



**National
REPORT on the
Implementation
of the Policy on
Prevention and
Combating
Trafficking in
Human Beings**

2021

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ABBREVIATIONS:

NAE	National Agency for Employment
NSAA	National Social Assistance Agency
CPA	Central Public Authority
LPA	Local Public Authority
PSA	Public Services Agency
TA	Territorial Authority
CAP	Centre for Assistance and Protection of Victims and Potential Victims of THB
CCTP	Centre for Combating Trafficking in Persons
IC „La Strada”	Public Association International Center „La Strada”
NC CTHB	National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings
NCCAP	National Centre for Child Abuse Prevention
CC	Criminal Code
NCSGLA	National Council for State Guaranteed Legal Aid
NCJ	National Council of Justice
TMT	Territorial Multidisciplinary Team within NRS
JIT	Joint Investigation Team
GRETA	Council of Europe Group of Independent Experts on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings
GD	Government Decision
NIJ	National Institute of Justice
GIBP	General Inspectorate of Border Police
MFAEI	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration
MER	Ministry of Education and Research
MJ	Ministry of Justice
MH	Ministry Health
MLSP	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection
IOM	International Organization for Migration
NGO	Non-profit Organization
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
IO	International Organization
GPO	General Prosecutor's Office
NRS	National Referral System for the protection and assistance of victims and potential victims of trafficking in human beings
PS	Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings NCCTHB
THB	Trafficking in Human Beings
UNODC	United Nation Office for Drugs and Crime

Methodology

This Report is developed in line with the provisions of point 91, paragraph (5) of the Government Decision no. 472/2008 approving the composition of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and the Rules of Procedure of the National Committee, according to which *the Permanent Secretariat of the Committee monitors and evaluates the implementation of policies in the field of preventing and combating trafficking in human beings by the competent institutions, at all levels of public administration, as well as by intergovernmental, non-governmental organizations carrying out activities in the field.*

This report contains an analysis of data and trends in the field of trafficking in human beings (THB) as well as of actions implemented and results achieved by the anti-trafficking community of the Republic of Moldova in 2021.

For the development of this Report certain collected information and statistical data were used, including the following:

- information supplied by central public authorities (CPAs), local public authorities (LPAs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and international organizations (IOs) on the implementation of the 2021-2022 Action Plan for the implementation of the 2018-2023 National Strategy for Prevention and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings;
- recommendations contained in the decisions of the meetings of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (CN CTHB) and of the meetings of the technical coordination group of the Permanent Secretariat (SP) of the CN CTHB;
- recommendations of international evaluation reports (GRETA Report, the US State Department Report on trafficking in human beings, US Department of Labor Report on worst forms of child labor, etc.).

This report is structured in chapters in line with the 4Ps paradigm policy, recommended by international standards in this field (Prevention, Protection, Punishment, Partnership), and addresses the amendments in the legal and institutional framework in this field.

The report contains 2 annexes illustrating the progress obtained following the implementation of the 2021-2022 Action Plan for the implementation of the 2018-2023 National Strategy for Prevention and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and the operation of the Territorial Commissions for combating THB in 2021.

1. General Measures:

1.1. Legal and regulatory framework (the amended or the new one).

- The second *Action Plan for the years 2021-2022 (GD no. 319/2021) for the implementation of the National Strategy for Prevention and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings for the years 2018-2023* was approved. The anti-trafficking community and the civil society identified the actions to be carried out within 2021-2022, which will ensure the continuity of the implementation of the National Strategy and will contribute to the implementation of recommendations submitted by the international evaluation mechanisms in the field.
- To facilitate the implementation of the provisions of Government Decision no. 270/2014 *approving the Guidelines on the cross-sector cooperation mechanism for the identification, assessment, referral, assistance and monitoring of child victims and potential victims of violence, neglect, exploitation and trafficking*, on 15 December, 2021, by joint order of the Minister of Labor and Social Protection, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Internal Affairs and the Minister of Education and Research no. 17/1173/528/1652, the *Guide for the practical application of the cross-sector cooperation mechanism* was approved. This document was developed by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection with the support of the Council of Europe Office in Chisinau and it offers specialists a series of useful recommendations and information aimed at ensuring effective and quality multisectoral and multidisciplinary interventions in each suspected or confirmed case of violence, abuse, neglect, exploitation and trafficking of children. The guide is addressed to all representatives of educational, medical-sanitary and social assistance institutions, regardless of their legal form of organization, cultural, public order institutions, the State Labor Inspectorate, other authorities and public institutions with duties in the field of child protection. The Guide for the practical application of the cross-sector cooperation mechanism contains a separate chapter no. 2.9 *Trafficking in children* that defines the notion of trafficking in children and lists the signs according to which this phenomenon can be identified.
- The Information Guide in the field of trafficking in human beings was developed (for employees of the international passenger transport industry on the identification and referral of victims/presumed victims of THB).
- The following draft normative acts were developed and submitted for examination and consultation:

The Ministry of Internal Affairs and the General Prosecutor's Office have developed several draft laws, which are to be finished and promoted:

- amendment of art.175/1 and art.208/1 of the Criminal Code, to harmonize the national legislation with the provisions of the Lanzarote Convention;
- amendment of art. 165, art. 206 and art. 207 of the Criminal Code, regarding the penalties applied for the crimes of THB and child trafficking;
- amendment of art. 89 of the Contravention Code, to harmonize the penalties for practicing prostitution and for benefit of these services, to the provisions of art. 6 of the Warsaw Convention and point 25 of the Report of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women as of 03.02.2020;
- draft law on the reconceptualization of the sanctioning regime in the case of committing THB and related offences, including the criminalization of the act of using the results of work or the services of a person who is a victim of child trafficking;
- draft law on the amendment of the current normative framework as concerns the criminal regulations that refer to the criminalization of the act of making, holding, selling or using fake official documents, printers, fake stamps or seals, as well as the organization of illegal migration.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Protection developed the draft of the Program for the establishment and development of the National Referral Mechanism for the protection and

assistance of victims of crime for the years 2022-2026 and the Action Plan for the years 2022-2024 for its implementation (MNRV Program), based on Law no. 137/2016 on the rehabilitation of victims of crimes.

1.2. Activity of the institutional framework for coordination.

The National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings coordinates the activities of prevention and combating trafficking in human beings, as well as the cooperation with public authorities, international and non-governmental organizations, other agencies and civil society representatives. The Committee's permanent secretariat is provided by the Directorate for Coordination in the field of Human Rights and Social Dialogue within the State Chancellery. The PS coordinates and monitors the implementation process of the aforementioned Strategy and its Action Plan. It also analyses information and, on a yearly basis, by 31 March, submits to the Government a national report in the field of prevention and combating trafficking in human beings.

In 2021, the National Committee met in a single meeting, on 04.06.2021. At the meeting, the *National Report on the Implementation of the Policy on Prevention and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings for the year 2020* was approved, and the following documents were presented: *the draft of the new Action Plan for the years 2021-2022 for the implementation of the National Strategy for Prevention and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings for the years 2018-2023; initiatives and priorities for 2021 in the field of trafficking in human beings.*

Moreover, in 2021, 2 meetings of the Technical Coordination Group of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings were held:

- on 20.07.2021, the recommendations for the Republic of Moldova included in the *US State Department Report on the situation of trafficking in persons, 2021 edition*, were discussed;
- on 29.10.2021, the recommendations for the Republic of Moldova included in the *US Department of Labor (DoL) Report on the worst forms of child labor* in 2020 were discussed.

1.3. Building the professional capacity of specialists.

In 2021, **62** employees of the **Center for Combating Trafficking in Persons** participated in **20** training courses, as follows:

- 1) Within 18-21.01.2021, 4 employees participated in the training of trainers (ToT) course within the Project "Building the training capacities of the border police in the Republic of Moldova (TRABOR)", organized by IOM;
- 2) Within 26-28.01.2021, 1 employee participated in the training course organized within the project "Regional Cooperation for the Prevention and Combating of Cross-Border Crime Romania-Moldova" (THOR);
- 3) Within 01-05.02.2021, 3 employees participated in the online training course on "New challenges in the fight against crime in the time of COVID", organized by the German expert Alexius Schubert;
- 4) On 15.02.2021, 2 employees participated in stages I and II of the Structured Interview on knowledge, attitudes and experiences in the field of online abuse and sexual exploitation of children, organized by IC "La Strada";
- 5) Within 22-26.02.2021, 8 employees participated in the (online) training/specialization course on "Activity of prevention and combating human trafficking", organized by the Department for Professional Development of the "Ştefan cel Mare" Academy under MIA;
- 6) Within 09-12.03.2021, 1 employee participated in the training course on "Training sessions on interviewing suspects", within the Project "Regional cooperation for prevention and combating trans-border criminality in Romania and Moldova", organized by THOR;
- 7) Within 16-18.03.2021, 6 employees participated in a (online) training course on "Trafficking in persons", organized under the auspices of the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Budapest, Hungary;

8) On 30.03.2021, 2 employees participated in the webinar on "Strengthening the protection of trafficked persons by embedding policies in the field of anti-trafficking, migration management and social protection", organized by IC "La Strada";

9) Within 25-26.06.2021, 7 employees participated in the training course on "Investigation of cases of online exploitation and sexual abuse of children", organized by the Council of Europe within the project "Combating violence against children in the Republic of Moldova", implemented by the Council of Europe;

10) On 13-17.09.2021, 1 employee participated in the training course on "Building the capacities of police officers in combating all forms of organized crime", held within the project "Increasing knowledge of Moldovan police officers in combating all forms of organized crime".

11) Within 08-12.11.2021, 6 employees participated in the continuous training course held within the "Ştefan cel Mare" Police Academy under the MIA, for the year 2021-2022, on the topic "Activity to prevent and combat trafficking human beings".

12) Within 08-12.11.2021, 2 employees participated in the training course for trainers on "Combating sexual exploitation of children on the Internet", organized by IC "La Strada".

13) Within 08-26.11.2021, 3 employees participated in the INTERPOL Virtual Training Program on Gender and Transnational Crime: Policing with a Gender Perspective Programme, organized by the Directorate for Combating Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling within the General Secretariat of the OIPC Interpol of the THB Balkans Project.

14) On 08.11.2021, 6 employees participated in a (online) training course on "Investigation of cases of online exploitation and sexual abuse of children", organized by the Office of the Council of Europe in Chisinau.

15) Within 15-19.11.2021, 2 employees participated in a (online) training in the field of combating crime, provided by the Police Department of Turkey for police officers from member states of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, organized by the Police Department of Turkey.

16) Within 17-18.11.2021, 1 employee participated in a training course on "Strategic Communication", organized within the Directorate for Professional Development of the "Ştefan cel Mare" Academy under the MIA with the support of the "Black Unicorn Agency" Company.

17) Within 22.11.2021-03.12.2021, 2 employees participated in a (online) training course on "Trafficking in human beings and illegal trafficking of migrants", within the international professional training school for prevention and combating organized crime in Caserta city (Italy).

18) Within 06-10.12.2021, 8 employees participated in the national training course on "Recruitment of victims of human trafficking on the Internet", organized by CEPOL, within the TOPCOP project.

19) On 07.12.2021, 2 employees participated in the training course on the national and international standards for intermediation of employment abroad in the context of the approval of a new normative framework in the field of intermediation of employment abroad (Law no. 105/2018 on the promotion of employment and unemployment insurance, GD no. 1276/218 approving the procedures regarding access to employment measures), organized by MLSP.

20) On 09.12.2021, 1 employee participated in a (online) training on "Abuse and exploitation of children on the Internet", organized by Interpol within the project "Fighting organized crime", part of the Eastern Partnership.

Anti-trafficking experts from the Republic of Moldova participated in a series of Regional Meetings on combating trafficking in human beings organized by the **UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)**, jointly with the authorities in charge of combating THB from France, Croatia, Serbia, Albania. The regional meetings were held within May and July 2021.

At the request of the organizers, the Permanent Secretariat of the Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings collaborated with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Center for Combating Trafficking in Persons, the General Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection and ensured the participation of representatives of these institutions in the following Regional Meetings:

- 11-12 May, 2021, on " Trafficking in Person for Sexual Exploitation, especially Women and Girls, through Addressing Demand in South Eastern Europe" - 2 anti-trafficking experts;

- 9-10 June, 2021, on "Addressing human trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation through international cooperation" - 2 anti-trafficking experts;

- 6-7 July, 2021, on "Addressing child trafficking, especially for the purpose of forced crime in South-Eastern Europe" - 2 anti-trafficking experts.

Experts from the Republic of Moldova participated in the sessions of the Meetings and presented the experience of our country in combating human trafficking for sexual purposes, as well as child trafficking. They also presented examples of good practices of international collaboration in discovering these crimes, as well as the way in which victims of THB are offered social, legal and psychological assistance.

Prosecutors within the **General Prosecutor's Office**, in 2021, participated in several trainings, inclusively as trainers, as follows:

- on 09.04.2021, the prosecutors participated as trainers in the seminar organized by the National Institute of Justice in the course *"Peculiarities of investigation and judging crimes of trafficking in persons, organs, tissues and cells"*. 15 prosecutors and 15 judges were trained.
- on 26.02.2021, the prosecutors participated as trainers in the seminar on *"Peculiarities investigation and judging crimes related to human trafficking"*, organized by the National Institute of Justice. 20 judicial assistants, 20 clerks and 20 prosecutor advisors were trained.
- on 20.04.2021, the prosecutors participated as trainers in the seminar organized by the NIJ in partnership with the OSCE on *"Rehabilitation and compensation of victims of serious crimes, including trafficking in human beings and domestic violence."*
- within 2-14 June, 2021, prosecutors participated as trainers in the workshop on *"Abuse and sexual exploitation of children with the use of information and communication technologies"*, organized by NIJ, during which more than 25 prosecutors and 20 judges, 15 prosecutor consultants and 15 judicial assistants were trained.
- Within 14-15.09.2021 the General Prosecutor's Office with the support of the IOM Moldova and the US Embassy in Chisinau, in the framework of the project "Contribution to a consolidated response of law enforcement and policy-making bodies to human trafficking in the Republic of Moldova", organized the training workshop *"Strengthening the measures to combat human trafficking by building the capacity of prosecutors to detect, investigate and judicially examine crimes of the respective category as well as the related ones"*. The workshop was designed for prosecutors from the territorial prosecutor's offices in charge of combating trafficking of human beings. 28 prosecutors were trained.
- within 28-29.09.2021 the General Prosecutor's Office, with the support of the IOM Moldova and the US Embassy in Chisinau, in the framework of the project "Contribution to a consolidated response of law enforcement and policy-making bodies to human trafficking in the Republic of Moldova" organized the training workshop *"Building the capacities of prosecutors and police officers in charge of combating trafficking in human beings based on the latest trends and recommendations formulated in international evaluation reports"* for prosecutors and police officers in charge of combating THB. 5 prosecutors and 25 police officers were trained.
- on 03.11.2021, the prosecutors participated as trainers in the seminar on *"Peculiarities of the investigation and judging of crimes related to trafficking in persons and bodily elements"* organized by the National Institute of Justice, during which 10 prosecutor advisors, 10 legal assistants and 10 clerks were trained.
- on 19.11.2021, prosecutors participated as trainers in the seminar on *"Particularities of the investigation and judging of crimes related to trafficking in persons and bodily elements"* organized by the National Institute of Justice, during which 15 prosecutors and 15 judges were trained.

- within 8-12 November, 4 prosecutors together with 20 professionals participated in the training of trainers workshop in the field of investigation and judging of cases of abuse and sexual exploitation of children committed online (AESOC). The workshop was part of the project "*Strengthening the capacity of the Republic of Moldova to address the online sexual exploitation and abuse of children*", implemented by IC "La Strada" in partnership with the National Institute of Justice, the International Center for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC), with the financial support of the US State Department through the US Embassy in Chisinau.

In December 2021, the **Ministry of Internal Affairs**, in partnership with CEPOL (EU Agency for Law Enforcement Training) organized a training course for law enforcement specialists (General Police Inspectorate, CCTP, General Inspectorate of Border Police, Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organized Crime and Special Cases) on the topic "*Recruitment of victims of THB on the Internet*". The training course was held by experts from Great Britain, Holland, Spain, Romania, IC "La Strada".

Within 16 March and 1 April, 2021, the **Ministry of Labor and Social Protection** in partnership with the IOM Moldova, organized 9 (online) round tables on "*The role of multidisciplinary teams in settling THB cases assisted within the National Referral System, with an increased emphasis on cooperation between the representatives of the law enforcement bodies and those from the social field*". These events were attended by specialists within the territorial multidisciplinary teams (TMTs) from all the raions/municipalities of the country (41 TMTs), as well as by representatives of the MLSP, IOM, the Police and the Center for Assistance and Protection of Victims and Potential Victims of THB.

On 10 September, 2021, the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration** organized online the *Training Course on combating and preventing human trafficking for consular officials from the diplomatic service of the Republic of Moldova*. At the training course presentations were made on the role of the consular officer in detecting, assisting and repatriating victims of human trafficking and citizens of the Republic of Moldova who are in a situation of increased vulnerability.

On 9 April 2021 and 19 November 2021, the **National Institute of Justice** held a training course on "Particularities of investigating and judging crimes in the field of trafficking in human beings", which was attended by 23 judges.

A Guide for lawyers providing state-guaranteed legal aid to victims of THB was developed within the project "*Strengthening the Government's response to the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings and improving the protection of victims and witnesses of trafficking in the Republic of Moldova*", whose implementation partner and beneficiary is the **National Council for State-Guaranteed Legal Aid**. The Guide was disseminated to lawyers who provide state-guaranteed legal aid, and trainings for lawyers were organized based on it.

Within 29 November and 1 December, 2021, the **International Organization for Migration**, Mission to Moldova, in partnership with the Permanent Representation of France in Vienna to the UN and the US Embassy in the Republic of Moldova, organized a working visit to Paris, the French Republic. The visit took place within the project "*Contribution to a consolidated response of law enforcement and policy-making bodies to human trafficking in the Republic of Moldova*", supported by the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the US Department of State. The purpose of the visit was to analyze some aspects of combating THB, as well as to exchange good practices between the specialized structures of both states and to develop cooperation between the specialized institutions of the Republic of Moldova and the French Republic in the field of preventing and combating THB-related offences.

OSCE has developed a Guide on the rights of THB victims, including the issue related to the victims' compensation. Currently, the Guide is being technically prepared for consultation. It is

to be launched during 2022. The Guide will serve as a support for the activity of prosecutors, judges and lawyers.

During 2019-2021 **IC "La Strada"** participated in the regional Project REST, which was implemented in 6 European countries (Austria, France, Moldova, Holland, Serbia and Spain) under the auspices of LEFO NGO from Austria. The project pursued to strengthen the right to stay and to protection of citizens from less developed countries trafficked to Europe, focusing on the integration of migration and anti-trafficking policies.

Within the given project, IC "La Strada" contributed to:

a) conducting the international research by filling in a questionnaire, specially developed by international researchers;

b) development, translation and publication in Romanian of the Guide of promising practices on "*Long-term protection of trafficked persons*".

The international research report "*Residence permits and international protection for victims of THB: sustainable solutions based on international law*" and the *Guide of promising practices on "Long-term protection of trafficked persons"* were presented to national anti-trafficking stakeholders during 2 webinars organized by IC "La Strada" in March and May 2021.

The first webinar was organized in March 2021 for the members of the Technical Coordination Group under the State Chancellery/Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating THB. The international report was presented by one of the authors - Prof. Ryszard Piotrowicz from Aberystwyth University, UK (former member of GRETA).

The second REST webinar was held in May 2021 in partnership with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection for organizations that render services to THB victims and foreign citizens, as well as for experts within state bodies in the field of social assistance and migration, who carry out the operative coordination of the activity in this field.

1.4 Data collection and analysis, research activities

The analysis of statistical data remains the starting point for the development and/or elaboration of policies to ensure the rights and freedoms of citizens, based on their identified needs. Thus, during the reference period, several researches, evaluations and analyzes of the situation in the field of prevention and combating THB were carried out, as follows:

- National Report on the implementation of the policy on prevention and combating THB for 2020, developed by the **PS of the NC CTHB** based on the data supplied by CPA, LPAs, NGOs, IOs, published on www.antitrafic.gov.md;
- Informative note on the implementation of the National Campaign "Week of fight against THB", 18-25.10.2021, elaborated by the PS of NC CTHB, published on www.antitrafic.gov.md;
- Activity Report for 2020 of the **CCTP** which reflects the results achieved during the year, information on the total number of criminal cases investigated, cooperation with law enforcement agencies from abroad, etc.;
- UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) Analytical Report for the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons (GLOTIP);
- TIP (US State Department) Report on Trafficking in Persons, 2021 edition;
- Regional annual report on THB and illegal migration for the year 2020 (SELEC);
- Report on the implementation of commitments in the field of combating THB of the OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator for combating trafficking in person (2018-2020);
- The evaluation report on the implementation by the parties of the Convention of the Council of Europe on actions against trafficking in human beings for the year 2020 (GRETA);
- The joint risk assessment report in the field of combating cross-border crime, human trafficking and illegal migration (GCAR), for the year 2021;

- The voluntary national report on the implementation of the Global Pact for safe, orderly and regulated migration (PGM), for the period of the second semester of 2020 and 2021.
- International Comparative Report on Global Migration Data (GMDAC);
- The Report on the worst forms of labor exploitation of children for the year 2021 of the US Department of Labor (DoL);
- The Report on the questionnaire submitted to the members of the Network of Coordinators in the field of Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in the South-Eastern Europe (NATC SEE), developed to assess the current situation in the South-East Europe Region regarding the specific challenges, the ways to approach impunity and the promotion of criminal prosecution of the perpetrators of crimes in the field of human trafficking, as well as to update of the Non-paper document on the fight against THB in the Western Balkans Region, for the years 2018-2021;
- The EMN 2021 Study, within the Consultative Group on Human Trafficking;
- The annual UN questionnaire on human trafficking with information for the year 2021.

The General Prosecutor's Office ensured the collection and analysis of statistical data during 2021, as follows:

1. Monthly, the territorial and specialized prosecutor's offices submit information on the activity carried out in the field of criminal prosecution, as well as the results of the examination by the first court, appellate court and the court of cassation of criminal cases that refer to the crimes of THB, trafficking in children, organization of illegal migration, other similar or related crimes.
2. Quarterly, the Section for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings within the Department of Criminal Investigation and Criminalistics of the General Prosecutor's Office analyzes and generalizes the received information and presents to the General Prosecutor a Report on the activity carried out by the prosecutors in the field.
3. Annually, the General Prosecutor's Office submits to the National Committee for Combating Trafficking of Human Beings the analysis of the activity on prevention and combating THB carried out by law enforcement bodies.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Protection ensured:

1. The collection and analysis of annual reports on the activity of the Territorial Multidisciplinary Teams within the National Referral System, with the subsequent elaboration of the Annual Report on the activity carried out to prevent and combat THB and the assistance given to victims and presumed victims of THB, for the year 2021;
2. The collection of statistical data based on the "Victims Form" monitoring forms (art. 165 and art. 206 of the Criminal Code), on victims of THB, who were assisted within the platform of the centers providing specialized services, funded by the state budget. The data are collected from 8 specialized centers throughout the country on a quarterly basis. The generalized information is submitted to the State Chancellery;
3. The collection of statistical data from the territorial assistance structures on the implementation of the Guidelines on cross-sector cooperation mechanism for the identification, assessment, referral, assistance and monitoring of child victims and potential victims of violence, neglect, exploitation and trafficking.

At the request of relevant bodies, working in the field of preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, as well as for the purpose of providing support in the protection of trafficked persons, the **Public Services Agency** promptly provides information on natural persons (citizens of the Republic of Moldova) and contributes to the identification of persons who have become victims of THB, by using all available informational resources, both automated and non-automated, that contain personal data.

PS of NC CTHB collected the data on the activity of the Territorial Commissions for Combating THB, according to the *Set of indicators for monitoring the implementation of policies on prevention and combating THB during 2021*.

In February 2021, IC "La Strada" published the Analytical Report "*Trends in the evolution of the THB phenomenon in the Republic of Moldova and external factors of influence*". Over 50 different sources of information about the anti-trafficking issue were analyzed during the research. New trends of THB and existing gaps in national anti-trafficking policy were identified. An innovative aspect of this research is the comparative analysis of:

- global trends in the evolution of the THB phenomenon with the trends in the Republic of Moldova;

- recommendations of international expertise for global anti-trafficking policies with the recommendations made for the Republic of Moldova in the framework of external monitoring (J/TiP and GRETA).

The report was presented and submitted to the main anti-trafficking stakeholders at various events organized by IC "La Strada" and partners throughout 2021.

2. Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings

To mark "18 October - the European Anti-trafficking Day", the **Permanent Secretariat** of the NC CTHB coordinated the organization of the National Campaign "Week of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings", held within 18-25 October.

On 18.10.2021, a press conference on "Challenges and results achieved by the anti-trafficking system during the last 5 years" was held. The event was attended by 18 guests/representatives of IC "La Strada", CCTP, GPI, the US Embassy and the General Prosecutor's Office. During the event, the experts informed children and adults about the risks and consequences of human trafficking that continues even during a pandemic and offered them recommendations to take into account in order not to fall prey to online exploitation and abuse. In this regard, a documentary film on combating THB was presented.

The General Prosecutor's Office mobilized territorial and specialized prosecutors to undertake actions to raise the awareness and to inform the society on the seriousness and consequences of the THB phenomenon. As a result, during the anti-trafficking week, prosecutors held more than 112 lectures in educational institutions and work groups, 10 newspaper articles and 3 internet posts, 1 radio interview (Radio Falesti) and 1 TV interview (Hinesti 24 TV). All in all, more than 7847 people were directly informed, of which 6264 pupils, 12 teachers, 289 students, 128 police employees, 1144 employees.

Apart from this, in the context of the marking of the "European Anti-trafficking Day" and of holding the National Campaign "Week of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings", the Office of Representation of the Accused in Court under the Prosecutor's Office of Chisinau published an article entitled "Legal-criminal analysis of the crime of THB" in the "University Legal Studies" Magazine 2021, Year XIV, No. 1 (53), International Free University of Moldova, Faculty of Law, circulation: 100 copies.

Moreover, on 18.10.2021, the prosecutors of the specialized Section of the General Prosecutor's Office participated in a public lecture on "Trafficking in Human Beings" organized by the Criminal Law Department of the Faculty of Law of Moldova State University.

On 25.10.2021, the prosecutors of the specialized Section of the General Prosecutor's Office participated in an online public lecture on "Fight against trafficking in human beings", which was organized for the students of the Technical University of Moldova.

As part of the National Campaign "Week of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings", representatives of the CCTP and of the General Prosecutor's Office participated in thematic shows on national and local television channels.

On 29.06.2021, under the auspices of the Prosecutor General, the meeting of the Coordinating Council of the law enforcement bodies in charge of combating trafficking in human beings was organized. The Council is composed of the representatives of the General Prosecutor's

Office, the Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organized Crime and Special Cases, the Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of Justice, the Minister of Internal Affairs, the National Anticorruption Center, the Intelligence and Security Service, the General Police Inspectorate of the MIA, the General Inspectorate of Border Police of the MIA, the Center for Combating Human Trafficking of the NII of the GPI of the MIA. A series of topical issues were debated, such as the threats posed by the phenomenon of illegal migration, committed by means of large-scale falsification of identity documents, cases of illegal migration and THB on the territory of the European Union states, in order to exploit victims for the appropriation of their allowances and social benefits, the challenges in the area of organ trafficking, the involvement of officials in committing crimes of THB, crimes related and associated with this crime.

Members of the anti-trafficking community posted press releases and informational materials on THB on official pages and social networks.

The Ministry of Education and Research carries out continuous actions to prevent and combat violence against children. Thus, the curricula of the compulsory school subjects *Education for society and Personal development* contain several learning units related to the identification, prevention and combating of violence, including of bullying (systematic intimidation, humiliation and harassment).

Moreover, trainings and seminars are held periodically at the national level for the teachers who teach these subjects. Employees in the educational system identified 3,595 suspected cases of physical and emotional abuse, neglect, labor exploitation, sexual harassment and bullying. Most cases of child abuse in school are reported by teachers.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, jointly with the Territorial Structures of Social Assistance, as part of the National Campaign "Week of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings" carried out awareness raising and information activities regarding the phenomenon and consequences of THB, with the dissemination of informational materials, brochures, leaflets. The local campaigns targeted young people/students, people with a high risk of vulnerability.

On 4 June, 2014, the toll-free telephone assistance service for children (Child's Phone) 116 111 was launched in the Republic of Moldova. The service is managed by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection and implemented by the PA "CNFACEM". The purpose of the Service is to enhance the children's protection level by providing direct and free access to psychological counseling, psycho-emotional support and to inform beneficiaries on their rights and the ways in which these rights can be defended.

Referral for assistance in cases of violence, neglect, exploitation and trafficking is carried out in line with the cross-sector cooperation mechanism, approved by Government Decision no. 270/2014. During the reference period, the councilors of the Service of toll-free telephone assistance of children received 7 notifications referring to the subject addressed, of which: 6 cases regarding child labor exploitation and 1 case of potential child trafficking. The cases were referred to the competent authorities with duties in the field of child protection.

The applicants for the public services provided by the **Public Services Agency**, by means of the Multifunctional Centers and the Services for the issuance of identity documents and the Civil Status Services outside the Multifunctional Centers, were informed on the risk of unsafe migration, by means of leaflets, informational materials.

The General Inspectorate of the Border Police is implementing the Project "Building the capacities of Border Police forces to detect forged identity and travel documents for preventing and combating irregular migration and trafficking in human beings", financed by the EU through the MPF III Mechanism. The aim of the project is to enhance the capacities of border authorities to prevent and counter cross-border crimes related to the fraudulent use of travel documents by means trained and highly qualified personnel, able to detect and report forgeries thanks to advanced technologies in the field.

Also, as part of the National Campaign "Week of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings", the **Employment Agency, the State Labor Inspectorate, the National Administration**

of Penitentiaries and the National Probation Inspectorate, organized a series of events that included:

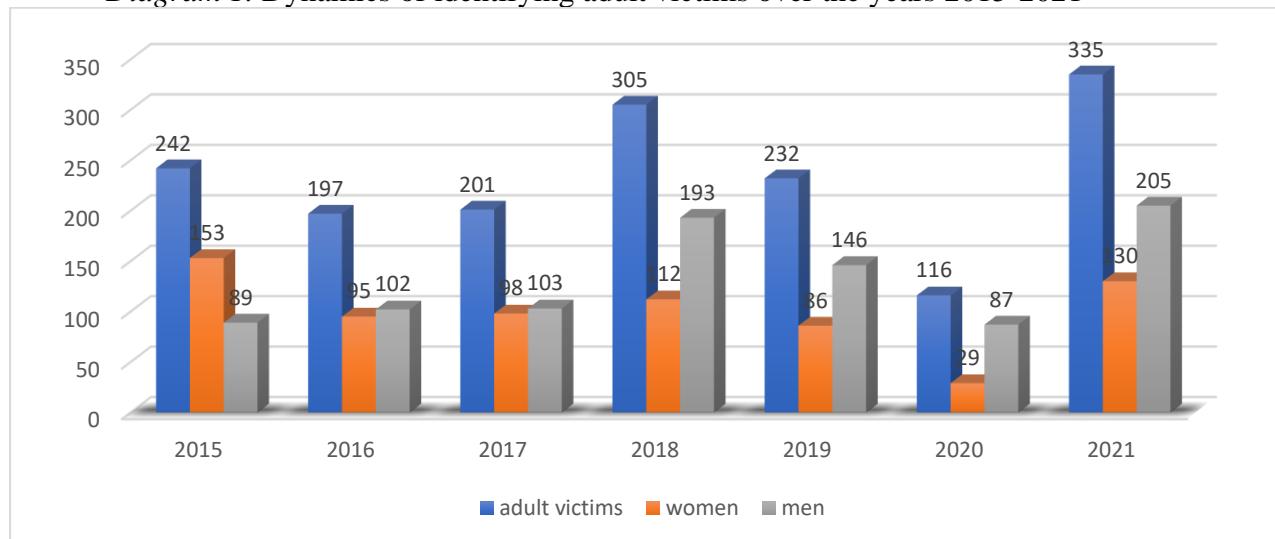
- Radio and TV programs with the participation of the anti-trafficking experts;
- Dissemination of informational materials on prevention and combating trafficking in human beings;
- Seminars, discussions and round tables held online to raise awareness of employers and employees working in enterprises in different fields of the national economy on the negative impact generated by trafficking in human beings for labor exploitation.
- Information raising awareness activities for detained persons, including women and juvenile detainees, as well as subjects of probation.

3. Social assistance and protection of victims and presumed victims of THB

In **12 months of 2021**, in the framework of the criminal cases investigated on crimes of THB, **357** victims were identified (**335 adult victims (93.84%)** (**130** women/ **205** men) and **22 child victims (6.16%)** (**21** girls/**1** boy), compared to 2020 – 139 victims (116 adults (29 women/87 men) and 23 children (20 girls/3 boys).

Adult Victims

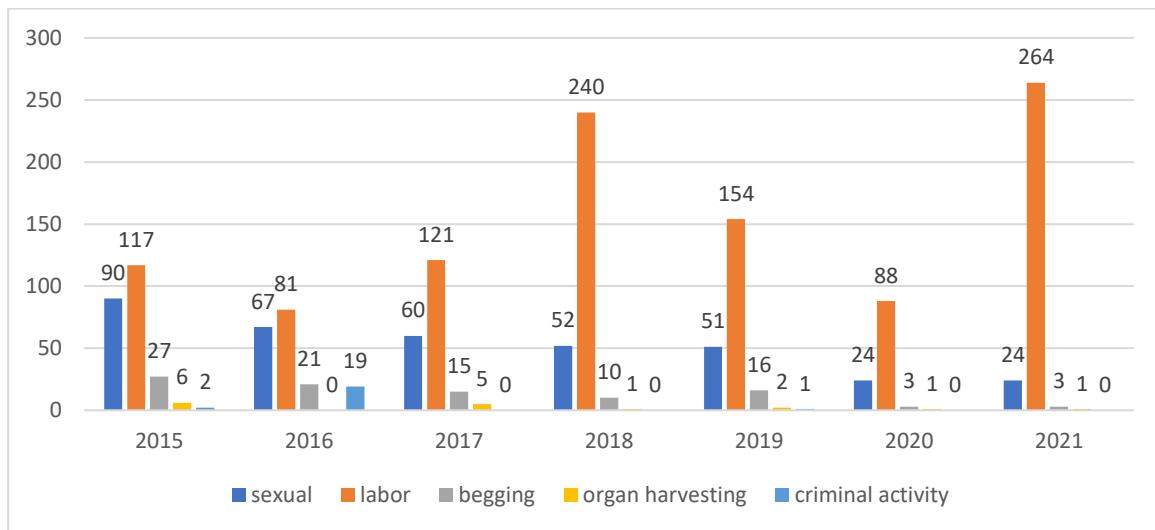
Diagram 1. Dynamics of identifying adult victims over the years 2015-2021



Of the total number of adult victims identified during **12 months of 2021**, the following situation is attested:

- According to the **form of exploitation** – **264** adult victims (180 men and 84 women) were exploited for **labor purposes** (compared to 88 victims identified in 2020), **24** victims (all women) were subjected to **sexual exploitation** (compared to 24 victims identified in 2020), **3** victims (2 men and one woman) were subjected to **exploitation for begging** (in the same period of 2020, 3 victims), **43** victims (21 women and 22 men) were exploited for the purpose of appropriating their allowances or social benefits (in the same period of 2020, no victims of this category was identified), **1** victim (man) of trafficking in organs, tissues and cells (in the same period of 2020, 1 victim).

Diagram 2. Victims of THB (art.165) according to the form of exploitation, years 2015-2021



According to the countries of destination

a) The **European Union area** is confirmed as a constant destination, showing a downward trend, with **299 victims** of trafficking in human beings identified (*of which 188 men and 111 women*).

The main country for external trafficking (in terms of the number of victims) is France, with **122 trafficked persons** (115 men and 7 women) for the purpose of labor exploitation and **43 trafficked persons** (21 women and 22 men) for the purpose of appropriation of their aids, allowances or social benefits.

Thus, the following situation was attested:

- **Labor exploitation - 239 victims** of the total number of victims exploited in the EU (**165 men/74 women**):
 - France - **115 men/ 7 women**;
 - Portugal - **4 men**;
 - Italy – **64 women**;
 - Romania – **1 woman**;
 - Germany – **41 men/1 woman**;
 - Israel – **1 woman**;
 - Belgium -**5 men**;
- **Sexual exploitation - 15 victims** of the total number exploited in the EU – all women:
 - Greece - **12 victims**;
 - Belgium - **3 victims**;
- **Exploitation for begging- 2 victims** of the total number exploited in the EU:
 - Lithuania – **1 victim (woman)**;
 - Romania - **1 victim (man)**.
- **Exploitation for the purpose of appropriation of aids, allowances or social benefits:**
 - France – **43 victims (21 women/ 22 men)**;

b) Middle East:

Sexual exploitation: 5 victims identified – all women:

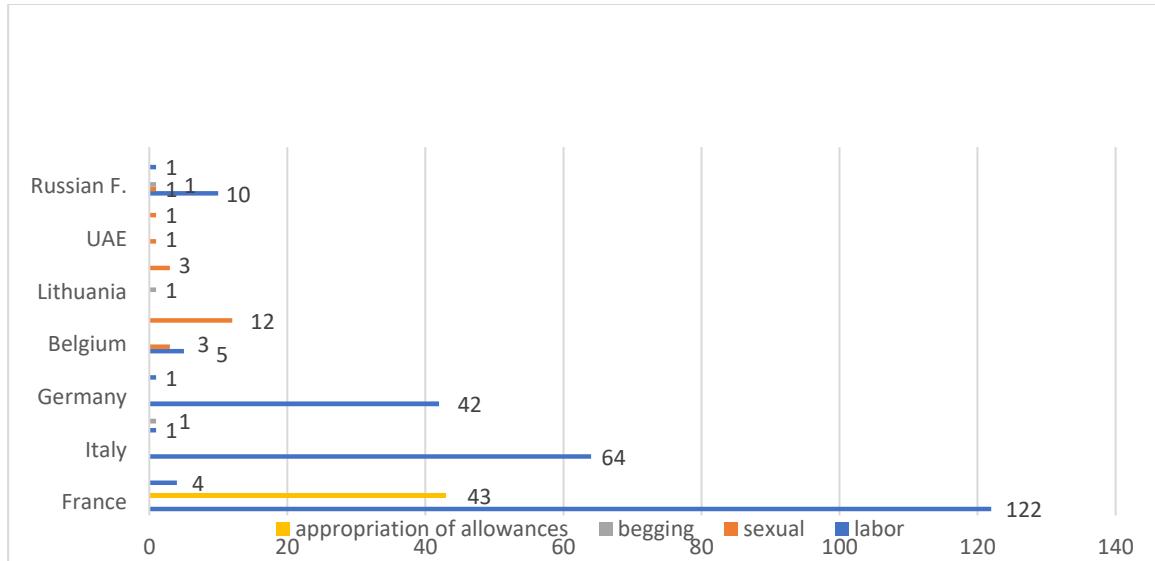
- Turkey - **3 women**;
- Northern Cyprus- **1 woman**;
- Dubai - **1 woman**.

c) CIS area:

13 victims identified (9 women/4 men), as follows:

- Russian Federation – **1 victim (1 woman)** – **sexual exploitation**;
- Russian Federation – **10 victims (7 women/3 men)** – **labor exploitation** (*agriculture and construction*);
- Russian Federation – **1 victim (woman)** - exploitation for **begging**;
- Ukraine – **1 victim (1 man)** – **labor exploitation** (*in a sheepfold*).

Diagram 3. Adult victims of THB exploited (outside the country) in 2021 according to the countries of destination



d) Victims of THB inside the country

18 adult victims were identified (3 women and 15 men), who were exploited in the Republic of Moldova for:

- **labor** - **12 victims (10 men/ 2 women)**
- **sexual purposes** - **5 victims (4 women/1 men)**
- **begging** – **0 victims**.
- **trafficking in organs, tissue and human cells (art.158 of Criminal Code)** - **1 victim (man)**.

Child victims of trafficking

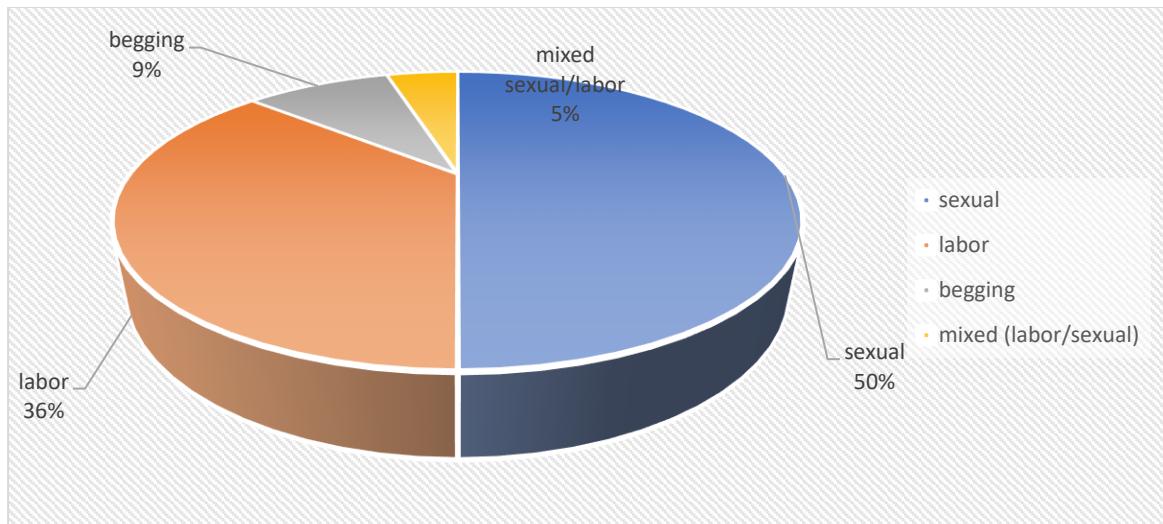
During the reporting period (**12 months of 2021**), as a result of the criminal investigation actions carried out on criminal cases initiated on child trafficking offenses (art. 206 of the Criminal Code), **at the national level**, a total of **22 child victims** were identified (*21 girls/1 boy*), *in 2020 - 23 child victims (20 girls/3 boys)*.

Of the total number of 22 child victims identified at the national level, according to **the form of exploitation of the child victims**, the following was found:

- for the purpose of **sexual exploitation** - **11 child victims**, all girls (in 2020 - 20 victims (all girls));
- for the purpose of **labor exploitation** - **8 child victims**, all girls (in 2020 - 2 victims, both boys);
- for the purpose of **begging** - **2 child victims** - 1 girl/1 boy (in 2020 - 1 victim - boy);
- **mixed exploitation (sexual/labor)** - **1 victim-child** (in 2020 - 0 victims).

During the reporting period (**12 months of 2021**), the main form of exploitation of trafficked children is **sexual exploitation**, followed by **labor exploitation**.

Diagram 4. Child victims of THB according to the form of exploitation in 12 months of 2021



According to the countries of destination

a) External Trafficking

The main and the only country of destination for child victims was the Russian Federation, where 3 children were exploited - 2 girls/1 boy (compared to 2020 - 2 female victims), of which for the purpose of **labor exploitation** - 1 victim (girl), **for begging** - 2 victims (1 girl/1 boy).

b) Internal Trafficking

As for the victims of child trafficking, **19 child victims** were exploited on the territory of the Republic of Moldova: for the purpose of sexual exploitation - 11 victims-girls, for the purpose of labor exploitation - 7 victims-girls, mixed (sexual/work) - 1 girl.

Throughout 2021, the identified victims filed 34 civil actions in the total amount of 4,999,671.00 lei MD, 800 euros and 1200 US dollars.

In line with the national legislation and specialized international treaties, as a special measure of assistance, victims, as well as potential victims of human trafficking shall be informed on their rights. Prosecutors and criminal investigation officers have been alerted to ensure that victims are informed and explained on their right to protection (art. 58 para. (5) of the Criminal Procedure Code). In order to assist victims, the Guidelines of the General Prosecutor's Office as of 21.07.2021 on improving the practice in the field of facilitating the provision of support services to victims of human trafficking and of children - victims of sexual exploitation was issued.

Moreover, it was found that, during 2021, in a case of trafficking in human beings, the prosecutor (Telenesti Raion Prosecutor's Office) issued an order on the application of protection measures to a victim in order to ensure her safety.

Following the approval by the General Prosecutor of the General Instruction no. 15-10d/18-600/601/602/603 of 16.07.2018 on the investigation of offenses provided for by art. 311 and art. 312 of the Criminal Code, the response of law enforcement bodies to all cases when victims/witnesses of trafficking in human beings reported cases of intimidation in order to change their testimonies improved.

In this sense, during the reporting period, criminal investigation was started in 5 cases based on art. 314 of the Criminal Code - "determination to submit false statements" (regarding the cases of human trafficking and child trafficking).

In line with article 26 of the Warsaw Convention, parties shall provide for the possibility of not imposing penalties on victims for their involvement in unlawful activities, to the extent that they have been compelled to do so. In this sense, during the reporting period, in 4 cases the prosecutors acquitted the victims of THB and migrant trafficking for actions related to their status as a victim.

Throughout 2021, in order to avoid the revictimization of victims of THB and of child trafficking, based on the demarches submitted by the prosecutors, 7 victims were heard under special conditions by the investigating judge in specially arranged spaces, equipped with audio/video recording devices, through an interviewer, pursuant to art. 1101 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

At the same time, once explained about their procedural rights - 17 victims of THB benefited from legal assistance.

Throughout 2021, within the **centers for assistance and protection of victims and potential victims of trafficking in human beings**, funded by the state budget, 77 victims of THB were assisted, of which 58 were adult victims (30 women and 28 men) and 19 child victims (18 girls and 1 boy).

In February 2021 the Service for Assistance and Protection of Victims and Presumed Victims of THB (men) was launched. The Service was set up by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, the National Social Assistance Agency in partnership with the International Organization for Migration in Moldova. The Service can accommodate 10 beneficiaries. The purpose of the Service is to render, for a certain period of time, specialized assistance and protection to adults (men), victims and/or presumed victims of THB and/or other related crimes in order to recover, to socially rehabilitate, to adapt to an active life, to re/integrate into the family, as well as to resume an independent life.

During 2021, the **Mission of the International Organization for Migration** in the Republic of Moldova, inclusively via its partners, provided assistance to 376 beneficiaries (95 VTHB and 281 potential VTHB). Out of the total number of assisted victims of THB, 41 were exploited on the territory of Moldova. Most of the victims, 56 were exploited for labor purposes (forced services, animal husbandry), followed by 32 victims sexually exploited and 6 for begging, while 1 victim was exploited in a mixed form (labor/sexual). Additionally, within the project "Straightening national efforts to prevent trafficking in human beings and to rehabilitate victims of human trafficking in the Republic of Moldova", IOM Moldova provided support to the "CNFACEM" NGO from Chisinau, "AP Tighina" NGO from Căușeni, "Artemida" NGO from Drochia and "Interaction" NGO from Tiraspol in the implementation of services of rehabilitation, reintegration assistance, professional training courses and grants for starting small businesses. During 2021, these 4 non-governmental organizations helped 45 victims of THB and 15 victims' children to rehabilitate and reintegrate.

In 2021, via the anti-trafficking and safe migration hotline no. 080077777, managed by IC "La Strada", 51 SOS calls were received from the territory of the Republic of Moldova and abroad, as a result of which 34 cases of THB were registered with 151 victims of THB (including THB victims, presumed THB victims and potential THB victims that are in a high-risk situation):

- 2 cases with 7 victims of THB, women subjected to sexual exploitation in Austria and Romania;
- 1 case with 2 victims of THB subjected to labor exploitation in the Russian Federation;
- 1 case with 101 presumed victims of THB (women and men) for the purpose of begging in Romania;
- 29 cases with 40 potential victims of THB (women and men) in a high-risk situation associated with THB and exploitation;

- 1 case of a person who went missing in the Czech Republic/presumed victim of TFU for the purpose of labor exploitation.

The hotline counselors informed the callers on the rights of victims of THB, assessed their needs if needed and facilitated the victims' access to specialized services.

Moreover, IC "La Strada" provided specialized assistance to 93 child victims of crimes, who participate in the criminal process on:

- trafficking of children for the purpose of sexual exploitation (art. 206 of the Civil Code);
- offenses regarding sexual life (art. art. 171, 173, 175, 1751 of the Civil Code) and
- child pornography (art. 2081 CP).

58 child victims joined the assistance program in 2021 and 35 – in previous years.

Most of the new beneficiaries are girls (53 out of 58). The youngest beneficiary is 5 years old, and most beneficiaries are in the 10-13 age category, which shows that the age of children subjected to sexual exploitation is decreasing.

The child victims benefited from legal assistance (representation in the courts), hearing under special conditions, evaluation/finding reports and psychological assistance.

During 2021, psychologists of IC "La Strada" rendered the following services:

- they heard 26 victims/witnesses of child trafficking, sexual exploitation or sexual abuse under the special conditions provided for by art. 1101 of the Criminal Procedure Code;
- prepared 11 psychological evaluation reports for law enforcement bodies and courts;
- provided psychological assistance before and during the criminal trial, carrying out 72 interventions: 2 children were referred to other service providers to receive safe accommodation, medical services and psychological assistance.

4. Punishment

As a result of the activities carried out by law enforcement bodies in the field of detecting cases of THB, during 2021 at the national level, **63** criminal cases were registered on THB and child trafficking, excluding the related ones (compared to 58 criminal cases started in the same period of 2020) of which: **50** criminal cases on trafficking in human beings (art. 165 CC), compared to 45 criminal cases started in the same period of 2020, and **13** criminal cases on child trafficking (art. 206 CC), compared to 16 criminal cases started in the same period of 2020.

On the crime of trafficking in human beings (art. 165 of the Criminal Code), the criminal investigation was completed on 51 criminal cases, of which 25 cases were terminated with an indictment and sent to the court for substantive examination, 2 cases ceased, and 24 were dismissed.

Of the total number of criminal cases sent to court based on art. 165 of the Criminal Code, 14 refer to sexual exploitation, and 11 - labor exploitation.

Of the total number of criminal cases ceased and dismissed based on art. 165 of the Criminal Code, 5 refer to sexual exploitation, 19 - labor exploitation, 2 cases - exploitation for begging.

On the crime of child trafficking (art. 206 of the Penal Code), the investigation of 13 criminal cases was completed, of which 6 cases were terminated with an indictment and sent to the court for substantial examination, 3 cases were ceased, and 4 cases were dismissed. All criminal cases that were sent to court based on art. 206 of the Criminal Code refer to sexual exploitation.

Of the total number of criminal cases ceased and dismissed based on art. 206 of the Criminal Code, 4 - refer to sexual exploitation, 2 - labor exploitation, 1 case - exploitation for begging.

Criminal cases initiated

Referring to cases that were detected and initiated, it was found that throughout 2021, a total of **202 crimes related to the given category were registered in the country** (222 in the same period of the previous year)¹. The following table shows the distribution of crimes per categories.

Table 1. Criminal cases initiated in 2021

Crime	Article	Number of criminal cases started	
		year 2020	year 2021
Trafficking in organs	158	1	-
Trafficking in human beings	165	45	50
Using the results of the work or services of a person who is a victim of human trafficking	165 ¹	2	-
Forced labor	168	15	13
Enticing the minor for sexual purposes	175 ¹	3	11
Trafficking in children	206	21	13
Illegal removal of children from the country	207	23	30
Advertising for the purpose of illegally obtaining human organs, tissues and cells or for their illicit donation	213 ¹	-	-
Child pornography	208 ¹	45	40
Resorting to prostitution practiced by a child	208 ²	-	2
Pimping	220	30	23
Organization of begging	302	2	-
Organization of illegal migration	362 ¹	35	20
TOTAL		222	202

The analysis of the activity of detection of crimes related to the phenomenon of THB for the period of 2021, showed **an increase in the number of identified cases of THB** (art. 165 of the Criminal Code) **and a decrease in the number of identified cases of trafficking in children** (art. 206 of the Criminal Code) compared to the same period of 2020.

As concerns the crimes assimilated to THB, the law enforcement bodies showed an increased interest in cases of illegal removal of children from the country.

It should be noted that the low number of registered cases of crimes of the respective category was determined by the COVID-19 pandemic. Thus, during the state of emergency established at the national level, but also in the countries of the European Union, pro-active actions aimed at detecting crimes of the respective category were reduced and there was a decrease in population movements both within the country and abroad.

The decrease in the number of registered cases confirms the conclusions of one of the postulates of the detection of these categories of crimes, namely that the pro-active investigative measures, which were substantially reduced due to the pandemic and, as a consequence, have made it difficult for the investigating officers to carry out controls, checks and other measures necessary to detect the respective categories of crimes.

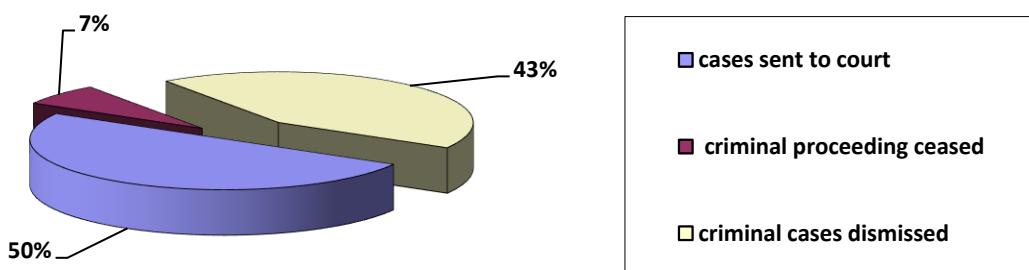
¹ According to the data of Central Data Bank on crimes, criminal cases and persons who committed crimes, managed by the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Moreover, the decrease in the number of cases was also generated by the restrictions on people's movement, both within the country and abroad, but also by the reduction of economic activity as a whole, areas where the proceeds of the crime of THB were traditionally used.

Criminal cases on which the criminal prosecution was completed

During the reporting period, the criminal prosecution was completed on 174 criminal cases² that were assigned to the category of trafficking in human beings, similar or related crimes (in 2020 - 198 criminal cases). Of these, 87 criminal cases were sent with an indictment to the courts for substantial examination (in 2020-102 criminal cases), on 12 criminal cases the criminal prosecution was ceased (in 2020-18 criminal cases), and 75 criminal cases were dismissed (in 2020-78 criminal cases).

*Diagram 5. The percentage of criminal cases sent to court
(criminal proceeding was totally completed on 174 cases)*



In particular, with reference to the crime of trafficking in human beings (art. 165 of the Criminal Code), the criminal proceeding in 51 criminal cases was completed, of which 25 cases were terminated with an indictment and sent to the court for substantial examination, 2 cases ceased, and 24 were dismissed.

Of the total number of criminal cases sent to court based on art. 165 of the Criminal Code, 14 cases refer to sexual exploitation, and 11 - labor exploitation.

Of the total number of criminal cases ceased and dismissed based on art. 165 of the Criminal Code, 5 - refer to sexual exploitation, 19 - labor exploitation, 2 cases - exploitation for begging.

With reference to the crime of child trafficking (art. 206 of the Criminal Code), the criminal proceeding in 13 criminal cases was completed, of which 6 cases were terminated with an indictment and sent to the court for substantial examination, 3 cases were ceased, and 4 cases were dismissed.

All criminal cases that were sent to court based on art. 206 of the Criminal Code refer to sexual exploitation.

Of the total number of criminal cases ceased and dismissed based on art. 206 of the Criminal Code, 4 - refer to sexual exploitation, 2 - labor exploitation, 1 case - exploitation for begging.

Table 2. Number of criminal cases sent to court for substantive examination in 2021:

CRIMES	Article of the Criminal Code	Criminal cases sent to court in 2020	Criminal cases sent to court in 2021
Trafficking in human beings	165	35	25
Trafficking in children	206	8	6
Using the services of a victim of trafficking	165 ¹	1	-
Trafficking in organs	158	-	-
Forced labor	168	3	4

² Based on data gathered in line with the Order of the Prosecutor General no. 44/15 of 24.11.2016.

Enticing the minor for sexual purposes	175 ¹	-	2
Illegal removal of children from the country	207	-	4
Child pornography	208 ¹	22	24
Resorting to prostitution practiced by a child	208 ²	-	2
Advertising for the purpose of illegally obtaining human organs, tissues and cells or on their illicit donation	213 ¹	-	-
Pimping	220	21	12
Organization of begging	302	-	
Organization of illegal migration	362 ¹	12	8
TOTAL	102		87

Following the investigation of *financial aspects of cases of trafficking in human beings, of crimes assimilated and related to them*, during 2021, financial investigations were ordered by prosecutors in 8 criminal cases. As a result, **assets worth over 28,891,720 lei were seized**.

Issues related to **organized crime** continued to be monitored by the law enforcement bodies during 2021.

Thus, following a number of special investigative measures conducted by the officers of the CCTP and the NII of the GPI of the MIA, **7 organized criminal groups (OCGs) were documented and dismantled**. The given OCGs were specialized in:

- trafficking for the purpose of labor exploitation and the organization of illegal migration – 4 OCGs;
- trafficking for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation – 3 OCGs.

During 2021, several large-scale **police operations** were organized and carried out with the involvement of international police structures and of other states, among which:

1) The international operation (**Aintox**) carried out on 22.02.2021 within the **Joint Investigation Team (JIT) between the Republic of Moldova - Romania - France**), crime of trafficking in human beings, committed for the purpose of labor exploitation.

As a result of the operation, **38** suspected members were detected (*including 11 citizens of the Republic of Moldova, of which 7 were detained in the Republic of Moldova; 3 Romanian citizens were detained in Romania and 28 foreign citizens were detained in France, including Romanians, French, Italians*). Also, the law enforcement bodies of the Republic of Moldova, Romania and France seized 19 vehicles (*including 15 luxury cars and two ski-jets*), weapons, telephones, around **100,000** Euros in cash and froze 11 bank accounts (of which **22,520,820.18 MDL** were seized from **10 Moldovan citizens accused** of trafficking in human beings, and another **488,484.13 MDL** and **8,500 Euros** are to be seized). **A total number of 119** victims were identified.

2) The international (Moldovan-French) operation carried out on **27.01.2021**, on the crime of trafficking in human beings, for the purpose of sexual exploitation. As a result of the operation, **8 traffickers** were identified and detained - of which 1 suspect, citizen of the Republic of Moldova, was detained in Moldova, and 7 suspects were detained in France (including 1 citizen of the Republic of Moldova). An apartment in Marseille city was seized. **A total** of 5 victims were identified.

3) The international operation (**Corporale**) carried out on 11.08.2021 on the crime of trafficking in human beings, committed for the purpose of labor exploitation (2 women). Four traffickers were identified and detained - (3 Moldovans and 1 Romanian). In total, 10 victims (all women) were identified (*including 7 victims in Italy and 3 victims in Moldova*). 7 transport units (*4 buses and 3 minibuses that were used to travel on international routes*) were seized;

4) The international operation (**Women Transfer**) carried out on 04.09.2021 within the **Joint Investigation Team (JIT) between the Republic of Moldova - Italy, Potenza city**, on the

crime of trafficking in human beings, committed for the purpose of labor exploitation (1 woman). As a result of the operation, **9 suspected members** were identified (of which 3 Moldovan citizens were detained on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, and 5 Moldovan citizens and 1 Italian citizen, detained in Italy). In total, 48 victims, all women, were identified/heard.

5) The international (**Moldovan-Belgian**) operation carried out in November 2021 on the crime of trafficking committed for the purpose of sexual exploitation in Belgium, Antwerp city. Suspects were identified - **3 members** (2 women (Moldovans) and 1 man - Romanian citizen, detained in the Republic of Moldova). **In total**, 6 victims were identified (all women) (potential victims identified - 9 more women).

During the reporting period, **CCTP** received - 9 responses to the letters rogatory previously sent on criminal cases investigated: (1) Israel, (1) Italy, (1) the Russian Federation, (1) the Republic of Ukraine, (2) Spain, (1) Lithuania, (1) France and (1) Netherlands (*compared to 11 responses in 2020 to letters rogatory previously sent*).

- 9 requests for legal assistance (international letters rogatory) on criminal cases examined were sent for execution: (1) Italy, (3) Russian Federation, (1) Germany, (1) Greece, (1) Ukraine, (1) Poland, (1) Turkey (*compared to 8 in 2020*).

- 4 international letters rogatory were submitted for execution from the authorities of other states: (1) Ukraine, (1) Italy (1) Sweden and (1) Turkey (*compared to 3 international rogatory commissions in the same period of 2020*).

Two persons were extradited. The extradition procedure was initiated in respect of 6 participants in THB criminal cases.

Criminal cases examined by law courts

The analysis of the 2021 *judicial practice* with reference to crimes of trafficking in human beings and trafficking in children, related or assimilated crimes showed the following state of affairs:

During the reporting period, the courts **ruled on a total of 105 sentences** on cases of THB, assimilated and related crimes, with reference to 139 defendants (in 2020 – 84 sentences with reference to 122 defendants), out of which:

- 38 sentences were ruled on *trafficking in human beings* with reference to 53 defendants (in 2020, 25 sentences with reference to 36 defendants);
- 16 sentences were ruled on *child trafficking* with reference to 28 defendants (in 2020, 16 sentences with reference to 25 defendants);
- 6 sentences were ruled on *forced labor* with reference to 7 defendants (in 2020 – 4 sentences with reference to 5 defendants);
- 9 sentences were ruled on *pimping* with reference to 9 defendants (in 2020 – 13 sentences with reference to 17 defendants);
- 2 sentences were ruled on *illegal removal of children from the country* with reference to 2 defendants (in 2020 – 3 sentences with reference to 3 defendants);
- 9 sentences on the *organization of illegal migration* with reference to 15 defendants (in 2020 – 10 sentences with reference to 13 defendants);
- 25 sentences on *child pornography* with reference to 25 defendants (in 2020 – 10 sentences with reference to 11 defendants);
- 0 sentence on *resort to prostitution services rendered by a child* with reference to 0 defendant (in 2020, 1 sentence with reference to 1 defendant);
- 0 sentence on the *usage of the result of the work and services of a person who is a victim of THB* with reference to 0 defendant (in 2020, 1 sentence with reference to 1 defendant).

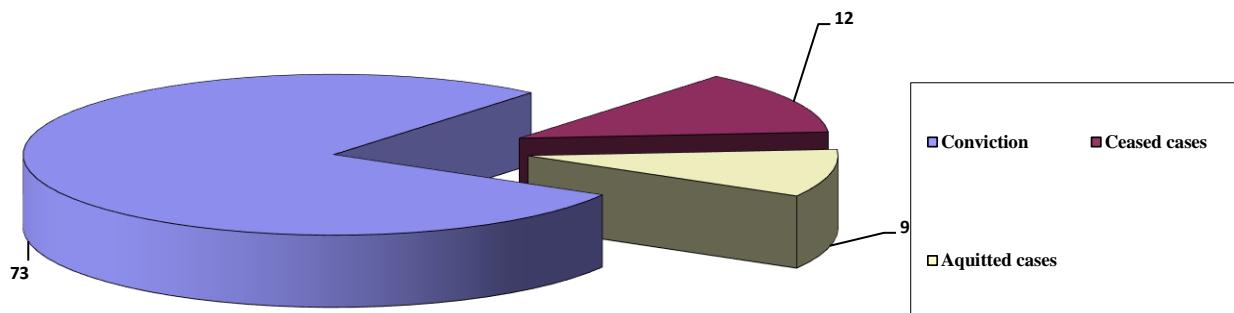
Of the total number of ruled sentences, **73 sentences convicted 94 individuals**, including:

- 14 sentences on THB with reference to 19 defendants;
- 13 sentences on trafficking in children with reference to 25 defendants;
- 4 sentences on forced labor with reference to 5 defendants;

- 8 sentences on pimping with reference to 11 defendants;
- 2 sentences on illegal removal of children from the country with reference to 2 defendants;
- 8 sentences on the organization of illegal migration with reference to 8 defendants;
- 24 sentences on child pornography with reference to 24 defendants.

Moreover, besides the convictions, during the reporting period, 12 sentences of termination with reference to 14 persons, 9 sentences of acquittal with reference to 15 persons, were ruled by the court.

Diagram 6. Percentage of convictions (total of 105 convictions)



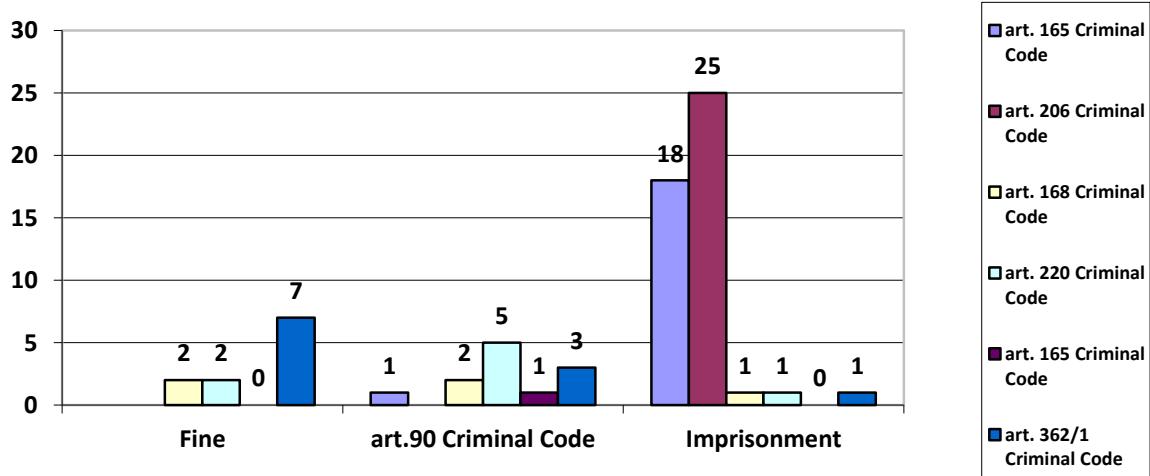
Referring to the categories of **punishments applied** by the court, it was found that 51 persons (out of 94 persons who were convicted) were sentenced to imprisonment.

Of these, for committing human trafficking - 18 persons, child trafficking - 25 persons, child pornography - 4 persons, pimping – 1 person, illegal removal of children from the country - 1 person, forced labor - 1 person, organization of illegal migration - 1 person.

Moreover, 31 people were sentenced to imprisonment with conditional suspension of the sentence. Of these, 1 person - for committing THB, 2 persons - forced labor, 19 persons - child pornography, 5 persons - pimping, 1 person - illegal removal of children from the country.

The punishment in the form of a fine was applied to 12 people, of these 2 persons- for forced labor, 1 person - child pornography, 2 persons - pimping, 7 persons – organization of illegal migration.

Diagram 7. Punishments applied to convicted persons in 2021



Following the analysis of the judicial practice, it was found that the judges of the first instant courts requalified in 11 cases the actions of the defendants from art. 165 of the Criminal Code

(Trafficking in human beings) and art. 206 of the Criminal Code (Trafficking of children) to art. 220 of Criminal Code (Pimping).

Disagreeing with the decision taken by the judges, the prosecutors appealed 44 sentences at hierarchically higher courts.

The Public Services Agency, following collaboration with the Center for Combating Trafficking in Persons and the State Labor Inspectorate, withdrew the activity licenses of 2 private employment agencies during 2021, due to their involvement in THB.

5. Partnership

5.1. Cooperation with international partners.

The representatives of the Section for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings within the Directorate for Criminal and Forensic Investigation of the **General Prosecutor's Office** and the representatives of the **CCTP** and **State Chancellery** participated in the Technical Coordination Meetings (TCMs) on prevention and combating THB, organized by the OSCE Mission in Moldova. The TCMs were attended by the representatives of state institutions, international and non-governmental organizations.

Within the framework of various projects, in its activity of preventing and combating human trafficking, the General Prosecutor's Office and the CCTP collaborated with representatives of the non-governmental sector, as well as with international organizations, among which are the IC "La Strada", US Embassy in the Republic of Moldova, IOM, OSCE Mission to the Republic of Moldova, NCCAP, UNODC and others.

Moreover, during 2021 the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Moldova submitted to other states 32 *requests for letters rogatory* in connection with the investigation of cases of trafficking in human beings (art. 165 of Penal Code). So far, 9 requests for letters rogatory have been executed, the rest are currently pending before the foreign authorities. The reference countries are: Russian Federation – 11, Romania – 1, Great Britain – 1, Bulgaria – 2, Hellenic Republic – 3, Italy – 2, Cyprus – 1, Ukraine – 2, Portugal – 1, USA – 1, France – 1, Poland – 1, Turkey – 5.

Moreover, the General Prosecutor's Office submitted for execution in Romania a letter rogatory on a case of child trafficking (art. 206 of the Criminal Code), which was fully executed.

The General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Moldova received for execution from the law enforcement bodies of other states 3 requests for letters rogatory related to the investigation of cases of human trafficking (art. 165 of the Criminal Code). The reference countries are: Belgium – 1, Hellenic Republic – 1, Republic of Uzbekistan – 1.

All requests for letters rogatory were executed, the materials being sent to the requesting states.

The General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Moldova sent 6 requests for extradition regarding criminal prosecution for the offenses provided for in article 165 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Moldova, to the following countries: Czech Republic – 2, Ukraine – 1, Spain – 1, Hellenic Republic – 1, Italy – 1. Of these, only 2 requests for extradition have been accepted so far. The rest of the requests are pending before the competent foreign authorities.

In connection with the investigation of cases of child trafficking (art. 206 of the Criminal Code), the General Prosecutor's Office initiated an extradition procedure in France. So far, no response has been received regarding the acceptance or denial of extradition of the accused person to the Republic of Moldova.

Request for extradition filed by the competent foreign authorities, within the framework of criminal cases regarding the investigation of cases of human trafficking (art. 165 of the Criminal Code) or child trafficking (art. 206 of the Criminal Code), were not registered.

As part of the criminal investigation no. 2020928003, on 11.05.2020, the Agreement on the establishment of a Joint Investigation Team (JIT) was concluded for a period of one year, with subsequent extension in 2021 for another year. The team is composed of the authorities of the Republic of Moldova (General Prosecutor's Office, Anti-trafficking Section), of Romania (DIICOT) and of France (Lyon Court) on a case started based on the articles – 165, paragraph (3), letter a), art. 361, paragraph (2), letter b) and art. 362¹, paragraph (3) letter a) of the Criminal Code.

The JIT carried out numerous procedural actions in order to achieve its purpose. Jointly with Eurojust, a Joint Action Day was organized on 22.06.2021. As a result, important results for the investigations in all three countries were recorded (arrests, searches, seizures, identification of victims, etc.).

As part of the criminal investigation no. 2019515112, on 05.03.2021 an Agreement on establishing a JIT was concluded between the General Prosecutor's Office (Section for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings) and the Italian Anti-Mafia Directorate (Prosecutor's Office under the Potenza Court). The agreement was negotiated based on the fact that the Italian and Moldovan authorities are simultaneously investigating a criminal organization composed of Moldovan citizens engaged in THB, brokering and illegal labor exploitation, which operates on the territory of both states.

The activity of the JIT during the year was fruitful. Useful and relevant evidence for criminal cases were found and victims of the crime were identified. On 04.09.2021, the Joint Action Day took place, as a result of which, 6 persons were arrested (including in Italy); in the Republic of Moldova – one person arrested (2 suspects searched); 10 home searches carried out; false documents were found that were used to cross the border.

As part of the criminal investigation no. 2016700137, on 15.04.2021 the Prosecutor's Office for Organized Crime and Special Cases and the French authorities (Court of Marseilles) signed an Agreement on the establishment of a JIT regarding the investigation of an organized group, which deals with trafficking in human beings for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

The objective of the JIT is to collect and to exchange information and evidence, to identify perpetrators and other participants, as well as their victims, to implement appropriate preventive measures against them, to use the means of evidence obtained during the criminal investigation, to order financial investigations and to seize the proceeds of crime.

Throughout 2021, negotiations were also started on the signing of an Agreement on the establishment of a JIT with the competent authorities of Italy in the framework of the criminal prosecution on a case of trafficking in human beings.

At the request of the IOM, Mission to Moldova, the Supreme Court of Justice appointed as experts 2 judges from the Criminal College, to participate in the development of the Analytical Study on the investigation and judging of cases of THB and related crimes, activity included in the Action Plan for the years 2021-2022 on the implementation of the National Strategy for Prevention and Combating of TFU for the years 2018-2023.

At the request of the Council of Europe Office in Chisinau, the Supreme Court of Justice appointed a judge from the Criminal College to participate as a member of the Coordination Committee of the Project "Protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse in the Republic of Moldova".

In 2021, the **General Inspectorate of Border Police** exchanged data and information on criminal cases managed by Special Investigation Directorate of the GIBP with the liaison officers of Greece.

The representative of **IC "La Strada"** participated as a speaker at:

a) Youth Forum - activists of NGOs from Turkmenistan, organized by IOM Ashgabat; online presentation of experience gained following the implementation of projects on anti-trafficking and related fields designed for young people (July 2021);

- b) International round table in Transnistria organized by the "Women's Initiatives" NGO with the support of the OSCE; online presentation of experience gained as a result of anti-trafficking raising awareness campaigns (August 2021);
- c) International conference in Uzbekistan organized by "Istiqlolli" NGO with the support of UNODC; presentation of the experience of the Republic of Moldova in setting up the National Referral Mechanism for victims of THB (November 2021).

5.2. Cooperation with NGOs.

During 2021, development partners and non-commercial organizations in the field (OSCE and IOM, Mission to Moldova, US Embassy in Moldova, IC "La Strada", NCPGA, ICMPD, etc.) continued to provide support in training experts in the field, informing the general public about the risks and consequences of THB by developing and disseminating informational materials and by publishing/editing them.

The General Prosecutor's Office cooperated with IC "La Strada" within the Project "Strengthening the capacity of the Republic of Moldova to counter online sexual abuse and exploitation against children (AESCO)".

Moreover, a judge from the Criminal College of the Supreme Court of Justice participates as an expert in the activities coordinated by IC "La Strada".

PS of NC CTHB collaborated with UNODC to delegate anti-trafficking specialists from the Republic of Moldova to participate in a series of regional meetings on combating trafficking in human beings organized by UNODC.

6. Impediments and challenges in the anti-trafficking activity.

As the results of the conducted analyzes show, the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings remains topical in the Republic of Moldova. According to CCTP statistics, in the last 5 years, the number of registered victims of trafficking in human beings varied from 232 to 365 persons per year. In addition, in recent years, there have been an increase in the number of cases of exploitation of foreign citizens on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, which:

- cross the country as part of mixed transit migration flows to EU countries;
- come to work in Moldova due to the lack of labor force inside the country, caused by massive emigration of Moldovan citizens.

The new trends in the evolution of the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings in the Republic of Moldova also include:

- the countries of destination for THB changed (the flows of trafficking in human beings from the Republic of Moldova were redirected to the EU member states, the main country of destination became – Germany, followed by France);
- the usage of information and communication technologies increased at all stages of the THB process, starting with recruitment and ending with the exploitation of trafficked persons;
- the role of recruitment phase in the process of THB has diminished;
- the role of exploitation phase has increased. Labor exploitation has increased;
- erasing the boundaries between the phenomena of THB and migrant smuggling.

Moreover, the factors that have a negative impact on the spread of the phenomenon of THB in the Republic of Moldova should also be noted:

- the persistent level of poverty and inequality, family violence;
- high demand for cheap labor;
- a high level of corruption in law enforcement bodies and courts;
- economic agents, which provide services of employment abroad, by infringing the law, have a more active role;
- the COVID-19 pandemic, which amplifies all the aforementioned negative factors.

Moreover, there is an insufficient level of international cooperation in cases of THB, especially when it comes to countries of origin and countries of transit, which is a major impediment to effectively combat trafficking in human beings.

Other challenges reported by members of the anti-trafficking community:

- Analysis of the *de facto* situation and examining the opportunity to appoint criminal investigation officers and investigative officers in charge of cases of THB in each territorial Police Inspectorate.
- Shortage of THB experts at local level;
- Break in holding joint training sessions within the platform of the Multi-Disciplinary Teams due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Impediments in carrying out unannounced controls by the State Labor Inspectorate.

7. Conclusions

Taking into account the root causes that change the phenomenon of THB (including the influence of migration processes, armed conflicts, natural disasters, pandemics) and the international standards in the field of human rights, the following measures are necessary:

- the development and expansion of the cooperation among the relevant national and international stakeholders, specialized in the fight against THB by creating and providing de-bureaucratized access to direct channels of communication between the responsible structures, at national and international level;
- improving the exchange of information in order to initiate pro-active operations, including at the recruitment and transportation phases;
- providing support to law enforcement officers - to build the skills and best practices needed to meet current challenges;
- creating and ensuring access to updated global data on traffickers;
- optimizing the collection of quality data on trafficking in human beings, including the mapping of suspects and victims of this crime;
- strengthening cooperation with the EU countries in order to set up mechanisms for the legal employment of citizens of the Republic of Moldova in these countries in the form of joint programs or by concluding international agreements in the field of migration for the purpose of work;
- strengthening international cooperation for the purpose of investigating cases of trafficking in human beings, including financial investigations for the purpose of repairing the damage caused to the victims of THB by criminals, as well as for the purpose of funding compensations from the state.
- broader investigations aimed at countering the activity of transnational criminal groups specializing in trafficking in human beings and trafficking in children;
- consolidation of the international cooperation with representatives of the law enforcement bodies of the transit countries and countries of destination, in particular following the aim of setting up and operation of the Joint Investigation Teams (JITs);
- more frequent application of the legal provisions and of the methodology referring to the financial investigations, with the purpose of tracking and confiscating the goods generated by trafficking in human beings and trafficking in children;
- contribution to the reparation of the victim's rights in the criminal proceedings, by ensuring that the procedural actions are carried out in an environment friendly to the victim;
- implementation by the prosecutors, jointly with other relevant bodies, of the provisions of Law no. 137/2016 on the rehabilitation of victims of crimes, published in the Official Gazette no. 293-305/618 of 09.09.2016;
- developing the collaboration with the NIJ and development partners, in order to train prosecutors specialized in the field of combating trafficking in human beings;

- implementation of the Program for the creation and development of the National Referral Mechanism for the protection and assistance of victims of crime for the years 2022-2026 and the Action Plan for the years 2022-2024 on its implementation (NMRV Program).

**Achievements for 2021 based on the ACTION PLAN
for the years 2021-2022 for the implementation of
the National Strategy for Prevention and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings for the years 2018-2023**

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021					
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources							
Section 1 GENERAL SUPPORT MEASURES												
1.1. Coordination of activities of prevention and combating trafficking in human beings												
<p style="text-align: center;">Overall Objective 1: Ensuring the implementation of the national policy on prevention and combating trafficking in human beings based on effective coordination and on strengthening the cooperation with implementing partners</p>												
<p style="text-align: center;">Specific Objective 1.1: Developing partnerships among state institutions, non-commercial and international organizations and other stakeholders to ensure a coordinated and effective response to prevention and combating trafficking in human beings</p>												
1.1.1. Signing cooperation agreements among different stakeholders in the field of anti-trafficking at the national level.	Ministry of Internal Affairs	State Chancellery ; General Prosecutor's Office; Development partners	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of agreements signed; Number of actions/activities carried out; Number of projects implemented.						
1.1.2. Assigning the role of reporting on the anti-trafficking activity (National Rapporteur).	State Chancellery		June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Analysis done; Normative framework amended; Duties set.						

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
1.1.3 Strengthening the cooperation with the territorial commissions for combating trafficking in human beings, with the involvement of civil society organizations at the local level.	State Chancellery	Local public authorities (territorial commission for combating trafficking in human beings)	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of workshops held; Number of consultations provided; Number of joint events organized; Number of informational materials disseminated; Needs assessment questionnaire filled in.	
Overall Objective 2: Regulation of relations in the field of prevention and combating trafficking in human beings in line with the principles of respect for human rights and equal opportunities between women and men							
Specific Objective 2.1: Improving the regulatory framework in order to efficiently coordinate activities on prevention and combating trafficking in human beings and to provide assistance and protection to victims and presumed victims of trafficking in human beings							
2.1.1. Revision of the regulatory framework related to the activity of the NC CTHB and of the Permanent Secretariat based on the recommendations of the assessment of the capacity of the Permanent Secretariats Directorate (Law no. 241/2005 and Government Decision no. 472/2008).	State Chancellery	IOM Mission to Moldova; OSCE Mission to Moldova; IC "La Strada"	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Draft law approved by the Government; Draft GD approved by the Government; Number of consultative meetings held.	

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
Specific Objective 3.1: Continuous training of law enforcement specialists on the application of the regulatory framework, investigation, prosecution and judgment of cases of THB							
3.1.1. Joint training of border police officers, Migration and Asylum Bureau specialists, community police officers and labor inspectors on how to respond effectively to cases of trafficking in human beings.	Ministry of Internal Affairs; Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (State Labor Inspectorate)	IOM Mission to Moldova; IC "La Strada"	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2021- 34,0 thousand MDL/ IOM Mission to Moldova	Number of specialists trained; Number of trainings conducted.	
3.1.2. Organization of training sessions on the identification of victims of trafficking in human beings for employees of the Border Police from the state border crossing points	Ministry of Internal Affairs		June 2022	2021-30,0 thousand / MIA (GIBP)		Number of specialists trained; Number of trainings conducted.	
3.1.3. Organization of workshops on the activity of joint investigation teams on aspects related to trafficking in human beings	Ministry of Internal Affairs; General Prosecutor's Office		June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of workshops organized; Number of joint investigation teams set up and number of operations carried out.	Two agreements on establishment of joint investigation teams were signed: - on 05.03.2021, an agreement was signed with the counterparts from Italy, on a criminal case of trafficking for the purpose of labor exploitation in Potenza city; - on 15.04.2021, an agreement was signed with the counterparts from France, on a criminal case of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation in the Marseilles city. Three joint international investigations were carried out with the participation of the following countries Moldova-Romania-France/Moldova-France/Moldova-Italy.
3.1.4. Building the institutional and professional capacities of employees of the CCTP on investigation of THB cases.	Ministry of Internal Affairs (Center for	IOM Mission to Moldova	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on	2021 - 200,0 thousand MDL, 2022	Number of specialists trained; Evaluation Report developed;	During 2021, 20 training courses were held, which were attended by 62 CCTP employees (12 women and 50 men);

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
	Combating Trafficking in Persons)			the functional duties)	- 200,0 thousand MDL/ IOM Mission to Moldova	Internal mechanisms/procedures strengthened.	1) Within 18-21.01.2021, 4 (1W, 3M) CCTP employees participated in the training of trainers course within the Project "Building the training capacities of the border police in the Republic of Moldova (TRABOR)", organized by IOM, pursuant to the invitation 3780 of 28.12.2020; 2) Within 26-28.01.2021, 1 (W) CCTP employee participated in the training course organized within the project "Regional Cooperation for Prevention and Combating trans-border criminality in Romania and Moldova" (THOR), pursuant to GPI Order no. 26 of 25.01.2021; 3) Within 01-05.02.2021, 3 (1W, 2M) employees of CCTP participated in the online training course on "New challenges in the fight against crime during COVID", organized by the German expert, Alexius Schubert, based on GPI Order no. 39 of 29.01.2021; 4) On 15.02.2021, 2 (M) CCTP employees participated in stages I and II of the Structured Interview on knowledge, attitudes and experiences in the field of abuse and sexual exploitation of children on the Internet, organized by the International Center "La Strada"; 5) Within 22-26.02.2021, 8 (2W and 6M) CCTP employees participated in the (online) training/specialization course on the "Activity to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings", organized by the Department for Professional Development of the "Ştefan cel Mare" Academy under MIA, based on GPI Order no. 71 of 18.02.2021; 6) Within 09-12.03.2021, 1 employee participated in the training course on "Training sessions on interviewing suspects", within the Project "Regional cooperation for prevention and combating trans-border criminality in Romania and Moldova", organized by THOR; 7) Within 16-18.03.2021, 6 employees participated in a (online) training course on "Trafficking in persons", organized under the auspices of the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Budapest, Hungary;

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>8) On 30.03.2021, 2 employees (1 man and 1 woman) participated in the webinar on "Strengthening the protection of trafficked persons by integrating policies in the field of anti-trafficking, migration management and social protection", organized by IC "La Strada";</p> <p>9) Within 25-26.06.2021, 7 employees (5 men and 2 women) participated in the training course on "Investigation of cases of online exploitation and sexual abuse of children", organized by the Council of Europe within the project "Combating violence against children in the Republic of Moldova", implemented by the Council of Europe;</p> <p>10) On 13-17.09.2021, 1 employee (1 man) participated in the training course on "Building the capacities of police officers in combating all forms of organized crime", held within the project "Increasing knowledge of Moldovan police officers in combating all forms of organized crime".</p> <p>11) Within 08-12.11.2021, 6 employees (6 men) participated in the continuous training course held within the "Ştefan cel Mare" Police Academy of the MIA, for the year 2021-2022, on the "Activity to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings".</p> <p>12) Within 08-12.11.2021, 2 employees participated in the training of trainers course on "Combating sexual exploitation of children on the Internet", organized by IC "La Strada".</p> <p>13) Within 08-26.11.2021, 3 employees participated in the INTERPOL Virtual Training Program on Gender and Transnational Crime: Policing with a Gender Perspective Programme, organized by the Directorate for Combating Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling within the General Secretariat of the OIPC Interpol of the THB Balkans Project.</p> <p>14) On 08.11.2021, 6 employees (woman, 5 men) participated in a (online) training course on "Investigation of cases of online exploitation and sexual</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>abuse of children", organized by the Office of the Council of Europe in Chisinau (Giulia Re.).</p> <p>15) Within 15-19.11.2021, 2 employees (1 woman, 1 man) participated in a (online) training in the field of combating crime, provided by the Police Department of Turkey for police officers from member states of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, organized by the Police Department of Turkey.</p> <p>16) Within 17-18.11.2021, 1 employee (1 man) participated in a training course on "Strategic Communication", organized within the Directorate for Professional Development of the "Ştefan cel Mare" Academy under the MIA, with the support of the "Black Unicorn Agency" Company.</p> <p>17) Within 22.11.2021-03.12.2021, 2 employees (1 woman and 1 man) participated in a (online) training course on "Trafficking in human beings and illegal trafficking of migrants", within the international professional training school for prevention and combating organized crime in Caserta city (Italy).</p> <p>18) Within 06-10.12.2021, 8 employees (1 woman, 7 men) participated in the national training course on "Recruitment of victims of human trafficking on the Internet", organized by CEPOL, within the TOPCOP project.</p> <p>19) On 07.12.2021, 2 employees (2 men) participated in the training course on the national and international standards for intermediation of employment abroad in the context of the approval of a new normative framework in the field of intermediation of employment abroad (Law no. 105/2018 on the promotion of employment and unemployment insurance, GD no. 1276/218 approving procedures regarding access to employment measures), organized by MLSP.</p> <p>20) On 09.12.2021, 1 employee (1 man) participated in a (online) training on "Abuse and exploitation of children on the Internet", organized by Interpol within</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							the project "Fighting organized crime", part of the Eastern Partnership.
3.1.5. Training prosecutors and judges on combating human trafficking and other related crimes by using a victim-centered approach.	National Institute of Justice	Superior Council of Magistracy; Superior Council of Prosecutors; IOM Mission to Moldova; IC "La Strada"	December 2021	2021- 20,4 thousand MDL / NIJ	2021 - 150,0 thousand MDL/ IOM Mission to Moldova	Number of prosecutors and judges trained.	SCM delegated 23 judges to participate in the training seminars on "Peculiarities of investigating and judging crimes in the field of combating trafficking in human beings".
3.1.6. Including the subject of compensation of THB victims in the annual training plan for judges/prosecutors.	National Institute of Justice	Superior Council of Magistracy; Superior Council of Prosecutors; IOM Mission to Moldova; OSCE Mission to Moldova	December 2021	2021- 20,4 thousand MDL / NIJ		Number of training sessions/training activities held.	SCM asked the National Institute of Justice to include the subject of compensation of THB victims in the Training Plan for judges. The subject was included in the training plan for the year 2022, semester I.
3.1.7. Building the institutional and professional capacities of criminal investigation bodies on the application of Guidelines on cross-sector cooperation mechanism for the identification, assessment, referral, assistance and monitoring of child victims and potential victims of violence,	Ministry of Internal Affairs; General Prosecutor's Office	Development partners	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of trainings held; Number of specialists trained.	In 2021, 2 training courses were held, which were attended by 2 employees of the CCTP (1 woman and 1 man): 1) On 08.10.2021, 1 employee (1 man) participated in the launch of the Study "Interaction between criminal investigation officers and prosecutors at the detention phase", organized by the Department of Justice and Human Rights of the Soros-Moldova Foundation. 2) Within 09-10.12.2021, 1 employee (1 woman) participated in the regional meeting of experts on the

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
neglect, exploitation and trafficking.							topic "Detecting, investigating and prosecuting trafficking in human beings and aggravating crimes of migrant trafficking, from and via South-Eastern Europe, with a special focus on gender and human rights issues", organized by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in collaboration with the National Commission to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings of North Macedonia and the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs of France, which took place in Skopje, North Macedonia.
3.1.8. Training of specialists on the elimination of discrimination against women involved in prostitution.	Council for the Prevention and Elimination of Discrimination and Ensuring Equality	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, Ministry of Internal Affairs	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Training activities conducted.	
3.1.9. Development of the Guide on rehabilitation and compensation of victims of crimes for prosecutors, judges and lawyers.	National Institute of Justice, Ministry of Justice	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection; Superior Council of Magistracy; Superior Council of Prosecutors; OSCE Mission to Moldova	December 2021		2021- 20,0 thousand MDL/ OSCE Mission to Moldova	Guide developed.	OSCE developed a Guide on the rights of THB victims, including the issue related to the victims' compensation. Currently, the Guide is being technically prepared for consultation. It is to be launched during 2022. The Guide will serve as a support in the activity of prosecutors, judges and lawyers.

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
Specific Objective 3.2: Building the capacities of the specialized unit of the Prosecutor's Office							
3.2.1. Training of prosecutors from the specialized unit of the General Prosecutor's Office and officers from the Center for Combating Trafficking in Persons, Directorate for Policies on Prevention and Combating Crime within MIA, on drawing up policy documents and on the analytical approach to the phenomena of human trafficking, including related and assimilated crimes.	General Prosecutor's Office; MIA	IOM Mission to Moldova; Superior Council of Prosecutors; International organization; development partners.	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2022- 65,0 thousand MDL/ IOM Mission to Moldova	Number of trainings conducted; Number of persons trained; Number of modules developed and their topics.	In 2021, 1 training course was held, which was attended by 16 employees of the CCTP (1 woman and 15 men): Within 28-29.09.2021, 16 employees of the CCTP participated in a training course on "Building the capacities of prosecutors and police officers in charge of combating trafficking in human beings based on the latest trends and recommendations formulated in international evaluation reports" held within the project "Contribution to a consolidated response of legal and policy-making bodies to human trafficking in the Republic of Moldova", implemented by the IOM Mission to Moldova with the support of the US State Department, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, jointly with the Government of the Republic of Moldova.
3.2.2. Building the experts' capacity to conduct parallel financial investigations.	General Prosecutor's Office	MIA	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of trainings conducted; Number of experts trained.	
3.2.3. Analysis and proposals for improving the organization and structure of the specialized subdivisions within the Prosecutor's Office, in charge of preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, including the appointment, secondment and termination of the capacity of a prosecutor specialized in the field.	General Prosecutor's Office; Ministry of Justice	IC „La Strada”	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Analysis conducted; Proposals made; Amendments to the normative acts approved.	

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
Specific Objective 3.3: Conducting specialized training (prevention of trafficking in human beings) for employees working in the transport field (air, road, rail)							
3.3.1. Development and implementation of a training module on prevention of trafficking in human beings for specialists working in the field of air and road transportation.	State Chancellery	Civil Aeronautica I Authority; National Auto Transport Agency; IOM Mission to Moldova	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2021- 34,0 thousand MDL / IOM Mission to Moldova	Number of persons trained each year; Module developed and published.	The Information Guide on THB (on the identification and referral of victims/presumed victims of human trafficking for employees of the international passenger transport industry) was developed: http://www.antitrafic.gov.md/libview.php?l=ro&idc=101&id=1361&t=/Transparenta/Ghid-de-informare-in-domeniul-traficului-de-fiinte-umane-pentru-angajatii-industriei-transportului-international-de-pasageri-privind-identificarea-i-referirea-victimelor-prezumate-victime-ale-traficului-de-fiinte-umane
3.3.2. Development of informational materials for experts in the field.	State Chancellery	IOM Mission to Moldova; OSCE Mission to Moldova	June 2022		2022- 20,0 thousand MDL / IOM Mission to Moldova	Number of informational materials developed and disseminated.	
Specific Objective 3.4: Enhancing the level of knowledge in the field of the anti-trafficking experts working in the institutions of the administrative-territorial authorities							
3.4.1. Building the professional capacities of the members of the Territorial Commissions for combating THB in the field of assistance and protection of victims of THB.	State Chancellery; Ministry of Labor and Social Protection	Local public authorities	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of trained specialists with duties in the field.	
3.4.2. 3.4.2. Training of lawyers who provide state-guaranteed legal aid services in the field of assistance of victims and presumed victims of THB, including at the local level.	National Council for State-guaranteed Legal Aid (NCSGLA);	Development partners; IOM Mission to Moldova	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of trainings conducted; Number of lawyers trained.	In 2021, jointly with the Council of Europe, a training was organized on: "Access to justice for women, victims of violence". Moreover, following the development of the Guide for lawyers who provide state-guaranteed legal aid to victims of human trafficking in 2020, within the project

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
	National Institute of Justice						"Strengthening the Government's Response to the Phenomenon of Trafficking in Human Beings and Improving the Protection of Victims and Witnesses of trafficking in the Republic of Moldova", in the first semester of 2021, 500 copies were disseminated to lawyers working in the system, by means of the Territorial Offices of the NCGSLA. The Guide pursues to self-train lawyers in order to provide high-quality, real and effective legal assistance to victims of THB.
3.4.3. Carrying out mixed trainings on the prevention of revictimization and stigmatization of victims of THB.	State Chancellery; Ministry of Labor and Social Protection; Ministry of Internal Affairs; General Prosecutor's Office	Local public authorities; development partners; IOM Mission to Moldova	June 2022	-/ budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2022- 34,6 thousand MDL/ IOM Mission to Moldova	Number of trainings conducted; Number of specialists trained.	<p>Within 16 March – 1 April, 2021, the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection in partnership with the IOM Moldova, organized 9 (online) round tables on: "The role of the multidisciplinary teams in solving cases of THB assisted within the National Referral System, with an increased emphasis on cooperation between law enforcement bodies and representatives of the social field".</p> <p>The events were attended by specialists of the territorial multidisciplinary teams (TMTs) from all the raions/municipalities of the country (41 TMTs), as well as by representatives of the MLSP, IOM, the Police and the Center for assistance and protection of victims and potential victims of THB.</p> <p>The purpose of the roundtables was to present the experience of each TMT in the field of protection and assistance of victims of THB, in order to identify the solutions needed to optimally assist the beneficiaries, as well as to inform the specialists on the new/amended normative acts.</p>
3.4.4. Training of officials from the diplomatic missions or consular offices of the Republic of Moldova in the field of prevention and combating THB and their duties in this regard.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration	IC „La Strada”; IOM Mission to Moldova	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2022 - 34,6 thousand MDL/ IOM Mission to Moldova	Number of trainings conducted; Number of specialists trained; Number of victims and presumed victims assisted.	In September 2021, the MFAEI conducted a training course for officials from the diplomatic missions and consular offices of the Republic of Moldova (20 people) in the field of the prevention and combating THB.

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
3.4.5. Online training of specialists from the Center for Forensic Medicine in the field of prevention and combating THB.	Center for Forensic Medicine; Ministry of Labor and Social Protection	State Chancellery	June 2022	2021-1,6 thousand MDL /Center for Forensic Medicine		Number of trainings conducted; Number of specialists trained.	
3.4.6. Conducting training for community mediators in the field of prevention of cases of THB among Roma communities.	Interethnic Relations Agency; State Chancellery	Local public authorities; Coalition "Roma's Voice"	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of mediators trained; Number of trainings conducted.	

1.4. Collection and analysis of statistical data, researches

Overall Objective 4:

Guaranteeing the availability and accessibility of truthful and relevant statistical information and data on the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings

Specific Objective 4.1:

Ensuring the adjustment of the system of data and information, analyzes and reports on the situation in the field and trends in the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings

4.1.1. Developing the profiles of victims of THB based on statistical forms on issues related to the situation of victims of crimes by using qualitative small data analysis method.	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection; State Chancellery; Ministry of Interior; General Prosecutor's Office		June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Profile of victims of THB developed on yearly basis.	In 2021, within the Centers for assistance and protection of victims and potential victims of THB, funded by the state budget, 77 victims of THB were assisted, of which 58 adult victims and 19 child victims. Statistical data are collected based on the "Victims Form" monitoring forms (art. 165 and art. 206 of the Criminal Code).
4.1.2. Updating specific guidelines on the procedure for analyzing/monitoring the situation of trafficking in human beings.	Ministry of Internal Affairs	IOM Mission to Moldova	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2022- 30,0 thousand MDL/ IOM Mission to Moldova	Guidelines updated; Number of trainings on how to use the guidelines held.	

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
4.1.3. Building the capacities of relevant stakeholders to provide qualitative data in the process of reporting on policy documents and international reports.	State Chancellery; Ministry of Internal Affairs; Ministry of Labor and Social Protection; General Prosecutor's Office	Development partners	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of trainings conducted; Number of specialists trained; Needs assessment carried out.	
4.1.4 Gathering and analyzing quality data on the impact of the phenomenon of human trafficking on minorities.	State Chancellery; Ministry of Internal Affairs (Center for Combating Trafficking in Persons); General Prosecutor's Office	Council on Preventing and Eliminating Discrimination and Ensuring Equality; OSCE Mission to Moldova	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of cases identified; Analysis carried out; Policy/action proposals developed.	CCTP carries out the monthly collection and quarterly analysis of data on the impact of the phenomenon of THB on minorities (art. 165; art. 206 Criminal Code).
Specific Objective 4.2: Strengthening the information management mechanism in the field of trafficking in persons							
4.2.1. Training of specialists on the usage of the Central Data Bank	Ministry of Internal Affairs (Center for Combating Trafficking in Persons); General Prosecutor's Office		June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of trainings conducted; Number of specialists trained.	Due to the employee turnover and the pandemic, the trainings of specialists on how to use the Central Data Bank has been stopped. CCTP requested the support of the Information Technology Service under the MIA to train CCTP specialists on how to use the Central Data Bank.

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
4.2.2. Collection of disaggregated statistical data on cases of THB of migrants, citizens of other states (cases reported, criminal cases registered, investigated, sent to court, forms of exploitation, countries of origin, detailed profile).	Ministry of Internal Affairs (Center for Combating Trafficking in Persons, General Inspectorate of Border Police, Office of Migration and Asylum)		June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Statistical data collected; Number of analyses carried out and published.	CCTP collects disaggregated statistical data on cases of THB of migrants, citizens of other states. CCTP developed the Activity Report for the year 2021 which shows the results achieved during the year, information on the total number of criminal cases investigated, the cooperation with law enforcement bodies from abroad.

Specific Objective 4.3:
Conducting researches to reflect the trends of trafficking in human beings

4.3.1. Topics on prevention and combating THB researched by Master degree students in their theses.	Ministry of Education and Research	Higher Education Institutions	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of theses developed; Topic researched.	In 2021, the higher education institutions that have study programs in Law have implemented contents that address topics of prevention and combating trafficking in human beings in their Master's courses. This fact materialized both at the level of the reconceptualization of courses and at the development of master's theses. 15 theses were developed on the following topics: 1) Intangible rights and other human rights. The particularities of these rights in the European Convention of Human Rights; 2) Regulation of the right to the physical and moral integrity of the person by the Criminal Code and other laws; 3) Victim of violent crimes; 4) The most vulnerable categories of victims; 5) Victimology - a new field of scientific investigation; 6) Inhuman or degrading treatment in the theory and practice of criminal law; 7) Crimes against freedom, honor and dignity of the person: theoretical and practical aspects; 8) Individualization of punishments applied in the case of crimes against life and liberty;
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Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>9) The crime of genocide: aspects of criminal law; 10) The woman - the victim of crimes; 11) Victimological aspects of trafficking in women and children; 12) Violence at work; 13) Strategies to prevent school violence; 14) Victimology prevention and prophylaxis; 15) Ways to repair the damage caused to the victim.</p> <p>The topic of preventing and combating trafficking in human beings is included in the activity plans of academic groups in universities. The topic of prevention and combating THB was addressed in a number of bachelor's and master's theses, as well as in the year's theses, and was presented from various perspectives: sociological, psychological, legal, criminological, forensic, social assistance and even economic.</p> <p>In 2021, master's students of higher education institutions addressed issues related to trafficking in human beings, its prevention and combating in the following general themes of the master's theses: "What does trafficking in human beings mean?"; "The risks of trafficking in human beings as a social phenomenon"; "Preventing and combating trafficking in human beings" etc.</p> <p>Moreover, in 2021 several activities were organized to research the phenomenon of human trafficking with the participation of about 5.0 thousand participants-students and scientific-didactic staff.</p>
4.3.2. Development of a periodic analysis of the main trends of the phenomenon and the methods of recruiting victims (children and young people) both online and offline.	Ministry of Internal Affairs		June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Analysis carried out and published on yearly basis.	

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
4.3.3. Carrying out researches in order to reflect the phenomenon and trends of THB, with aspects related to the evolution and trends in the recruitment of victims (children and young people) both online and offline.	Ministry of Education and Research; Ministry of Internal Affairs	Higher education institutions	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of researches carried out; Topic addressed.	<p>Six researches on the phenomenon of THB were carried out:</p> <p>Topic addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - „Prevention and combating trafficking in human beings - contemporary issue" (round table); - "Rehabilitation of victims of crimes" (conference); - 4 public lectures on: "Trafficking in human beings" (Moldova State University), "Personality of the minor delinquent" (Moldova State University); "Trafficking in persons – a special form of violation of human rights" (Gr. Tămlac, State University of Taraclia); "Human beings - they are not commodities!" (State University of Physical Education and Sports). <p>During the reference period, the CCTP carried out several researches, evaluations and analyzes of the situation in the field of prevention and combating THB, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCTP activity report for 2021 listing the results achieved during the year, information on the total number of criminal cases investigated, cooperation with law enforcement from abroad, etc. • Informative note on the implementation of the national campaign "Week of the fight against trafficking in human beings", 18-25 October, 2021. • UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) Analytical Report for the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons (GLOTIP). • TIP Report (for US State Government) on Trafficking in Human Beings, 2021 Edition. • Annual regional report on trafficking in human beings and illegal migration for the year 2020 (SELEC). • Report on the implementation of commitments in the field of combating trafficking in human beings of the OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (2018-2020). • Evaluation report on the implementation by the parties of the Council of Europe Convention on Actions against

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
Gradual increase in the financing of anti-trafficking actions from the state and local budget							
5.1.1. Amendment of Law no. 137/2016 and of the Enforcement Code in the part related to: the procedure and the institution in charge of transferring the financial compensation to victims and making the document by which the financial compensation of the victims of crime was ordered legally enforceable.	Ministry of Justice		June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Legal framework amended.	
5.1.2. Planning financial resources in the state budget and local budgets for the implementation of actions to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings.	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection; Ministry of Internal Affairs; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Finances; General Prosecutor's Office		June 2022	2021-13933,3 thousand MDL; 2022- 7121,2 thousand MDL/budget of the MLSP and special destination transfers to the 2 nd level local budgets		Financial resources planned.	<p>To ensure the operation of the Center for Assistance and Protection of Victims, an institution under the MLSP, financial means in the amount of 4573.4 thousand MDL were earmarked from the state budget for the year 2022. 418.0 thousand MDL were planned for carrying out the repatriation procedures of THB victims (adults and children), unattended children and persons in a difficult situation, for the year 2022.</p> <p>Via special destination transfer from the state budget to the second-level local budgets, 9759.7 thousand MDL were approved for the operation of the Center for assistance and protection of victims of THB in Cahul raion and of the Centers for psychosocial rehabilitation of victims of domestic violence in Anenii Noi, Căușeni, Drochia, Hîncești raions and the municipalities of Bălți and TAU Găgăuzia. As of 31.12.21, 9479.6 thousand MDL were used.</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021					
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources							
Overall Objective 6: Increasing the level of information of the general public on the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings												
Specific Objective 6.1: Informing the public at large on the current THB trends												
6.1.1. Coordinating the implementation of the national information and awareness-raising campaign on the THB phenomenon, including on issues related to the mechanisms for identifying and reporting suspected cases of trafficking, abuse and sexual exploitation.	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combat Trafficking in Human Beings)		June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Campaign carried out on yearly basis.	<p>The Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings recommended that central and local public authorities should get involved in the organization of activities within the National Campaign. The central public authorities, as well as the local ones, organized activities within this Campaign, in line with their duties, in order to raise awareness of the general public on the risks and consequences of trafficking in human beings. The activities were carried out in compliance with the restrictions imposed in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>At the central level, the Campaign was launched during a press conference organized by the IC "La Strada", in partnership with the Center for Combating Trafficking in Persons, the General Prosecutor's Office, the State Chancellery and the US Embassy in Chisinau.</p> <p>At the level of the central public administration, activities were organized by the Ministry of Internal Affairs (Center for Combating Trafficking in Persons, Migration and Asylum Office), the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, the Public Services Agency, the Employment Agency, the State Labor Inspectorate.</p> <p>The organized events included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Press conferences; - Radio and TV shows with the participation of anti-trafficking experts; - Public lectures in higher education institutions on the prevention and combating trafficking in human beings; - Dissemination of informational materials on the prevention and combating trafficking in human beings; - Seminars, discussions and round tables held online to raise awareness of employers, employees in companies from different branches of the national economy on the 					

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>negative impact caused by trafficking for labor exploitation.</p> <p>The Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, jointly with the Territorial Social Assistance units, carried out information and raising awareness activities on the phenomenon and consequences of THB. Informational materials, brochures, leaflets were disseminated. The local campaigns targeted at young people/students, people with a high risk of vulnerability, who have been involved in various social activities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Essay contests; - Anti-trafficking debates in schools (homeroom classes, civic education); - Presentation of thematic videos; - Meetings with risk groups, organized by the Police Inspectorate in partnership with social workers and teachers. <p>The Ministry of Education and Research, with the involvement of relevant local authorities in the field of education, organized several activities within local education institutions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Activities to inform and raise the awareness of pupils on the risks and consequences of THB and actions to prevent this phenomenon; - Lessons on personal development; - Lessons on education for society/civics; - Viewing and disputing social spots; - Lessons of education by means of movies; - Exhibition of drawings/posters; - Round tables; - Counseling and orientation activities; - Dissemination of leaflets; - Online meetings with parents. <p>The National Administration of Penitentiaries and the National Probation Inspectorate organized a wide range</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>of information and raising awareness activities for detained persons, including women and juvenile detainees, as well as for subjects of probation.</p> <p>At the level of the local public administration, activities were organized in the following raions: Anenii Noi, Călărași, Cantemir, Cimișlia, Basarabeasca, Edineț, Criuleni, Dondușeni, Drochia, Florești, Glodeni, Ialoveni, Leova, Orhei, Rîșcani, Sîngerei, Șoldănești, Soroca, Strășeni, Ungheni, as well as in the Municipalities of Chisinau and Balti.</p> <p>Based on the information submitted by the local public authorities, the following activities are to be listed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Meetings of territorial commissions for combating THB; - Raids/discussions/information campaigns for workers and owners of sheepfolds, socially vulnerable people; - Visits to enterprises of different organizational and legal form, which carry out economic activity, especially in the agricultural, animal husbandry, construction and service sectors; - Round tables with the participation of young people, students, persons from vulnerable groups, with the presentation of anti-trafficking video materials; - Flash-mobs where informative materials were disseminated; - Online lectures and seminars; - Information lessons for students, with the presentation of video materials and dissemination of leaflets. <p>In the autumn of 2021, IC "La Strada" carried out a national information and awareness raising campaign, which pursued to strengthen the main rules and recommendations on legal and safe employment abroad. The campaign messages were promoted via several communication tools: 1) a TV spot about the AT Hotline and Safe Migration 0800 77777, managed by IC "LA</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>STRADA”, was aired on Moldova 1 TV channel. The spot was aired 59 times (Prime Times) and was viewed by 200,000 people;</p> <p>2) informational materials - 90,000 leaflets and 200 special posters, reflecting the campaign message, with special emphasis on reporting cases of THB to the Hotline, were printed and disseminated at the state border crossing points. In addition, 40,000 leaflets and 100 posters were disseminated/displayed for citizens within the territorial subdivisions of the Public Services Agency;</p> <p>3) 2 dynamic banners (in Russian and Romanian) were displayed on the noi.md media platform (500,000 views), encouraging potential migrants to call the AT Hotline and to access migratiesigura.md for more information. In addition, 2 general informative spots (developed previously) were posted on noi.md informing users about the key legal and procedural issues of safe migration (160,000 views);</p> <p>4) a promotion campaign via Google AdWords was carried out. Online banners (Romanian and Russian) were posted on the most popular Internet sites that are specialized in commercial advertisements, including job offers. These banners encouraged potential migrants to visit the www.migratiesigura.md platform for more information on the risks of THB and labor exploitation (over 500,000 views).</p> <p>In the context of 18 October, jointly with the State Chancellery, CCTP and GPO, IC „La Strada” launched a video documentary to raise the awareness on trafficking in children for sexual exploitation.</p> <p>A press conference was organized, the purpose of which was to outline the main trends and challenges registered in the anti-trafficking system in recent years. During the event, the following topics were addressed: national anti-trafficking policies, relevant data on the specifics of cases of THB, especially for the purpose of sexual exploitation of minors in the last 5 years, good</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>practices and delays in ensuring restorative justice for minor victims of THB.</p> <p>As part of the campaign, the General Prosecutor's Office mobilized territorial and specialized prosecutors to undertake actions to raise the awareness and to inform the society about the gravity and consequences of the phenomenon of human trafficking.</p> <p>As a result, during the Anti-Trafficking Week, over 112 lectures were delivered by prosecutors in educational institutions and work groups, 10 articles were published in newspapers and 3 posts were posted on the Internet, 1 radio interview (Radio Făleşti) and 1 interview on TV (Hînceşti 24 TV). In total, more than 7847 people were directly reached, of which 6264 pupils, 12 teachers, 289 students, 128 police officers, 1144 employees. Apart from this, in the context of marking the "European Day against Trafficking in Human Beings" and of the implementation of the national Campaign "Week of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings", the Prosecutor's Office of Chisinau Municipality, the Office for the Representation of the Accused in Court, published an article entitled "Legal-criminal analysis of the crime of trafficking in human beings", in the "University Legal Studies" Magazine, 2021, Year XIV, No. 1 (53).</p> <p>At the same time, as part of the launch of the Anti-Trafficking Campaign, on 18.10.2021, the prosecutors of the Specialized Unit of the General Prosecutor's Office participated in the press conference on "Challenges and results recorded by the national anti-trafficking system in the last 5 years", organized by the IC "La Strada", in partnership with the Center for Combating Trafficking in Persons, the General Prosecutor's Office and the State Chancellery, with the support of the US Embassy in Chisinau. The purpose of the press conference was to outline the main results achieved by the national anti-trafficking system in recent years. Moreover, on 18.10.2021, the prosecutors</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>of the Specialized Section of the General Prosecutor's Office participated in the Public Lecture on "Trafficking in Human Beings", organized by the Department of Criminal Law of the Law Faculty of the Moldova State University.</p> <p>Apart from this, on 25.10.2021, the prosecutors of the Specialized Unit of the General Prosecutor's Office participated in an online public lecture on "The fight against trafficking in human beings" designed for students of the Technical University of Moldova, organized by the management of the respective university.</p>
6.1.2. Conducting training sessions on the threats of the phenomenon of THB and other related phenomena, especially for persons looking for a job abroad or for seasonal workers	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (National Employment Agency); Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration; Ministry of Internal Affairs; General Prosecutor's Office; Ministry Agriculture and Food Industry		June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of training sessions conducted; Number of participants trained.	<p>In 2021, within the national Campaign "Week of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings" (18-25 October, 2021), the National Employment Agency (NEA), jointly with its territorial subdivisions, organized an informative webinar on legal employment methods in the country and abroad for the general public. The webinar was organized on the ZOOM platform, on 20 October, 2021 and pursued to inform and raise the awareness of the society on the phenomenon of migration, employment opportunities in the Republic of Moldova, services and employment measures implemented on the labor market by NEA, the opportunities of legal employment abroad, as well as the risks of illegal migration.</p> <p>NEA participated in the Information Campaign (9-17 December) dedicated to the "International Migrant Day". Territorial subdivisions organized 39 activities with the participation of 11 partners. Activities included career guidance seminars, informative seminars, posting information on social networks, interviews. The event was attended by 346 people, of which 132 people returned from abroad (38%).</p> <p>-NEA participated in "Diaspora Days 2021", during which its territorial subdivisions organized various activities (including online activities) dedicated to this</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>event, which include: informative and career guidance seminars, round tables, open day, consultations, webinars and more. The participants were informed about employment opportunities in the country, the possibilities of legal employment abroad, the social inclusion of returned migrants, the Agreements concluded between the Republic of Moldova and the State of Israel, the Agreement with Bulgaria on the temporary employment of people from the Republic of Moldova in the field of construction, hotel services, industry, etc., online information and recruitment channels/www.anofm.md website, www.angajat.md portal, online fair platform www.e-angajare.md, Facebook site.</p> <p>Employees of the CCTP participated as trainers in 7 sessions held during 2021, during which 806 people were informed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5 public lectures at educational institutions and public libraries. 566 young people were informed about THB, as part of the National Campaign "Week to Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings". - on 10.09.2021, an online training session was organized for 32 consular officials from the diplomatic service of the Republic of Moldova, in the field of combating THB. One CCTP employee participated as a trainer; - On 30.07.2021, to mark the World Day against Trafficking in Human Beings, established by the UN General Assembly in 2013, celebrated by the Republic of Moldova for already 8 years in a row, 2 employees of CCTP together with colleagues from DIII, with the support of the National Inspectorate for Public Security under the GPI, as well as the support of IOM Mission to Moldova and the IC "La Strada", carried out information and raising awareness activities at the rest camps for children "Dniester's Perl" from Vodă lui Vodă town and "Happy Glade" from Ialoveni raion, with the participation of approximately 200 children and 8

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							adults. The specialists informed the children and adults on the risks and consequences of THB that continues even during a pandemic. Specialists provided them with recommendations to take into account in order not to fall prey to online exploitation and abuse. In this sense, about 300 informational leaflets and contact details of institutions in charge of combating THB were disseminated.
6.1.3. Conducting information campaigns/sessions for children and young people on child trafficking and its forms, sexual abuse and exploitation.	Ministry of Education and Research; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry; State Chancellery; Youth Centers and Youth Councils	Local public authorities	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of actions conducted; Number of participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In primary and general secondary education institutions, there were about 65 thousand participations of students, teachers and parents; - In secondary vocational education institutions, there were about 10,000 participations of students and teachers; - In post-secondary vocational education institutions of the republic, there were about 10,000 participations of students and teachers; - In the higher education institutions of the republic, there were about 5 thousand participations of students and teachers.
6.1.4. Providing individuals and economic agents with information/consultations on legal employment in the country and/or abroad, including by the use of hotlines and the Internet.	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (National Employment Agency); Public Services Agency (Department of Registration	IC „La Strada”	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2021-625,0 thousand MDL / IC “La Strada”	Number of actions taken; Number of economic agents/applicants who had access to information and consultations.	NEA provides consultations and information on legal employment, based on individual labor contracts, by means of online forms submitted by citizens to the NEA, by phone and at its office. The toll-free telephone service of the Call and Communication Center of NEA, received a total of 6,647 calls regarding legal employment in the country and/or abroad, of which 1,768 calls addressed the emigration process. Citizens are informed on the 3 legal methods of employment abroad based on Law 105/2018 on the promotion of employment and unemployment insurance; in line with the provisions of the international treaties which the Republic of Moldova is a party to; by

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
	and Licensing of Legal Entities)						<p>means of licensed private employment agencies and individually based on an individual labor contract concluded with the employer before leaving the country. Consultations are also provided to economic agents, who are interested in getting a license for the activity related to the employment of Moldovan citizens abroad, and, according to the field of competence, NEA coordinates collaboration agreements and drafts individual employment contracts in compliance with the provisions of the Law 105/2018 on the promotion of employment and unemployment insurance.</p> <p>171 drafts labor mediation contracts were examined, of which 132 were endorsed; 137 drafts individual employment contracts, of which 117 were endorsed.</p> <p>123 sets of documents submitted for registration as part of the procedure for prior verification of the foreign beneficiary were examined, of which 103 were registered with NEA. Within the legal framework, NEA registers individual labor contracts of citizens to be employed abroad and labor mediation contracts.</p> <p>During the reference period, NEA registered 6269 individual labor contracts of citizens employed abroad by means of private agencies. 2013 labor mediation contracts concluded between private agencies and persons looking for a job abroad were registered in the Record Registry.</p> <p>In 2021, IC "La Strada":</p> <p>a) registered 16,548 calls to the anti-trafficking and safe migration hotline 080077777, which provides informational support and counseling, depending on the needs of the callers. Of these, 15,432 calls concerned the possibilities of legal employment of Moldovan citizens in Israel, based on the Intergovernmental Agreement concluded between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the Government of the State of Israel on</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							the temporary employment of workers from the Republic of Moldova in certain sectors; b) continued to manage the informational portal www.migratiesigura.md , which was accessed 17905 times (of which 17236 unique visitors) and provided 134 online consultations.
Specific Objective 6.2: Developing cooperation with employers on the prevention of trafficking in human beings and related crimes							
6.2.1. Developing partnerships with the private sector to raise the awareness and to carry out joint partnerships/initiatives to prevent cases of trafficking and exploitation.	State Chancellery; Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry; Ministry of Internal Affairs	National Confederation of Employers of the Republic of Moldova; National Confederation of Trade Unions of Moldova; IOM Mission to Moldova;	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2022- 34,0 thousand MDL/ IOM Mission to Moldova	Number of trainings conducted; Number of joint partnerships/initiatives carried out.	
6.2.2. Development of recommendations for private sector companies (especially those in the field of agriculture, construction, hotel, tourism) on how to avoid risks of exploitation at work.	State Chancellery; General Prosecutor's Office; Center for Combating Trafficking in Persons; Ministry of Labor and Social Protection	Development partners	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Recommendations developed and published	State Labor Inspectorate, based on Order no. 7 of 22.09.2021 on the organization of activities in the context of marking the "European Day of Combating Trafficking in Human Beings", launched a series of events aimed at raising the awareness of employers/employees and civil society on the negative impact of trafficking in human beings- labor exploitation.

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
	(State Labor Inspectorate)						

Specific Objective 6.3:

Informing media representatives on the correct coverage of subjects that refer to the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings

6.3.1. Training of communicators within the responsible institutions, as well as of mass media representatives, on the coverage of topics related to the prevention and combating trafficking in human beings, including abuse and sexual exploitation	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings); Ministry of Internal Affairs; Ministry of Labor and Social Protection	Audiovisual Council	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of trainings conducted; Number of local/national media representatives trained.	
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Specific Objective 6.4:

Informing the diaspora on the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings and its consequences

6.4.1. Informing the diaspora on the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings and its consequences and on institutions that they can turn to in case of need.	State Chancellery (Diaspora Relations Office); Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration	State Chancellery (Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings);	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2021 - 17,3 thousand MDL/ Swiss Agency for Cooperation and Development	Number of activities organized; Number of participants; Number of countries involved.	
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Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
		Non-commercial organizations					
6.4.2. Holding an information campaign in diaspora on the prevention of illegal employment and the reduction of risks of exploitation within the "Government closer to you" Program.	State Chancellery (Diaspora Relations Office); Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration		June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2022- 14,0 thousand MDL/ Swiss Agency for Cooperation and Development	Number of activities organized; Number of participants; Number of countries involved.	
6.4.3. Addressing the topics of prevention and combating THB in TV/radio shows.	State Chancellery; Ministry of Labor and Social Protection; Center for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings; General Prosecutor's Office	Local public authorities; Non-commercial organizations; TV/radio stations (Audiovisual Council)	June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of interviews given; Number of participations in shows.	<p>CCTP employees gave an interview and participated in 3 shows:</p> <p>1) On 18.10.2021, in the context of marking "18 October - European Day to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings", a press conference was organized by the CCTP on "Challenges and results recorded by the anti-trafficking system in the last 5 years". The event was attended by 18 guests/representatives of IC "La Strada", CCTP, GPI, US Embassy and the General Prosecutor's Office.</p> <p>The specialists informed children and adults on the risks and consequences of THB, which continues even during a pandemic. Recommendations to take into account in order not to fall prey to online exploitation and abuse were also provided. In this regard, a documentary film on combating THB was presented;</p> <p>2) On 21.10.2021, during the National Campaign "Week of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings", which takes place annually (18-25 October), both at the central and local level, 1 CCTP employee (man) participated in the television show on "How Moldovans can end up slaves" produced by BTV "Bălți TV".</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>3) On 15.02.2021, 2 employees of CCTP (men) participated in stages I and II of the Structured Interview on knowledge, attitudes and experiences in the field of online abuse and sexual exploitation of children, organized by IC "La Strada";</p> <p>4) On 09.02.2021, 1 employee of the CCTP (man) participated in the show on "Trafficking in persons during the Pandemic" on the "Prime Moldova" TV channel, aired during the "News" TV program at 18:00 o'clock.</p> <p>On 29.11.2021, the prosecutors of the General Prosecutor's Office participated in the filming of the show "Concrete" on TV Moldova channel, where together with other officials, discussed the phenomenon of human trafficking. Apart from this, the prosecutors gave 1 radio interview (Radio Făleşti) and 1 TV interview (Hinceşti 24 TV).</p>

2.2. Reducing Vulnerability

Overall Objective 7:

Reducing citizens' vulnerability to trafficking in human beings

Specific Objective 7.1:

Development of information and vulnerability reduction services to help citizens to integrate into the labor market

7.1.1. Training specialists of the territorial subdivisions for employment on informing jobseekers about legal employment methods and the risks of irregular employment	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (National Employment Agency); General Prosecutor's Office; Ministry of Internal Affairs		June 2022	- / budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of persons informed; Informational materials disseminated.	On 20 October, 2021, the Department for Labor Migration of the NEA organized an information webinar on the methods of legal employment abroad on the ZOOM platform. The webinar was also attended by the specialists of the territorial subdivisions of the NEA. Specialists of the territorial subdivisions for employment (TSE) were trained to provide support to victims of THB and to prevent this phenomenon. In order to build the capacities of TSE specialists in line with NEA Plan for Staff's Professional Development for 2021, 84 training activities were carried out, of which 30 external training activities and 54 internal training activities. 7106 hours of training were provided. 67 persons benefited from at least 40 hours of training.
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Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
7.1.2. Providing support to disadvantaged persons within Programs on Economic and Educational Empowerment	Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Education and Research; Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (National Employment Agency)		June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of Programs on economic and educational empowerment implemented; Number of beneficiaries disaggregated by age, living environment, disadvantaged category, women, young people, minorities.	Persons looking for a job who apply to the TSE are registered as jobseekers or as unemployed and can benefit from active employment services or measures to increase their chances of employment in accordance with their individual needs and in line with the provisions of legislation on employment. Law no. 105/2018, art. 23, para. (3), provides for the categories of the unemployed who require additional support on the labor market, namely: a) young people aged between 16 and 24: from disadvantaged families, orphans, left without parental care, under guardianship or wardship; b) persons who do not have a profession/trade; c) persons with disabilities; d) long-term unemployed; e) persons aged 50 and over; f) persons released from places of detention; g) victims of THB, after psychological and social rehabilitation; h) persons struggling with the consumption of narcotic or psychotropic substances, after social and psychological rehabilitation; i) victims of domestic violence; j) other categories subjected to the risk of social exclusion established by law or by the Government. Depending on their individual needs, they can benefit from the following employment services: information on the labor market, career guidance, labor intermediation, pre-dismissal services, professional rehabilitation of the disabled. These services make the connection between the demand and supply of labor, at local and national level, in order to promote and support employment. Referring to the information services on labor market, people benefit from information and/or specialized support regarding demand and supply of labor, active employment services and measures, conditions to access them, methods to look for a job, etc. Career guidance

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>implies exploring opportunities on the labor market, evaluating one's own professional skills and capacities, assessment of skills in order to identify the right profession by means of electronic platforms.</p> <p>Moreover, persons can benefit from labor intermediation services, which facilitate their employment. Persons scheduled for layoff can register as unemployed in order to benefit from pre-layoff services. At the same time, professional rehabilitation services are offered to people with disabilities in order to restore, recover or compensate their work capacity.</p> <p>To prevent unemployment and to increase employment opportunities, they benefit from active employment measures, according to Law no. 105/2018. NEA, by means of its territorial subdivisions, offers qualification, retraining, improvement and specialization courses in order to build and diversify the professional skills of the beneficiaries. For the unemployed who do not have a profession or trade, on-the-job training takes place within the unit in order to acquire knowledge, skills, competences and qualification necessary for a job. The professional internship measure is organized for the unemployed persons with no seniority in their profession.</p> <p>Subsidized employment, including in the case of adapting the workplace to the needs of people with disabilities, provides for the provision of subsidies to employers who employ unemployed persons registered with TSEs.</p> <p>If the unemployed want to start an entrepreneurial activity that creates a job for themselves, TSE offers advice, assistance and support in starting a business. In order to stimulate the creation of new jobs and to reduce unemployment, NEA grants subsidies to support local initiative projects that create jobs in rural localities. Moreover, the unemployed who take up a job in another locality selected by the TSE benefit from a single</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>employment allowance equal to an average monthly wage in the economy for the previous year. During 2021, 2 victims of THB were registered. Victims and potential victims of THB registered as unemployed with the TSE can benefit from all the employment services and measures provided by the legislation in force.</p> <p>8,634 jobseekers benefited from career guidance services, including 7,849 unemployed persons. 3540 of the unemployed beneficiaries of career guidance are young people, aged 16-34, which is 45.1% of the total number of beneficiaries. 55.0% of all unemployed beneficiaries of career guidance services are from rural areas. 236 unemployed persons are disabled people (3,0%). 125 of the unemployed with disabilities are women, 87 - young people aged 16-34. Following the career guidance services, a total of 1455 unemployed persons participated in vocational training, of which: 1003 unemployed people participated in qualification, retraining, specialization and improvement courses; 263 unemployed persons benefited from professional internship; 152 - from on-the-job training within the unit and 37 from the certification of knowledge and skills acquired in non-formal and informal education contexts.</p> <p>In 2021, Organization for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises (ODIMM) managed 10 entrepreneurial support programs.</p> <p>Within the programs, 574 investment projects were approved for funding, of which: 166 businesses in urban area, 5 businesses are managed by disadvantaged persons, 223 projects managed by women, 181 businesses managed by young people, 69 businesses managed by migrants.</p> <p>Within the ODIMM Programs, 4,383 people were trained.</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							Moreover, it is worth mentioning that the eligibility criteria of the ODIMM Programs offer the opportunity for participation to all citizens of the Republic of Moldova.
7.1.3. Starting negotiations, concluding and implementation of bilateral agreements and memoranda of understanding with the countries of destination for Moldovan workers in order to ensure safe and legal employment of citizens of the Republic of Moldova abroad.	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (National Employment Agency); Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration	IC „La Strada”	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of negotiations started; Number of countries of destination with which agreements or memoranda of understanding have been concluded; Number of Moldovan workers who benefited from assistance in employment abroad under bilateral agreements with other countries.	In 2021, negotiations were continued with: 1. Germany - in the agricultural sector. 2. Israel - care (domestic) sector. As a result, on the 1 st of July, 2021, a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection and the Federal Employment Agency of Germany on the employment of Moldovan workers in agricultural work in the Federal Republic of Germany. Within the framework of the Moldovan-Israeli Agreement, during the requested period, 2 stages of recruitment were carried out (stage 17 and 18), as a result of which 1177 people were employed. Within the framework of the Moldovan-Bulgarian Agreement, 22 people were employed on the territory of Bulgaria. NEA implemented two bilateral agreements in the field of labor migration signed by the Republic of Moldova. On 16 October, 2012, a bilateral intergovernmental agreement was signed between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the Government of the State of Israel on the temporary employment of workers from the Republic of Moldova in the State of Israel (effective as of 6 January, 2013, extended until January 5, 2024). By signing the agreement, both states declared their common goal to combat trafficking in human beings, illegal migration, undocumented and illegal labor recruitment practices, the illegal employment of foreign workers, as well as the elimination of the illegal recruitment fees requested from foreign workers. In 2021, based on the Moldovan-Israeli Agreement, 1174 Moldovan workers were employed on the territory of the State of Israel.

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria on the regulation of labor migration, signed on 18 June, 2018 (effective as of 12 September, 2018), ensures to workers employed on its basis, the same labor rights and obligations as local workers, as well as equal protection at work in line with national legislation. Moreover, migrant workers benefit from the same legal protection of their personal and property rights as the Bulgarian citizens. In 2021, on the territory of Bulgaria, 22 persons were employed based on the Moldovan-Bulgarian Agreement.</p> <p>By signing the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Federal Employment Agency of Germany and the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection of the Republic of Moldova on the employment of Moldovan workers in seasonal work in the Federal Republic of Germany signed on 1 July, 2021, the signatory parties agreed that the employment of workers will be free from discrimination based on any grounds, such as sex, race, ethnic or social origin, world view, religion or sexual orientation and other forms. It will also ensure that no benefits are accepted from third parties for the provision of services, especially from potential employers, workers or their family members.</p> <p>During the reporting period, the IC "La Strada" was involved in the implementation of the bilateral Agreement concluded between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the Government of the State of Israel on the temporary employment of workers from the Republic of Moldova in the State of Israel. The IC "La Strada" was in charge of the following logistic activities/services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - development of informational materials; - facilitating the meetings of the stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Agreement; - organization of professional exams for candidates;

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - organization of the process of selection and submission of candidates' documents to the Israeli Consulate in Bucharest, Romania; -organization of information sessions before the candidates' departure. <p>As a result, IC "La Strada" in partnership with CIMI, Israel, and the National Employment Agency (NEA) of the Republic of Moldova, facilitated the employment of 1173 citizens of the Republic of Moldova in safe and good conditions in Israel.</p>
Specific Objective 7.2: Ensuring children and adolescents' access to information on the possible dangers of trafficking in human beings, gender equality, children's rights							
7.2.1. Implementation of the contents of the curricula on trafficking in human beings, gender equality, children's rights.	Ministry of Education and Research; Ministry of Labor and Social Protection	NGOs	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of contents implemented.	<p>The following subjects were implemented:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Compulsory subject Personal development, Module 5, Personal security: <p>Units of competency: Assessment of personal and global major risk situations, human trafficking, etc. with the following content units: Human Trafficking – Danger to Personal Security. Essence of the phenomenon. Factors involved. Methods of recruitment. Consequences. Preventive/protection actions. Persons and institutions that can be contacted in the country and abroad;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2) Compulsory subject Education for society: Education for democratic citizenship, Education for human rights, Education for integrity, Patriotic education, Intercultural education, etc. 3) Optional subjects: <p>“Education for gender equity and equal opportunities”, „Education for human rights and democratic citizenship”, etc.</p>
7.2.2 Revising school textbooks and aligning them to the developed curricula subjects, in terms of eliminating discriminatory gender stereotypes and adapting the capacity building programs	Ministry of Education and Research; Ministry of Labor and		June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of school textbooks revised; Number of trainings organized.	<p>In 2021, 4 primary education textbooks were published: “Abecedar”, “Bucvari” (Alphabets for Romanian and Russian teaching schools), Mathematics for the 1st and 2nd grade.</p> <p>To ensure the continuous professional development of teaching and managerial staff in 2021, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research issued Order no. 1469</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
designed for teachers to ensure that they do not perpetuate and tolerate such stereotypes.	Social Protection						of 31.12.2020 on the organization of continuous professional training of teaching and managerial staff in 2021. The following thematic training programs were included in the Plan for continuous professional training of teaching/managerial staff for 2021: Psychology (for school psychologists), Social Assistance, Psycho-pedagogy (for educators from boarding school and social pedagogues), Psycho-pedagogy (for educators from boarding schools), Educational Management (for deputy principals, support teaching staff, etc.), which include topics on prevention of THB. Also, trainings and seminars are held periodically at the national level for the teachers who teach these topics.
7.2.3. Training of teachers, school psychologists, psychologists of the Psycho-pedagogical Assistance Service on the subject of human trafficking, abuse and sexual exploitation, referral of victims and their information on specialized assistance services.	Ministry of Education and Research; Ministry of Internal Affairs	Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection; National Center for Prevention of Child Abuse	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2021- 85,5 thousand MDL/ Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Number of staff members trained; Number of institutions included in training; Number of trainings.	In 2021, teaching and managerial staff, school psychologists participated in continuous training courses based on provisionally authorized and accredited programs within 13 Continuous Training Centers, externally evaluated by National Agency for Quality Assurance in Education and Research. Approximately 15,442 teaching and managerial staff developed their professional skills by participating in continuous training and professional retraining courses within the Training Centers. At the same time, over 1590 training sessions, seminars, round tables, etc. were organized within 35 local bodies in charge of education, based on the training needs of teaching and managerial staff. The training sessions were attended by 119,482 teaching and managerial staff from the educational system. During the 2021-2022 academic year, within July - August and October - December, 701 managers from primary and secondary education institutions were trained online on the implementation of the Professional Competence Standards for managers of general education institutions, with the financial support of the Project on Education Reform in Moldova.

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>Within October and December, 1150 teachers from primary and secondary education institutions were trained online on the implementation of the Professional Competency Standards for general education teachers.</p> <p>Moreover, as concerns training on the prevention of THB, abuse and sexual exploitation, during the last 7 years, in collaboration with development partners, especially with IC "La Strada", a number of events were carried out: training sessions, thematic webinars, workshops for teachers and parents, information campaigns, a community of teachers "Intersection" was created, contests on Online Safety for teachers and pupils, etc.</p> <p>For this purpose, but also to teach children about safe and responsible online behavior, to increase their level of resilience to the dangers of the online environment, to obtain a comprehensive approach to online safety in school, by involving all stakeholders from the educational system, in collaboration with the IC "La Strada", the Standards for the protection and safety of children/pupils in the online environment were developed. In this academic year, the Standards are piloted in 6 educational institutions of the country. After the pilot phase, the results will be analyzed and subsequently, the given Standards will become mandatory for all educational institutions in the country.</p> <p>In order to effectively implement these Standards, training sessions were held for managerial and teaching staff and school psychologists. The following documents were developed: the Guide for primary school teachers and the Guide for secondary school teachers.</p> <p>The implementation of the Standards for the protection and safety of children/pupils in the online environment will also contribute to the achievement of the objectives</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>established in various national normative acts, as well as of international commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Lanzarote Convention, ratified by the Republic of Moldova in 2012, the implementation of which is a commitment for our country; - Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals, no. 4, "Quality education", and no. 16 "End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against, and torture of, children"; - European Strategy for a Better Internet for Kids – key policy document at European level (approved in 2012) - European Framework for Digitally Competent Educational Organizations (DigCompOrg), SELFIE; - Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers on developing and promoting digital citizenship education, by which CoE member states, including the Republic of Moldova, are encouraged to review their legislation, policies and practices in order to promote digital citizenship education.
7.2.4. Informing pupils on the safe use of the Internet to prevent online exploitation by providing them with informational resources on prevention of human trafficking, abuse and sexual exploitation.	Ministry of Education and Research	National Center for Prevention of Child Abuse	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2022- 37,8 thousand MDL/ UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Number of activities carried out; Number of pupils informed.	<p>During 2020-2021, jointly with the Art Center "Coliseum", "Mihai Eminescu" National Theater and with the support of UNICEF Moldova, an information and raising-awareness campaign on violence against children in the online and offline environment was launched, by presenting thematic performances. Because of the pandemic, some of the activities planned for 2020 were carried out in 2021.</p> <p>Within September 2021 and May 2022, IC "La Strada", jointly with the Ministry of Education and Research, launched the piloting process of the Standards for the safety and protection of children in the online environment in six pilot educational institutions of the country. A range of actions was carried out at the level of the educational institution, including the implementation of formal and non-formal educational activities, to prevent various forms of online risks,</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							including the risk of online sexual abuse and exploitation. During the piloting process, more than 1,300 primary and secondary school pupils have benefited from training on the safe use of the Internet so far.
7.2.5. Implementation, in educational institutions, of structural programs designed for children on enhancing resilience against abuse and sexual exploitation.	Ministry of Education and Research	National Center for Prevention of Child Abuse	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2022- 210, 0 thousand UN Children's Fund MDL/ (UNICEF)	Number of pupils that benefited from the program and number of programs carried out.	
2.3. Administrative Control							
Overall Objective 8: Strengthening mechanisms to regulate and control the activities of private agents in order to prevent exploitation							
Specific Objective 8.1: Ensuring administrative control mechanisms of vulnerable economic sectors, which can influence trafficking in human beings							
8.1.1. Revision of the normative framework on public procurement in order to embed aspects of prevention of THB and labor exploitation, based on the EU good practices.	Ministry of Finance; Public Procurement Agency		June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Normative framework revised.	
8.1.2. Strengthening the role of the State Labor Inspectorate, including its role of conducting unannounced inspections.	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection; State Labor Inspectorate; Ministry of Economy		June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Normative framework revised; Number of suspected victims identified	The State Labor Inspectorate (SLI) operates based on Law no. 131-XIX of 08.06.2012 on state control over the entrepreneurial activity, which regulates the procedure for performing state controls and which limits the ability of the SLI to prevent/identify situations of trafficking for labor purposes. SLI carries out unannounced controls in strict accordance with the provisions of art. 19 of Law no. 131/2012 on state control over the entrepreneurial activity, which provides that when carrying out planned

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>or unannounced controls, the control body considers as a matter of priority the possibility of carrying out the control at its headquarters by directly requesting documentation and other information from the controlled person. Only if the submitted documentation and information is not enough to establish the observance of the legislation by the person who is controlled, or depending on the type of control and risk analysis, SLI can carry out an on-site control.</p> <p>But a determinative tool to detect cases of labor exploitation would be the announced intervention of labor inspectors at the places where labor processes are carried out.</p> <p>In the absence of such levers, it is difficult and sometimes impossible for SLI inspectors to detect cases of forced labor (labor exploitation).</p> <p>In the context of the aforementioned information, SLI does not show any legislative initiative on amending the legal framework that regulates the procedure for carrying out state control in the field of work. Thus, it considers point 8.1.2 of the Reference Plan unfulfilled.</p> <p>According to art. (22) of Law no. 140/2001, SLI exercises state control over the activity of private agencies and unlicensed intermediaries that carry out the activity related to the employment of citizens of the Republic of Moldova abroad under the conditions provided by Law no. 105/2018 on promotion of employment and unemployment insurance and other normative acts.</p>
8.1.3 Control and monitoring of the activity of private agencies and unlicensed intermediaries, including the collection of recruitment fees from applicants.	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection; State Labor Inspectorate; Ministry of Internal Affairs;		January – June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of private agencies and intermediaries controlled; Number of presumed victims identified.	<p>In 2021, by Order no. 33 of 26.11.2021 of the Minister Health, Labor and Social Protection, the Schedule of planned controls in 2022 was approved. According to the Schedule, 27 private agencies will be controlled.</p> <p>At the request of the Department of Registration and Licensing of Legal Entities of the Public Services Agency, <i>CCTP</i>, jointly with the State Labor Inspectorate, carried out controls at 16 employment</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
	Center for Combating in Persons						<p>agencies that employ citizens inside the country and abroad. In one case, derogations from the provisions of Law no. 105/14.06.2018 (on the promotion of employment and the unemployment insurance) were found.</p> <p>The employees of the CCTP identified 2 natural persons and 2 legal persons who were dealing with the employment of citizens abroad, having no license in the field. As a result, 2 contravention reports were drawn up with the application of penalties in the form a fine. On the given cases, the State Fiscal Service was notified.</p>
Specific Objective 8.2: Ensuring the control of labor relations in the formal/informal economic sectors that are vulnerable to labor exploitation inside the country							
8.2.1. Institutional collaboration and exchange of information at local and national level, especially between labor inspectors and representatives of law enforcement bodies.	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection; State Labor Inspectorate; Ministry of Internal Affairs		June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of joint controls conducted at economic agents; Multilateral agreement on ensuring the exchange of information at local and national level approved.	At the request of the Department of Registration and Licensing of Legal Entities of the Public Services Agency and jointly with the State Labor Inspectorate, 20 employment agencies that employed citizens inside and outside the country were checked. In one case, derogations the provisions of Law no. 105/2018 on the promotion of employment and the unemployment insurance were found.
8.2.2. Holding online trainings for specialists of the State Labor Inspectorate and law enforcement bodies at the local level to streamline the exchange of information.	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection; State Labor Inspectorate; Ministry of Internal Affairs		June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of trainings conducted; Number of specialists trained.	On 07.12.2021, 2 employees of CCTP participated in a training course on national and international standards for intermediation of employment abroad in the context of the approval of a new normative framework in the field of intermediation of employment abroad (Law no. 105/2018 on the promotion of employment and unemployment insurance, GD no. 1276/218 approving the procedures regarding access to employment measures), organized by the MLSP.

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021					
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources							
Section 3 SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION OF VICTIMS AND PRESUMED VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS												
3.1. Identification and referral of victims and presumed victims of trafficking in human beings												
Overall Objective 9: Strengthening the systemic cooperation among the institutions in charge of identifying victims and presumed victims of all forms trafficking in human beings												
Specific Objective 9.1: Strengthening and development of multi-disciplinary identification methods and tools												
9.1.1. Training psychologists, who provide assistance to victims of THB, including at the local level, to render assistance within the National Referral Mechanism.	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (National Social Assistance Agency)	IOM Mission to Moldova; Non-commercial organizations; Local public authorities	June 2022		2022- 35,0 thousand MDL/ IOM Mission to Moldova	Number of specialists trained; Number of activities carried out.						
9.1.2. Development of working tools for the employees of the Migration and Asylum Bureau, the General Inspectorate of the Border Police, in order to identify victims of THB and exploitation among irregular migrants, asylum seekers, stateless persons, including of operational procedures in this regard.	Ministry of Internal Affairs	Development partners	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Standard operation procedures; Number of victims identified.						
9.1.3. Holding online trainings for specialists of the Ministry of Internal Affairs on identification of victims among foreigners. Training courses for specialists who have a direct contact with foreign citizens, asylum seekers, stateless persons, especially those placed in specialized centers.	Ministry of Internal Affairs (Migration and Asylum Bureau, General Inspectorate of Border Police)	State Chancellery (Diaspora Relations Office); United Nations High Commissioner for	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2022- 34,0 thousand MDL/ Swiss Agency for Cooperation and Development	Number of activities carried out; Number of specialists trained.						

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
		Refugees; Non-commercial organizations					
9.1.4. Development and dissemination of informational materials on the rights of victims of trafficking in human beings.	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection; Ministry of Education, Culture and Research; Ministry of Internal Affairs	Local public authorities; IC „La Strada”	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2021-5,0 thousand MDL, 2022-5,0 thousand MDL/IC „La Strada”	Number of materials developed; Number of materials disseminated; Decreased number of victims of trafficking in human beings (compared to the previous period).	<p>In the context of the National Campaign "Week of Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings" held between 18-25 October, 2021, MLSP, by means of the platform of the Center for Assistance and Protection of THB Victims, held a seminar to raise the public awareness on the risks and consequences of THB. The seminar was attended by 12 probation counselors from the National Probation Inspectorate.</p> <p>Moreover, at the local level, the Territorial Social Assistance Structures carried out awareness-raising and information activities on the phenomenon and consequences of THB. Informational materials, brochures, leaflets were disseminated during the events. Young people/students, people with a high risk of vulnerability were the target groups of the local campaigns. They have been involved in various social activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - essay contests; - anti-trafficking debates in schools (homeroom classes, civic education); - watching short movies; - meetings with risk groups, organized by the Police Inspectorate in partnership with social workers and teachers. <p>In 2021, the Ministry of Education and Research carried out a series of activities on the development and dissemination of informational materials on the rights of THB victims, including: informational stands with special literature were set up in university libraries, booklets on anti-trafficking and non-violence were disseminated within educational institutions. For example, leaflets devoted to the prevention of THB,</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>developed by the students of the Criminal Law Scientific-Practical Circle of the Department of Criminal Law, were disseminated at the State University of Moldova.</p> <p>CCTP disseminated approximately 200 leaflets within the information campaigns that were carried out.</p> <p>During the 12 months of 2021, within the framework of the criminal cases built on crimes of THB, at the national level, a total of 357 victims were identified (335 adult victims (93.84%) (130 women / 204 men) and 22 child victims (6.16%) (21 girls / 1 boy), compared to 2020 – 139 victims (116 adults (29 women / 87 men) and 23 children (20 girls/3 boys).</p> <p>Of the total number of victims identified at the national level, the CCTP identified 243 victims (68.07%), of these, 76 victims were identified within criminal cases initiated by the CCTP this year, and another 167 victims - in criminal cases investigated jointly with the Section for Combating THB within the GPO, within two Joint Investigation Teams (JIT). One JIT was set up between the Republic of Moldova-Romania-France in May 2020 and the second JIT was set up between the Republic of Moldova-Italy, in March 2021, to investigate cases of THB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - art. 165 Criminal Code - 230 victims (81 women / 149 men), in 2020 - 73 victims (21 women / 52 men); - art. 206 Criminal Code – 12 child victims (11 girls/ 1 boy), in 2020 - 17 child victims (all girls); - art. 158 Criminal Code - 1 victim (1 man), in 2020 - 1 victim (man). <p>In autumn 2021, as part of the national information and raising-awareness campaign, IC "La Strada" disseminated 130,000 leaflets and 300 posters at state border crossing points and by means of the territorial subdivisions of the Public Services Agency.</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021					
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources							
3.2. Repatriation of victims and presumed victims of trafficking in human beings												
Overall Objective 10: Building the institutional capacities of relevant authorities in order to streamline the repatriation procedure												
Specific Objective 10.1: Building the capacities of specialists in the application of repatriation procedures												
10.1.1. Online training of specialists from the central and local public administration on the application of repatriation procedures.	State Chancellery; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration; Ministry of Labor and Social Protection; Ministry of Internal Affairs	IOM Mission to Moldova; Local public authorities; Non-commercial organizations	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of specialists trained; Number of activities carried out.						
10.1.2. Ensuring the reintegration of repatriated persons who are at risk by means of the platform of specialized centers/services.	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (National Social Assistance Agency)	IOM Mission to Moldova, Local public authorities.	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2021 – 17,0 thousand MDL 2022 – 17,0 thousand MDL/ IOM Mission to Moldova	Number of repatriated persons reintegrated into the community	<p>In 2021, 7 repatriation missions of children left without legal companions on the territory of other states were organized, 16 children were repatriated, of which: 13 children from the Russian Federation (5 missions), 2 children from Poland (1 mission) and 1 child from the USA (1 mission). Of the total number of children repatriated in 2021: 9 children were reintegrated into biological/extended families; 1 child was placed in the professional parental assistance service; 2 children were placed in a family-type children's home; 4 children were temporarily placed in placement centers.</p> <p>At the request of the MLSP and/or IOM, a representative of the Center for Assistance and Protection of Victims and Potential Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings meets the repatriated persons at the airport or at other border crossing points. The specialist of the Center provides detailed information on the services of the program for assistance and protection which the assisted person is entitled to, and depending on his/her wish,</p>					

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							organizes and/or accompanies the beneficiary to the Center or to another appropriate and safe place. During the reporting period, 4 persons (3 women and 1 man) received assistance upon arrival in the country.

3.3. Rehabilitation and reintegration of victims and presumed victims of trafficking in human beings

Overall Objective 11:

Access of victims and presumed victims of trafficking in human beings to the national system of social protection

Specific Objective 11.1:

Ensuring the assistance and protection of victims and presumed adult victims of trafficking in human beings by means of long-term rehabilitation and reintegration programs

11.1.1. Development of specialized services for male victims of trafficking in human beings	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (National Agency for Social Assistance)	IOM Mission to Moldova; Non-commercial organizations; Local public authorities	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2021-1020,0 thousand MDL/ IOM Mission to Moldova	Number of services developed; Number of male victims and presumed victims assisted.	The Service for Assistance and Protection of victims and presumed victims of THB (men) was launched in February 2021. The Service was established by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, the National Agency for Social Assistance in partnership with the IOM Mission to Moldova. The Service can provide necessary placement and assistance to 10 beneficiaries. The purpose of the Service is to render, for a certain period of time, specialized assistance and protection to adults (men), victims and/or presumed victims of THB and/or other related crimes in order to recover, to socially rehabilitate, to adapt to an active life, re/integrate into the family, as well as to resume an independent life. In 2021, 17 victims of THB were provided assistance.
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11.1.2. Revision of the normative framework to guarantee victims' access to public medical services.	Ministry of Health; National Medical Insurance Company; Ministry of Finance		June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Revised normative framework	
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Specific Objective 11.2:

Ensuring long-term protection and support in the rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of trafficking in human beings

11.2.1. Conducting the analysis of the long-term assistance and	Ministry of Labor and	IOM Mission to	June 2022	-/budget of involved	2022-68,0 thousand	Analysis developed.	Following the approval of Law no. 137/2016 on the rehabilitation of victims of crimes, the draft Program for
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Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
protection system for the rehabilitation and reintegration of victims, presumed victims of trafficking in human beings.	Social Protection	Moldova; IC „La Strada”; Local public authorities; Development partners		authorities (depending on the functional duties)	MDL/ IOM Mission to Moldova		<p>setting up and development of the National Referral Mechanism for the protection and assistance of victims of crimes for the years 2022-2026 and the Action Plan for its implementation for the years 2022-2024 (Program MNRV) was developed. The document is to be submitted to the Government for approval during 2022.</p> <p>IC "La Strada" participated in a national research as an expert-leader of a Research Group, created under the aegis of MLSP. The purpose of the research is to study the (re)integration process of THB victims in the Republic of Moldova.</p> <p>The expert of the IC "La Strada" contributed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elaboration of the research framework; - Analysis of the international commitments of the RM in this field and their transposition into the national normative framework; - Analysis of other countries' good practices; - Elaboration of recommendations for national policies to improve assistance for the long-term (re)integration of THB victims. <p>The report is to be completed by March 2022.</p>
11.2.2. Strengthening partnerships with the private sector in order to provide support in the reintegration of victims.	National Employment Agency; State Chancellery	Non-commercial organizations; Employers' associations	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of partnerships with the private sector; Number of consultations granted; Number of information sessions held for the private sector.	<p>Jointly with local public authorities, state institutions, non-governmental organizations, local projects, territorial subdivisions for employment held informative seminars with the participation of economic agents and people looking for a job. The participants benefited from services and informational support regarding the employment of job seekers, including of vulnerable groups (young people from vulnerable families, people with disabilities, women, people released from detention, people of Roma ethnicity, potential victims of THB).</p> <p>Thus, territorial subdivisions for employment organized 426 information seminars with the participation of 1037</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							economic agents and 3005 persons looking for a job, including the unemployed. At the territorial level, the territorial subdivisions for employment signed 136 collaboration agreements on the employment of various categories of persons.
Specific Objective 11.3: Strengthening the cooperation mechanism among the three levels of the National Referral System (community, raion, national)							
11.3.1. Monitoring the implementation of the mechanism for assistance and protection of victims of crimes and assessing its effectiveness, with a focus on victims of trafficking in human beings.	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection	Development partners	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Monitoring Report	The draft Program for the creation and development of the National Referral Mechanism for the protection and assistance of victims of crimes for the years 2022-2026 and the Action Plan for its implementation for the years 2022-2024 (MNRV Program), developed in line with Law no. 137/2016 on the rehabilitation of victims of crimes, was not approved. It is planned to be approved in 2022.
Section 4 PUNISHMENT							
4.1. Criminal prosecution and judgement of cases							
Overall Objective 12: Strengthening the investigation, prosecution and judicial process according to international criminal justice standards							
Specific Objective 12.1: Ensuring a fair trial, in compliance with international norms in the field							
12.1.1. Monitoring and analysis of judicial practice on cases of trafficking in human beings in terms of penalties applied and of legal qualification of criminal actions.	General Prosecutor's Office	Supreme Court of Justice; IOM Mission to Moldova	At the time	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2022- 510,0 thousand MDL/ IOM Mission to Moldova	Number of Studies carried out; Recommendations developed.	The SCJ presented to the General Prosecutor's Office a study on the generalization of judicial practice on the examination by the courts of criminal cases based on art. 165, 206 and 220 of the Criminal Code; The SCJ started to analyze the judicial practice regarding THB-related crimes. The informative note is being development, to be completed during 2022. The General Prosecutor's Office permanently (monthly) monitors the judicial practice on cases of trafficking in human beings in terms of the penalties applied and the legal qualification of the criminal actions. A report on the activity of law enforcement bodies in the field of combating THB will be submitted to the Permanent Secretariat by 15.02.2022, according

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							to paragraph (8), art. 11 of the Law on the prevention and combating of trafficking in human beings.
12.1.2 Detection and rigorous investigation of THB cases committed by officials.	Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office; General Prosecutor's Office		All the time	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of cases detected; Number of cases sent to court; Number of sentences.	<p>The following cases were identified in 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On 01.06.2021, the Prosecutor's Office of Edineț raion started the criminal investigation on case no. 2021148005 with reference to C.S., who, working as the head of the Dondușeni Police Inspectorate, committed crimes of THB for the purpose of labor exploitation of a person and of determination to make false statements. The criminal case is at the final stage of the criminal investigation, and will be sent to the court at the beginning of January 2022; - Criminal prosecution on case no. 2021380161 was started on 17.05.2021, by the criminal investigation body of Florești Police Inspectorate, based on a reasonable suspicion of committing the crime provided for in art. 165, paragraph (2), letter b) and d) of the Criminal Code. F.I., working as a sector police officer of the Florești Police Inspectorate, acting in concert with other persons, while they were on the territory of the Florești raion, exploited several persons for labor purposes. <p>On 06.10.2021, the criminal case was sent with an indictment to court;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ The criminal investigation on criminal case no. 2021871092 was started on 23.10.2021, by the criminal investigation body of the GIBP of the MIA, based on the reasonable suspicion of committing the crime provided for in art. 3621, paragraph (3,) letter a) of the Criminal Code. During the criminal investigation, it was found that within July-October 2021, D.R., employed as a patrol inspector of the National Inspectorate for Public Security of the GPI of the MIA, being a member of an organized criminal group, made up of citizens of the Republic of Moldova, Turkey and Iraq, acting with intent, determining the plan of criminal activity at the cross-border level and pursuing the goal of obtaining a financial or material benefit following the organization

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>of the illegal migration of foreigners from risk countries into the European Union zone, set up a well-organized criminal scheme. Using the state of the Republic of Moldova as a transit zone, the criminal group organized the transportation and entry of foreign citizens into the member states of the European Union. The criminal case is at the stage of criminal prosecution.</p> <p>The evolution of cases involving officials in THB cases identified in previous years is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ By the sentence of the Chisinau Court, Buiucani office, of 13.07.2021, S.Ş was acquitted of committing crimes provided for by art. 324 para. (4) and art. 42 par. (4), art. 361 para. (1) of the Criminal Code, on the grounds that the act of the defendant does not meet the elements of the crimes. S.Ş was accused of the fact that, holding the position of the Consul in the Consulate of the Republic of Moldova in Odessa city, Ukraine, he personally accepted and received from the citizen of the Republic of Moldova, D.R., a sealed envelope that contained a passport of the citizen of the Arab Republic of Egypt, M.H., and 100 euros, in exchange for which he was obliged to urgently grant, without the physical presence of the applicant at the Consulate, the D/AI type long-stay visa, with a duration of stay of 60 days. S.Ş. also instigated the citizen of the Republic of Moldova D.R. to fill in the respective application form (to be taken from the first floor of the Consulate) on behalf of the applicant. Moreover, S. Ş. sent D.R. the invitation issued to the applicant by the Migration and Asylum Bureau, informing him to fill in the form with the information contained in the invitation and to sign it on behalf of the applicant; □ On 25.05.2021, the Prosecutor's Office of Cantemir raion sent to court the criminal case no. 2019515197, in which the criminal investigation was started on 27.12.2019 by the criminal investigation body of the Center for Combating Trafficking in Persons of the National Inspectorate of Investigation of GPI of the

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>MIA, pursuant to art. 165 paragraph (2), letter b) of the Criminal Code, on trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labor exploitation, committed by an employee of the GIBP with respect to several people;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Currently, the law court of Căușeni, the Ștefan Vodă office, continues the examination of the criminal case no. 2017340414 (the criminal case was sent to the court in December 2019) in which T.G., a labor inspector, is accused of committing the offense provided for by art. 165 para. (2) letter d) of the Criminal Code - trafficking in human beings. T.G., by threatening to apply physical violence not dangerous to life, acting together and by prior agreement with T.R., intentionally pursuing the goal of exploitation for forced labor and services, by means of deception (he promised to pay a salary of 1500 lei per month), as well as by abuse of a position of A.V.'s vulnerability, due to his precarious social situation (the social and material state, the recent release from prison, the lack of a place to live and the lack of financial sources to live on), sheltered A.V., with his consent, to the cattle and pig farm (managed by T.G.) located on the edge of Ștefan Vodă town. While on the farm, A.V. was exploited by being forced to take care of the animals on the farm's territory;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Criminal case no. 2018970628, in which the criminal investigation was started on 20.09.2018 based on art. 326, para. (2), letter b) of the Criminal Code. According to the materials of the case and the evidence gathered during the criminal investigation, the defendants A.A., M.A. and H.M., during the meeting with H.A., informed H.A. about the existence of a problem with the Migration and Asylum Bureau. H.A. was informed that H.M. has influence over public officials within the Migration and Asylum Bureau of the Republic of Moldova and in exchange for the sum of 1500 euros, he can solve H.A.'s problem. The criminal case is at the stage of judicial investigation;</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p><input type="checkbox"/> Criminal case no. 2018978360, in which the criminal investigation was initiated based on art. 326, para. (2) letter b) of the Criminal Code. According to the case materials and the evidence gathered during the criminal investigation, the defendant Gh.I., claiming that he can influence foreign public officials within the Romanian Consulate in Ukraine, Odessa, and those within the National Authority for Citizenship in Bucharest, to make them accept granting Romanian citizenship to citizens of the Russian Federation, who do not meet the status of subjects who lost Romanian citizenship and can regain it by repatriation, as well as to take the oath to the Romanian state without waiting, they requested, accepted and received, for themself and for foreign public persons within the Romanian Consulate in Ukraine, Odessa and the National Authority for Citizenship in Bucharest, Romania, money, which is not due to them, in the amount of 15,000 euros from each applicant. The criminal case is at the stage of judicial investigation;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Criminal case no. 2017978350, in which the criminal investigation was started based on art. 42, para. (4), art. 325, para. (3), letter a1) of the Criminal Code, the defendant - the Honorary Consul of the Syrian Republic in the Republic Moldova, A.A.I., through his brother citizen of the Syrian Republic, A.T., determined the citizen of the Syrian Republic, M.T. to give the Consul General of the Republic of Moldova in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, F.V., money in foreign currency, which was not due to him, in the amount of 100 US dollars.</p> <p>Criminal case no. 2017978351 was connected to the aforementioned case, in which the criminal investigation was started based on art. 42 para. (4), art. 325 para. (3) letter a1) of the Criminal Code: the defendant A.T., the brother to the Honorary Consul of the Syrian Republic in the Republic of Moldova,</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>determined the citizen of the Syrian Republic M.T. to give the General Consul of the Republic of Moldova in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, F.V., money in foreign currency, which was not due to him, in the amount of 100 US dollars.</p> <p>The criminal case no. 2017978362 was also connected to the aforementioned criminal case, initiated based on art. 324, para. (3), letter a) of the Criminal Code: the defendant, the Consul General of the Republic of Moldova in Istanbul, F.V. received from Arab citizens money in foreign currency, which was not due to him, for the receipt of which he hastened the performance of an action in the exercise of his functions. At the moment, the criminal case is at the stage of judicial investigation;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Criminal case no. 2019970528, which was sent to the Anenii Noi Court, Varnița office, on 11.10.2019, in respect to C.P.A., for committing the offense provided for by art. 325, para. (1) of the Criminal Code. C.P.A. was accused that, on 23.03.2019, knowing with certainty that the office of the head of the Civil Status Office Varnița, P.A., who is his mother, was free because she was on leave, being aware of the socially dangerous nature of his actions, realizing that his actions violate the order of social relations on the proper conduct of activity in the public sphere, which is incompatible with the commission of acts of corruption, he invited the specialist within the Civil Status Service of Varnița, P.D., and gave him two sets of documents on the names of M.A. and D.Ig. in order to issue civil status documents.</p> <p>To accept the issuance of civil status documents in the absence of applicants, to receive the sets of documents without a prior registration and without respecting the existing order, without presenting the entire set of mandatory documents, part of them to be presented later C.P.A. willfully offered and gave P.D. money, namely US dollar bills of a denomination that has not been</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							identified yet. The criminal case is at the stage of judicial investigation.
12.1.3 Detection and rigorous investigation of cases of corruption committed in connection with the investigation of cases of trafficking in human beings.	National Anticorruption Center; Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office; General Prosecutor's Office		All the time	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of cases detected; Number of cases sent to court; Number of sentences passed.	<p>In 2021, the Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office continued/initiated the investigation of 4 cases of corruption committed in connection with the investigation of THB cases.</p> <p>It also supported the state prosecution in court in 2 criminal cases.</p> <p>Cases of officials' involvement in actions of corruption related to the investigation of cases of THB are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 16.09.2021, the Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office ordered the initiation of the criminal investigation in criminal case no. 2021960103, according to the elements of the crime provided for by art. 326, para. (3), letter a) of the Criminal Code, on the fact of claiming, accepting and receiving money in the amount of 47,100 EUR and 50,000 MDL, within 2018-2021, by several people, who claimed to have influence over public officials within the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Moldova and the Police Inspectorate of the Cantemir raion, in order to perform actions in the exercise of their function and to drop criminal charges from many persons accused of committing the crime of trafficking in human beings. At the moment, the criminal investigation in the aforementioned criminal case is ongoing. No final decision on the case has been made so far. On 15.12.2021, the criminal investigation body of the National Anticorruption Center ordered the initiation of the criminal investigation in criminal case no. 2021970667, based on a reasonable suspicion related to the commission of the offense provided for by art. 326 para. (1) of the Criminal Code, on the fact that a lawyer, who was going to represent the rights and interests of some persons under investigation in a criminal case investigated by the Center for Combating Trafficking in

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>Persons, claiming that he has influence over public officials within the CCTP and can determine them to conduct, in a favorable manner, the criminal investigation during which they had been detained, as well as to release the mentioned persons prior to the expiry of the legal term of detention, claimed, for himself and for other persons, money in the amount of 10,000 EUR, for the exercise of claimed influence. Currently, the criminal investigation in the aforementioned criminal case is ongoing. No final decision has been made so far.</p> <p>The evolution of cases involving officials in actions of corruption in connection with the investigation of THB cases identified in previous years is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal case no. 2014970314, in which the criminal investigation was started based on art. 324 paragraph (2) letter b) of the Criminal Code in respect to V.Z. and A.M., both investigation officers of the CCTP, on the fact of passive corruption, committed by two persons. On 03.08.2020, Chisinau Court, Buiucani office, acquitted V.Z. and A.M., on the ground that the existence of the crime was not established. On 05.08.2020, the sentence was appealed, and the case is currently being examined by the Chisinau Court of Appeal.
12.1.4 Development and approval of a new Explanatory Decision of the Supreme Court of Justice on the practice of applying legislation on THB, related and assimilated crimes in criminal cases.	Supreme Court of Justice; General Prosecutor's Office	IC „La Strada”	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Draft decision developed.	

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
13.1.1. Informing victims and witnesses, in an accessible language, on their rights in the criminal proceedings, including on the compensation mechanism.	Ministry of Internal Affairs; General Prosecutor's Office	IOM Mission to Moldova, non-commercial organizations; development partners	All the time	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of victims/witnesses informed; methods and tools used when informing victims and witnesses; number of victims/witnesses assisted by a lawyer; number of civil actions filed.	<p>To ensure the effective implementation of national and international standards on assistance and protection of victims of crimes and to establish a complete framework for their assistance, the General Prosecutor's Office has developed the Guidelines of 21.07.2021 on the improvement of practice of facilitating the provision of assistance services to victims of THB and to child victims of sexual exploitation. The Guidelines oblige the prosecutors who carry out the criminal investigation or, as the case may be, lead the criminal investigation, to ensure that the criminal investigation officers undertake the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - inform the victim/injured party of his/her rights so that he/she can understand them; - assess imminent risks for the victim and his/her needs; - inform the victim of the existing Centers that render assistance services in various fields at the local and regional level; - order/request the preparation of psychological evaluation reports or psychiatric-psychological expertise, in order to determine the psycho-behavioral consequences of the exploitation; - state guaranteed legal aid. <p>In line with the provisions of Law no. 137 of 29.07.2016 on the rehabilitation of victims of crime, victims of THB can benefit from financial compensation granted by the state. However, in 2021, no victim of THB benefited from state compensation.</p> <p>Moreover, during the reporting period, 23 civil actions in the total amount of 2,978,471.00 lei were filed by victims of THB identified in the criminal cases initiated in 2021 and in previous years.</p> <p>In line with the national legislation and specialized international treaties, as a special measure of assistance, victims, as well as potential victims of human trafficking, shall be informed on their rights. Prosecutors and criminal investigation officers have been alerted to ensure that victims are informed and</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
							<p>explained that they have the right to benefit from protection (art. 58 para. (5) of the Criminal Procedure Code).</p> <p>Moreover, it was found that, during 2021, in a case of trafficking in human beings, the prosecutor (Telenesti Raion Prosecutor's Office) issued an order on the application of protection measures to the victim in order to ensure her safety.</p> <p>During the reporting period, criminal investigation was started on 5 cases based on art. 314 of the Criminal Code - "determination to submit false statements" (regarding the cases of human trafficking and child trafficking).</p> <p>In line with article 26 of the Warsaw Convention, parties shall provide for the possibility of not imposing penalties on victims for their involvement in unlawful activities, to the extent that they have been compelled to do so. In this sense, during the reporting period, in 4 cases the prosecutors acquitted the victims of human trafficking and migrant trafficking for actions related to their status as a victim.</p> <p>Throughout 2021, in order to avoid the revictimization of victims of human trafficking and of child trafficking, based on the demarches submitted by the prosecutors, 7 victims were heard under special conditions by the investigating judge in specially arranged spaces, equipped with audio/video recording devices, through an interviewer, pursuant to art. 1101 of the Criminal Procedure Code.</p> <p>Once explained about their procedural rights- 17 victims of THB benefited from legal assistance.</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
Specific Objective 13.2: Ensuring the use of special methods of hearing victims and witnesses of trafficking in human beings							
13.2.1. Developing standards for the operation of specially arranged rooms for hearing child victims/witnesses of crimes	Ministry of Justice; General Prosecutor's Office; Ministry of Internal Affairs; Ministry of Labor and Social Protection	National Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Standards approved.	GPI issued the Order no. 213 of 31.07.2020 approving the mandatory minimum requirements for the arrangement within the territorial subdivisions of the Police of rooms for hearing, recognition of persons, confidential meetings of suspected/accused persons with the defense attorney and for waiting (transit).
13.2.2. Hearing of victims and witnesses in line with art. 115 of the Code of Criminal Procedure no. 122/2003 and using the recordings by the law courts.	Ministry of Internal Affairs; General Prosecutor's Office	IC „La Strada”; Center for Assistance and Protection of Victims and Presumed Victims of THB; Supreme Court of Justice	All the time	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of victims/witnesses (disaggregated by gender) heard under the conditions provided by article 11 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Moldova; Number of recordings used by the law court.	7 victims (2 men, 1 woman and 4 minors) were heard in line with the provision of art. 115 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Moldova no. 122/2003 In this context, the psychologist and the lawyer of the IC "La Strada" rendered assistance in the hearing of a child victim (a girl over 14 years old) under the conditions provided by art. 115 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Moldova (by using audio-video recording) carried out by a criminal investigation officer.
13.2.3. Analysis of the opportunity to establish in the legislation a mechanism on stop list at the border, as a means to summon persons.	General Prosecutor's Office; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Internal Affairs (General)		April 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Analysis conducted; Draft developed.	

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
	Inspectorate of Border Police)						
13.2.4. Consultations with the participation of judges and prosecutors specialized in the field, as well as of the investigative judges on the issues of practical application of national legislation provisions on the hearing of child victims.	General Prosecutor's Office; Superior Council of Magistracy; Superior Council of Prosecutors; National Institute of Justice	IC „La Strada”; Supreme Court of Justice	December 2021	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of recommendations developed.	

Section 5
INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP

5.1. International Partnership

Overall Objective 14:

Strengthening the cooperation among the competent authorities, implementation partners from countries of destination, transit and origin in order to streamline the prevention and combating of trafficking in human beings

Specific Objective 14.1:

Development of international collaboration with the main countries of destination and transit

14.1.1. Signing bilateral agreements with countries of destination and transit in matters of criminal prosecution	Ministry of Internal Affairs; General Prosecutor's Office; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration		All the time	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of agreements signed; Countries which the Republic of Moldova signed an agreement with.	During the reference period, the law enforcement bodies of the Republic of Moldova signed 2 agreements on the establishment of joint investigation teams, as follows: 1) On 05.03.2021, an agreement was signed with the counterparts in Italy, on a criminal case of trafficking for the purpose of labor exploitation in Potenza city. 2) On 15.04.2021, an agreement was signed with the counterparts in France, on a criminal case of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation in Marseilles city.
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Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
14.1.2 Strengthening partnerships and international cooperation on conducting financial investigations.	Ministry of Internal Affairs; Service for the Prevention and Combating of Money Laundering; General Prosecutor's Office; National Anticorruption Center (Agency for the Recovery of Criminal Assets)		All the time	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of joint actions carried out; Partnerships established partnerships; Number of Joint Investigation Teams set up; Number of seizures, confiscations, their value.	<p>Three international investigations were carried out by law enforcement agencies, within joint investigation teams, with the participation of the countries Moldova-Romania-France, France-Moldova and Moldova-Italy. As a result, 3 criminal groups were dismantled. Criminal groups were specialized in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trafficking in human beings for the purpose of sexual exploitation – 1. - Trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labor exploitation – 1. - Trafficking in human beings for labor exploitation/organization of illegal migration – 1; <p>Following the investigation of financial aspects of cases of trafficking in human beings, of crimes assimilated and related to them, during 2021, financial investigations were ordered by prosecutors in 8 criminal cases. As a result, assets worth over <u>28,891,720</u> lei were seized.</p> <p>During the reported period, as a result of the parallel financial investigations, the courts, simultaneously with the conviction of the persons for committing crimes of THB and related crimes, in 18 cases, ordered the confiscation of the sums of money and goods used to commit the crime or that resulted from crimes in the approximate value of 692,853 lei.</p>

Specific Objective 14.2:
Interstate cooperation in the field of international legal assistance

14.2.1 Using the forms of international legal assistance in cases of trafficking in human beings and related crimes.	General Prosecutor's Office; Ministry of Internal Affairs; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of		All the time	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)		Number of letters rogatory; number of extradited persons; number of criminal proceedings transferred.	In 2021 the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Moldova submitted to other states 32 requests for letters rogatory in connection with the investigation of cases of trafficking in human beings (art. 165 of Criminal Code). So far, 9 requests for letters rogatory have been executed, the rest are currently pending before the foreign authorities. The reference countries are: Russian Federation – 11, Romania – 1, Great Britain – 1, Bulgaria – 2, Hellenic Republic – 3, Italy – 2,
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Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/ funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
	Foreign Affairs and European Integration						<p>Cyprus – 1, Ukraine – 2, Portugal – 1, USA – 1, France – 1, Poland – 1, Turkey – 5.</p> <p>Moreover, the General Prosecutor's Office submitted for execution in Romania a letter rogatory on a case of investigation of child trafficking (art. 206 of the Criminal Code), which was fully executed.</p> <p>The law enforcement bodies of the Republic of Moldova received for execution from the legal bodies of other states 3 requests for letters rogatory related to the investigation of cases of THB (art. 165 of the Criminal Code). The reference countries are: Belgium – 1, Hellenic Republic – 1, Republic of Uzbekistan – 1.</p> <p>All requests for letters rogatory were executed, the materials being sent to the requesting states.</p> <p>Requests for letters rogatory, in criminal cases regarding the investigation of cases of child trafficking (art. 206 of the Criminal Code) were not received for execution from the competent authorities of other states.</p> <p>Six requests for extradition regarding criminal prosecution for the offenses provided for in article 165 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Moldova, were sent to the following countries: Czech Republic – 2, Ukraine – 1, Spain – 1, Hellenic Republic – 1, Italy – 1. Of these, only 2 requests for extradition have been accepted so far. The rest of the requests are pending before the competent foreign authorities.</p> <p>In connection with the investigation of cases of child trafficking (art. 206 of the Criminal Code), the General Prosecutor's Office initiated an extradition procedure in France. So far, no response has been received regarding the acceptance or denial of extradition of the accused person to the Republic of Moldova.</p> <p>Request for extradition filed by the competent foreign authorities, within the framework of criminal cases regarding the investigation of cases of THB (art. 165 of the Criminal Code) or child trafficking (art. 206 of the Criminal Code), were not registered.</p>

Activities	Institutions in charge	Partners	Implementation deadline	Costs, thousand MDL/funding source		Indicators	Achievements 2021
				Budgetary sources public authorities	Other sources		
Specific Objective 14.3: Strengthening cooperation with international agencies							
14.3.1. Developing the cooperation, inclusively by means of competent international organizations in the countries of origin, transit and destination of trafficking in human beings and of labor exploitation	Ministry of Internal Affairs; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration	IOM Mission to Moldova	June 2022	-/budget of involved authorities (depending on the functional duties)	2022- 600,0 thousand MDL/ IOM Mission to Moldova	Visits, exchange of experience; Contact points established; Agreements signed; number of victims released from exploitation disaggregated by gender; Number of persons detained following the exchange of information; Organized criminal groups documented/dismantled; Number of information exchanges	<p>Employees of the CCTP carried out 2 exchange visits (France and Italy); 9 contact points were established and capitalized with Belgium, Holland, Germany, France, Austria, Ukraine, Romania, Italy and Ukraine.</p> <p>During the reference period, the CCTP signed 2 agreements on setting up joint investigation teams:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) On 05.03.2021, an agreement was signed with the counterparts in Italy, on a criminal case of trafficking for the purpose of labor exploitation in Potenza city. 2) On 15.04.2021, an agreement was signed with the counterparts in France, on a criminal case of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation in Marseilles city. <p>23 victims (13 men and 10 women) were saved from exploitation.</p> <p>12 persons were detained - GCO France (trafficking for the purpose of labor exploitation); 7 persons - GCO France (trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation), 7 persons - GCO Italy (trafficking for the purpose of labor exploitation); CCTP has documented and dismantled 3 organized criminal groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) On 27.01.2021, within Moldova-France international operation, trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation; 2) On 22.02.2021, within the "AINTOX", international operation, with the participation of Moldova and Romania; 3) On 04.09.2021, within Moldova-Italy international operation, trafficking for the purpose of labor exploitation. <p>Within the established joint investigation teams, the CCTP had 5 online participations, of which 3 with France and 2 with Italy.</p>

Information on the activities carried out by the Territorial Commissions for combating trafficking in human beings during 2021

Of the total number of 35 Territorial Commissions for combating trafficking in human beings (TCs), 27 TCs submitted information. TCs from Cahul, Călărași, Fălești, Florești, Șoldănești, Soroca, Ungheni and ATU Gagauzia did not submit information.

1. Activity of Territorial Commissions.

Based on the provided information, during the reporting period, the TCs convened in working meetings as follows:

4 meetings	3 meetings	2 meetings	1 meeting
Nisporeni	Orhei	Anenii Noi	Chișinău
Ocnița		Bălți	Cimișlia
		Basarabeasca	Dondușeni
		Criuleni	
		Drochia	
		Dubăsari	
		Strășeni	
		Telenesti	

TCs from Briceni, Cantemir, Căușeni, Edineț, Glodeni, Ialoveni, Leova, Rîșcani, Sîngerei, Ștefan Vodă, Taraclia and Rezina did not hold meetings, most of them alleging the epidemiological situation in the country or the lack of identification of victims/presumed victims of THB.

TCs discussed the following topics at the meetings:

- ⊕ Measures included in annual local Action Plans and their approval;
- ⊕ Recent amendments to the regulatory framework in the field;
- ⊕ Methods of informing and trainings persons who are looking for a job in order to improve their chances of getting a job;
- ⊕ Cases on placement and assistance of victims/potential victims of THB;
- ⊕ Changing the composition of the TCs.

2. Prevention.

TCs reported on actions carried out to prevent THB:

- ⊕ Education lessons for pupils, including online lessons;
- ⊕ Seminars for parents;
- ⊕ Working sessions for specialists at the local level, including online;
- ⊕ Providing psychological, legal and economic consultation to citizens;
- ⊕ Carrying out raids at sheepfolds and agricultural fields in order to identify cases of labor exploitation;
- ⊕ Displaying and dissemination of informational leaflets on measures and services provided by the Territorial Subdivisions for employment.

Identification and assistance.

The territorial commissions reported the identification of 34 victims/presumed victims of THB, which were referred to the competent institutions and assisted based on their needs, as follows:

- Telenești - 9
- Căușeni - 6
- Leova - 4
- Drochia - 4
- Bălți - 2
- Dondușeni - 2
- Nisporeni - 2
- Ștefan Vodă - 2
- Cantemir - 1
- Orhei - 1
- Edineț - 1
- Glodeni - 1
- Ocnița - 1

Victims received legal, medical, psychological, accommodation and material assistance.