

MIDTERM REPORT

August 2011 – May 2012

Parliamentarians Against Human Trafficking (PAHT) Project

Background

Following on from the successful pilot project which established the need for a European network of MPs and NGOs working to combat THB, the project's mission was to facilitate regular contact between parliamentarians, NGOs and other actors involved in fighting human trafficking, as well as providing more detailed information on THB. The project also aimed to assist participation in national and regional dialogue for MPs throughout Europe.

By communicating with one voice as a European network, there is a real opportunity for better understanding of the problem; chiefly the need to adopt similar laws and policies to enable cross border cooperation in protection, prosecution, prevention and monitoring of national and international obligations and human rights instruments and to ensure relevant agencies implement these obligations.

The project is also a response to the need for coordination and cooperation on THB between national parliaments, as articulated and documented in the 2010 Inter-Parliamentary Union resolution on Cooperation & Shared Responsibility in the global fight against organized crime, in particular drug trafficking, illegal arms trafficking, trafficking in persons and cross border terrorism (01/04/2010 Bangkok).

The European framework for this project was based on the EU Directives on both THB and Sexual Abuse of Children and the EU Action Plan on THB. Additionally, the tenets of the project were outlined in the resolution of the 2010 Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) conference on organised crime and in the report of the Parliamentary Forum on the occasion of the UN Vienna Forum THB 12/02/2008. The IPU/UNODC Handbook on Trafficking in Persons, 2009, provided a base for parliamentary focus and helps to identify the main project's partners, including the Dutch National Rapporteur on Trafficking, the Council of British Chambers of Commerce in Europe, the British Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and ECPAT UK. These partners were chosen to provide relevant professional knowledge and European contacts.

Project objectives

This project aims to:



- stimulate, promote and develop the methods necessary for strategically preventing and fighting the crime of human trafficking
- promote and develop coordination, cooperation and mutual understanding amongst law enforcement agencies, other national authorities and related EU bodies
- promote and develop best practice for the protection and support of victims and witnesses of the crime of trafficking

The general objective of the project is to develop a European network of parliamentarians working to combat trafficking human beings (THB) in order to promote and develop cross border cooperation and mutual understanding. Creating the network will compliment and stimulate national level anti-trafficking activities such as legal reform and victim support.

The specific objective is to hold 11 events in 8 countries and to provide relevant information through country summary reports, thematic reports, direct contacts and access to an online resource centre for 100 parliamentarians. The project aims to increase the awareness of parliamentarians about THB and to help them to learn about good practice on prosecution, prevention and protection measures by meeting with specialist NGOs and business leaders.

Project partners

This project brings together MPs, civil society, law enforcement representatives, service providers and business leaders as a partnership on combatting crime and supporting victims. A European network of MPs is facilitated and supported by the project and will be monitored by specialist NGOs. The network is an innovative approach to holding governments to account and increasing the capacity of law makers. By bringing together parliamentarians with specialists outside of parliament, the aim is to create focal points in each national parliament which can exist after the project ends or if governments change.

The main partner of the project is ECPAT UK, accompanied by two other key NGO partners responsible for project implementation – the Human Trafficking Foundation (UK) and Asociatia High Level Children's Group (Romania).

The associate partners of the project are the Council of British Chambers of Commerce in Europe, the British Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (BGIPU), the Wilberforce Institute for the Study of Slavery and Emancipation and the Dutch National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings.

Project management structure

The project is implemented and managed day to day by seven people. The Project Director is Ms Christine Beddoe, Director of ECPAT UK. Her role is to provide overall management responsibility, including financial oversight.



The Principle Advisor of this project is Mr Anthony Steen, Chairman of the Human Trafficking Foundation. He is also the Chairman of the project's Advisory Group. His responsibilities include attending meetings, seminars and conferences and networking with parliamentarians participating in the project. He is also tasked with providing advice both on the general direction of the project and activities.

The Project Coordinator, Ms Stana Buchowska is responsible for external liaison representing the project partners, including liaison with MPs, NGOs and others involved in counter-trafficking activities across Europe, for developing an extensive list of relevant contacts in Europe, for managing the budget, organising conferences, meetings, preparing thematic papers, monitoring and report writing, and line managing the Project Assistant.

The Project Assistant, Ms Emma Makey is responsible for logistics, desk research, country reports, website, receipts and administration. Her tasks include maintaining efficient project administration and filing systems, organising logistics for meetings, seminars and conferences, drafting and distributing monthly project e-newsletters, updating the project website and supporting the Project Coordinator in organising events and meetings.

The Human Trafficking Foundation Project Assistant is Mr Tamlin Vickers. His tasks are – amongst others - to manage and arrange meetings of the Advisory Group, to communicate arrangements between relevant stakeholders and to assist the Project Assistant in updating the PAHT website.

Project finances are administrated by an Administrator, under the direction of the Project Director. The administrator is responsible for bookkeeping, financial reports and banking. During the first 7 months of project implementation, this post was held by Ms Erica McGihon. She was replaced by Ms Ranjna Patel in March 2012.

Project information management is the responsibility of the Information Officer, who is a member of permanent staff at ECPAT UK. The Information Officer is responsible for the design of information materials, reports and support on content for the website. During the first three months of the project this post was held by Ms Alice Macek. She was replaced by Ms Chloe Setter in October 2012.

There is also one additional Project Assistant post detailed in the project, based with project partner organisation Asociatia Children's High Level Group. Ms Mariela Neagu, who will hold this post, will be responsible for liaison with other partners, administration and logistics support relating to Romanian activities, including the Good Practice Exchange event in November 2012 and the Final Conference in June 2013.

Target groups

The primary target groups are members of National Parliaments in EU Member States from government, opposition and minority parties. Other target groups are NGOs, business leaders, law



enforcement, service providers, other specialist groups, including national rapporteurs and ombudsmen. The beneficiaries of implemented project activities are victims of human trafficking as well as children and adults who are vulnerable and at risk of trafficking.

Project activities

Start of the project

The project was originally planned to begin in April 2011. The start of the project was postponed to July 2011 due to the postponed recruitment of the project staff. This was approved by the EC under the condition that the initial recruitment delay would not affect the implementation of the project.

Recruitment of project staff

Project staff were recruited in June 2012. Emma Makey, Project Assistant, started her job on 15 July 2011 and Stana Buchowska, Project Coordinator, started on 1 August 2011.

Kick off meeting

The kick off meeting was held on 12th July in the House of Lords Interview Room, Houses of Parliament. 12 participants, including ECPAT UK representatives, project partners and project staff attended. The new project staff were introduced to everyone at the meeting. An overview of the project was presented by Christine Beddoe, as well as plans for the next six months. A schedule of planned activities was also circulated at the meeting, with information on the first seminar that was scheduled for October 2011 in London.

Set up of the office

Prior to the implementation of the project there was an agreement made between ECPAT UK and HTF that the Foundation would provide office space and equipment for the project staff. Originally, the project staff were based in the fifth floor offices of the Human Trafficking Foundation at Mermaid House, Blackfriars, followed by one week on the third floor of Mermaid House. As this was just a temporarily site provided by the Human Trafficking Foundation for the first three months of the project, in October 2011 the office moved to Development House, Shoreditch. The PAHT were based at this office for six months until April 2012. In late April, the office moved again to Alpha House, Borough High Street.

Advisory board

The advisory board was formally approved during the meeting with the main project partners on 9 February 2012. It was agreed that advisory board will consist of one MP from the UK, 2 MPs - representatives of Romania and Poland, with the possibility of the alternation of countries,



(depending on the participation of MPs in different events), project partners – one each of representatives of ECPAT UK, Associatia HLCG and HTF. Anthony Steen was nominated to be a chairman of the advisory board. It was agreed that an advisory board meeting will be organised before each event. The role of advisory board members will also be to give input to project activities and to advise on the strategic direction of the project. Until the end of May 2012, the advisory board has met three times – in February in London, in March in Rome before the seminar, and in April before the sub-regional seminar in Warsaw.

Outputs/achievements

The project was designed to be implemented over 2 years and activities planned include 5 sub-regional seminars, 4 good practice exchange visits, 2 conferences, 4 thematic discussion papers on THB, 20 country briefing papers suitable for parliamentarians to use in debates, maintaining a website and preparing a year 1 progress report and final report for dissemination.

During the reporting period July 2011 – May 2012, 3 seminars and 1 good practice exchange visit were held:

- 1. The inaugural seminar of the Parliamentarians against Human Trafficking** project was held in the House of Commons on 24 November 2011 and themed on *“The concept of prevention in the EU Directive on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings”*.

“The concept of prevention in the EU Directive on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings: theory to practice” was delivered in a keynote speech, by Aidan McQuade, director of Anti-Slavery International. A discussion on the shared international obligations and issues facing governments in tackling the trafficking of adults and children followed up the keynote. The second thematic area explored during the afternoon sessions focused on prevention of human trafficking and sports events, with case studies presented from ECPAT Germany and ECPAT Austria with regard to their experience of the 2006 FIFA World Cup and Euro 2008 football championships. This looked at the potential challenges facing the UK with regards to its hosting of the 2012 Olympic Games.

The programme included also a panel discussion and Q&A on ‘How parliamentarians can help establish awareness parliamentary groups in their own parliaments’. This panel was fronted by MPs from Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania and UK.

The afternoon programme involved “lessons learned” session where two case studies from Austria on measures of prevention against human trafficking in the context of major sports events were presented by NGOs representatives. The final session of the day focused on *“How business and parliamentarians can work more closely together to combat human trafficking”*, presented by Howard Rosen, the President of the Council of British Chambers of Commerce in Europe, an associate partner of the PAHT project.



45 participants attended the seminar. Of them, there were 16 members of parliaments, including 10 MPs from the UK, 2 MPs from Romania, and one parliamentarian each from Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal. This setting of parliamentarians reflects a general tenet that the largest group of MPs will come from the hosting country. Also 13 NGOs representatives attended the seminar, 6 of them from the UK, and one each from Austria, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal and Romania. Additionally, there were two police officers from Germany and the UK.

Impact

Many outcomes will only become fully evident once the project is further developed e.g. a raised level of knowledge and awareness amongst decision makers and the general public, increased support for EU Directive and other anti-trafficking initiatives, enhanced cross-border and international cooperation, a network of MPs across Europe.

However, the London seminar achieved the following:

Creating a raised awareness amongst participants

- Parliamentarians have extra resources and knowledge with which to tackle trafficking – including practical information about establishing groups. Debate centred on comparing different systems of groups (e.g. using the contrasting examples of the UK, Italy and Romania) so as not to impose the UK system on others.
- Parliamentarians gathered further information about THB – especially with regard to prevention, sports events and the EU Directive – which will inform work in their legislatures through better informed questions and interventions.
- Parliamentarians requested an online toolkit to provide information on THB to parliamentarians involved in the project. As a consequence, the project staff have developed the project website to create a parliamentary resource centre with useful documents and presentations from the seminar.

Increased cooperation between MPs, NGOs and public authorities

- Parliamentarians shared views and experiences with leading NGOs from 7 EU countries. The forum for an exchange of ideas helped to start greater cooperation between parliamentarians and NGOs.
- Each parliamentarian who attended commented upon the usefulness of the seminar and remarked that they intend to attend future events. Parliamentarians from Romania, Poland and Greece have already sent details of other parliamentary colleagues who will travel with them to the next event. Other participants will inform their colleagues about the network.



- Parliamentarians from Italy, Poland, Portugal and Romania have offered their political and organisational support for future project events.

Indicators for the London seminar:

16 parliamentarians constitute 16% out of the final target that is to reach directly 100 parliamentarians. They came from 6 countries - 40% of the final target of 15 countries.

2. Good practice exchange meeting in The Hague

The second event of the project was held on 26 January 2011 and hosted by the Dutch Senate. It was prepared and organised in cooperation with the Office of the National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Being, one of the project partners. The main thematic focus was *“The work of The National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Being. The Dutch experience”*. There were 37 participants attending the good practice exchange meeting. Out of them, there were 11 members of parliaments from 7 countries, including 3 MPs from the UK; and additionally MPs from Finland, Greece, Poland, Portugal, Romania and The Netherlands. Also 11 NGOs representatives from 7 countries attended the seminar, they represented Finland, Greece, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Netherlands and the UK. Additionally, the National Rapporteur on Trafficking, representative of the Office of the National Rapporteur and a police officer from Europol also took part in the event. Other participants were representatives of international inter-governmental organisations – IOM, the American Embassy in The Hague and researchers.

The programme of the event consisted of the keynote speech delivered by Corrine Dettmeijer-Vermeulen on *“The Dutch experience of The National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Being and on “How the NR might enhance work of MPs.”* Mr Ard Van Der Steur, MP from The Netherlands delivered the speech on *“How MPs could benefit from the Office of the National Rapporteur: The Dutch Parliamentarians’ Experience.”* Additionally, two panel discussions, followed by Q&A session were held: *“How can parliamentarians build up parliamentary groups as part of an EU parliamentary network?”* with MP’s as panellists and panel led by NGOs on *“Co-operation between NGOs and the National Rapporteur office on anti -trafficking activities”*.

Impact

Although a raised level of knowledge and awareness amongst decision makers and the general public, increased support for EU Directive and other anti-trafficking initiatives, enhanced cross-border and international cooperation, the full benefits of a network of MPs across Europe will be demonstrated only in the long run after the completion of this project, some measurable outcomes of the seminar can already be seen:



a. raised awareness among participants – including 11 parliamentarians - about the importance of the institution of National Rapporteur and its impact on quality of anti-trafficking work, MPs expressed their support for establishing an office of independent national rapporteur in their countries

- participants learned about the situation in other participants countries
- all MPs agreed to build upon the European network of Parliamentarians against Human Trafficking and confirmed their willingness to actively participate in it

b. increased cooperation between MPs and NGOs

- all MPs exchanged views and shared experiences with leading NGOs from 7 EU countries. The majority of whom declared that they will continue to cooperate with NGOs afterwards
- most of the participants stated that they would inform colleagues in their countries about the project and its initiatives, moreover, 3 of them have already sent new contacts of MPs who will attend the next event(s)
- Parliamentarians from Italy, Poland, Portugal and Romania declared their political and organisational/logistic support in organising the next project events.

The seminar laid the grounds for a future network of parliamentarians covering most EU countries, as they started to cooperate in organising next project events, to contact each other and to discuss how to create parliamentary anti-trafficking groups or committees in different countries.

We received a positive feedback from a number of participants after the seminar:

“First of all I would like to congratulate you for the excellent work you have done for the Seminar. It was indeed very useful for me and our work against Human Trafficking in Greece. The discussions, the exchange of views and the recognition of the role of the NGOs in combating human trafficking have helped us in continuing our fight against HT. Our cooperation with the Parliamentarians is of particular importance for a successful outcome, especially on the establishment of an independent National Rapporteur. We need that badly.” (Maria Vassiliou, KEPAD, Greece)

*“Very good meeting!”
Comensha, The Netherlands)*

(Bas de Visser,

“It was a motivating experience!” (Sandra Classen, The Netherlands)

“Thank you for a well organised and moderated conference. I think it went well. The Netherlands is some way ahead of the UK at this moment.” (Michael Connarty MP).



Indicators

11 parliamentarians constitute 11% out of the final target - that is to reach directly 100 parliamentarians. They came from 7 countries and that is 46% of the final target of 15 countries.

During the half year of project implementation between August 2011 and January 2012 we reached 27 parliamentarians, which constitutes 27 % of the final target which is to reach 100 parliamentarians directly. They have come from 8 countries – 53 % of the final target of 15 countries.

3. Seminar on Anti Trafficking Legislation on Protection of Victims

was held in Rome, Italy on 22 March 2012. It was hosted by the Italian Senate. The programme of the seminar included a welcome address from Senator Filippo Berselli, Chairman of the Italian Senate Justice Commission joined by three keynote speeches from key figures involved in the formulation and enforcement of anti-trafficking legislation in Italy. Firstly; *“The Italian experience on Anti-Trafficking Legislation on identification, protection and assistance to victims of Trafficking”* was delivered by Corrado Lembo, Deputy Prosecutor from the Court of Santa Maria Capua Vetere. Then, Prosecutor Giusto Sciacchitano, Deputy Prosecutor from the National Anti-Mafia Office spoke about *“International collaboration in protection and assistance to victims of trafficking”*. Finally, Senator Alberto Maritati delivered his keynote presentation on development perspectives of Anti-trafficking legislation on the protection of victims. The participants and organisers of the seminar were honoured by the attendance of Senator Renato Schifani, Speaker of the Italian Senate, who addressed the seminar to commend the work being done across Europe to tackle human trafficking. The seminar programme included a panel discussion, a ‘countries overview’ session, where parliamentarians from Cyprus, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain and the UK shared their information on what is being done about victim identification, protection assistance and reintegration. The afternoon session provided participants with the opportunity to hear detailed case studies on victim protection by Anna Bonifazi, Chief Office from the Carabinieri, and Maria Pia Vigilante, Chair of ‘La Giraffa’ NGO.

There were 44 participants from 10 countries attending the seminar. Out of them, there were 22 members of parliaments, including 10 MPs from Italy; 3 MPs came from UK, 2 from Slovenia and one parliamentarian each from Cyprus, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Spain. This composition of parliamentarians reflects a general tenet that the largest group of MPs will come from the host country. Also 8 NGOs representatives attended the seminar, including 4 Italian, 2 from Romania and one each from Slovenia and UK. Additionally, two prosecutors, one police officer and two EC experts on trafficking from Germany and the UK also took part in the event.

Impact

The full impact of the project will be observed only on in the long term - like a raised level of knowledge and awareness amongst decision makers and the general public, increased support for



EU Directive and other anti-trafficking initiatives, enhanced cross-border and international cooperation, a network of MPs across Europe. However, some concrete outcomes of the seminar are already observable:

- a. raised awareness among participants – including 22 parliamentarians - about the legal aspects of victims, identification, assistance and protection. Participants have learned about the situation in other participants' countries
 - all MPs confirmed their willingness to continue to build a European network of Parliamentarians against Human Trafficking and to actively participate in it
- b. increased cooperation between MPs, NGOs and public authorities
 - all MPs exchanged views and shared experiences with the NGOs representatives, police, and prosecutor offices
 - Parliamentarians from Italy, Poland, Portugal and Romania declared their political and organisational/logistic support in organising the next project events
- c. The seminar enhanced the grounds for the future of the parliamentary network covering most EU countries.

After the seminar in Rome we received a lot of positive feedback from many MPs and other participants.

Baroness Butler-Sloss: *"...congratulations on organising a successful seminar. It all went very well and the little inconvenience of an unmanageable programme arranged by our Italian hosts was overall unimportant. Everyone co-operated very well. You should both be very pleased with the result."*

Marta Gonzalez MP, Spain: *"First of all, thank you very much for the possibility of attending a most interesting meeting of the project, that has been possible because of all your previous work. I was really impressed by the interest of the presentations and only wished we had some more time to go on discussing and getting more information on the subject."*

Indicators

22 parliamentarians constitute 22% out of the final target that is to reach directly 100 parliamentarians. They came from 10 countries and that is 66% of the final target of 15 countries.

After the first three seminars **49** MPs had attended project events, which came from **14** countries. This constitutes 93 % of the final target of 15 countries.



4. Seminar of the Parliamentarians against Human Trafficking on the National Referral Mechanism, Warsaw, 18 April 2012

The seminar was hosted by the Polish Sejm (Parliament) and supported by the British Embassy in Poland. The programme of the seminar included a keynote speech *“How the National Referral Mechanism contributes to better protection and assistance to victims of trafficking?”* delivered by Ms Mariana Katzarova, Senior Advisor on Anti-Trafficking Issues ODIHR/OSCE. The ODIHR office introduced the concept of the National Referral Mechanism to the international anti-trafficking arena in 2004. The morning session programme included a panel discussion and ‘countries overview’ session, where parliamentarians from Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia and the UK shared information about the national referral mechanism in their countries. MPs from the two new countries – Czech Republic and Slovakia - declared their willingness to create a national group of MPs against human trafficking. This panel discussion was followed up by a Q&A session, where numerous contributions from experts, including academics and NGOs representatives were made.

The afternoon session provided participants with the opportunity to learn about good practice in implementing NRM through an examination of the Polish example. This included examples of cooperation between various stakeholders in referral of victims of trafficking, principally law enforcement representatives, government representatives, police, border guards and NGO service provider representatives.

There were 45 participants from 8 countries who attended the seminar. Of them, there were 14 members of parliament, including MPs from the Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania, Portugal, Slovakia and UK. Because of the theme of the seminar, the Warsaw seminar had strong representation from the police, border guards, office of the prosecutor, the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, academics, international organisations (OSCE/ODIHR), and NGOs from Lithuania, Poland, Romania and the UK. Additionally, representatives of the British Embassy in Warsaw, parliamentary clerks and assistants to MPs, interpreters, parliamentary staff and project staff took part in the seminar. We were delighted by the appearance of former Polish Prime Minister, Mr Leszek Miller (who led Poland to NATO and EU accession in 2004) who greeted participants of the seminar during the lunch break.

Impact

Media coverage of the seminar

Among the highlights of the Warsaw seminar was the considerable media coverage of the event. This included a press conference held in the parliamentary media room where Baroness Elizabeth Butler-Sloss, Anthony Steen, Ryszard Kalisz MP and Stana Buchowska gave a short presentation about the PAHT project and the Warsaw meeting. Additionally, they took part in a short Q&A session with journalists and gave a number of interviews to the TV, radio, newspaper and internet media.



News about the PAHT initiative was produced and broadcasted by the Polish Press Agency (PAP) as well as by a number of newspapers and leading electronic media. Additionally, the archive retransmission of the seminar is available on the Polish Parliament web site.

Other measurable outcomes of the seminar included:

a. raised awareness amongst participants – including parliamentarians - about the concept of the national referral mechanism and EU Directive's recommendations on this subject. Participants learned about the situation in other participants' countries and shared good practice of NRM implementation in Poland

- two new MPs from Czech Republic and Slovakia declared to establish a national subgroup of PAHT, whilst all MPs confirmed to continue building a European network of Parliamentarians against Human Trafficking and their willingness to actively participated in it

- the seminar contributed to awareness raising amongst the society and public opinion, the other MPs in Poland and other institutions and organisation through wide media coverage of the event

b. increased cooperation between MPs, NGOs and public authorities

- all MPs exchange views and shared experiences with the NGOs representatives, police, border guards, prosecutors, academia and NGOs representatives.

- Parliamentarians and other participants from Portugal and Romania declared their political and organisational/logistic support in organising the next project events

c. The seminar enhanced the grounds for a future network of MPs covering EU countries.

Indicators

With the addition of three new countries in Warsaw (the Czech Republic, Estonia and Slovakia), the network has now been extended to 17 countries. The original target of the project was to reach 15 countries. The strong point of the seminar was the participation of a large group of experts, professionals, academics, NGOs and business community representatives. 14 members of Parliament constituted 14% of the final target which is to directly reach 100 parliamentarians. They came from 8 countries - 53 % of the final target of 15 countries.

The four events of the PAHT project were attended by **63** MPs from **17** countries, which is already 113% of the final target.

5. Study visit - Helsinki, 21 June 2012

Thematic reports and Country reports



Four briefing papers on prevention, The National Rapporteur, Italian anti –trafficking legislation and the National Referral Mechanism have been written to support MPs and other participants in better understanding the substance of anti-trafficking work. Additionally, four country reports on the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Italy and Rome have been prepared for participants who attended meetings in these four countries. These reports are available on PAHT website (www.paht.eu) in the online resource centre.

Monthly e-mail update

The PAHT monthly email update is sent to all project partners on the first working day of each month. The update contains a brief review of project activities over the last month, information about forthcoming events and a reminder to check the project website (www.paht.eu). The first issue of the monthly update was sent to all project partners in October 2011. Since then there have been eight issues submitted.

Website maintenance and update

The project website (www.paht.eu) was established in September 2011. The website contains information on project aims, background, staff, funding, partners, calendar and description of events and activities. There are also blog updates (shared with the ECPAT UK website) and monthly updates. An important part of the website is the Online Resource Centre. This contains resources relating to the network (including contacts and a map), general resources on human trafficking and resources from each event (e.g. programmes, presentations etc.) The Project Assistant is responsible for writing copy, uploading and general maintenance of the website, and is assisted by the Human Trafficking Foundation Project Assistant.

Internal meetings

Throughout the course of the project so far, project staff have endeavoured to ensure that all project partners have a good understanding of issues within the project and have the opportunity to feed into forthcoming events. Within the first month of the project, the Project Coordinator and Project Assistant held one to one meetings with associate partners of the project to introduce the planned programme of events and to discuss expectations of partners. This has been complemented by additional meetings with associate partners providing assistance to specific events (e.g. a telephone conference with the National Rapporteur prior to the Dutch event and meetings with COBCOE prior to the London seminar).



There have also been regular informal meetings between project staff and key partners – chiefly ECPAT UK and the Human Trafficking Foundation – to discuss both the specifics of events and the general direction of the project.

Targets

A key target of the project was to enable collaboration with specialist NGOs and business leaders in at least eight countries to share information on THB. The specific focus is child trafficking, labour exploitation, sexual exploitation and the promotion of public-private partnerships against trafficking. The project aims to directly reach 100 parliamentarians across 15 countries and 1000 indirectly through the participating parliamentarians reporting back to national parliaments. The project also aims to conclude with focal point contacts on THB in at least 8 national parliaments.

The focal point contacts on human trafficking are in the process of development. Until now we have received confirmation of a focal point in the following parliaments: Czech Republic, Lithuania, Poland and Slovakia.

Since August 2011, 40 parliamentarians from 17 countries have participated in project activities, together with more than 30 NGO representatives from 14 countries and 21 professionals, including police, prosecutors, border guards, researchers and service providers.

Indicators

Indicators to measure whether the project has met its goals and objectives will include: participation of MPs in project activities; the number of focal points on THB in National Parliaments at the end of the project; the number of references in national parliamentary activity questions/debates/reports as a result of the project, information given by MPs to be shared on website or in publications. The information will be gathered, processed and published in a yearly report in September 2012.

Impact

Measures and expected results:

The expected results of the project are as follows:

- A raised level of knowledge and awareness of new or less investigated forms of trafficking (labour, begging, forced crime).
- Establishment of multinational networks of National Rapporteurs or committed opinion leaders such as MPs, journalists. The network should cooperate with law enforcement and NGOs and aim at continuous exchange of best practice and developing codes of conduct on data collection and reporting cases of human trafficking.



- A raised level of awareness amongst decision makers and the general public regarding trafficking, particularly of the link between trafficking, organised crime and corruption.
- A raised awareness among potential users of services.
- Establishment of guidelines for employers aimed at preventing and dealing with trafficked persons.
- Development training programmes for law enforcement, prosecutors and judges, aimed at raising the level of protection of and support to victims before, during and after criminal proceedings.
- Establishment of guidelines for all practitioners – aimed at ensuring the interests of the victims – in particular regarding compensation claims.
- Establishment of national or international NRM to facilitate the reporting of relevant criminal activities, for example in the form of on-line or telephonic help-lines.
- The project objective is to develop a multi - national network of Parliamentarians on THB by creating a programme of 11 participatory activities for Parliamentarians in 8 European countries to raise awareness, learn good practice, share information and expand contact with specialist NGOs and business leaders in Europe. The expected outcome will be increased awareness and understanding of THB in Member State Parliaments, greater cooperation with public authorities and NGOs working against THB, and increased support for European initiatives such as the Directive on Preventing and Combatting THB and Protecting Victims.
- The project meets the needs of the Programme by creating opportunities for coordination, cooperation and mutual understanding on prosecution, protection and prevention of THB. By involving the Council of British Chambers of Commerce in Europe and BGIPU, the project aims to promote public-private partnerships against THB and in particular draw attention to trafficking for labour exploitation.

At the current stage of the project, it is too early to see whether long term objectives are likely to be achieved (for example, a raised level of knowledge and awareness amongst decision makers and the general public, increased support for EU Directive and other anti-trafficking initiatives, enhanced cross-border and international cooperation, a network of MPs across Europe). The long term aims only could be visible after the completion of the project.. So far we can observe and analyse outcomes from meetings which have already taken place (e.g. seminars and good practice exchange meetings).

Evaluation

The evaluation of the PAHT project aims to assess whether the project is achieving its objectives. The external evaluation of the project is being provided by Professor Gary Craig from the Wilberforce



Institute for the Emancipation of Slavery, who is one of the project partners. His work is paid for as an extra contribution from ECPAT UK general funds.

Professor Gary Craig, B.Sc., Dip. Ed., Dip C.W., PhD, AcSS, FRSA is Professor Emeritus of Social Justice at the University of Hull, Joint Head of the Centre for Social Inclusion and Social Justice and Associate Fellow, Wilberforce Institute for the Emancipation of Slavery, where he has led the team working on issues of modern slavery. He is also Visiting Professor at the University of Durham and Associate Fellow at the Third Sector Research Centre, University of Birmingham.

There have been regular meetings between the project staff and the evaluator to help carry out evaluation and provide external insight into the project. Professor Craig has already attended three of the project events where he has gathered information and data that will be processed in the evaluation report.

Since August 2011, 6 meetings with evaluator have been held, including three in London, one in The Hague, Rome and Warsaw. A short interim evaluation report will be available in October 2012.

The evaluator also helps the project team with suggestions on how to improve event participation, content and form of planned events and helps with preparing evaluation tools, including a data collection 'Questionnaire' that will be widely distributed amongst participants. He has provided the project team with notes from brief conversations during the seminars he attended.

Report submitted by Stana Buchowska, PAHT project coordinator

London, 15 June 2012

