Call for Senior National Researcher

THBResearchLab - Turkey Project

“Research on child trafficking and labour trafficking in Turkey to support evidence-based policy formulation and DGMM decisions on Turkey’s anti-trafficking response”

A. Organisational Overview :
The International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) is an international organisation tasked with promoting innovative, comprehensive and sustainable migration policies. With 18 Member States and over 60 projects active throughout Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America, ICMPD is a growing and ever-more relevant presence in its field. The organisation’s greatest assets are its 200+ staff members, who personify its values of commitment, integrity, partnership, respect, and innovation in actions and decisions.

B. Background Information :
Turkey has continuously improved its anti-trafficking response since the signing of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime and its Protocols back in 2000. Important steps have been taken to establish the necessary legal and institutional frameworks, such as criminalisation of trafficking in human beings within the Criminal Code, establishment of an inter-ministerial group (Task Force), establishment of national strategy and national action plans as well as a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) for victims of trafficking. In 2013, with the establishment of Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) and adoption of Law on Foreigners and International Protection (LFIP), DGMM become the main responsible institution in identification, protection and provision of support services to victims of trafficking. Following that on 17 March 2016, the Regulation on Combating Human Trafficking and Victim Protection was entered into force that define direct role and responsibility of DGMM with regard to anti-trafficking response and especially protection of victims of trafficking in Turkey.

Within this context and building upon the achievements and lessons learned from previous projects such as PICTOR (‘Preventing, Identifying and Combatting Trafficking of Refugees in Turkey’) and P-TIP (‘Preventing, Identifying and Combatting Trafficking in Persons in Turkey’), implemented by ICMPD in collaboration with DGMM and SHIFT (‘Enhancing Occupational Staff Capacity of the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services Working in the Field of Woman on Fight Against Human Trafficking in Turkey’) in collaboration with MoFLSS (The Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services), there is a need of utilizing a more evidence-based approach for anti-trafficking policy formulation especially regarding different types of trafficking in human beings (THB) such as child and labour trafficking.
C. Project Overview:

THB ResearchLab - Turkey project is funded by the United Kingdom and implemented by ICMPD in close cooperation with DGMM. The project aims to support evidence base policy formulation by establishing knowledge base on child trafficking and labour trafficking (agriculture and industry sectors) through the research to be conducted in selected provinces namely Istanbul, Hatay, Gaziantep, Şanliurfa, Kilis, Adana, İzmir, Konya and Bursa which are among the 36 priority provinces concerning Turkey’s anti-THB response. The target group of this research is consisted of the Syrians under Temporary Protection (SuTPs) in Turkey as well as Turkish citizens. Targeted capacity building support will be provided in line with the findings and recommendations of the research report.

The overall objective of the THBResearchLab-Turkey project, thus the change it aims to create, is to ensure that policy formulation and decisions concerning Turkey’s anti-trafficking response are evidence-based and effective, by establishing the knowledge base on child trafficking and labour trafficking affecting Syrian and Turkish people in Turkey and catalyse their implementation through the capacity building conducted. The specific objectives of the project are:

1. To develop the knowledge base to fill key evidence gaps around child trafficking and labour trafficking in industry and agriculture affecting SuTPs and Turkish nationals in Turkey.

2. To draw conclusions and action-oriented recommendations from the research in order to enhance Turkey’s anti-trafficking response and improve trafficking prevention, identification and prosecution, and victim protection.

3. To provide specialised trainings for DGMM and other relevant stakeholders on human trafficking including child trafficking and labour trafficking in order to ensure that trafficked people or those who have potentially been trafficked, are screened, identified and referred to protection and given access to justice.

The two components of the research study (child trafficking and labour trafficking) will focus on 9 pilot provinces, where the majority of the Syrian population in Turkey are residing. The study will apply desk and field research, with a mixed-methods approach. This interdisciplinary methodology will combine primary research in the field with secondary desk research, as well as analysing qualitative and quantitative sources. Data and information from diverse sources will be weighted and triangulated with a view to determining its accuracy. The research will analyse:

- Risk factors for trafficking among Syrian and Turkish children;
- Risk factors for labour trafficking among Syrian and Turkish people in Turkey;
- Forms of trafficking affecting Syrian and Turkish children (including sectors of exploitation) and profiles of victims;
- Forms of labour trafficking in the industry and agriculture sectors and profiles of victims;
- Profiles of traffickers and their modus operandi;
- Gaps and needs in the anti-trafficking, child protection and labour rights response.
D. Involvement of Senior National Researcher:

The selected Senior National Researcher will be working under the supervision of the Research Coordinator and the Project Manager. She/he will be responsible for carrying out country-level research for the THBResearchLab-Turkey project and for participating in project-related events.

The project will be implemented by a project team consisting of: a Research Coordinator based in Vienna; a Project Manager and a Project Assistant based in Ankara; and two National Researchers (one Senior and one Junior).

The Senior National Researcher should be based in Turkey and will be recruited to carry out desk and field research in the selected 9 pilot provinces of Turkey with a support by the Junior National Researcher and the project team. She/he will conduct the research activities according to the Research Methodology and Instruments developed by the Research Coordinator. The final outcome of her/his work is the delivery of a research report containing analyses of research findings gained through desk and field research to the Research Coordinator.

Tasks and Responsibilities:

The selected candidate shall perform the following specific tasks:

- Conduct brief desk-based analysis to support the development of the Methodology and Research Instruments;
- Participate in a one-day consultation meeting with relevant stakeholders to present and discuss the research methodology;
- Participate in a 2-day research training workshop for the research team on the specific tailored methodology finalised at the meeting;
- Conduct literature review, desk research & mapping stakeholder and potential informants;
- Conduct field research in 9 pilot provinces;
- Compose the Research Report containing analyses of research findings gained through desk and field research;
- Participate in a one-day validation meeting with national stakeholders.

Key Results:

- Literature review, Mapping of Stakeholders and Potential Informants;
- Field Research Plan, including geographic locations and the contact people for organisations to be interviewed;
- Interview summaries of at least 2 pages and the interview consent forms from each interview conducted during the field research;
- Research Report;
- Regular feedback to the Research Coordinator and national stakeholders;
- Participation in meetings.

Please note that involvement of senior national researcher is subject to approval and availability of project funds.
E. Desired Profile:

- Master’s degree or equivalent in law, sociology, political science, international relations, economics, migration studies, anthropology, demography or related fields. PhD will be considered as an asset;
- At least 7 years of research experience, preferably in anti-trafficking;
- Good knowledge of the anti-trafficking and migration situation in Turkey;
- Experience in conducting field research on migration, refugees, human rights, labour, child protection, human trafficking and/or other related topics;
- Previous experience in drafting research reports, data analysing, conducting Focus Group Discussion (FGDs) and interviews;
- Experience in liaising with national authorities;
- Knowledge of the European and international anti-trafficking discussion is considered an asset;
- Knowledge of the international and/or relevant national legal, policy and institutional frameworks on human trafficking, migration, asylum, labour and child protection;
- Strong analytical skills and ability to present information in a concise and understandable manner;
- Excellent communication and writing skills in English and Turkish;
- Ability to meet tight deadlines and work as a team member;
- Proficiency in Turkish/English;
- Computer proficiency.

F. Application Process:

Experts interested to take part in the project as Senior National Researcher are kindly invited to apply through sending their updated CV and indicating their area of interest and expertise, to the following email address and to register in the Expert Roster at ICMPD website:

Project email address: thbresearchlabturkey@icmpd.org

This call for experts is also published to build a pool of experts for this research project and thus it will only be possible for the project team to contact experts who are considered to be recruited for conducting the research. Please apply only if your CV corresponds with the desired profile. This call will be open until 21 August 2020.