

**IOM ACTION PROPOSAL FOR THE
ITALIAN ACTION PLAN AGAINST
TRAFFICKING AND SEVERE
EXPLOITATION 2022-2025**



PROPOSAL FOR IOM ACTIONS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ITALIAN NATIONAL ACTION PLAN AGAINST **TRAFFICKING** AND SEVERE **EXPLOITATION** 2022-2025

This document serves to present the actions foreseen by the Coordination Office for the Mediterranean of the International Organization for Migration in the framework of the implementation of the Italian National Plan Against Trafficking and Severe Exploitation 2022-2025.

1



CONTEXT

IOM has a long-standing record of engagement in counter-trafficking at international and national level. At global level, since 2002 IOM has been recording the cases of trafficking victims it assists (approximately 7,000 each year): the global dataset records 156,000 cases, of 187 nationalities identified in 189 countries. At national level, the Coordination Office for the Mediterranean (IOM COfM) based in Italy works with counterparts to identify and support vulnerable people, including victims of trafficking and severe exploitation.

The Italian National Action Plan against Trafficking and Severe Exploitation of Human Beings for the period 2022-2025 (NAP 2022-2025), implementing the EU Directive 2011/36 on preventing and combating trafficking of human beings and protecting its victims, defines multiannual strategies and actions aimed at awareness-raising, prevention, emergence and social integration of victims. The Plan is based on the four pillars that internationally guide the fight against human trafficking:



Prevention



Prosecution of crime



Protection



Cooperation

The pillars are aligned with the counter-trafficking approach adopted by IOM at global level. The shared commitment at national and regional level to counter these phenomena is also reaffirmed in the “Rome Process” launched in July 2023 during the International Conference on Development and Migration held in Rome, which aims to promote actions addressing the political, socio-economic and climate-related factors that drive migration and forced displacement at international level, while promoting legal and safe migration pathways.

2





EXPERIENCE AND BEST PRACTICES

Prevention

The global E-campus platform offers over 25 training modules on migration, including on human trafficking, protection of Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMC), and assistance to victims of severe exploitation or abuse. In Italy, IOM developed modules with UNICEF and UNHCR on forms of support for survivors of gender-based violence.

As part of the fight against human trafficking and the risk of severe labour exploitation, IOM implements activities to raise awareness and prevent the phenomenon, both through the work of cultural mediators supporting territorial institutions and through information campaigns in migrants' countries of origin and transit. For instance, since 2020, about 18,000 migrant workers have been informed under the Framework Cooperation Protocol between the National Labour Inspectorate (NLI) and IOM, and six multilingual desks have been established at the Territorial Labour Inspectorates (TLI) to provide guidance and receive reports from migrant workers. The CinemArena project informs on the risks of irregular migration (including the risk of trafficking and abuse) along the main West African and North African routes. To date, about 400 awareness-raising events have been organised, involving a total of more than 145,000 people, and about 200 digital products (video/audio, radio programmes, and live on radio and Facebook) produced.

Prosecution of crime

IOM is supporting the NLI in identifying cases of labour exploitation of migrants. Since 2020, more than 800 workers have reported a situation of labour exploitation or illegal recruitment with IOM's specialised support and have been referred to the protection systems available.

In addition, IOM promotes trainings for the judiciary, lawyers and law enforcement on operational protocols to identify victims of human trafficking in border areas and in Immigration Offices.

Protection

IOM supports the Immigration Offices of the Police Headquarters (Questure) and at the main sea and land border locations (I.SI.DE II project), also implementing, in line with the NAP, activities to inform migrants and asylum seekers of the risks related to trafficking, and strengthening the identification and referral to protection mechanisms for vulnerable cases. Specifically, in 2023 62 situations of trafficking, labour exploitation and domestic violence were reported to ad hoc bodies under I.S.IDE I and II. The MED.E.A project, active from December 2023 will continue to provide cultural mediators to support the Public Security authorities in all Immigration Offices located throughout the country, with particular attention to those most involved in the management of incoming flows by sea and land.

IOM supports the implementation of "risk assessment" in countries of origin, in favour of UMC victims of trafficking, through "Family Tracing & Assessment", both in support of potential assisted voluntary return measures and of social services that are responsible for trafficking victims, in favour of social inclusion paths in Italy.

Cooperation

Through the AMIF-funded Regional Development and Protection Programme for North Africa (RDPP NA), with local partners in the countries of origin and transit along the main routes from Africa to Europe (currently in Egypt, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger and Tunisia), IOM promotes the capacity of local authorities and civil society to identify and protect victims of trafficking, provide direct assistance to victims, and organise information and awareness-raising campaigns on the risks of trafficking. Through the Migration Fund, IOM in Côte d'Ivoire directly assists migrants in transit and victims of trafficking. In partnership with local authorities, it provides material and medical assistance, psycho-social support in transit facilities, and assistance through assisted voluntary return and reintegration measures in the country of origin. From October 2022 to March 2023, 50 victims were assisted, including 20 women, 5 men, 16 girls and 5 boys, travelling to Nigeria, Niger and Togo.

In addition, IOM promotes the creation and strengthening of relations between Immigration Offices, Prefectures, Counter-trafficking Units, local NGOs, social services with a view to a multistakeholder approach aimed at the immediate care of the victim/protected person.

Finally, IOM promotes exchanges of information and good practices with delegations of countries of origin and transit of potential victims, and strengthening mutual cooperation.



3

PROPOSALS FOR INTERVENTION AND SUPPORT BY IOM

Prevention

Development, updating and dissemination of training modules on trafficking, severe exploitation, and on the phenomenology of migration routes and flows for capacity-building to relevant authorities and stakeholders.

Exchange and training with diplomatic and consular representations in Italy and in countries of origin.

Information, awareness-raising and information exchange and sharing in countries of origin and destination on all trafficking-related issues.

Strengthening the multi-agency approach in administrative controls under the agreement with the NLI.

Strengthening dialogue and partnership with the private sector.

Risks and trends analysis related to the phenomenon of trafficking and quantitative and qualitative forecasting activities using the tools of the IOM Global Data Institute.

Prosecution of crime

Supporting judicial cooperation in a multi-agency approach, also based on IOM experiences in other countries.

Supporting collaboration between TLI and the police in investigating labour exploitation also through the sharing of good practices and protocols.

Supporting awareness-raising and knowledge-sharing of the phenomenon of civil and criminal courts, including juvenile courts.

Protection

Continued and strengthened support for the timely identification and referral of trafficked persons (adults and children) at sea, land and airport borders.

Supporting the implementation of the provisions envisaged for the protection of UMC victims of trafficking, including those provided for in Law 47/2017.

Support for information exchange and sharing, counselling, identification and referral to protection mechanisms for trafficked persons transferred under the Dublin III Regulation and technical support for the preparation of guidelines for the return of trafficked persons under the Dublin III Regulation.

Promotion of the social and labour inclusion of trafficking victims also through cooperation with private actors.

Cooperation

Creation and strengthening of basic services for victims of trafficking and of support programmes for anti-trafficking agencies in the countries of origin. Information and awareness-raising activities in the countries of origin concerning relevant services in Italy.

Activation and strengthening of cooperation networks with civil society organisations operating in countries of origin for risk reduction/mitigation at departure and re-trafficking.

Mapping of cooperation projects in the field and in Italy with activation of grassroots co-design interventions in local national networks, and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms with database-creation on the phenomenon.

Support for exchange and coordination between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the diplomatic representations of the countries of origin and transit of victims of trafficking and severe exploitation present on the Italian territory.



Coordination Office for the Mediterranean

researchiomitaly@iom.int
www.italy.iom.int



@OIMITALIA

