

European Crime Prevention Award (ECPA)

Annex I – new version 2014

Please complete the template in English in compliance with the ECPA criteria contained in the RoP (Par.2 §3).

General information

1. Please specify your country.

Republic of Croatia (RC)

2. Is this your country's ECPA entry or an additional project?

Project "Together" represents RC's ECPA entry project.

3. What is the title of the project?

"Together"

4. Who is responsible for the project? Contact details.

General Police Directorate, Ministry of the Interior, RC

www.mup.hr; prevencija@mup.hr

5. Start date of the project (dd/mm/yyyy)? Is the project still running (Yes/No)?
If not, please provide the end date of the project.

The project started in October 2013 and it is still running. The completion of the project implementation is planned for the end of the year 2015. Positive outcomes of conducted evaluations and expressed interest of project partners and targeted groups indicates that the project will, upon its completion, be implemented as a model of preventive and proactive action on the entire territory of the RC.

6. Where can we find more information about the project? Please provide links to the project's website or online reports or publications (preferably in English).

<http://www.mup.hr/31.aspx>, <http://www.mup.hr/169987/8.aspx>,
<http://www.mup.hr/170553/6.aspx>, <http://www.mup.hr/172163/2.aspx>,
<http://www.mup.hr/173952/1.aspx>, <http://www.mup.hr/174203/1.aspx>,
<http://www.mup.hr/187774/2.aspx>.
<http://www.dubrovacko-neretvanska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196025>
<http://www.splitsko-dalmatinska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196041>
<http://www.sibensko-kninska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=195969>
<http://www.zadarska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196045>
<http://www.licko-senjska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196053>
<http://www.istarska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=195950>
<http://www.primorska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196019>
<http://www.karlovacka.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196046>
<http://www.sisacko-moslavacka.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=195947>
<http://www.krapinsko-zagorska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196034>
<http://www.varazdinska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196033>
<http://www.medjimurska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196044>
<http://www.koprivnicko-krizevacka.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196021>
<http://www.bjelovarsko-bilogorska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196040>
<http://www.viroviticko-podravaska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196031>
<http://www.pozesko-slavonska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196022>
<http://www.brodsko-posavska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196023>
<http://www.osjecko-baranjska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196004>
<http://www.vukovarsko-srijemska.policija.hr/MainPu.aspx?id=196010>
http://www.uljppnm.vlada.hr/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=389:europski-dan-suzbijanja-trgovanja-ljudima&catid=2:novosti

7. Please give a **one page** description of the project (**Max. 600 words**)

Considering the broad coverage of participants with different profiles participating in implementation of this project, the preventive project "Together" should, through sensibilization, informing, education and proactive approach in multiplication of knowledge on trafficking on human beings (THB), and identification of potential criminal hotspots, contribute to decrease of THB in all its stages (recruitment, transport and exploitation).

Through multidisciplinary approach, specific targeted and preventive activities directed towards eradication of THB are conducted, under coordination of General Police Directorate's Crime Prevention Service, by all types of police forces, namely: crime, border ("green" and "blue" border, border on airports and ports), uniform, traffic, in cooperation with different government bodies, institutions, organizations, civil society organization (CSO), legal and natural persons, and private sector respectively.

During the assessment of types of preventive measures which shall be implemented on a specific location, as well as during the selection of a target group which should be covered in order to achieve the best possible preventive impact, special attention was directed towards the specifics of the respective local community in relation to performed assessment of its sensitiveness to THB, factors contributing to THB, risk assessments, presumed dark numbers of crime, geostrategic position and economic development of a specific micro location in RC; where the entire territory of the RC is covered.

Thus, for example, in areas of the RC located on external outer border of EU the focus is placed on transit issues. In coastal areas the activities are directed towards prevention of exploitation of the victims during the touristic season. In rural areas with detrimental economic conditions the focus is on prevention of recruitment of potential victims. In urban areas of major cities the focus is on prevention of exploitation of victims, especially women and children, and early identification of potential victims by persons who, due to characteristics of their vocation or other circumstances, have greater probability to encounter the potential victims (for example taxi drivers, bus and truck drivers, controllers in trains and buses, service personnel in touristic facilities and petrol stations on highways, personnel in harbors, marine and airport transporters, private companies which employ foreigners with temporary residence, and similar).

RC has 20 counties and each county has its potentially critical points with respect to THB.

General Police Directorate, which organizationally encompasses 20 police administrations throughout the RC (each specific police administration covers the territory of a particular county), has created, in accordance with assessed strategic priorities of each police administration and defined critical points with respect to THB, 20 mutually connected components of this preventive project which are applicable and adjusted to each location. Therefore, the specific project activities are implemented through **20 components** which contain targeted preventive actions, always accompanied by application of **4 key models**:

1. MODEL: „POLICE OFFICERS BE PROACTIVE“ - Through this model, by implementing informational – educational professional workshops the police officers of General Police Directorate – experts in THB issues in cooperation with experts from other governmental bodies (courts, State Attorney’s Office, social care institutions and similar) and CSO educate police officers from different police forces within police administration on risk and protective factors with respect to THB issues as well as on victim’s rights. Afterwards, those police officers become multipliers of knowledge for respective police administration. The main objective is for police officers – multipliers to adopt and further propagate knowledge and methods and to familiarize themselves with the best practices for efficient procedure in identification of THB victims and their rights, as well as detection of this type of crimes and identification of indicators implying the potential THB. The objective is to educate on all manifestations and trends in THB exactly those police officers who may, during their work, directly encounter potential THB victims.

2. MODEL: “TOGETHER IN COMMUNITY” -With the purpose of interconnecting different participants within the area of their local communities, multipliers form multidisciplinary teams in order to conjoin, in one place, knowledge and expertise of competent representatives of all those authorities which have, in their scope, certain connection with THB issues (police, courts, state Attorney’s Office, health care institutions, social care institutions, employment offices, educational institutions, CSO and similar).

Mentioned teams, using the educative packages specially prepared by the Crime Prevention Service for that purpose, conduct education of police officers, government bodies employees, local government districts, health care institutions, social care institutions, employment offices, teachers and private sector employees who, due to their job characteristics (e.g. transporters- road transport, railway transport, marine transport, air transport, touristic employees and taxi drivers, and similar), may encounter the potential victims or THB offenders.

3. MODEL: “KNOWLEDGE IS POWER”

Directed to empowerment of potential victims, and conducted by Crime Prevention Service accompanied by active involvement of CSO relevant on national and local level using educational packages (video materials, PPT presentations, workshops) specially created depending on target group (e.g. graduates of craft high schools, unemployed persons, seasonal workers in tourism and agriculture, and similar).

A part of the package is the international campaign on THB - “Two Little Girls” by author Ruth Beni.

4. MODEL: “DON’T BE PASIVE” - Through this model a sensibilisation of general population is conducted, especially those categories of society and vocation areas for which a greater probability to encounter the potential victims and offenders exists. The objective is to achieve their sensibilization on THB issues, and to motivate “passive observers” to socially liable reaction and early detection of potential victims and offenders, respectively.

I. The project shall focus on prevention and/or reduction of everyday crime and fear of crime within the theme.

8. How does the project contribute to crime prevention and/or to the reduction of crime or the fear of crime? (**Max. 150 words**)

Knowledge as a tool – through proper information intended for specific groups the knowledge becomes valuable tool in function of self-protection of potential victims, at the same time increasing the productive liable conduct of experts from different areas within the scope of their vocation. Acting “Together” we send a clear message on good coordination and motivation of all institutions involved in the process of prevention of THB. Persons who are possible “passive observers” we place into function of active observers in eradication of THB issues.

Awareness of citizens on mutual and coordinated activities of all competent authorities and CSOs in eradication of THB will have, in the end, a positive impact on their subjective sense on security.

9. How is the project contributing to raising citizens’ awareness of crime prevention? (**Max. 150 words**)

As a consequence of intensive media attention on a local level, media attention gains national character.

Preventive activities enter into the scope of proactive engagement of all spheres of vocation and social categories, thus raising the awareness of citizens on existence of issues and awakening of necessity of personal involvement in prevention through reporting and reaction.

By transferring knowledge on THB issues to officials having direct contact with citizens ensures reaction in early stages of THB thus prevention of later sever consequences.

II. The project shall have been evaluated and have achieved most or all of its objectives.¹

10. What was the reason for setting up the project? What problem(s) did it aim to tackle?

By entering of the RC into the EU, the external borders of the RC became also the borders of the EU. Subsequently the RC took over certain obligations with respect to secure the border control in compliance with EU standards and adjustment to Shengen Area standards.

Having in mind that the RC is located on “Balkan Rout” of THB, aware of risks of such location and of the dark number of crime, we want to strike it in terms of better detection and provision of help to victims, disclosure and prosecution of offenders.

¹ For more information on evaluation, see Guidelines on the evaluation of crime prevention initiatives (EUCPN Toolbox No.3): <http://www.eucpn.org/library/results.asp?category=32&pubdate>

Numerous relevant authorities involved in THB, due to their mutual disconnection and non-coordination, achieved lesser efficiency, while by joining through this project under motto "Together" we achieved synergy resulting with benefit for all citizens in terms of greater quality of prevention of THB and rising of subjective sense of security of citizens due to evident and concrete engagement of the entire community.

11. Was the context analysed **before** the project was initiated? How, and by whom? Which data were used? (**Max. 150 words**)

During the process of adjustment of Croatia's entry into the Shengen Area, analysis on risk on national level in terms of border protection, illegal migration and cross border crimes were performed, all of which is in certain degree connected to THB.

Also, all police administrations created Strategic Assessment and determined priorities, within which risk analyses were made.

Data obtained by mentioned analyses, as well as by analyses of available data from other government bodies, institutions, CSO, local and regional governments, were used in process of planning of project activities.

12. What were the objective(s) of the project? Please, if applicable, distinguish between main and secondary objectives. (**Max. 150 words**)

The main objective of this Project is to connect the key subjects of the society and motivate them to act jointly in prevention of THB.

Secondary objectives encompass striking the dark number meaning having timely reaction of responsible institutions, thus having a real insight into the actual situation and types of crime, elimination of potential critical points, motivation of passive individuals and social subjects to react to socially unacceptable behavior, empowerment of potential victims with self-protective factors.

Also, through cooperation with authorities of neighboring countries which are not EU members we strive to broaden EU standards on those territories, directly influencing in that manner on increase of security and protection of EU itself.

Objectives are adjusted with the EU 2012-2016 Strategy in terms of working towards the eradication of THB for the purpose of:

- better identification of potential victims
- better interinstitutional cooperation and cooperation with CSOs (multidisciplinary context) and private sector
- better awareness of potential victims on their rights
- increase of knowledge on THB phenomena
- better cooperation among the countries
- focus on protection of children as vulnerable group
- better protection of external borders from THB
- raising awareness on importance of protection of „non EU victims“
- improvement of informative picture on labor market
- suppression of infiltration of THB into the legal operations

13. Did you build in internal goals to measure the performance of the project? If so, please describe at what stage of the project and how you measured whether the project was moving in the planned direction. (**Max. 150 words**)

Effects of preventive actions are measured from several aspects with the purpose of monitoring of success of achieved planned objectives and detecting of necessary modifications of their implementation.

Internal objectives we determined as measures of success of implementation of the project are:

- the number of educated multipliers,
- the number of police officers engaged into education,
- the number of preformed informational - educational workshops with potential victims of THB and the number of persons engaged into the workshops,
- the results of process evaluation,
- the results obtained through questionnaires given to citizens on familiarity with the concept and issues of THB,
- the results on media coverage of the project
- statistical data on number of identified victims of THB, whether they are victims exploited in RC, transported through RC or they are citizens of RC.

The project is currently in the mid of its implementation, and all activities are performed in maximal degree in line with planned dynamic.

14. Has there been a process evaluation? Who conducted the evaluation (internally or externally?) and what were the main results? (**max. 300 words**) - for more information on process evaluation, see EUCPN Toolbox No.3, p.9-10 & part 2 - section 2A

Internal process evaluation was conducted by the Police Academy authorized for conduct of scientific – professional activities by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports.

It is determined, through evaluation, that the educated persons acquired knowledge on risk and protection factors on THB. Also, the importance of each individual and his/her role in providing personal contribution to the process of eradication of THB, all within the domain of his/her competences, is recognized.

15. Has there been an outcome or impact evaluation? Who conducted the evaluation (internally or externally?), which data and evaluation method were used and what were the main results? (**Max. 300 words**) - for more information on outcome or impact evaluation, see EUCPN Toolbox No.3, p.7-9 & part 2 - section 2A

Based on received results and collected data from the field covering the entire RC territory, the Police Academy prepares implementation of impact evaluation pursuant to envisaged instruments.

Evaluation will be used for assessment of success of the project implementation as well as for further implementation of the Project through creation of the national document "**Standard operating procedures of joint preventive actions**" as an integral part of this project result.

III. The project shall, as far as possible, be innovative, involving new methods or new approaches.

16. How is the project innovative in its methods and/or approaches? (**Max. 150 words**)

Innovative factor of this project is successfully achieved coordinated and targeted joint cooperation of a large number of relevant partners on the territory of the entire RC, both at national and local level.

IV. The project shall be based on cooperation between partners, where possible.

18. Which partners or stakeholders were involved in the project and what was their involvement? (**Max. 200 words**)

Actuator and holder of this Project is General Police Directorate of the Ministry of Interior, and partners on national and local level are:

- Government bodies (health care, social care, judiciary, employment institutions, education institutions)
- Courts and State Attorney's Office,
- Local and regional self-governments (Crime Prevention Councils in cities, and counties)
- Croatian Red Cross
- CSOs (Center for Education, Advisory and Research - CESI, local CSOs)
- Private and public companies

All partners in this project provide their contribution through their competences within their scope of work, which finally resulted in added value, meaning synergy in implementation of prevention of THB, and brought out more significant results than previous partial implementation of preventive activities.

V. The project shall be capable of replication in other Member States.

19. How and by whom is the project funded? (**Max. 150 words**)

The project is financed by regular state budget funds from involved government bodies, local and regional governments in line with capacity and with contributing engagement of CSOs.

20. What were the costs of the project in terms of finances, material and human resources? (**Max. 150 words**)

The following funds are ensured for the implementation of the project:

- 4. 000,00 € - for each county (20 police administrations in total) for organization of workshops, production of promotional materials and other expenses
- 20.000,00 € - for organization of education for multipliers, educational and promotional materials
- Costs of engagement of officers within their working hours and costs of usage of official cars are not included into the expenses.

21. Has a cost-benefit analysis been carried out? If so, describe the analysis, including how and by whom it was carried out and list the main findings of the analysis. (**Max. 150 words**)

General Police Directorate's Crime Prevention Service, in cooperation with Police Academy conducted initial cost – benefit analyses.

Within the cost-benefit analyses we compared the costs which will be caused by implementation of this Project with assessed material costs resulting from processing the offenders and providing help to identified victims, namely:

- Costs of investigation
- Costs of court procedures
- Costs of prison system
- Costs of support to the victims
- Costs of social care institutions
- Costs of victim's rehabilitation (medical, legal, psychological treatment)
- Costs of victim's reintegration
- Costs of voluntary return of a victim to the country of origin.

Also, non - material damages experienced by the victim were taken into account, meaning experienced trauma, decrease of livelihood quality, undermined fundamental human rights and physical and psychological consequences.

Following the conducted analyses, and taking into account that the majority of activities of this Project are conducted within the regular working hours of all participants and that the planned funds for the implementation of the Project amount 100.000.00 €, it is concluded that the benefits of the implementation of the Project exceed the invested funds in numerous way. Prevention of the possibility for someone to become a victim of THB, considering the permanent sever consequences the victim may experience, represents the crucial benefit of this Project.

22. Are there adjustments to be made to the project to ensure a successful replication in another Member State?

Modules of Project implementation, as well as each specific preventive activity of 20 mentioned components are universally applicable, while the adjustment is necessary with respect to organization of each specific country) number of regions, relationship between local, regional and national government, and similar).

23. How is the project relevant for other Member States? Please explain the European dimension of your project.

The prevention of THB represents one of the key tasks on the EU level and is defined, as strategic priority, by obligatory EU documents mentioned below. The RC aims to apply these documents in practice, among other, through this Project:

- Directive 2011/36/EU on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Protecting its Victims
- Directive 2012/29/EU establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime.
- Council Directive 2004/81/EC of 29 April 2004 on the Residence Permit Issued to Third-Country Nationals Who are Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings or Who Have Been the Subject of an Action to Facilitate Illegal Immigration, Who Cooperate With the Competent Authorities
- EU Council conclusions on setting the EU's priorities for the fight against serious and organized crime between 2014 and 2017
- [The EU Strategy Trafficking in Human Beings 2012–2016](#)

Taking into account the geographic location of RC ("Balkan Rout") as well as the fact that the RC's borders are external EU borders, the implementation of this preventive Project influences on the decrease of THB in RC, thus the decrease of THB in EU, and increase of the safety in the entire EU.

Please provide a short general description of the project (abstract for inclusion in the conference booklet – **max. 150 words**).

Ministry of Interior in cooperation with other competent government bodies, institutions and CSOs, is strongly directed towards the establishment of efficient national referral mechanism of prevention and repression of THB as a part of Organized crime. Coordinated, proper, targeted education, sensibilization and systematic prevention are the crucial and most efficient instruments in resolving this issue, which are incorporated within the preventive project "Together". It combines numerous relevant expert institutions, CSOs and private sector in order form them to jointly contribute, from the perspective of their competences, to achievement of the planned objectives.

The Project activities and target groups for are, in accordance with characteristics of each county (defined critical points with respect to THB – recruitment, transit and/or exploitation), determined for each police administration separately through **20 components** which contain different preventive measures and are always accompanied by application of **4 key models**:

1. MODEL: „ POLICE OFFICERS BE PROACTIVE“
2. MODEL: "TOGETHER IN COMMUNITY"
3. MODEL: "KNOWLEDGE IS POWER"
4. MODEL: "DON'T BE PASIVE"

The primary objective of this Project is to connect the key subjects of the society and motivate them to act jointly in prevention of THB through multidisciplinary and alternative approach along with developed cooperative and targeted initiatives and systematic activity of all relevant participants.

Secondary objectives encompass striking the dark number in terms of having timely reaction of responsible institutions, CSOs and private sector, thus having a real insight into the actual situation and types of crime, elimination of potential critical points, motivation of passive individuals and social subjects to react to socially unacceptable behavior, and empowerment of potential victims in terms of enhancing their self-protection.