

GUIDELINES FOR DATA COLLECTION **ON TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS**

Project Presentation – Prague, 30/31 March 2009

**A project implemented by the Austrian Federal Ministry of the Interior
in cooperation with the
International Organization for Migration in Vienna**



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Against Crime Programme 2007, European Commission
– Directorate-General Justice, Freedom and Security**

Why THB Data Collection?

- There is a **lack of reliable and comparable data** in all countries affected by THB
- **EU Action Plan** on best practices, standards and procedures for combating and preventing THB (OJ C 311 of 9.12.2005, p. 1)
- Recommendations of the **European Commission Group of Experts on Trafficking in Human Beings**
- Discussions and recommendations: **THB events**
 - ➔ UN.GIFT, OSCE conferences, EU and national meetings, etc.

Objectives

- Creation of **basis for an improved collection, comparison and sharing of data** in the field of THB
- **Enhancing the capacity of relevant national authorities** to collect and share data
- **Fostering cooperation** in the field of THB data collection among EU Member States
- ➔ **Development of a standardized set of guidelines for THB data collection, including comparable indicators**

Project Overview

- **Duration:** 1 November 2007 – 30 April 2009
- **Co-funded** by the European Commission – DG JLS
- **Implemented** by Austrian FM.I and IOM Vienna
- **Partners:**
 - ➔ Belgian Federal Police
 - ➔ Hungarian Ministry of Justice and Law Enforcement
 - ➔ Italian Ministry of the Interior
 - ➔ Police of Luxembourg
 - ➔ Slovak Ministry of the Interior
 - ➔ Swedish Ministry of Justice
 - ➔ Europol
 - ➔ Frontex
 - ➔ ICMPD

Project Activities

- **THB Expert Team**
 - ➔ Police experts
 - ➔ Researchers
 - ➔ EU & International Organizations
 - ➔ NGOs
- **Brussels Conference: European Approaches towards Data Collection on THB** (18-19 September 2008)
- **Vienna Conference: THB Data Collection** (23-24 February 2009)
- **Report: Guidelines for THB Data Collection, Including Comparable Indicators**

Four Expert Meetings

Concept development:

- ➔ theoretical and analytical framework
 - ➔ principal approaches for implementation at national and European level
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- First Expert Meeting (19-21 February 2008, Austria)
 - Second Expert Meeting (20-21 May 2008, Austria)
 - Third Expert Meeting (17-18 September 2008, Belgium)
 - Fourth Expert Meeting (11-12 December 2008, Austria)

Brussels Expert Conference

Aims of the conference:

- Discussion of **strategies, mechanisms** and **challenges** for implementing an EU-wide THB data collection system
- Discussion of **existing initiatives** and **best practices** incl. networking and exchange information among participants
- Gathering **expertise and feedback** from EU MS and experts on the preliminary findings of the project

Final Ministerial Conference

Aims of the conference:

- **Presentation and dissemination of Guidelines on THB Data Collection**
- **Analysis and discussion of Guidelines**
- **Discussion of ways to implement the Guidelines and to follow up this initiative**
- **Fostering cooperation amongst EU MS**
- **Exchange of information on enhancing the capacity of relevant stakeholders to collect data**
- **Gathering expertise and feedback key stakeholders**

Highlights of the Report

- Data collection at local, national and EU level
- Identification of stakeholders involved in identification and protection of victims and collection of data
- Provision of a minimum set of data or indicators to harmonize data collection between EU Member States
- **Minimum set of data to be collected**
 - ➔ Data on **victims** of trafficking
 - ➔ Data on **traffickers**
 - ➔ Data on the **trafficking incident**
 - ➔ Data on the **criminal justice** (police and prosecution) response to trafficking

Highlights of the Report (cont.)

- **Templates** for comprehensive THB data collection
- Focus on **dark figure of crime and unidentified victims**
 - ➔ Identification of possible victim markets
 - ➔ Provision of signals to assist in victim identification
- Identification of **alternative sources of THB data**
- **Procedural Considerations:**
 - ➔ Who should analyze and have access to which data?
 - ➔ How should data be evaluated?
 - ➔ How can we ensure high quality and accuracy of data?

Highlights of the Report (cont.)

- **Data protection mechanisms**
- **Ethics**
- **Options for implementation**
- **Annexes:**
 - ➔ Existing practices and initiatives
 - ➔ IOM and ICMPD Templates on THB data collection
 - ➔ European legal data protection instruments

Added Value of the Project

- **Providing a set of guidelines** for harmonisation and a uniform methodological approach for THB data:
 - ➔ Collection, Analysis, Storage, Use, Comparability
- **Support EU efforts** to assess the extent of THB
- **Mapping changing THB trends** and providing policymakers with tools to adjust policies and legislation
- Providing tools for **policy evaluations and proposals**
- **Networking** of governments, law enforcement, internat. organisations, civil society and research institutes

Implementation of the Guidelines

→ Follow-up of the project:

1. Pilot implementation by selected EU Member States

→ Setting-up a pioneer group
(theory to practice: data gathering and sharing)

2. Setting-up **national focal points, National Rapporteurs** or **equivalent mechanisms**

3. Setting-up an **EU Coordination Mechanism**

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→ **More information on Guidelines for THB Data Collection
at IOM's Vienna website: <http://www.iomvienna.at>**