



International
Labour
Organization

Report on the roles and responsibilities of social actors (Child Rights Information Centre, International Centre "La Strada", Free International University of Moldova, Balti State University "Alecu Russo", Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) in addressing child labour issues.

International
Programme
on the
Elimination of
Child Labour
(IPEC)

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I. BALTI STATE UNIVERSITY "ALECU RUSSO"

1.1. Review of the Institutional Framework, Mandates and Areas of Activity

Balti State University "Alecu Russo" (BSU) is a public institution and a modern centre of science, training and culture in the North of Moldova. Due to its achievements during 60 years of activity, the BSU acquired an excellent reputation, both at national and international level, while training qualified specialists that work in various areas of education, science and national economy. The students are trained by well-prepared teachers.

The BSU consists of: 8 departments, 26 chairs, the Scientific Library, Continuous Training Centre, Pedagogical College, Theoretical High School, IT Department, research centres, Consultancy Centre, didactic and research laboratories, including inter-department laboratories, organized in cooperation with other science and innovation institutions, etc.

Students participate in the BSU management by means of the Student Senate and student dean's offices. In addition, the University Senate and Department's Board have students as their members.

The BSU has the following main objectives (selected):¹

- Upgrade continuously the training process by improving the education plans, subject-based curricula and teaching methodology to promote some forms of training, adjusted to the changing requirements of the modern world.
- Implement the university management on the basis of modern quality requirements.
- Ensure continuous training of teachers and the university staff.
- Organize and conduct fundamental and applicative scientific researches, aimed at solving the current problems of the national economy.
- Provide technical, scientific and consultative services to ministries, departments and economic units, individuals.
- Meet the basic social needs of the members of the university community.

To adjust the training programmes to the current needs of the society, the Department of Pedagogy, Psychology and Social Assistance trains students in *issues related to the worst forms of child labour, including child trafficking*, in particular, students who specialize in *Social Assistance Services and Psychology*.

The Social Assistance Section prepares specialists who contribute to the well-being and self-fulfilment of human beings, provides assistance to people facing difficulties in their life, provides support and social protection to different categories of beneficiaries at risk and/or in difficulty: children, youth, underprivileged families, elderly people, drug and alcohol addicts, unemployed, people with deviant and delinquent behaviour, etc. The Department of Pedagogy, Psychology and Social Assistance trains about 400 students per year at the specialty of *Social Assistance Services*.

The Psychology Section prepares psychologists who: a) help prevent, diagnose and solve psychological problems of a human being, b) provide counselling services and psychological assistance to different categories of beneficiaries, c) provide psychological support to avoid/overcome existential crises, etc. At the 2nd cycle – Master's higher education - students study in depth the judiciary psychology, which involves psychological expert assessment, identification of the criminal etiology, identification of the psychological state of the criminal at

¹ Regulations of the Balti State University "Alecu Russo"

the time of crime, psychological services in the penitentiary, intervention for rehabilitation and social reintegration in the judiciary system. Every year, the Department of Pedagogy, Psychology and Social Assistance trains about 200 students at the *Psychology* Section.

The activity of the "Alecu Russo" State University is guided by the "*University's Quality Management Policy*", approved on 1 December 2008 by the University Senate. The goal of this policy is to continuously provide clients with services that meet the European standards and continuously improve the quality of services on the basis of the feedback received from the clients, suppliers and employees.

To meet this goal, the University will implement the following strategies:

- Monitor systematically the requirements of training institutions and of the labour market.
- Develop and improve continuously the University's Quality Management System.
- Improve the structure and technology of qualitative training of specialists.
- Study and implement the best training practices.
- Develop partnership relations with the educational and training units of all levels.
- Conduct systematic self-assessments of the opportunities and results of meeting the client's needs.
- Enhance continuously the employees' professionalism.
- Establish appropriate conditions for productive and creative work.

During the period 2009-2011, the Balti State University "A.Russo", in partnership with the Kaunas University of Technology, will implement the "WETEN - Western-Eastern Teachers' Education Network" project. *This project has the following objectives:*

- Review the compliance of the teaching traditions, competencies and skills of teachers from higher education institutions with the European e-Learning strategy and e-Bologna action.
- Improve the quality of the teaching and learning process in higher education by providing teaching materials to the Eastern partners from the network.
- Train about 400 teachers and master students from higher educational institutions and implement new teaching methodologies for 6 subjects, including the educational sciences.

The project will have the following main *results*:

- Comparative analysis of the development needs and the existing services to implement and enhance the learning support services at the tertiary level;
- Comparative studies of the learning support models;
- Teaching materials developed and placed on the Internet for public use;
- Five advanced training courses for managers, tutors, IT specialists and 400 teachers from the partner institutions of Moldova and Ukraine;
- New technologies and methodologies implemented;
- Technical models developed for the operation of the teachers' network and skills enhancement courses.

1.2. Analysis of Internal Environment

The BSU organigram is developed and approved by the Senate and coordinated with the Ministry of Education. The BSU has the following management structures: University Senate, Senate Office, Administrative Board, Department Board, Office of the Department Board, and Office of the Chair (Please refer to the Annex for the BSU Organigram).

The BSU has a number of *opportunities* for a planned and system-based approach of the WFCL, including child trafficking. Apart from its 26 chairs, the BSU has a *Skills Enhancement and Retraining Centre* with a mandate to retrain the preuniversity teachers from the North of Moldova and the entire country in "Technological Education" and "Music Education". The Centre provides skills enhancement and retraining services to the staff of ministries, departments and educational establishments.

The BSU has 86 laboratories, specialized and didactic rooms that operate at departments and chairs. The BSU has a number of substructures that provide various services to students, teachers and the population, as follows:

- *Scientific Library of the University*, unique in the country, designed and built according to the library technologies. The library has 248903 titles in 1139400 copies. The library has 7800 registered readers and, on the average, 480000 visits per year. The BSU library is computerized and connected to Internet.
- *The UN Information and Documentation Centre*, opened in October 2001, provides information about the United Nations to the university community and interested people from Balti county, provides information about the UN values within the Information Club, participates in the activities organized by UN in Moldova. The Centre is connected to Internet.
- The *Legal Clinic* provides legal support for litigations on family law, civil law, social insurance law, etc. In this clinic the students have the possibility to test, strengthen and apply in practice their theoretical knowledge.
- The *Moldovan-American Center for Private Initiatives* provides assistance in corporate management, provides consultancy and training to managers and private entrepreneurs.

The university teachers, trained in child labour issues under the IPEC projects, work at the "Psychology and Social Assistance" chair. In 2007, child labour was integrated in the curricula for social workers and psychologists by the teachers who were trained by the IPEC implementing partners and other organizations. Thus, issues of child labour prevention, child labour monitoring and some techniques of working with victims of WFCL are taught as part of the following courses: a) Social assistance to children and young people; b) Prevention of child abuse and institutionalization of children, and c) Judicial psychology at the specialties of Social Assistance Services and Psychology.

A special course on Child Abuse Prevention was taught to the students from the specialties of "Pedagogy in Primary Education and Preschool Pedagogy", "Pedagogy in Primary Education and English Language", thus extending the coverage.

The course on Judicial Psychology is also taught at the Law Department, and the module "Victim and Victimology" focuses on the child victim of WFCL.

The total number of students enrolled for training in these issues during the period 2008–2010, exceeded 1000 people, as these courses are taught both to full-time and part-time students from the Department of Pedagogy, Psychology and Social Assistance.

Child labour is also among the topics suggested to students for their graduation papers. Thus, only during the past two years, three graduation papers were developed and defended on the following topics: 1) "Monitoring of Child Labour in Rural Areas: Assistance Perspectives"; 2) "Psychosocial Strategies to Prevent Child Labour "; 3) "Social Theatre as a Method of Macro and Micro-Social Intervention".

The BSU identified a number of constraints in the teaching and scientific process², including the following:

- Lack of policies, strategies on quality assurance at the institutional and national levels.
- The training content and quality do not meet the European standards because of the shortage of resources (teachers, curriculum, methods, information, training means).
- Too much focus on the internal possibilities and insufficient focus on the needs of the society and clients.
- Focus on the "transmissive" learning model to the detriment of the competence-based approach.
- The employers are not involved in defining the training contents, co-funding of training and appraisal of the quality of graduates.
- Low quality of the university management (lack of a strategic decision-making system, delayed reaction to changes in the external environment).
- Resistance to changes and difficulty to promote changes in the mindset, attitudes, behaviours.

The BSU budget consists of allocations from the state budget and other sources of income.

Technical capacity of the staff:

BSU employs currently 450 teaching staff who provide education to 8 departments of the university. The university has the following management staff:

1/ Rector, 2/ First Prorector (in charge of European integration and quality of training in the university) 3/ Prorector for education, 4/ Prorector for part-time education and advanced training of preuniversity teachers; 5/ Prorector for science and advanced training of university teachers, 6/ Prorector for administrative and logistical issues, 7/ General director of the Scientific Library, 8/ Head of Department for Education, 9/ Head of Personnel Service, 10/ 8 deans, 11/ accountant general.

1.3. Strategic Objectives, Long-Term and Medium-Term Priorities

While participating in the development of humanities and sciences, the BSU performs its research work in line with the principles of interdisciplinarity, comparativism, support of researchers' talent and personality, high criteria for performance evaluation.³ The university contributes to awareness raising and settlement of technical, technological, social and humanitarian problems, social progress and better quality of life. The university promotes the following values: creativity, innovation, integrity, diversity and respect for individuality.

The BSU Strategy provides for a continuous improvement of the educational system aimed at preparing competent specialists who will be able to integrate in the labour market, by implementing the following strategic objectives:

- Create the BSU image at the national and international level through international certification (Quality Management System (QMS)) of the educational services.

² Quality Guidelines of "Alecu Russo" State University of Balti, 2007

³ Manual of the quality management system. MC-USB-01 Code

- Create a self-improving QMS on the basis of the continuous enhancement principle.
- Make sure that the needs of the internal and external beneficiaries are met as a matter of priority.
- Make sure that the beneficiaries acquire systematically the needed knowledge and competencies for their self-fulfilment in the society.
- Provide the internal and external beneficiaries with material, methodological and information resources that guarantee the implementation of QMS in the university.
- Make sure that the training, on the one hand, and demand and practice, on the other hand, are systematically integrated.
- Create a single legal environment in line with the national and international legislation to ensure the efficient implementation of the QMS.
- Create appropriate conditions for an efficient corporate management in the education quality assurance system.
- Provide internal guarantees for the quality of educational services and training of specialists.
- Create external guarantees for the quality of educational services and training of specialists.

1.4. Monitoring and Evaluation

The BSU work is monitored and evaluated in line with the Quality Management System (QMS) that provides for the following mechanisms and procedures:

- identification of the beneficiaries' needs (*analysis of the competition and of the BSU position in the market; review of the complaints and information from the beneficiaries; interview with the beneficiaries*).
- internal audit (*on the basis of the audit plan*).
- process monitoring and measuring (*analyses, assistance, verifications, reviews*).
- service monitoring at all stages of educational services provision by departments, chairs (*according to the BSU Regulations on the Organization and Conduct of the Teaching Process*).

1.5 Gaps in terms of child labour

Threats:

1. BSU's concern for child labour issues is not expressly stated in any official document, either as a research topic or as a subject to be included in the university curriculum for cycles 1 and 2 or continuous training.
2. BSU has a limited number of human resources trained on WFCL, including child trafficking issues, while the training of teachers from the BSU on these issues is rather a response of some separate teachers to the offers made by NGOs, than a need officially acknowledged by BSU to train human resources in this field.
3. There is no predefined mechanism for involvement of BSU representatives in the development/validation of national policies on child protection and, in particular, on preventing and eliminating the WFCL.

Impact:

1. Fragmentary participation of academia representatives (mainly as NGO experts) from BSU in developing policies on preventing and combating the WFCL.
2. Fragmentary and insufficient training of students in child labour.
3. Lack of scientific researches, studies on child labour.

Opportunities

1. Participation of academia representatives in the government working groups, including as part of the National Steering Committee on Elimination of Child Labour, to contribute to policy development, analyse, research and monitor child labour in Moldova.
2. Integration of child labour issues in the university curriculum for the specialities of pedagogy, psychology, social assistance, law.
3. Training of a greater number of university teaching staff in the field of child labour, so that child labour is covered by more subjects, and more specialities.
4. Provision of relevant university subdivisions (Centre for advanced training and retraining, UN Information and Documentation Centre, Legal Clinic etc.) with information materials, reports on child labour, etc.

1.6. Conclusions

1. The BSU objectives stipulate continuous modernization of the training system and its adjustment to the changing requirements of the modern world.
2. The Department of Pedagogy, Psychology and Social Assistance contributes to the preparation of students in *issues on the worst forms of child labour, including child trafficking*.
3. The staff of the Department of Pedagogy, Psychology and Social Assistance is well trained in issues related to the worst forms of child labour, including child trafficking.
4. The BSU policy on quality management allows taking into account the opinion of service providers and employers on the labour market.
5. The BSU studies and implements the best training practices.
6. Due to international projects, the BSU has access to foreign innovatory experiences and implements modern educational technologies.
7. The BSU has a number of important subdivisions to promote new directions of activity, including in the child labour area (e.g. Skills Enhancement and Retraining Centre, UN Centre for Information and Documentation, Legal Clinic, etc.).

II. FREE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF MOLDOVA

2.1. Review of the Institutional Framework, Mandates and Areas of Activity

The Free International University of Moldova (FIUM) was established on 16 October 1992. In its capacity of an alternative higher educational institution, as part of its teaching and scientific process FIUM promotes new educational and informational technologies, with a view to providing quality training to the future specialists, in strict compliance with the requirements of the Bologna Process. FIUM is accredited by the National Council for Academic Evaluations and Accreditation, Certificate no 0.16 of 16 July 2002.

The FIUM has the mission to: a) convey culture through education and research to ensure its sustainable development; b) form specialists with higher education for the national economy and foreign labour market; c) improve the graduates in the spirit of knowledge progress and ongoing education; d) involve permanently the students and teachers in the university's scientific and cultural life; e) promote the values of the national, European and world culture and spirituality; f) provide flexible and dynamic education on the basis of educational cycles, adjustable to the requirements of the labour market; g) provide higher education by enhancing it continuously - cycles I, II and III, advanced and in-depth studies; h) promote distance learning; j) develop PhD scientific schools in the university; k) participate in the implementation of scientific projects of national, European and international interest; l) organize the social life in the university, so that the university acquires the features of the main Centre of education, civilization and culture of the community; m) promote and improve the academic extensions through consultancy, selection and vocational guidance centres, and the FIUM branches abroad.

The principles of the educational process in the FIUM are in line with the national, European and international legislative acts, with the university education conducted in three cycles: 1) Bachelor; 2) Master and 3) Doctoral.

The fundamental and applicative scientific research is an important dimension of the FIUM strategy for a harmonious integration in the European higher education area and contribution to the sustainable development of the society.

The FIUM has seven teaching-scientific departments: 1) Law; 2) Economic Sciences; 3) Foreign Languages and Communication Sciences; 4) Medicine; 5) Computer Science and Engineering; 6) History and International Affairs; 7) Psychology and Social Assistance, where about 5000 students study. The 26 chairs have about 500 teachers (400 full-time and 100 part-time), 60% of whom have scientific and didactic degrees.

The *Psychology and Social Assistance Department* is the only FIUM department that trains students on issues related to child labour. This department prepares specialists in psychology, sociology, social assistance and educational psychology, who are able to integrate themselves in the competitive and dynamic economic and social context due to their theoretical and analytical skills and involvement in the settlement of the problems of individuals and collectivity.

The Psychology and Social Assistance Department carries out the educational and methodological work in line with a) the FIUM Educational Concept, b) Principles of the Bologna Process, c) Law on Education and d) Framework Plan for Cycle I (higher Bachelor education). The FIUM activity is based on modern educational methods and technologies, taken from the practice of the European and US universities and adjusted to the realities of the Republic of Moldova.

The Psychology and Social Assistance Department, especially cycle II, develops a number of competencies⁴, relevant for the *issues related to child labour*.

In total, about 200 students are trained annually on issues related to child labour.

Specialty	Competencies developed
Educational psychology	• Develop strategies and tactics of the educational, training, work and other types of activities from the perspective of the educational psychology. • Monitor the activity of the educational institution and coordinate the efforts with a view to increasing the flexibility of the organization by developing a sound organizational structure, flexible to changes. • Develop programmes to evaluate the academic attainment of children of different ages.
Social assistance	• Determine how to involve assistance in defining and dealing with social problems of different categories and groups by different criteria: age, wealth, self-service capacity, etc. • Improve the social assistance process by introducing the latest achievements related to the protection of the rights of different categories of people. • Develop strategies and tactics of social assistance at the level of social policies and counselling for individuals.
Psychology	• Design the psychological work at the level of organizations, educational institutions, collective, group, and individual. • Settle the problems related to human resources planning, labour force selection and distribution, staff registration and rotation, analysis of posts and professions, counselling, managerial conflicts prevention, staff diagnosis and counselling, prevention and labour protection. • Develop programmes to evaluate the academic attainment of children of different ages.
Sociology	• Develop strategies and tactics of investigatory and formative involvement at the level of social groups, communities, political, economic and cultural problems. • Determine and participate actively in the settlement of problematic situations by consensus/cooperation by applying the sociological knowledge and practical skills. • Identify the sociological problems that need researches.

⁴ These competencies are developed as part of the following courses: 1) Basics of Social Assistance; 2) Law in Social Assistance; 3) Social Policies; 4) Services of Community-Based Social Services; 5) Volunteering in Social Assistance; 6) Modern System of Social Assistance; 7) Employment Policies; 8) Counselling in Social Assistance.

2.2. Analysis of Internal Environment

The FIUM strategies on the educational process focus on the following directions:

- ensure qualitative internal processes oriented towards the societal impact;
- implement an own system to self-evaluate the quality of internal processes (educational process, strategic governance, operational management, etc.).

The FIUM management applies the following tactics to improve the internal environment:

- develop continuously the FIUM Codex;
- develop and update the training plans and courses' curricula;
- implement new informational technologies for the management of the internal process of the FIUM by:
- developing and implementing continuously the educational efforts;
- implementing systems to monitor and manage the teaching process;
- computerizing the Library Information Department, access to Internet/Intranet.

Both the educational structures and students' organizations (Student League, Student Senate, etc.) participate in the monitoring and internal audit of the quality of the teaching process.

The FIUM is funded from private and public sources, and grants.

Technical capacity of the staff:

FIUM employs currently 500 professors (400 full-time and 100 part-time), 60% of them have scientific and teaching degrees, who ensure the operation of 7 departments. The university has the following management staff:

1/ Rector; 2/ First Prorector; 3/ Prorector; 4/ Prorector for international cooperation; 5/ Director of the Department for Educational Process Records and Monitoring; 6/ Director of the Centre for international academic extensions; 7/ Director of the Information and Library Science Department; 8/ Deans of 7 departments.

Gaps in terms of child labour

Threats:

1. FIUM's concern for child labour issues is not expressly stated in any official document, either as a research topic or as a subject to be included in the university curriculum for cycles 1 and 2 or continuous training.
2. FIUM has a limited number of human resources trained on WFCL, including child trafficking issues, while the training of teachers from the FIUM on these issues is rather a response of some separate teachers to the offers made by NGOs, than a need officially acknowledged by FIUM to train human resources in this field.
3. There is no predefined mechanism for involvement of FIUM representatives in the development/validation of national policies on child protection and, in particular, on preventing and eliminating the WFCL.

Impact:

1. Lack of participation of academia representatives from FIUM in developing policies on preventing and combating the WFCL.
2. Fragmentary and insufficient training of students on child labour.
3. Lack of scientific research, studies on child labour.

Opportunities

1. Participation of academia representatives in the government working groups, including as part of the National Steering Committee on Elimination of Child Labour, to contribute to policy development, analyse, research and monitor child labour in Moldova.
2. Integration of child labour issues in the university curriculum for the specialities of pedagogy, psychology, social assistance,
3. Training of a greater number of university teaching staff in the field of child labour, so that child labour is covered by more subjects, and more specialities.
4. Provision of relevant university subdivisions (Department for Educational Process Records and Monitoring; Centre for international academic extensions; Information and Library Science Department etc.) with information materials, reports on child labour, etc.

2.3. Strategic Objectives, Long-Term and Medium-Term Priorities

The FIUM Strategy for 2009-2014 contains the following strategic objectives of educational development:

- Develop the outcome-based university curricula and improve the quality of the training programmes (depending on the requirements of the national and international labour market).
- Integrate the theoretical and scientific elements in the practical aspects of the labour market (the FIUM graduate should both search for and create jobs).
- Improve the human resources management system.
- Democratize the internal processes of the FIUM by decentralizing the decision making.

The FIUM Strategy also contains a series of strategic objectives for scientific development, such as:

- Guide the scientific research process taking into account the national needs and participate in researches of European and international interest.
- Modernize continuously the management of fundamental and applicative scientific researches.
- Conduct applicative researches with national and international partners.
- Encourage interdisciplinary scientific researches of institutional and national interest.
- Raise funds for scientific projects and pass gradually the scientific research institutes to self-management and self-sufficiency.

The FIUM management ensures the education quality in strict compliance with the Bologna Process, which stipulates the establishment of a system for vocational counselling and guidance for students, extension of the educational process by promoting ongoing higher education.

The work of the Psychology and Social Assistance Department is based on several strategic directions:⁵

- Development of specialists of a new type, who are able to integrate themselves in the competitive and dynamic economic and social context due to their theoretical and analytical skills and involvement in the settlement of the problems of individuals and collectivity;
- Promotion, by means of scientific researches and dissemination of results, of the social-humanistic ideas and ideals and changes from the perspective of new values;
- Practical and advisory participation in the settlement of the communities' and individuals' problems.

2.4. Monitoring and Evaluation

In the FIUM, the monitoring and evaluation are carried out by the Department for the Monitoring of the Educational Process, which has the following tasks (selected):

- Coordinate and monitor the training, educational and teaching process in the FIUM.
- Plan and check periodically the didactic load for the academic year.
- Manage the "FIUM Education" database and monitor the accuracy of data.

The Human Resources Department coordinates the human resources management on the basis of the Regulations on the Organization and Functioning of the Human Resources Service, taking into account: the number of retiring staff, extension or limitation of the specialties, changes in the training plan, number of students, academic extensions through the centres for selection, consultancy and vocational guidance and foreign branches.

2.5. Conclusions

1. The FIUM provides flexible and dynamic education, adjusted to the requirements of the labour market, participates in the implementation of scientific projects of national, European and international interest.
2. A number of university courses at the *Psychology and Social Assistance Department* cultivate competencies relevant for the *issues related to child labour*.
3. The development and updating of the outcome-based training plans and courses curricula allows adjusting them to the national social and economic development.
4. The FIUM Strategy provides for the encouragement of the interdisciplinary scientific researches of institutional and national interest.

⁵ Educational Concept of the Psychology and Social Assistance Department

III. OSCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA

3.1. Review of the Institutional Framework, Mandates and Areas of Activity

The primary objective of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, established in February 1993, is to facilitate the achievement of a lasting, comprehensive political settlement of the Transnistrian conflict in all its aspects. Besides the political status negotiations, its activities cover a broad spectrum of issues, including democratic transformation, human rights, combating trafficking in human beings and military security.

The Permanent Council brought the authorized strength of the Mission from 8 members in 1993 to 13 members. The Head of Mission (since 19 December 2007) is Ambassador Philip N. Remler of the United States.

In 2003, the Mission expanded its human dimension portfolio to include combating trafficking in human beings and promoting gender issues. The Mission's Anti-Trafficking and Gender Programme (ATG Programme) seeks to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings by tackling domestic violence and promoting gender equality and women's rights. The Mission also helps to enhance identification, protection and assistance to victims and vulnerable persons and supports the observance of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law.

In formulating its ATG Programme objectives, the Mission is guided by its mandate, the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (Permanent Council Decision No. 557 of 24 July 2003), the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality (Ministerial Council Decision No. 14/04 of 7 December 2004), and the OSCE Decision on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women (Ministerial Council Decision No. 15/05 of 6 December 2005).

The OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings addresses the issue comprehensively, covering protection of victims, prevention of trafficking, and prosecution of those who facilitate or commit trafficking. The Action Plan recognizes the role of corruption in encouraging this crime, as well as the need to address the root causes of trafficking in both countries of origin and destination.

The OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality seeks to implement international standards and commitments concerning equality for women and men, non-discrimination, and women's and girls' rights, including full compliance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

3.2. Analysis of Internal Environment

The Mission contributes to combating Trafficking of Human Beings (THB) by the following means:

Legislative support. The Mission has facilitated and contributed to the development of:

- Three National Action Plans to Prevent and Combat THB (covering the period 2002-2009).
- Law to Prevent and Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (2005).
- Law on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men (2006).
- Law on Preventing and Combating Family Violence (adopted November 2008).
- Draft Law on Preventing and Combating Discrimination in Moldova (under development).
- Draft Law on Victims and Witnesses Protection (under development).

- National Referral Strategy for assisting victims and potential victims of THB.

Project support. The Mission supports projects in the following areas:

- Prevention of trafficking in human beings and children.
- Protection and assistance to vulnerable persons.
- Combating domestic violence.
- Promotion of women's rights and peace-building.
- Development of migration policies.

The ATG Programme supports selected organizations and institutions in developing and implementing anti-trafficking and gender projects in Chisinau and other regions of Moldova. The Mission's ATG Programme worked with both established and new partners, including state institutions, NGOs, and social service providers at the national, district, and local levels. Through these projects the Mission's ATG Programme reached state and local authorities, civil society representatives, vulnerable persons and victims of THB and domestic violence.

The Mission supports several projects aimed at combating child trafficking, among which:

- Terre des Hommes Project Fight against Child Trafficking (F.A.C.T.) – Phase 2 in Moldova to enhance the child protection system and promote methodology to assist children at risk or victims of abuse, neglect, exploitation and trafficking and their families.
- Child Rights Information Centre (CRIC) Project “Social Inclusion of Children Left Behind by Migrant Parents” to reduce the vulnerability of children by raising awareness and building the capacity of children, parents and child care givers.
- La Strada's Project to assess the current practices in investigative interviewing in cases of child trafficking and/or sexual exploitation. La Strada will conduct a research to improve the mechanisms to protect under-aged victims of sexual abuse.
- Association of Youth Trainers NGO Project “You Can Prevent Human Trafficking: Today on Stage, Tomorrow in Your Life!” to raise awareness and help prevent youth trafficking.
- National Centre for Child Abuse Prevention (NCCAP) Project “Implementation of the National Referral System for Victims of Trafficking,” to provide multidisciplinary assistance to child victims of trafficking and family violence.

Institutional support. The Mission attends, as an observer, all public sessions of the National Committee to Combat THB. The Mission also co-chairs, with the Ministry of Justice, the Sub-Working Group on Legislation and Law Enforcement of the National Committee. The primary purpose of this Committee has been to bring national legislation in the area of trafficking in human beings into conformity with international human rights standards.

National capacity building. The Mission's ATG Programme supports a training seminar on THB as a Criminal Offence and Victims' Rights; training courses on preventing and combating family violence for social workers, law enforcement and other community service professionals; supports national experts and representatives of national authorities, including law enforcement, at international events, etc.

Technical capacity of the staff:

The activity of the OSCE Mission is administered by the Head of Mission, Deputy Head of Mission and 5 programmes (which include multidisciplinary specialists, mainly economists and lawyers): 1/ Head of Mission Programme; 2/ Fund Administration Unit Programme; 3/ Conflict

Prevention/Resolution Programme; 4/ Human Rights Monitoring/Democratization Programme; 5/ Anti-Trafficking and Gender Programme.

Gaps in terms of child labour

Threats:

1. OSCE does not support activities in the area of prevention and combating WFCL, except for child trafficking.
2. OSCE representatives are not involved in the development/validation of national policies on prevention and elimination of WFCL.

Impact:

1. Activities aimed at preventing and eliminating the WFCL are underfunded and do not meet the country's needs in this field.

Opportunities:

1. Extension of OSCE funding to other types of WFCL than child trafficking will lead to consolidation of existing efforts in promoting policies, piloting and implementing effective models for prevention and elimination of the WFCL
2. OSCE could provide institutional support to relevant social actors (governmental, non-governmental) in promoting policies and piloting models for prevention and combating of the WFCL

3.3. Strategic Objectives, Long-Term and Medium-Term Priorities

Through its ATG Programme, and consistent with OSCE commitments, the Mission seeks:

- to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings;
- to prevent and combat domestic violence;
- to promote gender equality and women's rights;
- to enhance the identification, protection and assistance to victims and vulnerable persons;
- to support the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- to encourage the observance of the rule of law in the Republic of Moldova.

The Mission's ATG Programme will concentrate its efforts in future in the following areas:

- co-ordination and information sharing;
- institutional support;
- legislative support and advocacy;
- national capacity building.

Primarily through the implementation of projects by local NGOs and international organizations in Moldova, the ATG Programme provided financial support to activities and initiatives focused on making Moldova a more secure county and ensuring rule of law and human rights for the most vulnerable people.

3.4. Monitoring and evaluation

The Mission hosts monthly Technical Co-ordination Meetings (TCMs) in Chisinau and bi-monthly regional TCMs throughout Moldova. These meetings aim to further co-ordination among anti-trafficking actors and stimulate exchange of information about activities and initiatives in the field. Regional TCMs also include local public authorities and local civil society representatives. The results and lessons learned during the implementation of ILO-IPEC Action

Programmes against child trafficking and other WFCL, were presented and discussed during the TCMs several times.

In autumn 2006, the Mission, in partnership with Winrock International's "New Perspectives for Women" project, launched an Anti-Trafficking and Gender Network website (www.atnet.md). This website offers information in English, Romanian, and Russian, and includes a database of organizations, projects, and activities, as well as news and events.

In March 2006 the Mission and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), in partnership with the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative and the Institute for Penal Reform, commenced the Trial Monitoring Programme for Moldova.

3.5. Conclusions

1. The Mission expanded its human dimension portfolio to combating of human trafficking and promotion of gender issues.
2. The Mission has facilitated and contributed to the development and monitoring of National Action Plans to Prevent and Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and other relevant policies and legislative frameworks.
3. The Mission's ATG Programme supports selected organizations and institutions in developing and implementing anti-trafficking and gender projects in Chisinau and other regions of Moldova, including projects targeting children at risk and victims of other WFCL.
4. The Mission has a major role in monitoring and funding of anti-trafficking projects in Moldova, including projects targeting children at risk and victims of other WFCL.
5. The Mission plays a key role in co-ordination among anti-trafficking actors and encouraging exchange of information about activities and initiatives in the field.

IV. INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS "LA STRADA"

4.1. Review of the Institutional Framework, Mandates and Areas of Activity

The International Centre for Promotion and Protection of Women's Rights "La Strada" is a human rights international non-governmental organization which strives to build a society based on the principle of respect for human rights.

La Strada works in Moldova since 2002 to counteract trafficking in persons, specifically women and children in Moldova through prevention, assistance and lobby activities.

Among the major recognized qualifications of La Strada are the following:

Extended, long-standing history of cooperation with OSCE/ODIHR Poland, OSCE Moldova, ICMPD Austria, UNODC Austria, IOM, ILO and other partners on *international/regional legal expertise, consulting services, organization of research and training activities*.

Legal and technical support in upgrading of the anti-trafficking strategy and legal framework – co-author of Anti-Trafficking Law; NAP 2005-2006; VoT Repatriation Regulation; Life Skills School Curricula; Shelter Protocol and Regulation; law enforcement international cooperation memoranda.

Efficiency of the *National Tool-Free Hot-Line* to Prevent Trafficking in Persons; over 20 000 calls registered and counselled.

Contact point for identification and referral of trafficking cases - setting and developing joint, i.e. police and NGO system for the identification of VoTs; over 500 VoT identified and assisted.

Author of *advanced training Modules and Manuals* – endorsed by relevant Ministries - for professional groups in the area of trafficking prevention, assistance to victims, cooperation between NGOs and police, media in building fair attitude towards victims and trafficking issue coverage, hot-line setting and operation and other.

Development and institutionalization of the National Referral Mechanism for the identification, assistance and protection of VoT (including research, legal expertise and consultations).

Successful implementation of *prevention and information campaigns* throughout the country - La Strada's lecturers and modules are widely recognized; successful elaboration and implementation of non-traditional prevention activities among which anti-trafficking disco-parties, drawing contests within orphanages, are implemented in Moldova.

4.2. Analysis of Internal Environment

The programmes and activities of La Strada are carried out in three priority areas:

Resource Centre for (potential) migrants

The mission of the Resource Centre is to ensure transparency of the information system via providing large access to the information for the potential migrants, including the liaison with the clients into the informational sources through direct and indirect support.

Objectives of Recourse Centre are as follows:

- Education of the potential migrants with regard to migration and the threat of human trafficking
- Optimization of national resources for human trafficking prevention
- Trainings, experience exchange and good practices at national and international level

Drop-In-Centre for (presumable) victims of trafficking

The mission of the Drop-In-Centre is to promote the protection of rights of the human trafficking victims, to ensure control transparency and quality of the provided services to the victims, contributing to the consolidation of national capacity for counteracting the trafficking via cooperation between NGOs and Governmental Organizations.

Objectives of Drop-In-Centre are as follows:

- Facilitate the access to quality based and secure assistance for the trafficked persons
- Optimize the services provided to the victims of human trafficking
- Capacity building for professional groups
- Elaboration of technical, educational and information materials
- Trainings and exchange of good practices at the national and international level.

Analytical and Lobby Centre

The main objective of the Centre for Analysis and Lobby is to contribute to ensuring an adequate reaction towards the phenomenon of human trafficking via increasing the efficiency of development and implementation, coordination and monitoring activities.

Objectives of this Centre are as follows:

1. Investigate and monitor the situation on trafficking in Moldova and other countries, develop practical recommendations with the purpose of overcoming this social phenomenon.
2. Collect and disseminate information on good practices in counteracting human trafficking.
3. Provide expertise of normative acts in counteracting human trafficking and elaborate proposals for their improvement.
4. Disseminate the investigation results at the national and international level. Develop publications on trafficking issue, organize press conferences, upload materials on Websites.
5. Promote the interests of the victims of trafficking during the process of law drafting.
6. Participate in observance of the international standards in counteracting human trafficking and draft recommendations for upgrading of relevant normative act.

Technical capacity of the staff:

The International Centre “La Strada” employs 14 full-time employees working in 4 departments: 1/ Resource Centre for (potential) migrants (Daniella Misail-Nichitin, Manager); 2/ Drop-In-Centre for (presumed) victims of trafficking (Alina Budeci, Manager); 3/ Analytical and Lobby Centre (Tatiana Fomina, Manager); 4/ Public Relations (Nicolae Misail, Press Officer). La Strada also avails of 25 volunteers who are involved in its activities.

Gaps in terms of child labour

Threats:

1. Child labour issues is not a priority activity for La Strada, even if WFCL issues were addressed in various contexts under programmes implemented by this organization.
2. Implementation of activities aimed to combat the WFCL depends on the availability of donors to support such activities

Impact:

1. Institutional capacity of La Strada is underused in implementing activities aimed to combat the WFCL.

Opportunities:

1. Identification of donors interested in supporting activities aimed at preventing and combating the WFCL could determine La Strada to implement activities in this field.
2. Analytical and Lobby Centre of La Strada could contribute significantly to research child labour in Moldova, increase awareness on WFCL issues, as well as to promote relevant policies in this field.

4.3. Strategic Objectives, Long-Term and Medium-Term Priorities

During the past 4 years La Strada identified a number of key problems. To settle them La Strada decided to act on the basis of the following strategies:

Key problem no. 1: Limited access of trafficked victims to assistance and protection.

Strategy: Strengthen La Strada as a Contact Centre for victims of trafficking in human beings.

The main mission of the Contact Centre is to promote the protection of victims' rights, to ensure transparency and quality of the control over the services provided to trafficked victims, strengthening thus the national capacity to combat human trafficking by cooperation between NGOs and the Government

Key problem no. 2: Shortage of national capacities to coordinate the anti-trafficking work.

Strategy: Strengthen the role of La Strada as the Analytical Centre in the area of trafficking in human beings.

The purpose is to ensure an appropriate response to the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings by increasing the efficiency of the development, implementation, coordination and monitoring work.

Key problem no. 3: The potential migrants are not aware enough of their rights.

Strategy: Strengthen the role of La Strada as a Resource Centre for (potential) migrants.

The main goal of the Resource Centre is to ensure transparency of the informational system by providing wider access to information to the potential migrants, including on the relationship with clients in the information sources through direct or indirect support. Thus the national information system will be strengthened.

In 2009 La Strada took the decision to formally extend areas of activity from solely anti-trafficking to prevention of domestic violence and child sexual exploitation. La Strada came to this decision after 2,5 years of research and following an increasing number of requests from professional groups to assist in resolution of cases of child sexual exploitation and support victims of domestic violence. This decision also generated the need to update the organization mission, beneficiaries and structure.

The new strategic plan has also produced new organizational development needs. Thus, La Strada is planning to develop a Communication Strategy Plan. Study visits to experienced organizations from Europe and USA and advanced trainings are planned in the area of domestic violence and child sexual exploitation.

For 2010-2011 a number of researches are planned, which will focus on different dimensions related to children's protection from trafficking and exploitation. Thus, a study on child trafficking will be conducted to consider the incidence of the phenomenon, as well as how it manifests in Moldova. The study will cover the WFCL issues as well. The results of this study will be used to plan public awareness raising campaigns on child trafficking.

Another study planned for the next period consists in studying the practices on how to conduct legal interviews with children victims/witnesses of sexual exploitation, including victims of trafficking in human beings. The results of this study will underlay the trainings for the representatives of law enforcement bodies.

4.4. Monitoring and Evaluation

The work of La Strada is monitored and evaluated by La Strada team, as well as some donors on a periodical basis, depending on the La Strada work plan, on the basis of the indicators and results stipulated in the implemented projects.

4.5. Conclusions

- La Strada Moldova has a good experience in implementing anti-trafficking (including ILO-IPEC) projects at international, national and local level.
- La Strada Moldova is member of the National Steering Committee for ILO-IPEC.
- La Strada is a recognised expert in the area of trafficking legal framework development, capacity building, research and prevention activities.
- La Strada conducts various studies and researches on trafficking in human beings.
- La Strada has a wide experience in training and involving peer-to-peer educators in activities aimed at preventing trafficking in human beings.
- La Strada extended its areas of activity from solely anti-trafficking to prevention of domestic violence and child sexual exploitation.

V. CHILD RIGHTS INFORMATION CENTRE

5.1. Review of the Institutional Framework, Mandates and Areas of Activity

The Child Rights Information Centre (CRIC) is an independent, apolitical Non-Government Organization, founded in 1998. CRIC manages programmes in the educational and social area, developing projects and services related to the following areas: researches and studies, access to information for all interested people, trainings, publications, participatory arts, etc.

The CRIC vision is a world where each child is treated with dignity and respect, expresses and fulfils freely his/her ideas, participates in taking the decisions that affect him/her in the family, school, community, benefits of services in line with his/her needs and interests. The public authorities are the main actors that promote the best interests of the child. CRIC has the mission to contribute to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in the Republic of Moldova by disseminating information and supporting the children's participation initiatives.

CRIC has the following goals:

- Change the mindset to perceive children as separate individuals, with their own rights, visions and opinions.
- Raise the awareness of central and local public authorities on the implementation of social policies for children.

CRIC has the following objectives:

- Support the children's participatory initiatives, able to provide them opportunities to express their opinion, empowerment and self-affirmation.
- Develop information and training programmes for parents, teachers and public officials on the enforcement of the children's rights.
- Develop the capacities of public authorities and other social actors to develop social policies for children in line with the children's rights and interests.
- Promote the involvement of children (peer partners) in community/social processes.
- Facilitate the social integration of children and adolescents at risk.

CRIC beneficiaries encompass children aged between 10 and 18 years, especially:

- children from localities with few opportunities for involvement and development;
- children from residential institutions;
- children left behind by migrating parents;
- children in conflict with the law.

CRIC implements programmes in the following areas:

- Information of children and young people about the children's rights
- Participation of children and young people
- Life skills development to prevent trafficking in human beings
- Juvenile justice

The Administrative Board of CRIC is its supreme body and consists of 4 members. The CRIC President is elected by the Administrative Board. The CRIC work is performed by the organization's coordinators and volunteers.

5.2. Analysis of Internal Environment

CRIC has a wide experience in implementing large projects with significant impact at the national level in 4 directions of activity. In its projects, CRIC focuses on issues related to child exploitation, including child trafficking.

During the period 2007-2010, CRIC implemented the following projects:

- Social inclusion of children left behind (2007-2010)
- Support for the development of community-based services for children (2007-2010)
- The children monitor the observance of their own rights (2008-2010)

These projects include direct or indirect activities aimed at preventing WFCL, including child trafficking.

The project: *Social inclusion of children left behind (2007-2010).*

The project goal is to help reduce the vulnerability of migrants' children to different social risks by raising the public awareness and developing the capacities of children, parents and professionals to respond appropriately to the consequences of migration. During the project the following activities were implemented:

- The teachers' capacities were developed. The deputy headmasters for education and form masters from selected schools were trained how to develop in their schools intervention and support strategies for the children left behind by migrating parents.
- Children, parents and caregivers were informed about the consequences of migration.
- Conducted The Situation of Children Left Behind by Migrating Parents Study.
- Published materials for children and parents (2007):
 - Guidelines for the professionals that work with the migrants' children.
 - My Child is Home Alone. Book for the parents who leave to work abroad.
 - Home Alone. Pocketbook for girls and boys whose parents are working abroad.

During the trainings of teachers special attention was paid to the child labour issues, as The Situation of Children Left Behind by Migrating Parents Study revealed that the absence of parents is frequently accompanied by overloading children with various tasks they cannot cope with, thus hindering their harmonious development. It was found that after the departure of their parents, most children that participated in the study got more involved in the household chores.

The project: *Support for the development of community-based activities, where children from boarding secondary schools and their peers from the community could spend their leisure time.*

The project goal is to facilitate the social integration of the institutionalized children and increase their participation in the prevention of social and health risks.

During the project the following activities were implemented:

- Organized workshops of school/vocational guidance and career development for graduates from the boarding secondary schools.
- Developed clubs/workshops/circles (in number of 3) in each community involved in the project, where leisure time activities (sports, dancing, fitness, photo, video, handcrafting, theatre, hairdo, etc.) are conducted for children from the boarding secondary schools and their peers from the community.

Taking into account that the graduates from residential institutions are subject to the risk of exploitation and trafficking in human beings, the live skills development activities, organized for this group of beneficiaries, focused especially on the prevention of trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labour or sexual exploitation.

The children monitor the observance of their own rights Project (2008-2010)

The Project goal is to improve the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the Republic of Moldova by empowering children to monitor the observance of their own rights and advocate for this purpose.

Under this Project 25 children were selected, who benefited of a special long-term training programme. As part of this programme special topics were approached in relation to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, monitoring and promotion of the rights of the child, negotiation with decision makers. *A special session focused on child labour, including child trafficking.*

This group of children collects data on the observance of the rights of the child, periodically develops reports on children's situation and meets with Government officials to promote their rights. *In 2008 the children developed a report on monitoring the implementation of the CRC (including child labour aspects).* The Life in Children's Eyes alternative report on the implementation of the children's rights was presented during the meeting, convened to review the Report of the Republic of Moldova on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child for the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (Geneva, 2009).

Technical capacity of the staff:

CRIC employs 8 full-time child protection specialists (social workers, psychologists, lawyers, and teachers) under 3 projects, as well as 10 part-time employees in the capacity of social workers, who are active in 5 regions of the country. CRIC avails of 15 volunteers.

Gaps in terms of child labour

Threats:

1. Combating of WFCL is not a priority activity carried out by CRIC, even though these issues were addressed in various contexts under projects implemented by CRIC.
2. Implementation of activities related to the WFCL is mostly dependent on the availability of donors to support such activities

Impact:

1. Institutional capacity of the CRIC Centre is underused in implementing projects on preventing and combating the WFCL, including child trafficking

Opportunities:

1. Identification of donors interested in supporting activities aimed at combating the WFCL could determine the CRIC to plan activities in this field.
2. CRIC has a good working experience with different target groups; this could be useful for organization of activities targeting children in residential institutions, teachers, parents etc.
3. CRIC promotes the participation of children and youth in decision-making processes concerning their rights, therefore CRIC's participation in the NSC could contribute to promote participation of children and youth in the NSC decision making process.

5.3. Strategic Objectives, Long-Term and Medium-Term Priorities

During the next years, CRIC will work on the basis of the following specific objectives:

1. *Information of children and young people.* Through this programme, CRIC:

- provides information about the rights of the child to children and young people, public officers, teachers, social workers, and parents;
- trains peer-to-peer educators, volunteers and teachers to integrate topics on children's rights in the curricular and extra-curricular activities;
- issues the Convention on the Rights of the Child for all ages, guidelines with success stories, guidelines with educational activities, informative materials on participatory opportunities, prevention of HIV/AIDS, STD, etc.
- carries out studies on the awareness and observance of the Rights of the Child.

II. Participation of children and young people. Through this programme, CRIC:

- trains children and adults how to participate efficiently in the decision-making;
- facilitates the dialogue between children and central and local public authorities;
- promotes the children's right to express freely their opinions and ideas in mass-media;
- involves the children in designing and evaluating the local policies on children's rights;
- supports the participatory initiatives of children in line with their own needs and aspirations;
- promotes the social integration of underprivileged children and young people;
- facilitates the experience and communication among various regional and national networks;
- provides counselling on the establishment of children's self-governing bodies in institutions, communities, extra-school clubs.

III. Life skills development to prevent trafficking in human beings. Through this programme, CRIC:

- organizes activities for children from residential institutions that increase their self-esteem, develop their communication skills and help overcome conflicts in a constructive manner, set relationships with their peers and adults, take decisions, and develop skills of a healthy lifestyle;
- promotes activities of vocational guidance and counselling for graduates and young people at risk;
- trains educators, teachers, peer-to-peer educators to prevent child trafficking;
- distributes information materials on trafficking in human beings, education and employment opportunities, etc.

IV. Juvenile justice. As part of this programme, CRIC:

- facilitates the access of children and young people to information about their rights, criminal and administrative law, possibilities for self-assertion or leisure time spending;
- trains peer-to-peer animators and teachers in juvenile justice area;
- develops and presents the Theatre Forum and produces video materials on the causes and consequences of actions that violate the law, methods for juvenile delinquency prevention and well as the rights of the child, alleged to be in conflict with the law.

5.4. Monitoring and Evaluation

The CRIC activity is monitored and evaluated by the CRIC team, as well as by some donors on a periodical basis, depending on the CRIC work plan, on the basis of the indicators and results stipulated in the implemented projects.

5.5. Conclusions

1. CRIC has a wide experience in implementing large projects with significant impact at national level in the area of children's rights.
2. Even if during 2007-2010, CRIC did not have any project focused directly on child labour, almost all projects implemented by CRIC had some components, activities that addressed this issue and used the information materials provided by ILO-IPEC.
3. The enforcement of the children's rights in Moldova, including participation of children in child labour monitoring (a new and good practice for Moldova).
4. CRIC also included children at risk and victims of WFCL in the children's consultations for the report on the monitoring the implementation of the CRC in Moldova (including child labour aspects).

VI. EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT (Strengths and Threats)

STRENGTHS – INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

- Establishment of the National Council for Children's Rights Protection (1998).
- Establishment of the National Steering Committee (NSC) for ILO-IPEC (2004-2009).
- Institutionalization of the Child Labour Unit in the Labour Inspection (2007).
- Establishment of the Tripartite Standing Council for Child Labour (2009).

STRENGTHS – LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- Ratification of the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child* (1993).
- Ratification of the *ILO C138 Minimum Age Convention* (1999).
- Ratification of the *ILO C182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention* (2002).
- Provisions on the elimination of WFCL were included in the *Decent Work Country Programme* (2008-2011) and other national policies.
- Approval of the *National Collective Convention no. 8 on Elimination of WFCL* (2007).

STRENGTHS – INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS/DONORS

- The local partners recognized the relevance and efficiency of ILO-IPEC model interventions (piloted during 2005-2009 in five areas to prevent/identify/withdraw/rehabilitate and reintegrate the children at risk and WFCL victims) and recommended their institutionalization.
- The Project of the National Federation of the Employers' Associations in Agriculture to prevent the WFCL in agriculture, implemented during since April 2005 - to present with the assistance of Bureau for Employers Activities of the ILO (ILO-ACT/EMP).
- UNICEF Moldova included the issue of child labour in the "Violence against Children in Moldova" national study (2007) that generated data about the incidence and perception of the child labour phenomenon by children and parents.
- The OSCE implementing partners provide services to children victims of WFCL as part of the National Referral System.
- La Strada plans to conduct studies on child trafficking and sexual exploitation of children.

STRENGTHS – SOCIETY

- The issue of child labour was included and is kept on the public agenda, being covered as a separate subject in the printed media, radio and TV.
- The ILO-IPEC documentary "Child Labour in the Republic of Moldova" (2005) was broadcast on TV, during events for specialists, parents and children, which contributed to the change of the attitude towards child labour in Moldova.
- Child labour was introduced in the training programmes for various social actors (social workers, teachers, psychologists, representatives of trade unions and employers' associations, priests, etc.).
- Initiatives aimed to a/ raise awareness on child labour issues and b/ facilitate children's participation in child labour monitoring (social theatres, drawing exhibitions, essay competitions, information sessions, interviews with children and adults, visits to schools and workplaces etc.) were conducted at the community level (not as part of the ILO-IPEC programme).
- About 28 national organizations used the ILO-IPEC information materials during their work on child rights promotion.

THREATS – INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

- The National Steering Committee (NSC) for ILO-IPEC does not have a permanent secretariat that would a) monitor the implementation of recommendations, b) ensure exchange of information among the NSC members; c) disseminate reference information and materials to the social actors, including mass-media, academia, NGOs.
- The NSC members do not include any academia representatives.
- The ILO-IPEC model of child labour monitoring was not institutionalized.
- The lack of a unitary and comprehensive strategy on WFCL prevention and elimination poses the risk that the NGOs active in the area of child rights protection do not approach WFCL or deal with it in an inefficient manner.

THREATS – LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- Not all national regulatory acts are adjusted to the conventions relevant for child labour, ratified previously by the Republic of Moldova.
- There is no inter-ministerial action plan on WFCL prevention and elimination.
- There are no regulations in the national legislation, nor any mechanisms for child labour monitoring by various social actors.
- The policies on the training of human resources (teachers, social workers, lawyers, etc.) do not contain any provisions on child labour.

THREATS – INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS/DONORS

- The termination of programmes, and respectively, of the funding provided by international organizations, especially ILO, may lead to fewer efforts for policy promotion and may endanger the upscaling of models of progressive prevention and elimination of WFCL (piloted by ILO-IPEC in 5 areas).

THREATS – SOCIETY

- Child labour is still a wide spread phenomenon in Moldova, especially in agriculture, and most of the population approves the involvement of children in labour activities, regarding it as a means to deal with poverty and educate children through work.
- The mass-media representatives do not have enough competence and experience to reflect appropriately the child labour issues, especially the involvement of children in WFCL, thus contributing to the development of an inappropriate public opinion towards this phenomenon.

VII. SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

Due to the lack of a unitary and comprehensive policy on the elimination of child labour (National Action Plan, strategy or law) the author studied the relevance of the activities carried out by the actors included in the review for the attainment of the general and specific objectives of the most important national policies, including:

1. *National Development Strategy for 2008-2011.*
2. *Decent Work Country Programme for 2008-2011.*
3. *National Employment Strategy for 2007-2015.*
4. *National Strategy on Community Action aimed to Support the Children in Difficulty for 2007-2009.*
5. *National Action Plan on Prevention and Combating of Trafficking in Human Beings for 2008-2009.*
6. *National Action Plan on Prevention and Combating of Violence against Children for 2009-2011.*
7. *National Strategy on the Residential Childcare System Reform for 2007-2012.*
8. *Strategy of the National Referral System for the protection of and assistance to victims and potential victims of trafficking in human beings (2009-2011) and other documents.*

Most of the above policies contain measures for the prevention and combating of child trafficking and other WFCL. Therefore, the actors included in the analysis contribute, either directly or indirectly, to combating of child trafficking and other WFCL by meeting the objectives of the above policies.

The results achieved over the past years by the actors included in the analysis prove that both the member institutions of the National Steering Committee for ILO-IPEC (NSC) and other partners contribute to the fulfilment of the NSC tasks in all areas of cooperation between the Moldovan Government and ILO (e.g. a) collection, analysis and dissemination of data on child labour; b) formulation and implementation of policies and programmes for WFCL prevention and elimination; c) evaluation of the experience acquired in project implementation and exchange of information among the relevant partners; d) conduct of awareness raising campaigns against WFCL, etc.).

The review of the role, responsibilities and capacities of the educational institutions (FIUM and BSU) in addressing child labour revealed the following:

- Due to the trainings provided to teachers by ILO-IPEC, the child labour issues were integrated in the curricula of FIUM and BSU.
- The child labour issues are not included in the educational institutions' strategies, therefore the full capacity of these institutions is not used for prevention and elimination of WFCL.
- The FIUM and BSU have more possibilities to develop new policies and working techniques on child labour, including documentation of the experience, dissemination of information and training materials on child labour (through all subdivisions of these universities: Skills Enhancement and Retraining Centre, UN Centre for Information and Documentation, Legal Clinic, etc.)
- The academia representatives, in tandem with other NSC member institutions, could conduct analyses and researches on issues related to child labour.

Regarding the role, responsibilities and capacities of La Strada, CRIC and OSCE in addressing child labour, it was found that these organizations, having the main goal to ensure observance of the human rights and liberties, contribute significantly to the prevention and combating of trafficking in human beings, including child trafficking. La Strada, CRIC and OSCE participate

actively in the promotion of policies on combating trafficking in human beings; public information and awareness raising; training of multi-disciplinary specialists; provision of relevant services to children at risk and victims of WFCL, including trafficking; monitoring the observance of the rights of the child, etc. The progresses made in the Republic of Moldova in human rights promotion, including combating trafficking in human beings, domestic violence, etc. are due to a high extent to a) the support provided by La Strada, CRIC and OSCE and b) the partnerships established by these organizations with actors from the public sector, academia, etc.

At the same time, it is worth mentioning that the combating the worst forms of child labour (except for child trafficking) is not a priority of the analyzed organizations, even though this issue was addressed in various contexts as part of the programmes implemented by them (training, monitoring, research).

Though WFCL combating is not a priority area in the strategic documents of La Strada, CRIC and OSCE, the representatives of these organizations have mentioned that this is a very topical problem for the society and will be included in their organizations' work programmes. However, the activities in this area will be conducted taking into account the available funds.

In the National Steering Committee for IPEC, the NGOs are represented by La Strada International Centre, which is also member of the Alliance of NGOs active in the area of social protection of the child and family, which is a potential source for exchange of information and good practices on the WFCL.

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS

At the "Roles and Responsibilities in Combating Child Labour" round table of 2-3 February 2010 a number of recommendations were discussed and agreed on: 1) *to enhance the activity of the National Steering Committee (NSC) for ILO-IPEC*, of the NSC member institutions and other partners in combating child trafficking and other worst forms of child labour (WFCL) and 2) *for the institutions included in the analysis to participate in the development and implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP) on the elimination of child labour*.

Regarding the enhancement of the activity of the National Steering Committee (NSC):

1. *Develop the NSC Regulations taking into account the need*
 - a. to monitor the work of the NSC and its member institutions in the area of combating child trafficking and other WFCL
 - b. to develop, implement and monitor the NAP on the elimination of child labour and
 - c. to regulate the relationship between the NSC and the National Council for Child Rights Protection⁶.
2. *Consider the possibility to set up a permanent secretariat for the NSC that would a) ensure exchange of information between the NSC members and other relevant actors and structures, b) disseminate information to the general public/mass-media, c) raise additional funds, etc.*
3. *Include representatives of 1) academia, 2) Non-Government Organisations (e.g. "Terre des Hommes", Child Rights Information Centre, ECPAT) and 3) international agencies (OSCE, UNICEF, IOM etc.) as members of the NSC⁷.*

Regarding strengthening the capacities of all partners to implement the NAP on the elimination of child labour:

1. Carry out a study for mapping the donors interested to fund child labour targeted programmes initiated by the institutions under review.
2. *Organize activities of information, awareness raising, training and exchange of experience on child labour combating for representatives of a) academia, b) Non-Government Organizations and c) international agencies (e.g. trainings, internships for university staff, study visits for service providers/NGOs, etc.).*
3. *Map the existing resource centres in the area of human rights, child rights, etc. operating under universities, NGOs and provide them with relevant materials on WFCL, including child trafficking.*
4. *Integrate the WFCL issues in the studies and researches conducted by various partners.*
5. *Involve representatives of academic institutions to study the WFCL phenomenon.*
6. *For the representatives of academic institutions, NGO networks, groups of children, international agencies to participate in the development of the NAP on the elimination of child labour.*

⁶ Government body responsible for the development and implementation of policies on the protection of the rights of the child and family.

⁷ As members and/or observers.