Enhancing Occupational Staff Capacity of the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services Working in the Field of Woman on Fight Against Human Trafficking (SHIFT)

Fight Against Human Trafficking in Turkey, 2019-2020

Executive Summary

The SHIFT project “Enhancing Occupational Staff Capacity of the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services Working in the Field of Woman on Fight Against Human Trafficking” aims to enhance the capacity of the occupational staff of the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services (MoFLSS) at the central and provincial levels to evaluate and provide assistance to actual and potential victims of trafficking receiving services from the woman services units of the MoFLSS.

The main target group of the project is the staff working for the Violence Prevention and Monitoring Center (VPMC) and shelters for women under DGWS. The VPMS provides 7/24 counselling services and guidance for people who are at risk or victims of violence. Furthermore, VPMC is responsible for referral of victims of violence needing an accommodation to woman shelters/shelters.

Through building the awareness and capacity of the MoFLSS against trafficking in human beings, the project will contribute to strengthening the role of the Ministry within the Turkish National Referral Mechanism (NRM) on the one hand, and further strengthen the inter-institutional cooperation among the relevant stakeholders in Turkey, on the other.

The project is funded by the United Kingdom and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) is responsible for its management and implementation.

Current Context

Turkey has continuously improved its anti-trafficking response since the signing of the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols back in 2000. Important steps have been taken to establish the necessary legal and institutional frameworks, such as the criminalization of trafficking in human beings within the Criminal Code, the establishment of an inter-ministerial group (Task Force), the establishment of national strategy and
national action plans as well as an NRM for trafficked persons. There are various stakeholders involved in Turkish anti-trafficking response with the Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) being the main responsible institution in identification, protection and provision of support services to the victim of trafficking. The Directorate General of Woman’s Status (DGWS) at the MoFLSS is one of the key national stakeholders in Turkey’s NRM particularly for the first contact with victims and its referral and notification responsibilities to relevant authorities.

**Objectives**

The **overall goal** of the SHIFT project is to enhance the knowledge and capacity of the occupational staff of the MoFLSS working in the field of woman on evaluation, provision of assistance to and referral of victims of trafficking.

**Objective 1:** To develop a full-fledged training programme on trafficking in human beings tailored to the occupational competencies of the MoFLSS’s occupational staff working in the field of woman (social workers, psychologists, child development specialists, teachers and sociologists).

**Objective 2:** To significantly raise the awareness of MoFLSS’s occupational staff working in the field of woman at the central and local level on trafficking in human beings, including potential trafficking cases among vulnerable groups of migrants/refugees.

**Objective 3:** To build the capacities of selected MoFLSS’s occupational staff working in the field of woman on training methodologies and tools in order to prepare them to deliver basic training sessions on trafficking in human beings.

**Activities**

The specific objectives will be reached by three main inter-connected types of activities:

1. Development of training curriculum for DGWS staff on trafficking in human beings to be used for a sustainable training programme of the MoFLSS;
2. Implementation of a series of basic trainings on trafficking in human beings for DGWS provincial occupational staff working at VPMCs and shelters for woman (social workers, psychologists, child development specialists, teachers and sociologists);
3. Carrying out a training of trainers programme for selected occupational staff of the MoFLSS working in the field of woman consisting of training sessions with step-by-
step guidance for the trainer to implement the session, including guidance on the use of certain methodologies, handouts and background material.

**Beneficiaries**
The beneficiary of the SHIFT project is the Directorate-General of Woman’s Status (DGWS) under MoFLSS, with its relevant departments.

**Project Duration**
The SHIFT project is running for the duration of 18 months from 01 April 2019 to 30 September 2020.