

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

ON FIGHT AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS
DURING 2013-2015 IN THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

Introduction

Organization of Fight against Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia

The Republic of Armenia began counter- trafficking-in-persons actions in 2002. To fight this phenomenon effectively, the Government of the Republic of Armenia approved the Concept Paper for Preventing the Illegal Transfer and Transportation of and Trade in Persons (Trafficking) from the Republic of Armenia for the Purpose of Exploitation, and adopted and implemented three national action plans arising out of it, including the 2004-2006 National Action Plan for Preventing the Illegal Transfer and Transportation of and Trade in Persons (Trafficking) from the Republic of Armenia (Republic of Armenia Government Decree 58-N dated 15 January 2004), the National Action Plan on Fight against Trafficking in Persons during 2007-2009 and the related Implementation Timetable (Republic of Armenia Government Decree 1598-N dated 6 December 2007), and the National Action Plan on Fight against Trafficking in Persons during 2010-2012 and the related Implementation Timetable (Republic of Armenia Government Decree 1140-N dated 3 September 2010). To ensure effective protection and support of victims of trafficking in persons, the Government of the Republic of Armenia adopted Decree 1385-A on 20 November 2008, approving the National Referral Mechanism for Victims of Trafficking in Persons (hereinafter, “the NRM”).

Scope of the Third National Action Plan

The third NAP – the NAP to Fight against Trafficking in Persons during 2010-2012— defines multilateral objectives aimed at all the aspects of action against trafficking in persons. The NAP outlines the following main priorities and issues: improvement and enforcement of legislation on action against trafficking in persons, prevention of trafficking in persons, protection of and support to victims of trafficking in persons, cooperation, studies, monitoring, and evaluation.

The NAP pays great attention to the prevention of trafficking in persons. Special attention is dedicated to the training of relevant stakeholders in action against trafficking in persons. Special training courses have been organized on topics of finding, identifying, referring, and providing support to victims of trafficking, as well as preventing and solving crime. Special professional modules on trafficking in persons have been developed and implemented for law-enforcement officers and civil servants. There is a special focus on the problem of trafficking of children: various prevention activities have been contemplated, and awareness-raising measures have been implemented for the staff of and children in special institutions. For

high-school students and teachers of public general schools, guides on trafficking in persons have been developed and introduced. Wide-scale campaigns and programs have been implemented during young people.

Semi-annual and annual reports of the Council on Issues of Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia regarding the implementation of the NAP 2010-2012 were presented to the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

Under the third NAP, independent monitoring of implementation was carried out for the first time ever. The findings and recommendations were taken into consideration when drafting the fourth NAP.

Scope of the Fourth National Action Plan

The fourth NAP on the fight against Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia during 2013-2015 covers the main priorities of its predecessor, yet is more victim-centered in terms of its activities and objectives.

The goal of the fourth NAP is to further concentrate the government's efforts on improving the identification of and support to victims of trafficking in persons by means of implementing the necessary sub-legislative reforms, creating a financial foundation, and building the capacity of the relevant stakeholders.

Another key objective of the fourth NAP is to carry out surveys, including surveys among working children.

The fourth NAP, similar to all of its predecessors, pays close attention to measures to prevent trafficking in persons, especially labor trafficking, among both the general population and the vulnerable groups.

Another key priority is related to intensifying cooperation with the mass media regarding the format and approach to the coverage of cases of trafficking in persons and provision of information about victims, as well as maintaining the privacy of victims.

The effectiveness of the activities will be assessed through independent interim and final monitoring.

The NAP was developed by the Working Group adjunct to the Council on Issues of Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia.

The NAP was developed taking into consideration, among other things, the findings of the independent monitoring of the implementation of the third NAP, as well as the recommendations of international organizations, especially the first report on the implementation of the provisions of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking by Armenia (published in September 2012), as well as the recommendations made in the report of the U.S. Department of State.

The strategies and actions presented in the NAP are aimed at the effective organization of action against trafficking in persons and are contained in five main sections:

- Legislation on action against trafficking in persons and enforcement of laws;
- Prevention of trafficking in persons;
- Protection of and support to victims of trafficking in persons;
- Cooperation; and
- Surveys, monitoring, and evaluation.

I. Legislation on Action against Trafficking in Persons; Enforcement of Laws

Objective 1. Improvement of the Legislative Framework; Ensuring Enforceability

Strategy 1. To carry out continuous analysis of the existing legislative framework of the Republic of Armenia related to trafficking in persons; if necessary, to present to the Republic of Armenia Government proposals to amend and supplement laws and other legal acts or to adopt new legal acts.

Strategy 2. To revise the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) for Victims of Trafficking approved by the Republic of Armenia Government Decree 1385-A dated 20 November 2008.

Objective 2. Improvement of the International Contractual-Legal Framework

Strategy 1. To continue efforts for signing treaties on cooperation in action against trafficking in persons and on the provision of support to victims of trafficking in persons, including treaties with destination countries.

Strategy 2. a) To develop a list of countries of greater interest for the Republic of Armenia in terms of labor migration.

Strategy 2. b) Based on the review of the international experience, to develop mechanisms for studying labor markets of respective countries through the diplomatic missions of the Republic of Armenia.

Strategy 2. c) To study the international experience of concluding inter-governmental agreements on the exchange of labor force.

Expected Outputs

1. The legislative framework of the Republic of Armenia is improved and harmonized with the international commitments of the Republic of Armenia.

2. The mechanism for identification of victims of trafficking in persons, and the support and protection provided to them are improved.

3. The effectiveness of the support provided to victims of trafficking in persons, the organization of their return, and the criminal prosecution of the criminals are improved.

4. Armenian citizens have greater opportunities for contract-based employment in foreign states through schemes for regular labor migration, and the protection of the rights and interests of Armenian citizens involved in labor migration is improved.

II. Prevention of Trafficking in Persons

Objective 1. Improvement of Public Awareness on the Threat of Trafficking in Persons

Strategy 1. To continue activities for raising awareness of trafficking in persons, especially among groups-at-risk (labor migrants, foreigners, refugees, women, young people (including orphanage graduates), unemployed persons, and persons with disabilities).

Strategy 2. To continue providing information materials about trafficking in persons at the border-crossing points of the Republic of Armenia.

Strategy 3. To disseminate information materials provided by NGOs about the threats of trafficking in persons in ambulatories out-patient health facilities.

Strategy 4. To organize discussions, workshops, training courses, and other activities for raising the awareness of young people about trafficking in persons.

Strategy 5. a) To support improvement of youth competitiveness in the labor market and professional orientation, and to provide information and counseling about education and professions for which there is demand in the labor market.

Strategy 5. b) To organize internships with employers for unemployed persons and persons with disabilities, which have a profession, but no previous work experience.

Strategy 6. To carry out activities to prevent trafficking in persons, including the provision of relevant information materials, among Armenian citizens abroad through the diplomatic missions of the Republic of Armenia and the Armenian Diaspora community organizations and churches.

Strategy 7. To carry out activities of raising awareness of the threat of trafficking in persons and the mechanisms of action against it in the army, especially in the peace-keeping forces, namely:

- a) Regular workshops and lectures, based on the international experience, for raising awareness of trafficking in persons among the Republic of Armenia Armed Forces staff participating in peace-keeping missions;
- b) Special awareness-raising courses on trafficking in persons among the staff of law-enforcement agencies under the Ministry of Defense; and
- c) General information on trafficking in persons to be incorporated in the curriculum of the Human Rights in the Armed Forces course.

Strategy 8. To organize seminars and discussions on the threats and prevention of trafficking in persons among the staff of trade unions, including the provision of information materials on the threat of trafficking in persons.

Objective 2. Raising the Awareness of Employees of State Bodies Dealing Directly with the Public on Trafficking in Persons

Strategy 1. To conduct training courses for the staff of diplomatic missions of the Republic of Armenia and, if necessary, to revise the handbook developed by the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia.

Strategy 2. To organize a conference, to be attended by the staff of diplomatic and consular missions accredited to the Republic of Armenia, for raising awareness of current action against trafficking in Armenia and the measures being taken.

Strategy 3. To organize training courses on trafficking in persons, especially labor trafficking and trafficking in children, for the following state bodies: 1) National Security Service of the Republic of Armenia (namely, the Border Guards Service), 2) Police adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Armenia (including the staff of investigative bodies) and its territorial units; 3) Special Investigative Service of the Republic of Armenia, 4) Office of the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Armenia, 5) Judges of the Republic of Armenia, 6) Advocates that are members of the Chamber of Advocates of the Republic of Armenia, 7) Territorial agencies of the social services, 8) Regional and territorial offices of the State Employment Service, 9) the integrated social services, 10) the State Labor Inspectorate, 11) public health professionals of the Republic of Armenia, 12) territorial administration bodies and local self-government bodies, and 13) the Penitentiary Service under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Armenia.

Strategy 4. To organize special training courses for the staff of child care and protection institutions on the prevention and identification of cases of trafficking in children and the provision of support in such cases.

Strategy 5. To continue training courses for teachers of public general schools, using the Trafficking handbook.

Strategy 6. To organize in-depth training for the staff of institutions protecting the rights of children with a view to organizing the identification and prevention of child trafficking cases and the protection of children.

Strategy 7. To organize joint discussions for the staff of law-enforcement agencies and the State Labor Inspectorate for improving the effectiveness of identifying and preventing cases of labor trafficking.

Strategy 8. To organize joint seminars and workshops on discovering, investigating, and prosecuting crimes of trafficking in persons and money laundering crimes for prosecutors, police officers, and national security officers of the Republic of Armenia.

Objective 3. Prevention of Trafficking in Minors

Strategy 1. To continue implementing social, educational, and health activities in the framework of the “Government Support to Graduates of Child Care Institutions of the Republic of Armenia” program.

Strategy 2. To train students of public general schools in topics related to human rights (including trafficking and gender issues).

Strategy 3. To discuss the findings of the Survey of Working Children, to be carried out under the 2013-2016 Strategic Program for the Protection of the Rights of Children in the Republic of Armenia, and, if necessary, to develop recommendations on action against trafficking.

Strategy 4. To organize lectures on trafficking in persons for the students and faculty of vocational educational institutions.

Objective 4. Implementation of Socio-Economic Projects

Strategy 1. Considering poverty and unemployment as factors conducive of trafficking in persons, to carry out business support projects for vulnerable groups, including a) professional training for doing business, and b) provision of financial support.

Strategy 2. To organize professional training courses for unemployed persons, especially for job-seekers that own agricultural land.

Strategy 3. For the purpose of social reintegration of victims of trafficking in persons and avoiding re-victimization, to organize professional training courses and to offer employment.

Strategy 4. To implement employment programs and to introduce new initiatives for the reintegration of citizens returning to Armenia as victims of trafficking in persons.

Objective 5. Enhancing the Role of the Mass Media in the Organization of Action against Trafficking in Persons

Strategy 1. For the purpose of raising public awareness of the threat of trafficking in persons, to cooperate with the mass media in continuing to organize television and radio programs, discussions, meetings, and the like.

Strategy 2. Regularly to update the www.antitrafficking.am website and its content related to action against trafficking in persons in Armenia.

Strategy 3. To organize discussions of ethics rules and the peculiarities of coverage for the purpose of raising the awareness of journalists about trafficking in persons and developing ethical and professional approaches to the provision of information about trafficking.

Strategy 4. To conduct an annual awards ceremony for the best journalistic coverage of trafficking in persons and action against it.

Expected Outputs

1. Public awareness, especially the awareness of groups-at-risk, about threats of trafficking in persons, and awareness of the tools for action against it, are improved.
2. Awareness of the threats of trafficking in persons, including awareness of the tools for action against it, is improved.
3. Awareness of Armenian citizens abroad about the risks of trafficking in persons and the support available for victims of trafficking in persons is improved.
4. Awareness of trafficking in persons is improved among the staff of the organizations under the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Armenia.

5. Awareness of the staff of trade unions is improved.
6. Awareness of employees of state bodies dealing directly with the public is improved, professional capacity is strengthened, and cooperation in action against trafficking is promoted.
7. The vulnerability of graduates of child care and protection institutions to trafficking in persons is reduced.
8. The knowledge of schoolchildren about human rights, including trafficking and gender issues, is deepened.
9. The understanding of the prevalence of trafficking among working children is improved and, if necessary, appropriate recommendations are presented.
10. The knowledge of students of vocational educational institutions about human rights, including trafficking and gender issues, is deepened.
11. The socio-economic situation of vulnerable groups is improved.
12. The quality of mass media coverage of trafficking in persons is improved, and the number of journalists reporting on the issues of trafficking in persons increases.

III. Protection of and Support to Victims of Trafficking in Persons

Objective 1. Identification of Victims of Trafficking in Persons; the Organization of Return

Strategy 1. To continue the activities of creating temporary holding facilities at the border-crossing points.

Strategy 2. To continue the activities of diplomatic missions of the Republic of Armenia for preliminary identification of victims of trafficking in persons, provision of the required support, and ensuring their repatriation.

Strategy 3. To improve the effectiveness of border control for identifying cases of trafficking in persons.

Strategy 4. To develop and implement the criteria for identifying victims of trafficking in persons for use by the competent authorities.

Objective 2. Provision of Assistance and Support to Victims of Trafficking in Persons

Strategy 1. To continue applying the Referral Procedure for victims of trafficking in persons, providing the support envisaged by the Procedure to the victims of trafficking in persons, including medical, social, psychological, and legal assistance and counseling, and organizing rehabilitation activities for them.

Strategy 2. To develop recommendations on creation of compensation mechanism for victims of trafficking in persons.

Strategy 3. To work towards the creation of a separate specialized unit in the law-enforcement system of Armenia for the protection of persons participating in court proceedings.

Strategy 4. To develop and implement the minimum criteria for the necessary services delivered to victims of trafficking in persons.

Strategy 5. To disseminate information in the country about social support, employment, and free health care services provided to victims of trafficking in persons.

Expected Outputs

1. The referral of victims of trafficking in persons and the provision of support to them in accordance with the established procedure become more effective.

2. A system of identification criteria is introduced to improve the effectiveness of identification of victims of trafficking in persons.

3. The provision of support envisaged by the NRM facilitates the integration of victims of trafficking in persons in society.

4. Persons participating in proceedings are protected more effectively, including the security of victims of trafficking in persons and the safeguarding of confidentiality of their personal data.

5. The provision of support to victims of trafficking in persons, and the support to and reintegration of victims become more effective and professional.

IV. Cooperation

Objective 1. International and Regional Cooperation

Strategy 1. To cooperate extensively with international, regional, and non-governmental organizations and the mass media in the field of action against trafficking in persons.

Strategy 2. To expand and improve cooperation with foreign law-enforcement agencies and specialized international organizations and diplomatic missions for effective action against trafficking in persons.

Expected Outputs

1. The existing best practices are implemented in the field of action against trafficking in persons.
2. Ties with foreign law-enforcement and border control agencies and specialized international organizations are expanded and deepened.

V. Surveys (studies), Monitoring, and Evaluation

Strategy 1. To study the international methodology for surveying the scale and characteristics of trafficking in persons, especially labor trafficking, and to discuss the possibility of using it in Armenia.

Strategy 2. To protect and develop the information systems on victims and perpetrators of trafficking in persons and to carry out analysis on their basis (to cover age, sex, form of abuse, source/destination country, and so on).

Strategy 3. To carry out regular surveys in the Armed Forces of the Republic of Armenia for discovering possible instances of forced labor, their prevalence, and their root causes, and to take measures to raise the awareness of this phenomenon and its negative consequences.

Strategy 4. To carry out interim (annual) and final (three-year) monitoring of the implementation of this Program.

Expected Outputs

1. Decisions are taken regarding studies of the scale and characteristics of trafficking in persons. Credible information is obtained about the problem of trafficking in persons in the country, its characteristics, causes, and contributing factors.
2. The effectiveness of NAP implementation is improved.

The National Action Plan on Fight against Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia during 2013-2015 will be financed from the state budget of the Republic of Armenia and other sources not prohibited by law, including public and private sector contributions, as well as financial support provided by international organizations.

IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE OF THE NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF ACTION AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA DURING 2013-2015

#	Activity	Responsible Organizations and Collaborators	Implementation Timeframe	Potential Sources of Funding	Evaluation Indicators	Expected Outputs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Legislation on action against trafficking in persons and enforcement of laws						
Objective 1. Improvement of the legislative framework; ensuring enforceability						
1	To carry out continuous analysis of the existing legislative framework of the Republic of Armenia related to trafficking in persons; if necessary, to present to the Republic of Armenia Government proposals to amend and supplement laws and other legal acts or to adopt new legal acts.	Stakeholder state bodies RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues RoA Ministry of Justice Police adjunct to the RoA Government RoA Office of the Prosecutor General (with consent) RoA Ministry of Economy	2013-2015		Proposals on amending the legislative framework and legal acts adopted on the basis of such proposals.	The legislative framework of the Republic of Armenia is improved and harmonized with the international commitments of the Republic of Armenia.
2	To revise the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) for Victims of Trafficking approved by the Republic of Armenia Government Decree 1385-A dated 20 November 2008.	Council on Issues of Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia RoA Ministry of Justice Police adjunct to the RoA Government RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues RoA Office of the Prosecutor General (with consent) RoA Ministry of Health	2013-2014		The National Referral Procedure adopted with the proposed amendments.	The mechanism for identification of victims of trafficking in persons, and the support and protection provided to them are improved.

		RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs				
Objective 2. Improvement of the international contractual-legal framework						
3	To continue efforts for signing treaties on cooperation in action against trafficking in persons and on the provision of support to victims of trafficking in persons, including treaties with destination countries.	RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs Police adjunct to the RoA Government RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues State Migration Service under the RoA Ministry for Territorial Administration	2013-2015		Number of treaties concluded or being drafted.	The effectiveness of the support provided to victims of trafficking in persons, the organization of their return, and the criminal prosecution of the criminals are improved.
4	a) To develop a list of countries of greater interest for the Republic of Armenia in terms of labor migration. b) Based on the review of the international experience, to develop mechanisms for studying labor markets of respective countries through the diplomatic missions of the Republic of Armenia. c) To study the international experience of concluding inter-governmental agreements on the exchange of labor force.	RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues State Migration Service under the RoA Ministry for Territorial Administration RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2013-2015		Existence of an appropriate list, developed mechanisms for studying the labor markets of the relevant countries, and proposals on concluding inter-state treaties based on the review of the international experience.	Armenian citizens have greater opportunities for contract-based employment in foreign states through schemes for regular labor migration, and the protection of the rights and interests of Armenian citizens involved in labor migration is improved.
II. Prevention of Trafficking in Persons						
Objective 1. Improvement of public awareness on the threat of trafficking in persons						
5	To continue activities for raising awareness of trafficking in persons, especially among groups-at-risk (labor migrants, foreigners, refugees, women, young people (including orphanage graduates), unemployed persons, and persons with disabilities).	Stakeholder state bodies RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues RoA Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs State Migration Service under the RoA Ministry for Territorial Administration Confederation of Trade Unions of Armenia (with consent)	2013-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget and other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of campaigns and number of participants, broken down by the target groups.	Public awareness, especially the awareness of groups-at-risk, about threats of trafficking in persons, and awareness of the tools for action against it, are improved.

		Republican Union of Employers of Armenia (with consent)				
6	To continue providing information materials about trafficking in persons at the border-crossing points of the Republic of Armenia.	National Security Service adjunct to the RoA Government RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues Police adjunct to the RoA Government	2013-2015		Volume of materials provided.	Awareness of the threats of trafficking in persons, including awareness of the tools for action against it, is improved.
7	To disseminate information materials provided by NGOs about the threats of trafficking in persons in ambulatories and out-patient health facilities.	RoA Ministry of Health	2013-2015		Volume of materials provided.	
8	To organize discussions, workshops, training courses, and other activities for raising the awareness of young people about trafficking in persons.	RoA Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs Police adjunct to the RoA Government	2013-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget and other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of training courses and number of participants.	
9	a) To support improvement of youth competitiveness in the labor market and professional orientation, and to provide information and counseling about education and professions for which there is demand in the labor market. b) To organize internships with employers for unemployed persons and persons with disabilities, which have a profession, but no previous work experience.	RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues RoA Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs	2013-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget and other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of persons applying for information and counseling, and number of persons with disabilities that have a profession and have applied to the agency.	Information and counseling received, internships organized.

10	To carry out activities to prevent trafficking in persons, including the provision of relevant information materials, among Armenian citizens abroad through the diplomatic missions of the Republic of Armenia and the Armenian Diaspora community organizations and churches.	RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs Diaspora Ministry	2013-2015		Volume of materials provided, broken down by areas.	Awareness of Armenian citizens abroad about the risks of trafficking in persons and the support available for victims of trafficking in persons is improved.
11	To carry out activities of raising awareness of the threat of trafficking in persons and the mechanisms of action against it in the army, especially in the peace-keeping forces, namely: a) Regular workshops and lectures, based on the international experience, for raising awareness of trafficking in persons among the Republic of Armenia Armed Forces staff participating in peace-keeping missions; b) Special awareness-raising courses on trafficking in persons among the staff of law-enforcement agencies under the Ministry of Defense; and c) General information on trafficking in persons to be incorporated in the curriculum of the Human Rights in the Armed Forces course.	RoA Ministry of Defense	2013-2015	Other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of lectures and number of participants, inclusion of the topic of trafficking in persons in the "Human Rights in the Armed Forces" course, and final results of the course.	Awareness of trafficking in persons is improved among the staff of the organizations under the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Armenia.
12	To organize seminars and discussions on the threats and prevention of trafficking in persons among the staff of trade unions, including the provision of information materials on the threat of trafficking in persons.	RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues Confederation of Trade Unions of Armenia (with consent)	2013-2015	Other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of participants and volume of materials provided.	Awareness of the staff of trade unions is improved.
Objective 2. Raising the awareness of employees of state bodies dealing directly with the public on trafficking in persons						
13	To conduct training courses for the staff of diplomatic missions of the Republic of Armenia and, if necessary, to revise the handbook developed by the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia.	RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2013-2015		Number of training courses conducted and number of participants, and existence of the revised handbook.	Awareness of employees of state bodies dealing

14	To organize a conference, to be attended by the staff of diplomatic and consular missions accredited to the Republic of Armenia, for raising awareness of current action against trafficking in Armenia and the measures being taken.	RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2013-2015	Other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of conferences conducted and number of participants.	directly with the public is improved, professional capacity is strengthened, and cooperation in action against trafficking is promoted.
15	To organize training courses on trafficking in persons, especially labor trafficking and trafficking in children, for the following state bodies: 1) National Security Service of the Republic of Armenia (namely, the Border Guards Service), 2) Police adjunct to the Government of the Republic of Armenia (including the staff of investigative bodies) and its territorial units; 3) Special Investigative Service of the Republic of Armenia, 4) Office of the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Armenia, 5) Judges of the Republic of Armenia, 6) Advocates that are members of the Chamber of Advocates of the Republic of Armenia, 7) Territorial agencies of the social services, 8) Regional and territorial offices of the State Employment Service, 9) the integrated social services, 10) the State Labor Inspectorate, 11) public health professionals of the Republic of Armenia, 12) territorial administration bodies and local self-government bodies, and 13) the Penitentiary Service under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Armenia.	Stakeholder state bodies National Security Service adjunct to the RoA Government Police adjunct to the RoA Government RoA Office of the Prosecutor General(with consent) Judicial Department (with consent) RoA Chamber of Advocates (with consent) RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues RoA Ministry of Health RoA Ministry for Territorial Administration RoA Ministry of Justice	2013-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget and other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of training courses conducted and number of participants.	
16	To organize special training courses for the staff of child care and protection institutions on the prevention and identification of cases of trafficking in children and the provision of support in such cases.	RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues Police adjunct to the RoA Government	2014-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget and other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of training courses conducted and number of participants.	

		Republican Union of Employers of Armenia (with consent)				
17	To continue training courses for teachers of public general schools, using the Trafficking handbook.	RoA Ministry of Education and Science	2013-2015	Other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of training courses conducted and number of participants.	
18	To organize in-depth training for the staff of institutions protecting the rights of children with a view to organizing the identification and prevention of child trafficking cases and the protection of children.	Stakeholder state bodies	2014-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget and other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of training courses conducted and number of participants.	
		RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues				
		Police adjunct to the RoA Government				
		RoA Ministry for Territorial Administration				
19	To organize joint discussions for the staff of law-enforcement agencies and the State Labor Inspectorate for improving the effectiveness of identifying and preventing cases of labor trafficking.	Stakeholder state bodies	2013-2015	Other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of discussions conducted and number of participants; review of the outcomes.	
		Police adjunct to the RoA Government				
		RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues				
		RoA Office of the Prosecutor General(with consent)				
20	To organize joint seminars and workshops on discovering, investigating, and prosecuting crimes of trafficking in persons and money laundering crimes for prosecutors, police officers, and national security officers of the Republic of Armenia.	Council on Issues of Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia	2013-2015	Other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of discussions conducted and number of participants; review of the outcomes.	
		Police adjunct to the RoA Government				
		RoA Office of the Prosecutor General(with consent)				

		National Security Service adjunct to the RoA Government				
<u>Objective 3. Prevention of trafficking in minors</u>						
21	To continue implementing social, educational, and health activities in the framework of the “Government Support to Graduates of Child Care Institutions of the Republic of Armenia” program.	RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues	2013-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget.	Number of beneficiaries.	The vulnerability of graduates of child care and protection institutions to trafficking in persons is reduced.
22	To train students of public general schools in topics related to human rights (including trafficking and gender issues).	RoA Ministry of Education and Science	2013-2015		Number of classroom hours.	The knowledge of schoolchildren about human rights, including trafficking and gender issues, is deepened.
23	To discuss the findings of the Survey of Working Children, to be carried out under the 2013-2016 Strategic Program for the Protection of the Rights of Children in the Republic of Armenia, and, if necessary, to develop recommendations on action against trafficking.	Council on Issues of Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia	2014		Review of the outcomes of the discussion.	The understanding of the prevalence of trafficking among working children is improved and, if necessary, appropriate recommendations are presented.
24	To organize lectures on trafficking in persons for the students and faculty of vocational educational institutions.	RoA Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs RoA Ministry of Education and Science Republican Union of Employers of Armenia (with consent)	2013-2015	Other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of lectures and number of participants.	The knowledge of students of vocational educational institutions about human rights, including trafficking and gender issues, is deepened.
<u>Objective 4. Implementation of socio-economic projects</u>						

25	Considering poverty and unemployment as factors conducive of trafficking in persons, to carry out business support projects for vulnerable groups, including: a) professional training for doing business, and b) Provision of financial support.	RoA Ministry of Economy	2013-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget and other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of projects and number of beneficiaries, broken down by projects.	The socio-economic situation of vulnerable groups is improved.
26	To organize professional training courses for unemployed persons, especially for job-seekers that own agricultural land.	RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues	2013-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget.	Number of course participants and number of persons placed in jobs.	
27	For the purpose of social reintegration of victims of trafficking in persons and avoiding re-victimization, to organize professional training courses and to offer employment.	RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues	2013-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget and other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of trafficking victims participating in professional training, number of persons that received job offers, and number of persons placed in jobs.	
28	To implement employment programs and to introduce new initiatives for the reintegration of citizens returning to Armenia as victims of trafficking in persons.	RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues Police adjunct to the RoA Government	2013-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget.	Number of persons engaged in the relevant programs.	Armenian citizens return to Armenia and are placed in jobs.
Objective 5. Enhancing the role of the mass media in the organization of action against trafficking in persons						
29	For the purpose of raising public awareness of the threat of trafficking in persons, to cooperate with the mass media in continuing to organize television and radio programs, discussions, meetings, and the like.	Council on Issues of Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2013-2015		Number of programs, discussions, and meetings organized.	Public awareness of the phenomenon and the level of awareness are improved.
30	Regularly to update the www.antitrafficking.am website and its content related to action	Working Group under the Council on Issues of	2013-2015	Other sources of funding not prohibited	Number of visits to the www.antitrafficking.am	

	against trafficking in persons in Armenia.	Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia		by law.	website.	
31	To organize discussions of ethics rules and the peculiarities of coverage for the purpose of raising the awareness of journalists about trafficking in persons and developing ethical and professional approaches to the provision of information about trafficking.	Council on Issues of Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2013-2015	Other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of activities organized and number of participants.	The quality of mass media coverage of trafficking in persons is improved, and the number of journalists reporting on the issues of trafficking in persons increases.
32	To conduct an annual awards ceremony for the best journalistic coverage of trafficking in persons and action against it.	Council on Issues of Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia	2013-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget and/or other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Results of the award ceremony conducted.	The number of journalists covering the issues of trafficking in persons increases.
III. Protection of and Support to Victims of Trafficking in Persons						
<u>Objective 1. Identification of victims of trafficking in persons; the organization of return</u>						
33	To continue the activities of creating temporary holding facilities at the border-crossing points.	National Security Service adjunct to the RoA Government	2013-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget and other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	The number of points created.	The referral of victims of trafficking in persons and the provision of support to them in accordance with the established procedure become more effective.
34	To continue the activities of diplomatic missions of the Republic of Armenia for preliminary identification of victims of trafficking in persons, provision of the required support, and ensuring their repatriation.	RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2013-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget and other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of persons identified and number of persons returned.	
35	To improve the effectiveness of border control for identifying cases of trafficking in persons.	National Security Service adjunct to the RoA Government	2013-2015			
36	To develop and implement the criteria for identifying victims of trafficking in persons for use by the competent authorities.	Council on Issues of Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia	2013-2014		Existence of developed and implemented criteria.	A system of identification criteria is introduced to improve the effectiveness of identification of victims of trafficking in persons.

		RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues				
		Police adjunct to the RoA Government				
		RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs				
		RoA Ministry of Health				
Objective 2. Provision of assistance and support to victims of trafficking in persons						
37	To continue applying the Referral Procedure for victims of trafficking in persons, providing the support envisaged by the Procedure to the victims of trafficking in persons, including medical, social, psychological, and legal assistance and counseling, and organizing rehabilitation activities for them.	RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues Police adjunct to the RoA Government RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs National Security Service adjunct to the RoA Government RoA Ministry of Health RoA Ministry of Education and Science	2013-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget and other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Number of persons referred and number of persons supported, and types of support provided.	The provision of support envisaged by the NRM facilitates the integration of victims of trafficking in persons in society.
38	To develop recommendations on the creation of a mechanism for compensating victims of trafficking in persons.	Council on Issues of Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues RoA Ministry of Finance	2013-2015		Existence of developed recommendations.	If the creation of a compensation mechanism is possible, it will be possible to provide the required material support to victims of trafficking in persons.

39	To work towards the creation of a separate specialized unit in the law-enforcement system of Armenia for the protection of persons participating in court proceedings.	Police adjunct to the RoA Government	2013-2015		Creation of a relevant structure/unit.	Persons participating in proceedings are protected more effectively, including the security of victims of trafficking in persons and the safeguarding of confidentiality of their personal data.
40	To develop and implement the minimum criteria for the necessary services delivered to victims of trafficking in persons.	RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues	2013-2014		Existence of developed criteria.	The provision of support to victims of trafficking in persons, and the support to and reintegration of victims become more effective and professional.
41	To disseminate information in the country about social support, employment, and free health care services provided to victims of trafficking in persons.	RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues RoA Ministry of Health	2013-2015		Number and nature of activities conducted.	
IV. Cooperation						
<u>Objective 1. International and regional cooperation</u>						
42	To cooperate extensively with international, regional, and non-governmental organizations and the mass media in the field of action against trafficking in persons.	Council on Issues of Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2013-2015			The existing best practices are implemented in the field of action against trafficking in persons.
43	To expand and improve cooperation with foreign law-enforcement agencies and specialized international organizations and diplomatic missions for effective action against trafficking in persons.	Stakeholder state bodies Police adjunct to the RoA Government	2013-2015			Ties with foreign law-enforcement and border control agencies and specialized international organizations are

		RoA Office of the Prosecutor General(with consent)				expanded and deepened.
		National Security Service adjunct to the RoA Government				
		RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs				
<u>V. Surveys, monitoring, and evaluation</u>						
44	To study the international methodology for surveying the scale and characteristics of trafficking in persons, especially labor trafficking, and to discuss the possibility of using it in Armenia.	Council on Issues of Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia	2013-2015	Funding under the RoA State Budget and other sources of funding not prohibited by law.	Study of international experience and existence of discussed and presented recommendations.	Decisions are taken regarding studies of the scale and characteristics of trafficking in persons. Credible information is obtained about the problem of trafficking in persons in the country, its characteristics, causes, and contributing factors.
		RoA National Statistical Service (with consent)				
		RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues				
		RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs				
45	To protect and develop the information systems on victims and perpetrators of trafficking in persons and to carry out analysis on their basis (to cover age, sex, form of abuse, source/destination country, and so on).	RoA Ministry of Labor and Social Issues	2013-2015		Analyses carried out.	
		Police adjunct to the RoA Government				
		RoA National Statistical Service				
46	To carry out regular surveys in the Armed Forces of the Republic of Armenia for discovering possible instances of forced labor, their prevalence, and their root causes, and to take measures to raise the awareness of this phenomenon and its negative consequences.	RoA Ministry of Defense	2013-2015		Study carried out, and recommendations developed and presented.	

47	To carry out interim (annual) and final (three-year) monitoring of the implementation of this Program.	Working Group under the Council on Issues of Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Armenia RoA Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2013-2015		Results of the monitoring, and recommendations presented.	The effectiveness of Program implementation is improved.
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