

The Albanian Initiative:



# Baseline Survey Report

## *Section II* Southern 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 and 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, Gjirokastra 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 Southern Region

### *Southern Region Organizations*

Baseline Survey questionnaires were distributed to 42 Albanian NGOs in the South of the country (in Fieri, Vlora, Tepelena, Gjirokastra, Saranda, Përmeti, Berati, Lushnja, Delvina). Of these, 11 completed questionnaires were returned to the CAAHT office. These are 28% of the total baseline surveys delivered to the Southern Region and 7.4% of the total baseline surveys distributed throughout the country.

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

1. Registered as an NGO \_\_\_\_\_ 1 organization
2. Registered as a Center \_\_\_\_\_ 3 organizations
3. Registered as an Association \_\_\_\_\_ 5 organizations
4. Registered as a Foundation \_\_\_\_\_ 2 organizations

### *Mission statements of the Organizations*

Based on the Mission statements of the organizations there three different categories were identified:

#### *Child-focused organizations*

- Help children build a healthy personality through the dynamic of entertainment.

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

- Civil and moral-esthetic education to defend women's and girls' rights; seminars, vocational training and other activities to support their integration into society
- Kuçova Women in the Focus of Development
- Initiatives to protection of the rights of urban and rural women, develop their education and cultural level, provide them new jobs, and integrate them into the socio-economic life in order to fit into a free trade system
- Support for small- and medium-sized enterprises, the unemployed, and the local region
- Help for violated, trafficked and at-risk girls and women
- Awareness-raising of public and state institutions for the protection of women's rights as well as the protection of the community's children
- Protection of women's rights of all forms of discrimination and exploitation
- Provision of social services for the target groups of girls, women, youth and the whole community aiming at reducing negative phenomena such as trafficking of human beings, exploitation of women for prostitution purposes, drug use, etc.

- Protection and integration of women and girls. Fight against trafficking, the integration of women, girls and youth of the minorities and of all national minorities, employment of women and young females.

#### *Organizations with other focuses*

- Intervene in the reconciliation between the couples (conflict resolution)
- Encourage professional qualifications and all types of activities that are of a sports, educational, cultural, scientific and artistic nature, aiming at their contribution to the process of human, civil and moral self-education as a factor which increases the freedom and the feeling of responsibility in the social life of the Albanian national community (professional skill development / cultural)
- Public awareness (advocacy)

### ***Major activities of the organizations***

#### *Child organizations*

- Protecting abandoned children
- Different sports and artistic activities with children, training with various actors of the society on problems children are experiencing
- Course against illiteracy, school support
- Street children

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

- Working with mothers to decrease access to and use of weapons
- Helping Kosovo women with many abandoned and at-risk children
- Rehabilitation and counseling of women in need
- Women awareness-raising on domestic and social violence
- Establishing a vocational center for trafficked women and girls
- Initial training on gender
- Training with businesses, youth and the support of girls and women in development projects which aim at self-employment and new job vacancies
- Individual counseling (through the telephone and face to face)
- Group counseling
- Libraries, training courses for girls and women in the service fields, socio-cultural activities, help for women and their families in need and prevention of their trafficking
- Psychosocial, legal and medical assistance
- Provision of accommodation for urgent cases, employment near private businesses, food aids
- Prevention through awareness-raising campaigns on the consistent dangers posed by drugs, prostitution, trafficking, violence, crime with youth, women and girls from both, urban and rural areas
- Provision of social services for the target groups mentioned above
- Rehabilitation and reintegration – shelter for trafficked and at-risk girls and women
- Center for Vocational Development “Shen Jozefi Zejtar” (work culture, work education)

- Courses on: electrician's skills, secretarial skills, foreign languages, tailoring
- Youth activities
- Prevention, reintegration in the society, solidarity culture
- Sports – spare time, cultural activities, artistic education, spiritual development
- Provision of awareness-raising campaigns for girls and women of the rural areas
- Projects for the cultural integration of women and girls of the minority communities
- Establishment of employment fairs with the hand crafts women have produced themselves

*Organizations with other focuses*

- Awareness-raising campaigns, seminars, debates, workshops, meetings with different groups of the community
- Seminars on trafficking in high schools, etc.
- Projects for judicial and health education, inter-ethnic relations, projects against violence to help disadvantaged women

***Biggest Successes over the Last Year***

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

*Organizations focused on women and girls*

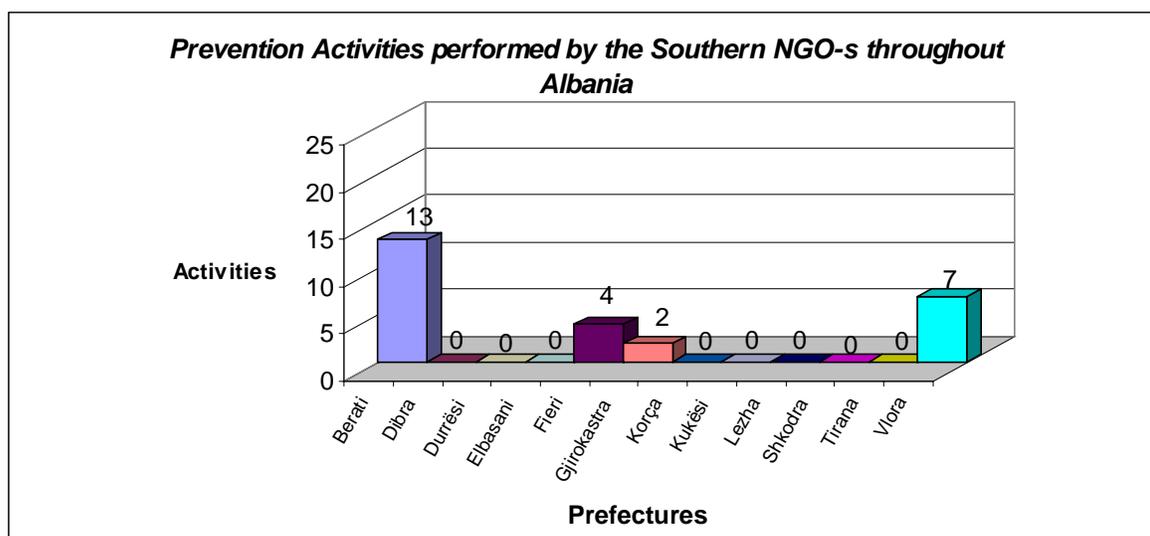
- Training courses for 50 people (girls, women) in the field of tailoring, hairdressing, cooking, woodworking; 72 women and girls trained on how to start their own business, 9 of which then started their own small business; 120 women and girls trained as tailors, 7 women and girls employed in private enterprises and 32 self-employed.
- Providing an organizational high number of counselings (600 counseling)
- Group counseling in rural areas
- Support of orphan girls and their integration into society. Prevention of trafficking, prostitution, etc.
- Increased number of reintegration services
- Large number of victims that benefit from the facilities in the shelter
- Growth in the number of girls that have reported their pimps and traffickers to the police
- Positive results in the repatriation, education, and employment of youth living on the streets
- Projects which support the community, focusing mainly on girls and women from the rural areas of the country's Southern Region
- Projects for the cultural integration of women who belong to different ethnic groups
- Projects for women's economic support in the districts of Përmeti, Erseka, Tepelena and Këlcyra

## ***ANTI-TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES of the Southern Region NGOs over the last year***

### ***PREVENTION ACTIVITIES: Southern Region***

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

Organizations in the Southern Region performed prevention activities mainly in the Southern Region prefectures (i.e. Berati, Vlora, Fieri) and almost no activities in the prefectures of other regions. The following graph demonstrates this.



#### ***Awareness Campaign***

- Awareness-raising for the prevention of human trafficking in rural areas
- Anti-stigmatizing campaign in the community

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

- Discussions with the district's high school students on "Trafficking of Human Beings - Crime Without Limits"
- Anti-trafficking program in high schools
- Schooling support
- Illiteracy courses
- Education and employment of minors that live on the streets and of minors that come from rural areas

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

#### ***Prevention Activities with the families***

- The Albanian Family in Transition

### ***Daily facilities for children and youth***

- Shelter
- Integration of orphan girls in the society

### ***Community Self-Help Projects - none***

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

### ***Media and Communications***

- TV Show “Out of the Avenue” broadcast by the television stations Top Channel and TVA
- Staging of “GOODBYE Love” play, performed by the actors of the Institute of Arts and Albanian Civil Dialogue, sponsored by SOROS foundation, the American Embassy, and UNICEF
- Media campaign
- Radio talks, TV spots, newspaper issue

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

- Assistance for minority youth

## **Support to Prevention Programming: Southern Region**

### ***Seminars, Workshops, Meetings***

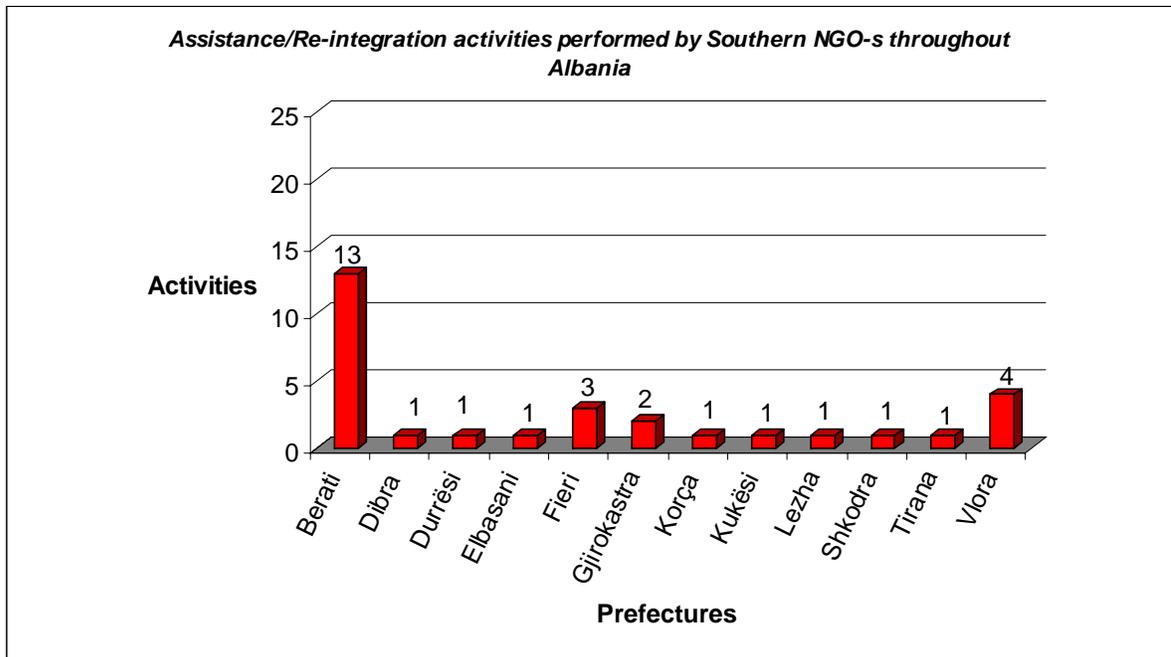
- Activity with the Youth Center, Kuçova
- Prevention of girls and women trafficking in the Vlora area
- Distribution of leaflets, posters against the trafficking of human beings.
- Seminars on the awareness-raising as regards the trafficking phenomenon

### ***Legal Framework - none***

### ***Research - none***

## **ASSISTANCE AND RE-INTEGRATION SERVICES: Southern Region**

Though Southern Region organizations distribute assistance and reintegration programs mainly in the prefectures that belong to the Southern Region (i.e. Berati, Vlora, Fieri, Gjirokastra) they also deliver programs throughout Albania. This is a result of the activity performed by “The Hearth” Center. The following graph demonstrates this.



### ***Types of Assistance and Reintegration Services***

#### ***Residential Shelter***

- Accommodation and rehabilitation

#### ***Evaluate and Refer*** - none

#### ***Support Services for Victims of Trafficking***

- Food Aid
- Legal assistance and advocacy
- Medical assistance, assistance to survive trauma, accommodation in institutions (two abandoned girls 12 – 14 years old, were sheltered in the Orphan’s Home. They attend school and assistance is offered to them)

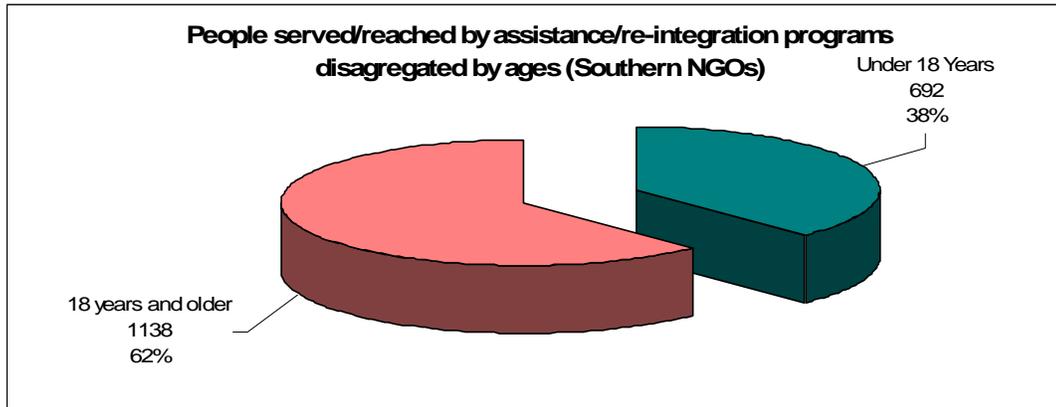
#### ***Re-integration Services***

##### ***Mediation with victim’s families***

- Conducted, during 2000-2003, approximately 150 interviews throughout Albania with the families of unaccompanied minors living in Italy
- Counseling with the victims’ families in order for them to accept their children
- Counseling for the reintegration of trafficked people
- Employment

- For the period of 1997-2002, handled 100 cases of minors, 70 of which were integrated in the organization’s small project. Only one similar case in 2004
- Counseling with the trafficked people and their families (emotional support, psycho-social counseling, legal and health assistance)

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 training courses
- Trainings on hairdressing, cooking and tailoring
- Trainings and socio-economic assistance for women in need
- Training for girls and women on how to start their own business
- Initial training on gender
- Assistance for girls and women that wish to start a business

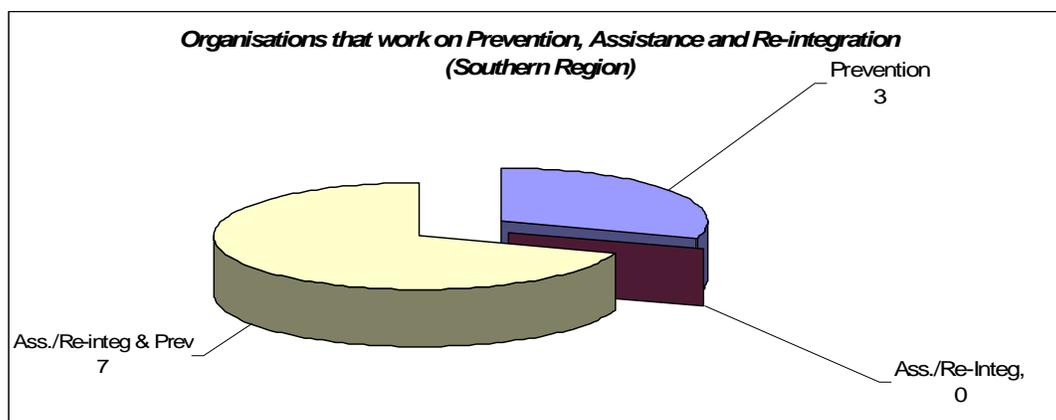
***Media*** - none

***Grants and Funding*** - none

### ***Coordination activities***

- Round tables with participants of the local government, public prosecutor’s office, court, and NGOs representatives interested on this issue.
- Forum on “Corruption and trafficking –issues and ways of prevention”

Most Southern Region organizations perform prevention activities, as well as assistance and reintegration services. Only a few of perform only prevention activities and none perform only reintegration programs.



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

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

<b><u>Training Topic</u></b>	<b><u>Training organized by</u></b>
Training of Trainers	USAID
Communication skills	Partners Albania
Business management, accountancy	Chemonics/SBCA
Project management and growth of capacities	Women's Center
Gender	SOROS
Project design	UNDP
Budget management	UNDP
Leadership, management	OSCE, SOROS
Special interviewing to the victims, how to offer help	ICITAP
Promotion of counseling skills for the social workers	Faculty of Social Sciences
How to better deal with trafficking in human beings	IREX & SECAT
Anti-trafficking training	
Provision of social services	Partners Albania
Training for mediators and social workers	Partners Albania
Training for women in leadership Gender equality Family code Financial management, business administration Promotion of mental health People with limited abilities	Partners Albania
Training for social workers	Regione Emiglia Romagna
Cases of domestic violence psychology	Adriana Baban, expert in

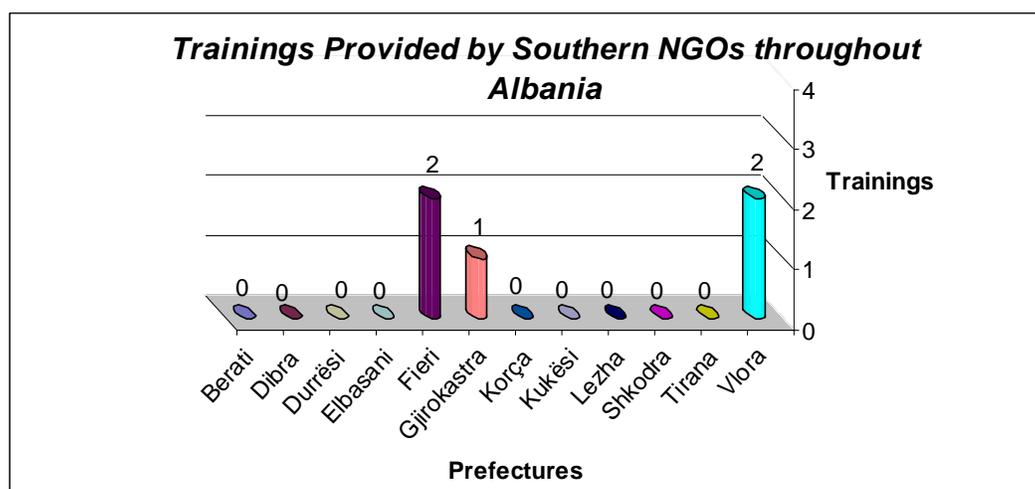
Community and women in leadership Training for animator	Caritas
Seminar on professional training	SCM
Issues of gender equality	Kvina Till Kvina

ii. Training Provided by Southern Organizations to:

- *Law Enforcement, Prosecutors, Judiciary* -- No trainings were provided in this field
- *Government*
  - Training on the risk and consequences of trafficking, protection of human rights, organized crime
- *Community*
  - Awareness-raising on the need to clean and preserve the environment
- *Other NGOs*
  - Youth and children
  - CSDC
  - Red Cross
  - Women's Center

The geographical distribution of training provided by the Southern Region organizations is demonstrated in the graph below.

**NOTE: Nine organizations declared that they did not provide training and technical assistance**



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

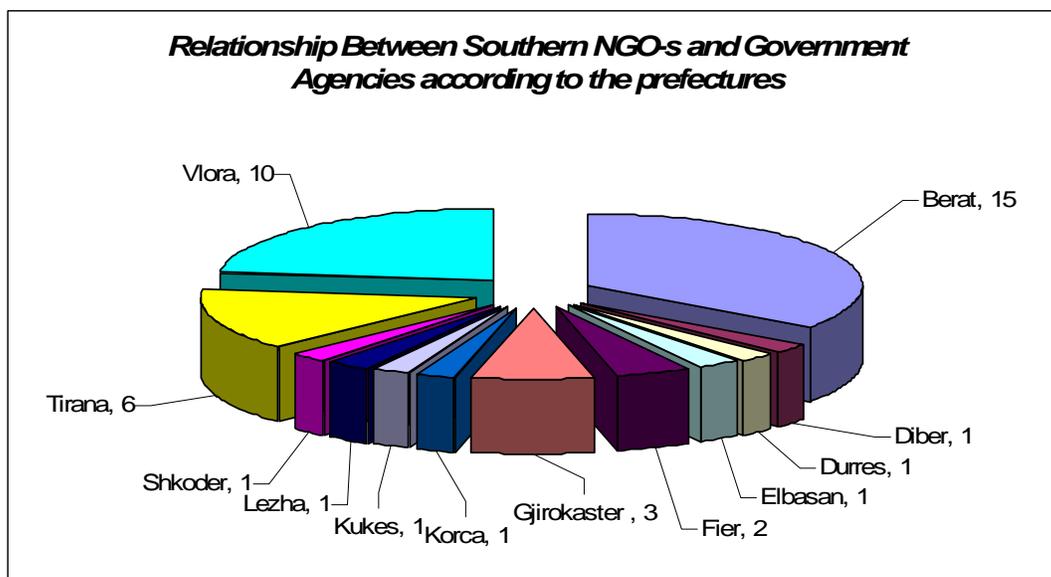
- Meetings and conversations
- Round tables
- Economic assistance for families in need
- Vocational education for girls and women in rural areas
- Awareness campaign on the risk of trafficking and related corruption
- Training and economic assistance to vulnerable women
- The status progression of the Roma and Egyptian communities as the ones mostly involved in girls and women trafficking
- Integration of minority communities in the development of the community of Përmeti

### **Collaboration / Relationship to Government Agencies**

<b><u>Government office</u></b>	<b><u>Type of collaboration</u></b>
Local Government Vlora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information source</li> </ul>
Municipality, Commune (Vlora)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information source</li> <li>• Memorandum of collaboration in the project</li> </ul>
Municipality of Orikumi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorandum of collaboration in the project</li> </ul>
Municipality of Himara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorandum of collaboration in the project</li> </ul>
Municipality of Saranda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorandum of collaboration in the project</li> <li>• Agreement</li> <li>• Memorandum of Understanding</li> </ul>
Municipality of Berati (The Directorate of Social Services,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Giving and receiving information, collaboration and mutual help</li> </ul>
Municipality of Kuçova	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding and collaboration</li> </ul>
Municipalities and the districts communes Përmeti, Tepelena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement</li> </ul>
Employment Office (Kuçova)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement act</li> </ul>
District Court (Berati)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upon agreement</li> </ul>
District, Prefecture (Berati)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upon agreement</li> </ul>
Police Directorates	Cooperation contracts: Referral of trafficked cases for accommodation protection of the shelter, support for the victims who report the pimps and traffickers to the police, intervention in the cases of dangerous threats , exchange of information, support in the cases which are hard to deal with
Institution of State Minister	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partners in the implementation of the national anti-trafficking and child trafficking strategy</li> <li>• information exchange</li> <li>• mutual meetings and visits</li> </ul>

Police (Berati, Vlora)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upon agreement,</li> <li>• Information Source</li> </ul>
Employment Office (Berati)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding,</li> <li>• Information</li> </ul>
Ministry of Education (Regional Education, Directorates of Vlora, Fieri, Lushnja, School directorates in the rural and urban areas)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperation contracts: Development of awareness topics as part of the awareness campaign in the classes of medical and civil education on the dangerous phenomenon such as drug, prostitution, STD, trafficking</li> </ul>
Ministry of Work and Social Affairs (Tirana)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorandum of Understanding</li> </ul>
Court – Public Prosecutor’s Office (Vlora)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information source</li> </ul>
National Employment Service (Tirana)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement</li> </ul>
High School and junior high school Directorates (Tirana, Berati)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upon agreement</li> </ul>
Court, Public prosecutor’s office, Police,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Referral of trafficking cases</li> </ul>
Educational Directorate (Berati)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding, information</li> </ul>
Trade-Union Office (Berati)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support</li> </ul>
Italian committee for unaccompanied victims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement</li> </ul>
Employment office (Përmeti)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement</li> </ul>
Chamber of Commerce Përmeti, Tepelena	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement</li> </ul>

The type of collaborations mentioned above have this geographical distribution throughout all of the Albania. The highest level of collaboration’s concentration is in the prefectures of Berati, Vlora, Tirana and Gjirokastra.



## 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)
2. “Vatra” Shelter (“The Hearth”)
3. ARZH
4. Women Center
5. Shelter Tirana
6. The Orphanage “A New Start”-Berati
7. Terre des Homes
8. In help of street children
9. Foundation for Conflict Resolution Berati
10. The Red Cross Berati
11. Women Advocacy Center
12. OSCE
13. CAO
14. Shelter of Violated Women
15. NGOs Home Përmeti

Government Agencies

1. The Directorate of Social Services, Employment Office (Berati)
2. Hospital (Berati)
3. Court, Police, Public Prosecutor’s Office (Berati)
4. Linza reception Center
5. Education Directorate Fieri
6. Chambers of Commerce in the districts of Përmeti and Tepelena

***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. Work and Employment Office Berati
2. Woman and Family Committee Tirana
3. IOM Tirana
4. Counseling Center for Women Durrësi
5. CAO
6. CEFA
7. “Girls, for you and with you” Fieri
8. Youth and children Përmeti

Government Agencies:

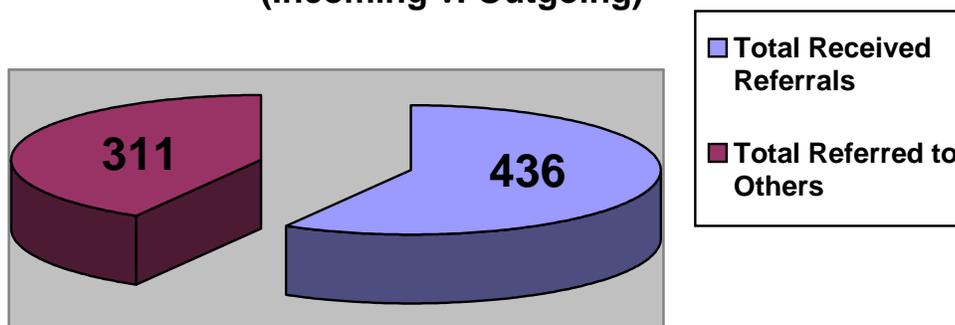
1. Local Government Vlora
2. Court – Public Prosecutor’s Office Vlora

3. District Court, Berati
4. District Prosecutor's Office, Berati
5. High school and junior high school directories Berati
6. Prefecture, Berati
7. City Hall, Berati
8. Communes, Berati
9. Ministry of Work and Social Affairs Tirana
10. Public Prosecutor's Office, Police, Court Berati
11. Police Directorates Lezha, Fieri, Elbasani, Durrësi, Korça, Kukësi, Tirana, Berati, Vlora, Gjirokastra

**NOTE:** 10 organizations claimed that they referred a total of 311 clients to other ones, while 9 claimed that they received 436 referrals

**Author's note:** In Albania, referral is very difficult given that collaboration is not well understood. This is especially evident with local NGOs that are inexperienced and not very interested in collaboration. Many NGOs are registered only, have not carried out any projects, and do not have significant activity. In a number of districts, 70% of the NGOs are inactive.

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



### Main sources of funding during the last year for Southern NGOs

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

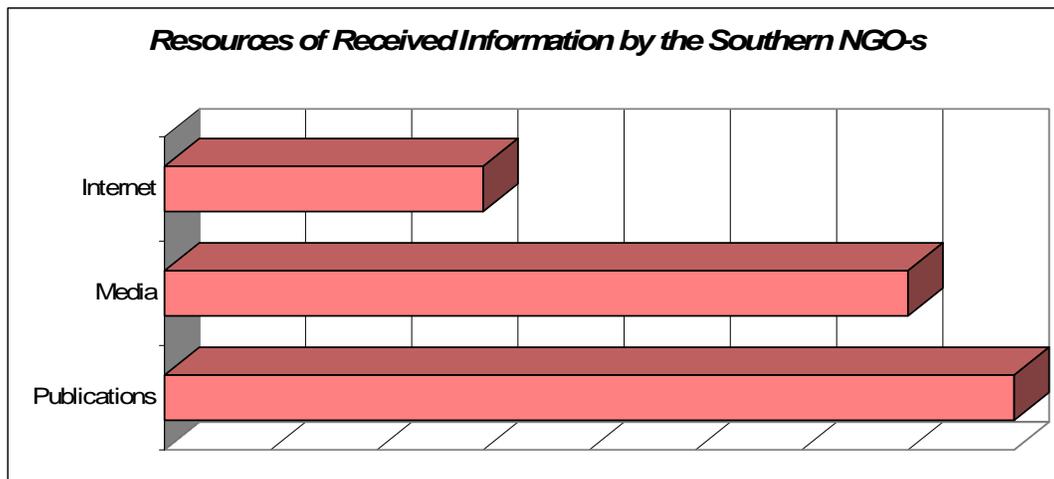
- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. SOROS (5)                    | 11. Greek Consulate Section |
| 2. UNICEF(3)                    | 12. GTZ Germany             |
| 3. USAID (3)                    | 13. Home of NGOs, Përmeti   |
| 4. World Food Program (WFP) (3) | 14. IOM                     |
| 5. Kvina Till Kvina (2)         | 15. Municipality of Këlcyra |
| 6. MSI (2)                      | 16. OSCE                    |
| 7. UNDP (2)                     | 17. Partners Albania        |
| 8. American Embassy             | 18. Regional Council Vlora  |
| 9. Anti Slavery International   | 19. Save the Children       |
| 10. ENGIM                       | 20. World Bank              |

## Networking

International/ Regional Networks	National Networks	Local networks
European Women's Rights Network	National Network Against Violence	Home of NGOs Përmeti
MSI	IOM	
	BKTF (3)	
	IOM	
	SOROS	
	Children Alliance in Albania	
	Regional Development Agency Network	

## Information sources

The graph demonstrates that Southern Region organizations gather the information primarily from publications. They rely on the media less often and receive little information via the Internet.



## ACRONYMS

ACTA-	Anticorruption and Anti-trafficking Action
AECI-	Agensia Espanola de Cooperation Internationale
AFCR-	Albanian Foundation for Conflict Resolution
ARZH-	(Albanian acronym for 'Regional Development Agency')
ATACT-	All Together Against Child Trafficking
BYCF-	Balkan Youth and Children Foundation
CAFOD-	Catholic Fund for Overseas Development
CARITAS-	(It is a humanitarian confederation of catholic organizations)
CCF-	Christian Children's Fund
CEFA-	European Committee for Capacity Building and Agriculture
CFF-	Children 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
ENGIM-	L'Ente Nazionale dei Giuseppini del Murialdo
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
MSI-	Management Systems International
REC-	Regional Environmental Center

SCM-	
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