

STRENGTHENING THE FIGHT AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AND MIGRANT SMUGGLING IN THE WESTERN BALKANS



Photo from project activities

Within the framework of the Regional Initiative launched by IOM and UNHCR, which aims to assist the Governments in the region in developing and operationalizing a comprehensive migration and asylum management system, this multi-lateral and holistic regional project served to strengthen the fight against trafficking in persons (TIP) and smuggling of migrants (SOM) in BiH and the Western Balkans, as well as transit irregular migration through the region.

The overall objective of the project was to strengthen the fight against trafficking in persons, migrant smuggling, irregular migration, and other cross-border transgressions in the Western Balkans. The project shall organise and oversee a range of capacity building technical workshops, targeting both Border and law enforcement agencies, as well as prosecutors and judges, following a victim-centred approach. These activities shall facilitate law enforcement and border police officials undertaking increased joint coordinated cross-border activities/operations to identify and investigate cases of human trafficking and migrant smuggling, as well as prosecutors and judges leading increased trans-frontier investigations and conducting exhaustive and comprehensive court proceedings.

KEY PROGRAMME DATA

Project type: Counter Trafficking (CT)

Geographical coverage: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, and Serbia.

Executing agency: IOM Sarajevo

Beneficiaries: Law Enforcement and Border Police Officials, Prosecutors and Judges of participating countries

Partner(s): National Anti-Mafia Directorate (DNA) [Ministry of Justice of Italy]; Anti-Mafia Investigations Directorate (DIA) [Ministry of Interior of Italy]; Frontex; Eurojust; Europol; and the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)