul>
The Employment Offices, Korça	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange Information</li> </ul>
The Educational Directorate, Korça	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration Agreement</li> <li>• Memorandum of Understanding</li> </ul>

## Referrals

*Organizations that your organization refers clients to (when the same organization was cited more than once, the number of times is noted in ( )).*

NGOs:

1. IOM
2. ICMC
3. The Legal Clinic for Minors (Korça)
4. Terres des hommes, Tirana, Elbasani
5. Counseling Line for Women and Girls
6. The Committee for Equal Opportunities
7. The business community

Government Agencies:

1. Directorate of Economic Assistance at the Municipality
2. Public Order Police

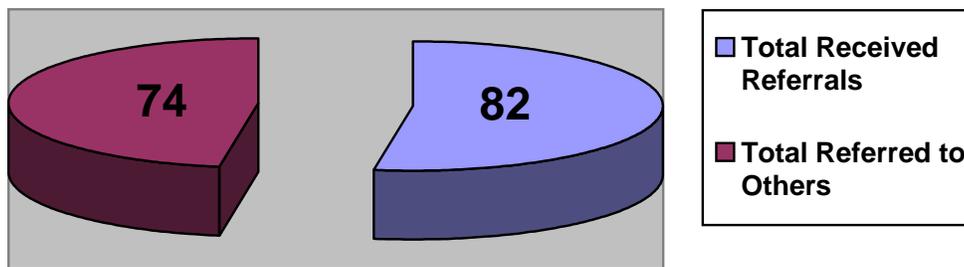
*Organizations that refer clients to your NGO (when the same organization was cited more than once, the number of times is noted in ( )).*

NGOs:

1. Rural organizations that are branches of the “Korça Women” NGO network
2. The association Help for the Children, member of BKTF

**NOTE: 3 organizations claimed that they referred a total of 74 clients to other, and 2 claimed that they received 82 referrals**

### Referrals by Eastern NGOs (Incoming v. Outgoing)



### *Main sources of funding during the last year for Eastern NGOs*

When the same donor has been stated more than once, the number of times is noted in parentheses ( ).

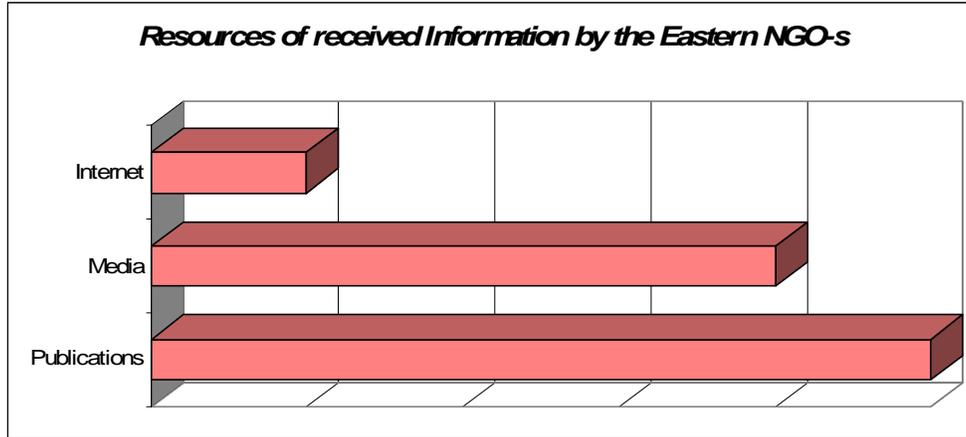
- |                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 1. US Embassy (2) | 6. HDPC   |
| 2. CO-Plan        | 7. OXFAM, |
| 3. CSMF           | 8. SOROS  |
| 4. EFA-MED        | 9. UNICEF |
| 5. GTZ            |           |

### Networking

International/ Regional Networks	National Networks	Local networks
Cross Border Network Korça-Bitola-Follorine	IOM	CSDC Korça
	UNICEF	NGOs Forum Pogradeci

## Information sources

As the graph below illustrates Eastern Region organizations gather most of their information from publications. They rely on the media for information less often and receive little information through the Internet.



## ACRONYMS

ACTA-	Anticorruption and Anti-trafficking Action
AECI-	Agensia Espanola de Cooperation Internationale
AFCR-	Albanian Foundation for Conflict Resolution
ATACT-	All Together Against Child Trafficking
BYCF-	Balkan Youth and Children Foundation
CAFOD-	Catholic Fund for Overseas Development
CCF-	Christian Children's Fund
CEFA-	European Committee for Capacity Building and Agriculture
CFF-	Children's First Foundation
CIDA-	Canadian Agency for International Development
COE-	Council of Europe
CRCA-	Children's Human Rights Center of Albania
CSDC-	Civil Society Development Center
GTZ-	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH
ICCO-	Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation
ICITAP-	International Criminal Investigation Training and Assistance Program
ICMC-	International Catholic Migration Commission
ILO-	International Labour Organization
IOM-	International Organisation of Migration
ISS-	International Social Services
REC-	Regional Environmental Center
SOROS-	George Soros Foundation
TDH-	Terre Des Hommes
TWIG-	Tirana Women's International Group

UNDP-	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF-	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID-	United States Agency for International Development
WFP-	World Food Program
YWCA-	Young Women's Christian Association of Albania