



A4

Crossing borders for effective police investigation
to protect female victims of sex trafficking
and enhance accountability mechanisms

www.a4project.eu

PROJECT FACTSHEET

Norbert Leonhardmair (VICESSE)



This project has been funded by the
European Union's Internal Security Fund -
Police under Grant Agreement No. 101021832.

INDEX

Document Information

D5.5	Project Factsheet
Deliverable lead	VICESSE
Contributor(s)	N/A
Reviewer(s)	N/A
WP5	Promoting the A4 message for police-led enhanced accountability mechanisms for the protection of sexually exploited female victims of trafficking
WP lead	VICESSE
Contractual Delivery Date	2023-08-31
Actual Delivery Date	2023-08-31
Deliverable type	Other (OTH)
Dissemination level	Public (PU)

Imprint

Project acronym	A4
Project title	Crossing borders for effective police investigation to protect female victims of sex trafficking and enhance accountability mechanisms
Grant Agreement No	101021832
Call	ISFP-2019-AG-THB
Disclaimer	This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the A4 Consortium and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.
Project description	Data reveal only 1 prosecution for every 2,154 female victims of sex trafficking globally (2020). Greek northern borders are one of the main Europe's backdoors for sex traffickers, while Greece has been convicted twice for violating the Art. 4 of the ECHR in cases of sexually exploited women victims of THB. The A4 Project builds upon the Convictions under the Art. 4 aiming to enhance perpetrators' accountability for the protection of women and girl victims of sex trafficking through a police-led resilient mechanism in the EU south-eastern border, built on a border-crossing alliance (Bulgaria-Greece) constructively interconnected with an interregional safety net (5 Northern Greek Border Regions) and advanced from the acquired knowledge of a central European country (Austria).
Project coordinator	KEMEA – Centre for Security Studies (GR), www.kemea.gr
Project consortium	EKKA – National Centre for Social Solidarity (GR), www.ekka.org.gr CECL – Centre for European Constitutional Law (GR), www.cecl.gr VICESSE – Vienna Centre for Societal Security (AT), www.vicesse.eu LIF – Law and Internet Foundation (BG), www.netlaw.bg
Project contact	Dr Giorgios Triantafyllou, A4 Project Coordinator, Centre for Security Studies (KEMEA), g.triantafyllou@kemea-research.gr
Start date	2021-03-01
Duration	24 months
Website	www.a4project.eu
Facebook	@a4projecteu
Twitter	@a4projecteu
Instagram	@a4projecteu

Version Control

Issue	Date	Comment	Author/Editor
0.1	2023/08/31	Report	NL (VICESSE)

Table of Content

INDEX.....2

 Document Information.....2

 Imprint.....2

 Version Control.....2

 Table of Content.....3

 Abbreviations & Definitions4

 Task Description5

 Deviations & Mitigation5

A4 PROJECT FACTSHEET 6

Abbreviations & Definitions

AB	Advisory Board
BEN	Beneficiary
CA	Consortium Agreement
CJS	Criminal Justice System
CO	Confidential
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
D	Deliverable
DEM	Demonstrator
EC	European Commission
ECHR	European Convention of Human Rights
ECtHR	European Court of Human Rights
EU	European Union
GA	Grant Agreement
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
HT	Human Trafficking
JIT	Joint Investigation Teams
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LEA	Law Enforcement Agency
M	Month
MS	Milestone
NAP	National Action Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NR	National Rapporteur
NRM	National Referral Mechanism
O	Objective
OTH	Other
PM	Person Month
PO	Project Officer
PU	Public
PP	Public Prosecutor
R	Report
RE	Restricted
SC	Steering Committee
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
T	Task
THB	Trafficking of Human Beings
V	Version
WP	Work Package
WS	Workshop

Task Description

T5.2 Development of dissemination material, tools and channels

From the start of the Project, a 2-page project factsheet will be developed and regularly updated (in M7, M16 and M24) in order to provide a short hand description for practitioners, policy makers and EC services, interested in the Project for first reference. The A4 factsheet will act as a story on targets reached, results and achievements in terms of police cross- border, multi-agency and inter-sectoral cooperation to counter impunity of perpetrators of sexually exploited female THB victims, as well as European dimension of the policies supported and testimonies of the directly benefited LEAs. The project factsheet is expected to serve as starting point for dissemination to the public and for regular communication on the state of play of the A4 Project, offering opportunities for dialogue and promoting synergies. Moreover, 3 press releases are going to be developed throughout the Project's duration to highlight significant milestone progress and promote planned events.

Outcome: Deliverable 5.5 Project Factsheet: VICESSE, M30, OTH, PU, e-format, EN, Beneficiaries: THB practitioners.

Deviations & Mitigation

A project factsheet was devised at the start of the project, and updated in preparation of the final conference. However, the most important dissemination tool of the project did remain the flyer used throughout all project activities and the references to the project website and accounts.



Project acronym	A4
Project title	Crossing borders for effective police investigation to protect female victims of sex trafficking and enhance accountability mechanisms
Objective	The general objective of the A4 Project is to counter impunity for all actors involved in the trafficking of human beings (THB), particularly of women and girls for sexual exploitation, through enhancing Law Enforcement Agencies' (LEAs') investigation capacities, from one of the major THB gateways to EU territory, as well as through the exchange of knowledge and improvement of cooperation among 3 European countries with a key common characteristic: low conviction rates for human trafficking and other related offences.
Project coordinator	KEMEA – Centre for Security Studies (GR), www.kemea.gr
Project consortium	EKKA – National Centre for Social Solidarity (GR), www.ekka.org.gr CECL – Centre for European Constitutional Law (GR), www.cecl.gr VICESSE – Vienna Centre for Societal Security (AT), www.vicesse.eu LIF – Law and Internet Foundation (BG), www.netlaw.bg
Project contact	Dr Giorgios Triantafyllou, A4 Project Coordinator, Centre for Security Studies (KEMEA), g.triantafyllou@kemea-research.gr
Start date	2021-03-01
Duration	24 months
Website	www.a4project.eu
Facebook	@a4projecteu
Twitter	@a4projecteu
Instagram	@a4projecteu
Disclaimer	This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the A4 Consortium and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.
Project plan	A4 has its activities structured along 4 steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Developing a grounded Action Plan to be tested in situ, including guiding principles, methodological approaches and clarified procedures for enhancing LEAs' victim-centred competences for effective cross-border and inter-sectoral investigation. 2. Building a critical mass of LEAs to enhance accountability for the protection of women/girls' victims of sex trafficking, at an interregional level. 3. Pilot testing a border-crossing resilient mechanism against impunity of perpetrators of female victims of sex trafficking. 4. Dissemination of project results to key-professionals and the public alike.
Short term goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquire knowledge and enhance multidisciplinary competences for police officers on effective investigation with a focus on existing gender stereotypes perpetuating impunity for perpetrators. • Build critical mass of police key pro-actors to enhance perpetrators' accountability at an interregional level. • Create border-crossing alliance in the northern-eastern border of the EU, interconnected to central Europe for the protection of women/girls' victims of sex trafficking.
Medium term goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve LEAs' multi-agency, inter-sectoral and cross-border cooperation, challenge systematic deficiencies and systematized effort to upgrade state authorities' response in countering sex trafficking. • Strengthen inter-country coalitions against non-punishment habitats for perpetrators, evidenced through the effective application of the non-punishment principle of victims.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance cooperation among governmental and non-governmental actors in countries of origin and transit, with a view to successfully prosecuting perpetrators. • Promote non-liability of female victims and destabilize gender stereotypes.
Long term goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop procedural guarantees for safeguarding the Art. 4 of the European Convention on Human Rights. • Increase number of prosecutions, securing conviction of perpetrators. • Empower victims to redress, avoiding their re-victimisation. • Enhance social cohesion, fostering secure, resilient and sustainable societies.
	<p>Activities 1. Legal and case law research</p> <p>Comparative research on recent Decisions from the European Court of Human Rights, regarding THB cases of women and girls with the purpose of sexual exploitation, against Greece, Bulgaria and Austria.</p> <p>Case file research aiming to establish a clear picture of the specific gaps and barriers to the effective investigation and prosecution, and to adequately identify and address police training needs. (10 cases from Greece & Bulgaria)</p> <p>Data selected from Key Stakeholders. [5 focus groups: Greece (3), Bulgaria (1) and Austria (1)]</p> <p>Analysis of the existing SOPs on cross and inter-sectoral cooperation for the protection and support of women/girls victims of sexual trafficking.</p> <p>Development of the A4 Action Plan</p>
	<p>2. Training of Hellenic Police personnel</p> <p>Development of the A4 training toolkit. Topics covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concepts and definitions of gender and gender-based violence • National, EU and international legislation • Identification of and communication with THB victims • Intersectoral and cross-border cooperation against THB • Psychological aspects of THB • Myths and facts about THB <p>Training of Trainers: 3-day training workshop with both face-to-face and online presentations by experts from Greece, Austria and Bulgaria. Participants: 15 officers of the Hellenic Police.</p> <p>Training of Police Personnel: 15 training groups of 10-12 trainees each. More than 150 trained police officers.</p>
	<p>3. Cross-border cooperation</p> <p>Structured study visit in Vienna: 7-9 Hellenic Police Officers. Main objective to exchange good practices on countering methodological or procedural deficiencies leading to perpetrators' non-punishment.</p> <p>3 two-day cross-border workshops in three Greek cities (Thessaloniki, Alexandroupoli & Komotini). Participation of Hellenic and Bulgarian police personnel, together with experts from both countries. Main objective to discuss and reflect upon the findings of the case file research.</p> <p>Joint Investigation Teams (JITs): 7 JITs throughout Greece, with the participation (mainly) of police officers that have received the A4 training. Online meetings aiming to conclude on best practices for an effective investigation and prosecution of THB perpetrators, promoting reporting and referral, in an inclusive framework involving key professionals</p>
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A4 Action Plan • Summary of primary and secondary research findings report • A4 Training toolkit • A4 Practice Advice • A4 Policy Recommendation Report



www.a4project.eu