

# **ANUAL REPORT**

# **2016**

**DIFFERENT AND EQUAL ORGANIZATION**



**DIFFERENT & EQUAL**  
**TE NDRYSHEM & BARABARTE**

## MISSION

D&E is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing high quality services for the protection and reintegration of victims of abuse, exploitation and trafficking, and to changing the legal, institutional and social context to counter these abuses.



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## **Projects implemented during 2016**

- **Project 1:** “Enhancing the reintegration efforts for victims of trafficking in Albania”

**Donor:** Pro Victims; UNODC

**Duration:** 1 October 2014 – 30 September 2017; April 2015 – March 2018

- **Project 2:** “Center for educational activities for Victims of Trafficking”

**Donor:** Mary Ward Loreto

**Duration:** 2 years (ongoing)

- **Project 3:** “Coach for employment”

**Donor:** Swiss Contact

**Duration:** January – December 2016

- **Project 4:** “Enhancing the reintegration efforts for victims of human trafficking in Albania and Awareness trainings for people in need and professionals”

**Donor:** Renovabis

**Duration:** November 2014 – October 2017 (3 years)

- **Project 5:** “Informing the community about the trafficking of women and girls and the alternative options”

**Donor:** UN WOMEN

**Duration:** September 2015 – February 2016

- **Project 6:** “Our Voices”

**Donor:** University of Bedfordshire

**Duration:** 2013 – 2016

- **Project 7:** “Empowering Youth at Risk to Develop a Counter Trafficking Campaign”

**Donor:** US Embassy

**Duration:** July 2016 – June 2017

- **Project 8:** “Modeling and integrating AM and PM child care for children of moms who are rebuilding their life”

**Donor:** Save the Children

**Duration:** December 2016 – May 2018

- **Project 9:** “Reintegration assistance for victims or potential victims of trafficking”

**Donor:** Tirana District

**Duration:** January – December 2016

## 1. Beneficiaries of the program

During the period, January – December 2016, **113 cases and 89 their children** have been assisted in the reintegration program of the organization, from which **44 cases and 43 their children** have entered in D&E program for the first time. The other cases have been carried from the last year and have continued to receive assistance according to their individual reintegration plan.

From the new cases referred during this year, **28 cases have been VoT/PVT; 1 case victim of sexual abuse and 15 cases were victims of domestic violence.** (For more info see the table below)

### Categories of beneficiaries assisted in program

Category	Total number of cases assisted in the program during January – December 2016	Cases carried from December 2015	New cases entered in the program during January – December 2016
Victims of trafficking / Potential victims of trafficking	85	57	28
Victims of domestic violence and abuses	28	12	16
Children of VoT accompanied by their mothers	33	21	12
Children of victims of domestic violence accompanied by their mothers	56	25	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>87</b>

TABLE 1

### 1.1 Profile of cases victims / potential victims of trafficking

#### ■ Gender

Gender	Number of ongoing cases	Number of new cases	Total
Female	42	23	65
Male	15	5	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>85</b>

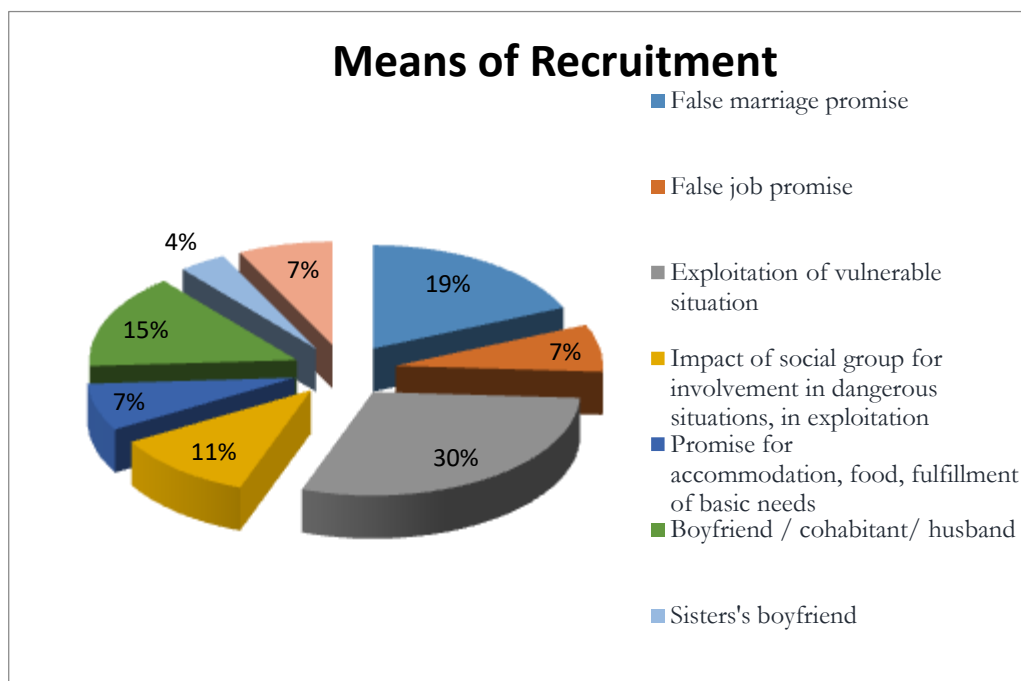
TABLE 2

#### ■ Age

Age	14-17	18-25	26-30	31-35	Over 36	Total
Number of cases	6	15	5	1	1	28

**TABLE 3**

**■ Means of recruitment**



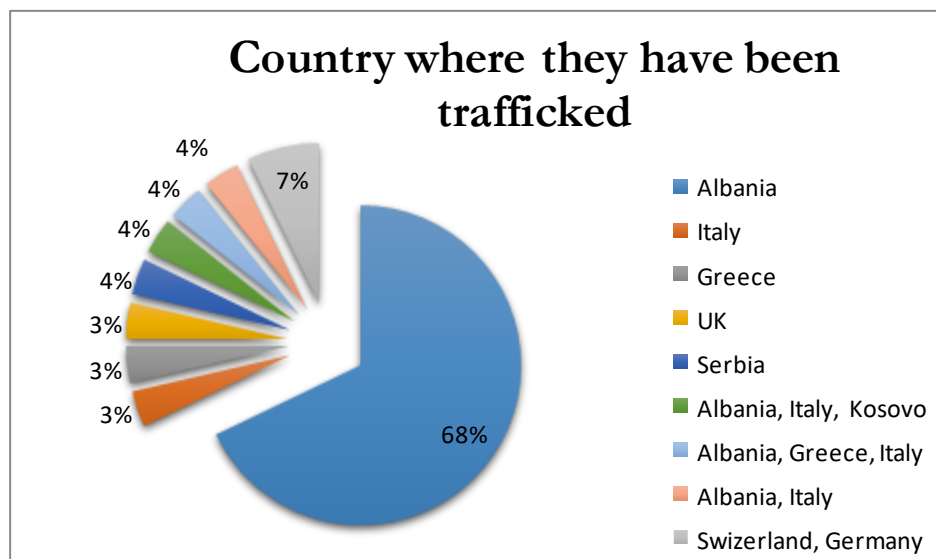
**GRAPHIC 1**

**■ Countries where they have been trafficked**

Countries where they have been trafficked	Nr. of cases
Albania	19
Italy	1
Greece	1
UK (England)	1
Serbia	1
Albania, Italy, Kosovo	1

Albania, Greece, Italy	1
Albania, Italy	1
Switzerland, Germany	2

**TABLE 4**

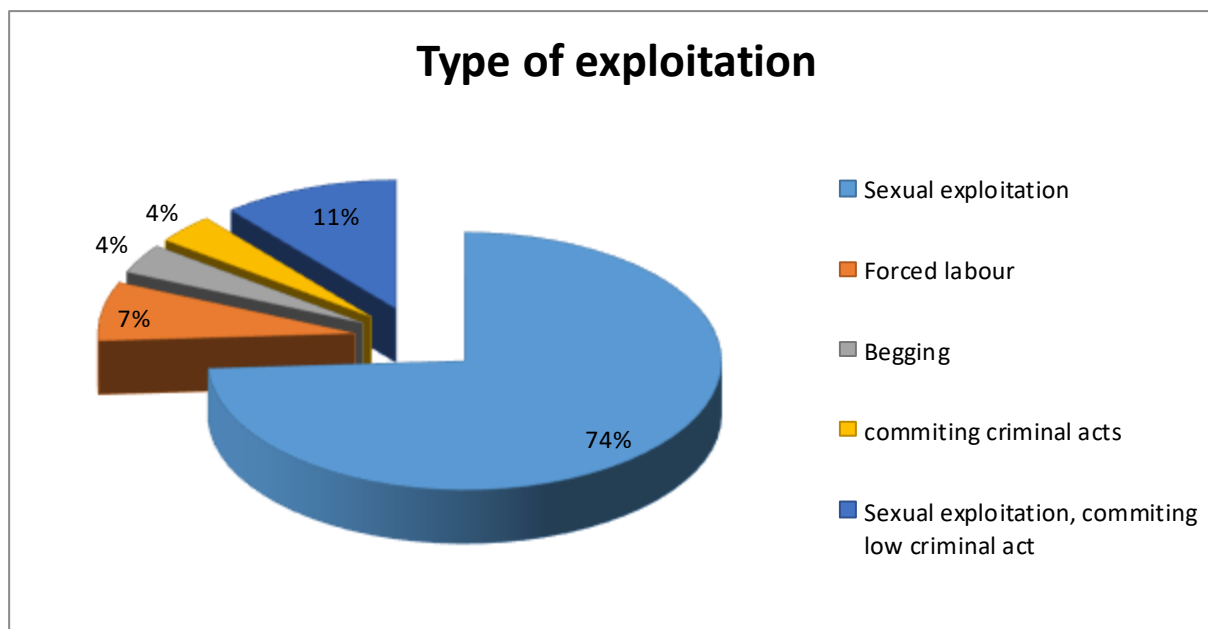


**GRAPHIC 2**

**■ Type of exploitation**

Type of exploitation	No. of cases
Sexual exploitation	20
Forced labour	2
Begging	1
Committing criminal acts	1
Sexual exploitation and committing criminal acts	3

**TABLE 5**



**GRAPHIC 3**

**■ Referrals of cases by months**

Month	No. of referral cases	No. of children
January	2	0
February	5	3
March	3	5
April	1	0
May	2	1
June	1	0
July	3	1
August	2	1
September	4	0
October	2	0
November	1	0
December	2	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>12</b>

**TABLE 6**

**■ Source of referrals for new cases assisted during January – December 2016**

Source of referrals	No. of cases
Police Directorate, Tirana	2
Police Directorate, Berat	2
Police Directorate / Regional Directorate of State Social Service, Durres	3

Prisons Directorate, Prison No. 325	1
Municipality of Tirana	1
Ombudsman	1
National Reception Center for victims of trafficking	4
Psycho-social center “Vatra”	1
Mobile Unit	1
ARSIS	3
Women’s Forum, Elbasan	1
Community center “Today for the future”	1
LGBT Alliance	1
Good Shepherd Sisters (Religious Institute)	2
Salvation Army, UK	1
Self-referred	2
IOM	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28</b>

**TABLE 7**

## 1.2 Profile of victims of domestic violence and abuses

### ■ Gender

Gender	No. of ongoing cases	No. of new cases	TOTAL
Female	12	15	27
Male	0	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>28</b>

**TABLE 8**

### ■ Age

Age	16-18	18-25	26-30	31-35	Over 36	Total
No. of cases	1	6	3	3	3	16

**TABLE 9**

### ■ Referrals of cases by months

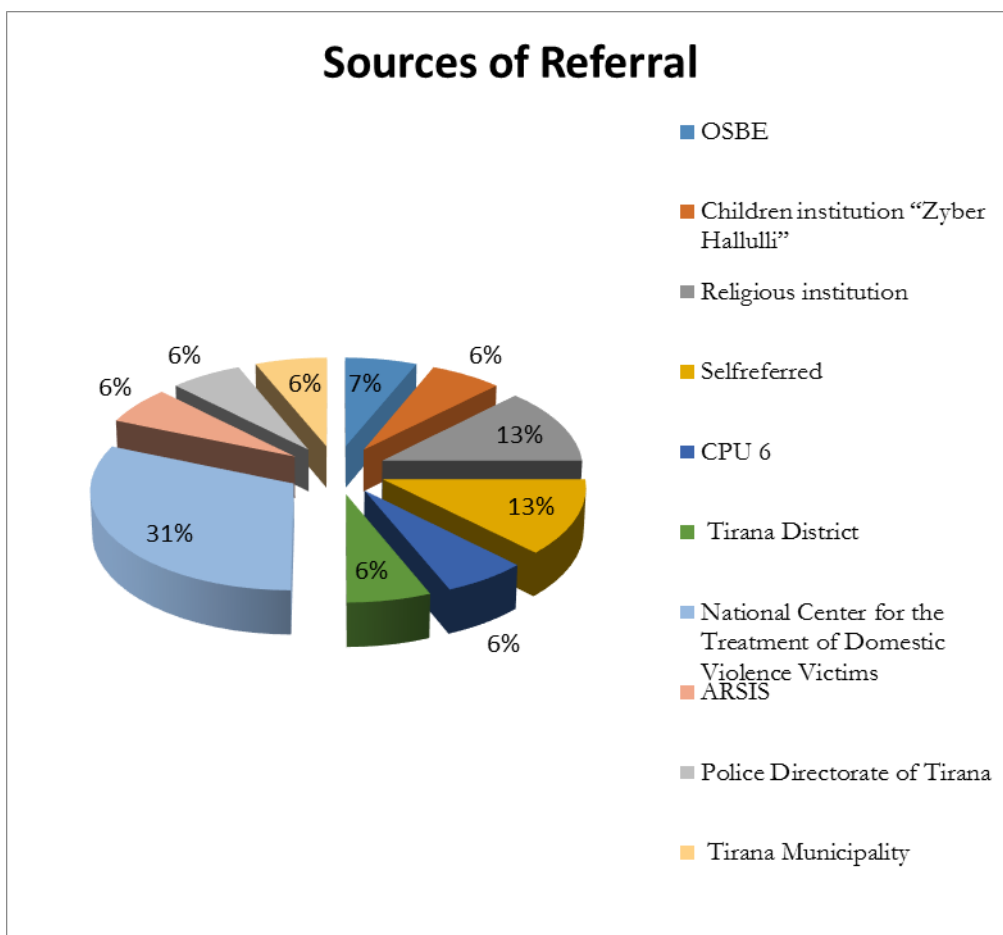
16 cases and 31 children have been entered in the program during this period.

Month	No. of cases referred	No. of children
January	0	1
February	0	0
March	0	0
April	2	6
May	3	5
June	1	2
July	4	12
August	2	1
September	1	1
October	0	0
November	3	3

December	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>31</b>

**TABLE 10**

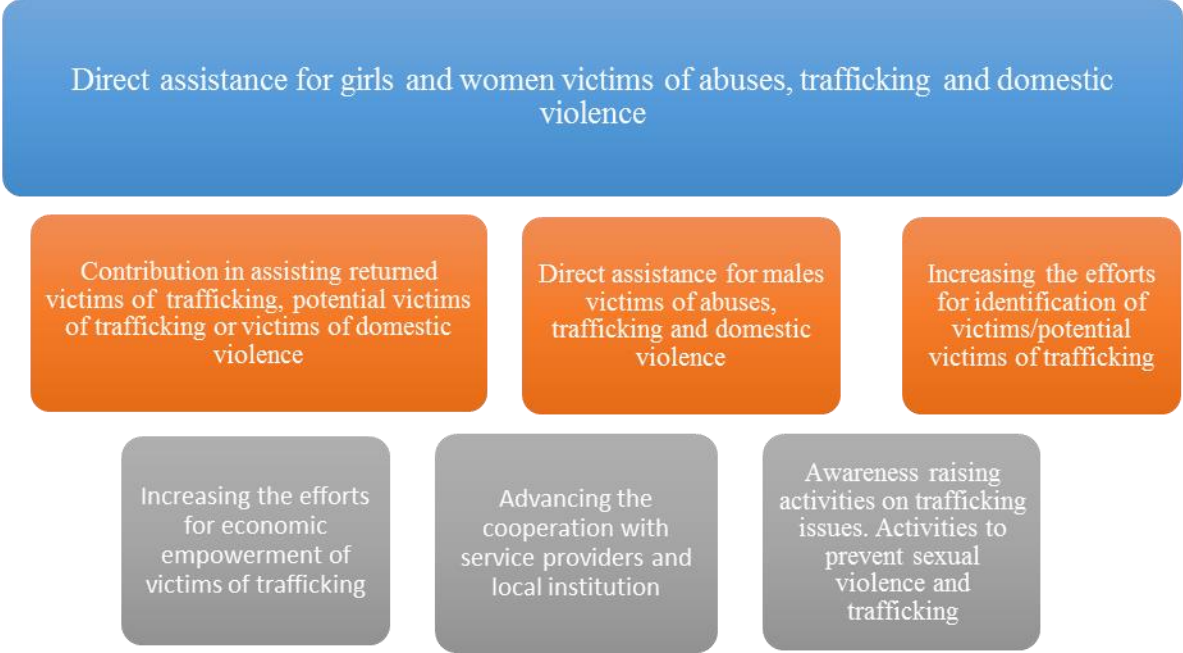
■ **Source of referrals for new cases assisted during January – December 2016**



**GRAPHIC 4**

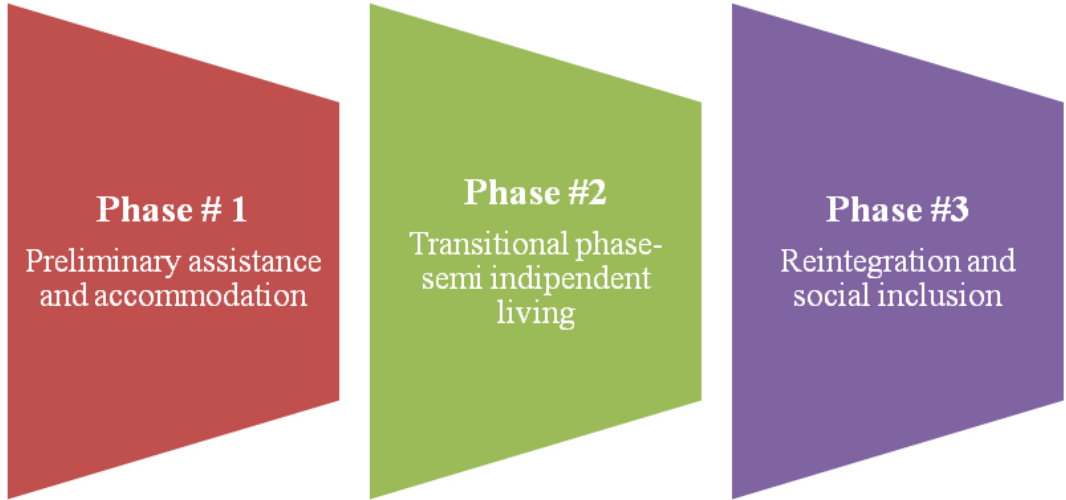
## 2. The main pillars of D&E work during January – December 2016

The main activities implemented by "Different & Equal" organization for the period January - December 2016:



**2.1 Direct assistance for girls and women victims of abuses, trafficking and domestic violence**

During 2016, D&E has continued to provide reintegration assistance for victims of trafficking in three phases of the program:



■ **A full package of reintegration services is provided to beneficiaries of the D&E:**

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- Safe accommodation and reintegration plan
- Immediate medical assistance
- Family meditation
- evaluation and psycho - social counselling
- Legal support and assistance
- Income generation programs
- Assistance to find a job placement for the family members of beneficiaries.

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- Assistance for enrolment/continuation in the school system
- Vocational training
- Social activities
- Counsel and support for employment
- Financial support for housing
- Information on the services available in the community and the necessary contact
- Registration in vocational training, family counseling etc.

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- Assistance and support for the children of victims of trafficking
- Monitoring and follow-up of the beneficiaries of the program
- Beside the direct assistance provided for the beneficiaries, D&E has also supported the victim's family - e.g the children of the beneficiaries.
- Helped with food packages.

■ **Psychological and psycho-social counseling**

During the period January - December 2016, 2791 individual counseling sessions are offered for the beneficiaries provided by Case Managers.

**Referring the psychological service, there are conducted:**

- *Psychological and psycho-social individual counseling in RC and Educational Center*
- *Group counseling*
- *Art therapy*
- *Occupational therapy*

**TABLE 11**

■ **Psychological counseling**

During the reported period, 1113 individual counseling sessions are offered by the psychologist. The beneficiaries are assisted in treating the symptoms of depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, the consequences of abuse and trauma.



**PHOTO 1**

*”Counseling has helped me to be relived emotionally”– B.18*

*”I have been taking counseling sessions and I have understood a lot of things that happened to me and I have realized what I want to do in the future” - A.17*

*” Now I feel less anxious because I have talked about things that I haven’t talked before, I used to keep it all for myself”– O.19*

No	Psychological assistance	No. of sessions
1	Individual counseling sessions	1113
2	Group art therapy	61
3	Occupational therapy	59

**TABLE 12**

**■ Group art therapy**



**PHOTO 2**



**PHOTO 3**

During the reported period, 15 beneficiaries were part of 61 Art Therapy group sessions. The sessions were facilitated by the psychologist and 2 volunteers of the organization. This is how the beneficiaries described their experiences in the Art Therapy sessions:

*“I have never liked painting but here I feel relaxed when I paint” – P. 20*

*“When I paint, I enter in a relaxing world, I feel happy and concentrated. I look forward to participate in the sessions”- I.18*

### ■ Occupational therapy

Once in a week beneficiaries get involved in activities where they can develop their creative skills. During this hour they create different things with recycled materials. The beneficiaries are fully engaged considering this, not only as an activity where they feel worthy for their creations, but as well as a relaxing activity.



PHOTO 4



PHOTO 5



PHOTO 6

*„This is a relaxing activity that gives me the opportunity to be creative” A, 17 years old*

*„I wasn't aware that I liked art so much and that I could create so beautiful bijoux. In the beginning I didn't even want to get involved, it seemed to me that I couldn't make any painting“- Z.18*

*„I enjoy the time spent during this hour, we listen music and we do paintings, create animals, bijoux, masks etc. „ E.25*

### ■ Art and Play Therapy with the beneficiaries' children

During the reported period, the children of the beneficiaries are also assisted with individual counseling sessions. The interventions are done through Art and Play, to treat some of the difficulties that children experienced because of being exposed to violence. These sessions firstly started with the psychological assessment and then with the intervention based on the children's needs.

■ **Assistance for the children of the beneficiaries**

During this period, 89 children accompanied by their mothers are assisted in the D&E program, 6 children have been assisted in the Reintegration Center and 83 children have been assisted with their mothers in the second phase of the program.

■ **Children of the cases assisted in the program**

Category	Total of children of the cases assisted in the program during January – December 2016	Children of the cases carried from December 2015	Children of the new cases entered in the program during January – December 2016
Children of VoT accompanied by their mothers	33	21	12
Children of victims of domestic violence accompanied by their mothers	56	25	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>43</b>

**TABLE 13**

- **36 children** of the beneficiaries have regularly attended crèche and kindergarten, **17 of them are children of VoT/ PVoT**;
- **29 children** have regularly attended school, **8 of them are children of VoT/ PVoT**;
- All the children are immunized based on the vaccination scheme and are regularly followed by a pediatrician;

■ **Medical assistance**

D&E staff has addressed all the medical needs of the beneficiaries in reintegration program. These kinds of services are offered primarily for the beneficiaries accommodated in the Reintegration Centre but also for those who are actually in the second phase of the program. After the medical assessment carried out by D&E doctor, the new cases entered in the program are supported in making the routine tests (complete blood tests, urine, STD examinations, etc.).

**2 pregnant beneficiaries have been supported** with the proper medical assistance needed during all the pregnancy period.

■ **Medical diagnosis**

<b>Diagnosis</b>	Urinary infections	Gastro intestinal problems	Dermatological problems	Colic abdominal and renal	ORL problems	Allergic problems	Gynecological problems	Anemia	Dental Problems	Oculist	Neurological problems	Rheumatic problems
<b>No. of cases</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Children</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>			

**TABLE 14**

■ **Medical examinations**

<b>Examinations</b>	<b>STD</b>		<b>HIV/AIDS</b>	
	Examined	Positive	Examined	Positive
No. of cases	6	3	6	0

**TABLE 15**

■ **Mental health problems**

<b>Mental disorders</b>	<b>Cases</b>	<b>Children</b>
<b>PTSD</b>	2	
<b>Epilepsy</b>		1
<b>Personality Disorder /Borderline</b>	3	
<b>Depressive disorder</b>	5	
<b>Anxiety disorder</b>	1	
<b>Schizophrenia</b>	2	
<b>Psychotic disorder</b>	1	
<b>Autism</b>		1

**TABLE 16**

The beneficiaries who have resulted with STI, the diagnoses were mostly: Candida, Gonorrhea and Trichomonas vaginalis. No cases have resulted positive in hepatitis or HIV (+).

- Beneficiaries assisted in D&E program have been equipped with Health Cards. The beneficiaries had the opportunity to receive free health care at their family doctor in Health Center No. 9 in Tirana. About **60 beneficiaries** were provided with health cards. This service will be offered for a period of 1 year, and also it will be renewed.
- D&E has continued the collaboration with *Albanian University - Stomatology Branch*, which has provided dental service for free for the beneficiaries of D&E program. D&E has collaborated as well as with *Community Center of Mental Health no.1 and 2* and *Public Health Institute*.
- The medical staff has organized group discussions on health issues such as: sexually transmitted infections, breast feeding for the children 0-12 months, personal hygiene, how to protect themselves during the summer season or protection from the low temperatures, etc.

### ■ Legal assistance

During January – December 2016, D&E has provided legal assistance for all the beneficiaries. The legal assistance is provided directly from the lawyer of D&E and for special cases in collaboration with other organizations with expertise in the field of representation and legal assistance such as: Centre for Legal Civic Initiative (CLCI). The legal assessment is done for all the new cases entered in the D&E program during the first 10 days. The first step of assessment serves to identify and to evaluate in general the legal needs for assistance for each individual case. According to their needs, individual meetings have been developed with beneficiaries in order to discuss for different legal issues during their program assistance. Also, there were conducted regular meeting groups with beneficiaries based on preselected legal topics.

**31 beneficiaries** of D&E have been continuously informed for their court processes against their traffickers through direct meetings with the respective prosecutors. Majority of the cases have been attended by the Prosecution of Serious Crimes District. From the cases who have denounced, **18 were new cases referred to D&E program during 2016.**

**4 beneficiaries have been assisted to apply for ID cards.** It is collaborated with the District Police Directorate of the birth place of the cases in order to provide the beneficiaries with birth and family certificate.

### ■ Legal support for foreign victims

During January – December 2016, D&E has provided legal assistance for 7 foreign cases, respectively from UK, Philippine, Congo, Nigeria, and Moldova. For three cases have been provided assistance in preparations of documents in order to apply and receive their temporary residence permit. One case from Philippine and another from Nigeria were assisted during their turning back to their countries of origin. They have been assisted for preparation of documents and facilitation of communication with other institutions and agencies (IOM and ONAC) involved in the process of safe return to their country of origin. For the beneficiary from Congo is provided legal assistance for registering her child to the Civil Registry Office. The case is assisted as well in the Court, in the process of the approval of Asylum request with other

Institutions as Border and Migration Police Directorate, Probation Service, Ministry of Interior and UNHCR. For the beneficiary from UK is provided legal assistance in Civil Court for the custody of her children. The case was closed in favor of our beneficiary. Also, based on her request has started the process of preparation of documents and facilitation of communication with other institution and agencies (Ministry of Interior, IOM and British Embassy in Albania) for safe return to her country of origin (UK).

### ■ Group discussion – Legal topics

During the period January – December 2016 there were conducted regular meeting groups with beneficiaries in order to discuss various legal topics. These sessions served to inform and advice the beneficiaries for various topics and legal situations. The selected topics are related to practical problems faced by the beneficiaries, but also informative and educative on the legal framework and different procedures. The legal topics selected and treated during January – December 2016 are as below:

- Human rights focusing on the fundamental human rights sanctioned in the Constitution of the Republic of Albania and other laws;
- The legal framework against trafficking in persons, in particular the provisions of the Criminal Code that punish trafficking in persons;
- Free discussions on legal issues that regulates the right of family (family as law concept, marriage, divorce, division of properties after the divorce, appointment of legal custody, adoption etc.);
- The Justice system in Albania – Courts system and the trial for civil and criminal cases. Access to justice;
- Public Institutions in Albania – Central and local government;
- The right of private property, the position of women toward the property;
- The right for free movement;
- The right of information for official documents – Ombudsman;
- The right of housing;
- The right to religion;
- The balance between work, life, family and health;
- Law aspect concerning the anti-discrimination;
- Children’s Rights. Discussion according to the regulations and standards of D&E for treatment of children.

### ■ Job training, professional courses

*26 beneficiaries have attended professional courses* during this year. Some beneficiaries have attended more than one course based on their individual skills and desires.

### ■ Professional courses / Vocational trainings

No	Courses	Provided by	No. of cases
1.	Italian Course	Volunteers of D&E	11

2.	Secretary Course	Professional training Center	1
3.	Hairdressing & Aesthetic	Professional training Center Private Salon	2
4.	Cooking Course	Professional training Center Private vocational training Center	7
5.	Albanian language Course	Private teacher	1
8.	Computer Course	Educational Center D&E	20
9.	English Course	Volunteers of D&E Professional training Center	12 1
10.	Guitar Course	Educational Center D&E	14
11.	Mechanic Course	Professional training Center	1
12.	Tailoring	Private Atelier Salon	1

**TABLE 17**

To enhance the life skills of beneficiaries, D&E staff has organized various activities in Educational Center, trainings on various topics, group discussions, reading artistic books, support in teaching school or courses materials etc.

**■ Education and schooling**

For new cases entered in program during this period is made an assessment by D&E teacher to determine the educational level of each beneficiary and subsequently is developed an educational curriculum as part of the reintegration plan of each beneficiary.

28 beneficiaries have attended school during this period

Beneficiaries are regularly assisted by D&E teacher to prepare, especially in cases where they have gaps from the past.

All the beneficiaries are provided with school books as well as other educational tools necessary for a better academic consistency.

For the other cases that are accommodated in the Reintegration Center which did not attend any school class or have a low level of education, was personally worked with each of them mainly in writing, reading, mathematics, etc.

D&E has collaborated closely with the Directory of 9.-year school and high school where the beneficiaries are registered, being interested in the progress of their learning.

For the registration of specific cases in the school system D&E has collaborated with the Ministry of Education and Sports and the Regional Education Directory of Tirana

## ■ Family mediation

Our organization is very much focused on the work done in mediating with the families. It is noted that beneficiaries which are supported by their family members have been cases that have been successful throughout the reintegration process. During individual and group counseling sessions a lot is discussed on topics like family relationships, love and respect between each other. During this period it is found out that not all the girls have had good relations with their families, and there have been cases where girls are abused by family members and this has led to breaking the good relationship between the daughter and the family members.

The attempt to restore good relations with the family is difficult. There are cases when girls refuse to communicate at all with their families. This has happened for various reasons such as: abuse within the family, conflicts, keeping the girls closed/isolated, not allowing to continue school, breaking their relations with their daughters after any failed relationship or marriage.

Being in this situation every case manager makes a plan together with the beneficiary putting some goals and objectives on how to achieve that this very important and human relationship gets improved, a relation that has helped in the long journey of reintegration. After such a job successes and satisfactory results are reached. To achieve this so important goal regular calls are conducted every day by the beneficiaries with their families. A phone, its number is known by all the families, is available to every girl.

Meetings are very often realized in Tirana or in the districts from where girls come. In these meetings the case managers or the psychologist conduct counseling even with other family members.

Girls go and celebrate in their families in the city of origin for festive occasions or birthdays.

The girls who have security problems are accompanied by the staff for the meetings with family members in the Directorate of Police to be safe both parties.

Our organization is supported by the Directorate of Police and other partner organizations to facilitate contacts with the family in different cities from where the girls come from.

*Era comes from a southern village of Albania. She was a minor; her relationship was very difficult with her family, especially with her mother. In the first days after she entered in the shelter she refused even to speak to her mother and other family members. It was also very difficult for the staff to communicate with her family because we did not have any contact number with them. After a lot of counseling sessions with the girl the first step was taken by visiting her family in their village where they lived. The meeting was very emotional. The girl was very welcome. After that meeting the girl had regular contacts with the family. Besides the regular calls, the girl visited the family several times and they have come to Tirana to meet with their daughter.....*

### ***During this year:***

- 28 beneficiaries are assisted in their families of origin.
- 3 cases entered in the program during this period are assisted directly in the family.

- 10 beneficiaries were united with their families during this period and continue to be assisted by D&E.

### ■ Social – cultural activities

During this period, several social activities for the beneficiaries have been organized. The activities were organized both inside and outside the center.

#### Activities organized inside the shelter

- *Group discussion on different themes;*
- *Celebrating various fiestas;*
- *Celebrating beneficiaries' birthday ;*
- *Cullinari workshops, through which beneficiaries learn how to cook different recipes;*
- *Different fun and energetic games;*
- *Producing of handcrafts, embroidery;*
- *Musical evening, organized every Saturday;*
- *Reading different books from D&E library;*
- *Home Cinema;*
- *Fitness;*
- *Energetic games;*
- *Cards, "Murlan";*
- *Karaoke;*
- *Songs and poems for children*

### ■ Activities organized outside the shelter

There are organized different entertainment and informative activities outside of the shelter.

#### Some of the activities organized are:

- *Visit to Dajti mountain;*
- *Cocktail in a bar in San Valentine's Day and Women's Day;*
- *Picnic in Tirana Artificial Lake;*
- *Going to Laci Church;*
- *Going to Durrsi Amphitheatre;*
- *Children of beneficiaries accompanied by their mothers in local playground;*
- *Going to Gjiri i Lalzit beach;*
- *Activities for children "Animator and circus for children"*



**PHOTO 7**

During July and August, all beneficiaries of the Reintegration Center, have frequented the swimming pool, for two weeks. Also swimming pool was frequented by male beneficiaries, part of D&E program.

#### ■ **Financial and long term assistance**

- 101 cases and 86 children are assisted with services in community in the second and third phases of the reintegration program during the reported period.
- From these, 68 cases and 80 children are assisted in the rented apartments, 28 cases and 6 children are assisted in their families, 5 cases are assisted in alternative placements.
- 24 new cases and their 38 children entered in the program have been assisted directly in the apartments, and 3 cases and one child entered in the program are assisted directly in the families; 2 new cases are assisted directly in other alternative placements.
- 3 cases and 2 children have passed from shelter to be assisted in the rented apartments and 10 cases and one child after sheltering are assisted in their family of origin.
- D&E has financially supported the beneficiaries covering the rent of their apartments in the second phase of the Reintegration Program, considered as a very important element in the process of their empowerment, as well as towards further successful reintegration in the society.

#### ■ **Information on community services**

The cases assisted in apartments or in the family of origin have been informed about the services provided in community, based on their needs. They have been oriented for the location of the institutions and services provided by these institutions and respectively, for health services, services provided by the Municipality of Tirana, for lease bonus, social housing, etc. Also it is provided information for individuals who are not in our program, but have required information about other institutions where they can receive services and where they can benefit them.

- D&E case managers have provided support and oriented the beneficiaries of second and third phase of the program to prepare the required documents for applying to the housing schemes of Tirana Municipality. **8 beneficiaries** have applied for lease bonus program or/ and social housing one and 4 of them have benefited from lease bonus program.

- D&E doctor has oriented and informed the beneficiaries assisted in the second phase of the program in order to receive specific medical treatment near the Health Center No.9 where are registered all the D&E beneficiaries. Some of the beneficiaries are equipped with Health Card and the others are in process.
- The beneficiaries who have passed from shelter to rented apartments or have joint their origin families are oriented even to compile the documents for profiting the Economic Aid. D&E organization has issued a statement for each beneficiary who has been part of the reintegration program which was necessary for benefiting Economic Assistance from the state. 3 cases have benefited economic aid during 2016.
- The beneficiaries are informed and supported for performing the procedures and completing the documents related to the enrollment of children in crèche, kindergarten and school as well as preparation of documents for free crèche and kindergarten for the children of single mothers.

### ■ **Monitoring and follow up of the cases**

The beneficiaries of the second and the third phase of D&E program are supported with all community services mentioned above based on their needs.

The monitoring continues to be done through direct meetings as well as through regular telephone calls.

101 cases have been monitored and followed up during this year

Regular counseling sessions are offered by psychologist of D&E for the beneficiaries in the program, who are currently in the second phase of reintegration. Beneficiaries of the second phase of reintegration program have regular contacts also with the case managers. During this period, staff has monitored and has done direct meetings with beneficiaries who live in their cities of origin as Durrësi, Berati, Kucove, Fier, Vlorë, Elbasan, Korçë, Pogradec, Lezhë and Shkodër.

## **2.2 Contribution to the assisted return of victims of trafficking or potential victims of trafficking**

### ■ **Return of foreign victims in their origin countries**

During this period, D&E has supported *seven foreign cases* in the reintegration program. Two beneficiaries, one from Philippine and one from Nigeria, have decided to return to their origin country based on their willingness. They have been assisted during the return process, preparing the necessary documents and facilitating the communication with other supportive agencies and institutions. For their return, D&E is supported by ONAC and IOM on financial facilities. Three

cases are in process of their return in their origin countries, one of the cases from UK and two others with Moldovan citizenship. Two other cases are still in the D&E program.

**■ Return of Albanian victims identified abroad in Albania**

During this period, D&E has been contacted by the organization "Salvation Army" in the UK for the return of a case assessed by them as a victim of trafficking. Responsible Authority was informed for the return of this case and after some facilities the case was received at the airport and was accommodated in the center.

Two cases, victims of domestic violence and 4 their children were returned from Germany during this year and they have been assisted in D&E reintegration program. The cases were assisted in the apartment, financially supported by D&E. Services are provided for these cases based on their and their children needs.

**2.3 Direct assistance for males victims of trafficking**

During this period, D&E has assisted 21 males, victims / potential victims of trafficking or victims of sexual abuse, from which 6 males are new cases referred to D&E reintegration program.

**■ Source of referrals for new cases, males assisted during January – December 2016:**

Referral source	No. of cases
IOM	1
ARSIS	1
LGBT	1
Children Institution “Zyber Hallulli”	1
Self-referred	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>

**TABLE 18**

In collaboration with D&E case manager, a reintegration plan is designed for each case and they are supported to achieve the objectives described in the plan.

Housing remains one of the most basic needs of male victims of trafficking or potential victims of trafficking assisted until now, as it seems that poverty remains a key factor for young males aged 15-22 years to fall prey of exploitation of different forms.

A special attention has been stable employment of the cases during the reintegration process. During this year, the cases have been supported with the mediation for employment and economic empowerment. One of the main challenges that remain regarding employment is the fact that most of the cases have low level of education and very little experience. This makes the process of reintegration and stability in the work difficult for some beneficiaries. Often, they have to try 2-3 different jobs until they find themselves in a certain job. Also the current labor

market is relatively poor for this age group and the only work profile that is found massively in employment announcements, is working as a bartender or waiter.

Also an important focus is given to the professional courses. During 2016, three cases have participated in the counseling program "Coach for Employment". Another important issue has been attendance of foreign languages courses, professional ones. It is seen as a good opportunity for employment, especially for the young people working in call centers. From the beneficiaries entered recently in the program, two of them are attending courses of English and Italian. Four beneficiaries have attended school during this period.

The beneficiaries have been supported with psycho-social counseling, legal assistance, medical assistance, assistance to find a job, financial support for paying the rent of the apartment; trainings for increasing life skills; mediation to other community services, monitoring and follow up etc. The psychologist of D&E has offered individual counselling for all the males beneficiaries of the program.

## **2.4 Increasing the efforts for identification of victims / potential victims of trafficking**

During this period the staff of D&E has participated in multidisciplinary tables organized by municipality unit no. 3, 5, 8, 9 and 11.

As part of the initiative "For children in street situations" initiated by the State Agency for Protection of Children Rights, D&E has assisted Administrative Unit No.2 and No.3 through field work 3-4 times per week. Field work is realized according to a certain graphic which is prepared by the Municipality of Tirana. Mobile team is composed by one employee of the CPUs respective, by D&E employees and on special cases police officer has been assisted. Areas where the staff is focused are: Moscow of Et'hem Beut, Palace of Culture, Piazza, and Elbasan Street "7 Xhuxhat". During this period 38 cases have been identified. During field work several repeated cases are noticed and for a certain case the police was informed. Mainly, the identified cases have been children exploited for begging and a minor was exploited by his father for work. Regarding the children age in street situation, varies from 1 year old to 15 years old and most of them are females.

## **3 Increasing the efforts for economic empowerment of victims of trafficking**

### **■ *Counseling and support for beneficiaries' employment***

During this year, 48 beneficiaries have been in job relationship as cooker, cooking assistants, dishwasher in restaurants, cleaner, hairdresser assistant, call center operators, bartenders, pastry (sweet preparation), waiters, furniture employees, fish seller, mechanic in auto services, tailoring, etc.

D&E staff continues to orient beneficiaries in choosing professions required in the labour market, adapting naturally in any case with their personal skills.

During January 2016 was created a new group with 15 participants, beneficiaries of D&E reintegration program involved in the training program “Coach for Employment” which lasted until December 2016. The purpose of this training is to help the beneficiaries in increasing their skills in finding and keeping the job.

The trainer of “Coach for employment” has worked with the relevant group to create a consolidated team, to identify the personal strengths of each beneficiary, aiming at long terms assistance, to enhance their skills and abilities in finding and keeping jobs; encouraging initiatives and research skills of the participants; developing of social competence of the group; knowledge acquisition and preparation for short-term internships. The participants in the training program are familiar with professions and new businesses, being prepared for possible inclusion in long-term internships in these businesses. In group meetings, participants had the opportunity to exchange experiences with each other; meanwhile Individual Development Plans are developed.

Meetings are organized twice per week at the Educational Center environments.

D&E continues to have regular contacts with the Regional Employment Office and all the beneficiaries who are ready to start working are registered in this institution as jobseekers.

■ *Supporting the beneficiaries to open small businesses*

During this period, **5 beneficiaries of D&E have managed their own businesses.**

Beneficiaries are monitored regularly and are provided with technical support based on their needs.

■ *Piloting internship programs with private companies*

During this year 5 beneficiaries were involved in internship program. Three beneficiaries have worked as cook assistant in three different restaurants, 1 beneficiary as hairdresser assistant in a Beauty Salon and the last one working in a tailoring shop.

## **2.5 Enhancing cooperation with service providers and local state institutions**

D&E collaborates with different state institutions, NGOs, international organization, business companies, religious institutions, etc, for the victims of trafficking reintegration program.

***Collaboration with state institutions:***

- Ministry of Internal Affairs/Office of National Anti-trafficking Coordinator;
- Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth;
- Ministry of Education and Sport;
- Members of National Referral Mechanism;
- The District Council of Tirana;
- Municipality of Tirana;
- State Social Service / Regional Office of State Social Services;
- D&E has signed a grant agreement for the first time this year with the Agency for the Administration of Seized and Confiscated Assets;
- State Agency for the Protection of Children's Rights;
- Vocational Training Center;
- Child Protection Units;
- Regional Employment Office;
- Regional Educational Directorate.

***Partnerships with non-state institutions, NGOs, religious institutions***

- National Coalition of Anti-trafficking shelters
- SHKBSH
- Eagle Wings
- ARSIS
- Terre des Homes
- CARITAS Albania
- Papa Giovanni XXIII
- Mary Ward Loreto Foundation
- Legal Centers TLAS dhe QNLQ
- "Human Rights in Democracy" Center
- SHKEJ
- Center for children in street situation / Save the children

## ■ Collaboration with business companies

During 2016, D&E has continued to cooperate closely with a number of business companies. Their selection is made very carefully and in full partnership with the Regional Employment Offices. This cooperation is focused on two main directions:

- In employment of program beneficiaries according to their professional specific profile or previous work experiences. D&E collaborate with at least 50 - 60 business companies for this purpose each year.
- Implementation of the internship program, which continues to be one of the most effective format to help beneficiaries to be trained on job, meanwhile they are paid for the work that have done and they are included in the social security scheme under applicable laws. During 2016, it was cooperated especially for this program with five business companies. Business companies which D&E has collaborated have been mainly restaurants, atelier tailoring and hairdressing salons. Period involvement of beneficiaries in this type of program was a minimum of 3 months. Upon completion of the internship period the beneficiaries are employed in the same profile as taking advantage of the experience gained.

Another aspect of cooperation of D&E with business companies was also to generate revenue for the provision of reintegration services for beneficiaries of the program. During 2016, it was organized by D&E a charity evening, for the successful realization of which was closely collaborated with several business companies that have donated various items or services in support of the cause. Companies with which was collaborated were mostly serious companies operating in Albania for years in different fields such as hotel services, restaurants, soft drinks production, nursing services, graphic studio etc. Specifically it was cooperated with 20 businesses for this activity.

## ■ Cooperation with state institutions for different initiatives

- D&E has actively participated in all activities organized by the National Anti –Trafficking Coordinator Office:

- Meetings organized in the framework of NRM;
- Meetings organized by the Responsible Authority to discuss difficult cases;
- Meetings organized in the framework of the revision of Standard Operating Procedures for identification and referral of VoT and PVoT;

- D&E has actively participated in all activities organized by the Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth and the Agency for Protection of Children’s Rights:

- Consultative meetings on Protection of Children in street situations;
- The fourth meeting of the National Council for the Protection of Children's Rights;

- D&E has participated in several activities organized by different partner agencies and also are prepared several materials with suggestions for improving of the legal framework. More specifically are providing comments and suggestions to the following draft law:

- New draft law “On the Rights and Protection of Children”;
- Draft law on Social Enterprises;
- The process of drafting the National Agenda for Children Rights 2016-2020;
- The draft law of social housing;
- The Draft law for Social Services;
- Review of project budget for 2017.

## 2.6 Awareness raising activities on trafficking issues

### ■ Activities in the framework of Mobilization Plan #IProtectChildren

In the framework of the National Plan of Mobilization #IProtectChildren, "Different & Equal" organization has organized four awareness raising meeting on sexual violence with students of the High School Mullet, Tirana, Non Public High School "Rogacionistët" Lezha; Gymnasium "Myrteza Cape" Kucova; Youth Center in Tirana with young people from the community and the University.

D&E organization was part of the Right’s Fair, organized in the framework of the #IProtectChildren conclusion.

There were distributed awareness materials during the activity and also some of the handmade items made by the beneficiaries were sold.



PHOTO 8



PHOTO 9

### ■ Family Fair

"Different & Equal" became part of the Family’s Fair held on May 14<sup>th</sup> by the MSWY and Agency for Protection of Children’s Rights.



**PHOTO 10**



**PHOTO 11**

**■ Activities in the framework of the Month against Trafficking in Persons**

**- *Information sessions in schools***

In October, during the month against Trafficking in Persons, "Different & Equal" has organized information sessions in six schools in Tirana. The selected schools were: "Ismail Qemali" and "Isa Boletini" high schools and "Lasgush Poradeci", "Bajram Curri", "Farka e Vogel" and "New Kamza" secondary schools. Most of these schools are located in the informal area on the suburbs of Tirana.

During these sessions, the students were informed about trafficking issues, such as: what is trafficking; forms of trafficking; the victim's profile; indicators for identifying trafficking victims and potential victims of trafficking and the referral of VoT. In each school there were about 40 students who participated in these sessions.



**PHOTO 12**



**PHOTO 13**

- **Organization of a competition between schools**

On October 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> there were conducted two training sessions with students selected from six schools in Tirana that later took part in a competition about trafficking issues. 5 students from each school participated in this activity. On October 17<sup>th</sup> it was organized the competition between the schools where three of them were winners.

These activities were organized in collaboration with the National Anti-trafficking Coordinator Office, Tirana Prefecture, the Regional Directorate of Education and Youth Center.



**PHOTO 14**



**PHOTO 15**



**PHOTO 16**



**PHOTO 17**

- **Information sessions in the community**

During October there were also conducted three activities with girls and women in the cities of Lezha, Kukesi and Dibra. Girls and women in need and also employees of Local Administration were part of the informative sessions. In these activities, the participants were informed about the trafficking issues, the various forms of exploitation and also about the system of protection and support for victims of trafficking in Albania. The first informative session about the

trafficking issues was organized on October 6<sup>th</sup>, in Lezha with the participation of 12 women and girls in need from Roma and Egyptian communities. While on October 10<sup>th</sup>, the activity was organized in Kukes with the participation of 14 women and girls from the local administration and the community. On October 13<sup>th</sup> the information session was held in Dibra. 17 girls and women in need have participated in this activity.



**PHOTO 18**



**PHOTO 19**

#### **- Paintings Exhibition**

"Different & Equal" was represented by the work of women and girls, victims of trafficking, in the National Exhibition that the Ministry of Interior and the Office of National Anti-trafficking Coordinator organized during the month of October. The work of students of secondary schools and the victims of trafficking accommodated in the shelters was exposed in this exhibition. The exhibition remained open for two days and at the end of this activity, several awards were distributed.



**PHOTO 20**



**PHOTO 21**



**PHOTO 22**



**PHOTO 23**

■ **Activities in the framework of the project “Strengthening youth at risk to develop anti-trafficking campaign”**

Since June 2016, "Different& Equal" is implementing the project “*Empowering youth at risk to develop anti-trafficking awareness campaigns*”. The special part of this project is that it is based on the *approach of young people for young people*, where initially a group of 60 young people was trained on issues related to trafficking and then they trained their peers in the regions where they live. The main objective of this project is to increase the capacity of a small group of vulnerable young people to design, develop and implement an awareness campaign against trafficking by empowering them as agents of change and also increasing community knowledge about trafficking.

The project is being implemented in the districts of Dibra, Kukes, Lezha and Tirana. In each one of the district a local facilitator is assigned who assists and coordinates the group of young people in that district.

- **Workshop with anti-trafficking actors in four districts**

In the framework of this project, on October 7<sup>th</sup> 2016, a workshop was held with stakeholders of the Regional Anti-Trafficking Committees with participants from all the four districts. During this workshop, besides the information on project progress, several bridges of cooperation were established between the various anti-trafficking actors in the respective regions, such as the Prefecture, Regional State Social Service, school psychologists and various NGOs operating in the relevant districts and which are focused on working with vulnerable young people.

- **Youth identification**

During October – November, after the end of the workshop, "Different and Equal" and its facilitators in the districts cooperated closely with the Regional Education Directorates, school psychologists, various NGOs and other actors the selection of youth who will be part in this project.

In each district there are selected 15 young people who come from disadvantaged contexts, families with low socio-economic level, poor areas where there are few services or high incidence of trafficking. Each group of 15 young people (in total 60 young people in four

regions of Albania) are trained and continue to be trained on issues related to trafficking, in framing and designing the awareness anti-trafficking campaigns, in public speaking and computer literacy that can help them in the implementation of the campaign.

- **Computer course**

During the period November-December 2016, two month computer courses were organized in the districts of Kukes, Lezha and Dibra. During these courses, young people have learned how to build posters and leaflets that will then be used as an awareness material for their anti-trafficking campaign. Computer courses in these three districts will be closed in January, while in this period is expected to start the computer course for the youth of Dibra district.

- **Trajnimi on trafficking issues**

In the four districts selected for implementation of this project, there are conducted training on trafficking in persons. Some of the main issues treated during these trainings were: what is the trafficking in persons; the main forms of exploitation; the ways of recruitment; the victim profile; and the signs that indicate that a person and especially a minor can be a victim of trafficking; the protection system and services for victims of trafficking in Albania; etc. The trainings were held on the following dates:

District of Kukes – 12 November 2016

District of Dibra – 15 November 2016

District of Lezha – 18 November 2016

District of Tirana – 10 December 2016

- **Training on designing the awareness campaigns**

The main focus of this training was to introduce young people engaged in the project theoretical and practical concepts of an awareness campaign such as defining the vision and mission of the campaign, defining specific and measurable objectives, designing the logo and slogan and designing activities that help disseminate campaign messages. The dates of these trainings were:

District of Kukes – 13 November 2016

District of Dibra – 16 November 2016

District of Lezha – 19 November 2016

District of Tirana – 11 December 2016

Trainings are based on an interactive methodology, where young people were invited constantly for an active participation in the training, combining the theoretical part with many examples, group work, case studies, different games, etc. Also, during the second day of training young people were focused on the practical development of the campaign to build a model of their campaign in their district, and select activities and specific areas of the district where the activities will take place.

These 60 young people, well- trained in trafficking issues, as well as in drafting the design of campaigns and public speaking, will train other young people in their district during March -

May 2017. In total, it is foreseen that these young people will organize more than 40 awareness activities, so more than 10 activities for each district.

Afterwards, these young people will aim to develop awareness campaigns about the phenomenon of trafficking in their communities, including the use of social media, electronic and printed media with the aim of raising awareness about trafficking. It is also foreseen, the production and distribution of 600 posters and 8.000 leaflets that will serve as awareness materials for the community meetings. This project is expected to raise awareness for about 15 000 young people in four districts.



**PHOTO 24**



**PHOTO 25**



**PHOTO 26**



**PHOTO 27**

### ■ **UN.GIFT BOX** campaign

“UN GIFT BOX” is a campaign for raising public awareness on trafficking on human beings, and it comes to Albania due to the collaboration of URAT network with STOP the Traffic, UN GIFT and National Anti-Trafficking Coordinator Office. UN Gift Box was opened for the first time in Durrës on 25 July 2016, for 8 days in this town, including the 30<sup>th</sup> of July which coincides with the World Day against Trafficking in Persons, day in which it was held the official opening ceremony of the summer campaign by National Anti-Trafficking Coordinator.

UN GIFT BOX provided a lot of information for citizens through awareness materials on trafficking in persons. The Box stood near Durres Municipality during 26 July - 2 August, being available to all citizens from 09:00 to 12:00 am in the morning, and from 16:00 to 21:00 pm. 3805 citizens visited the box and took information on trafficking phenomenon and also they took the information where they can ask for help in case of need.

- **Training of volunteers, Durres**

On July 25, in Durres, training was organized for volunteers of awareness campaign against human trafficking UN GIFT Box.

22 volunteers from Durres, Tirana and Lushnja were trained and then contributed throughout the campaign conducted in Durres.

- **UN GIFT Box, Saranda**

UN-GIFT Box campaign was conducted in Saranda from 3 to 10 of September. 3000 citizens visited the box and got aware on trafficking issues.

- **Training of volunteers, Saranda**

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 2016, training was organized for volunteers of awareness campaign against human trafficking UN GIFT Box in Saranda. 10 volunteers were present from Saranda and other cities. The volunteers contributed in giving information to the citizens throughout the campaign.

- **UN GIFT Box, Tirana**

The official opening ceremony of this awareness and prevention campaign was on 3 October in Tirana, starting with the onward march in front of Pyramid, at 10.00, and moving towards UN Gift Box, which was placed in the Youth Park for its official opening at 11.00.

The Minister of Internal Affairs, Mr. Saimir Tahiri, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs Mrs. Elona Gjebrea, Prefect of Tirana, Mr. Sadi Vorpsi, Deputy Minister of Education and Science Mrs. Nora Malaj, different Organizations, members of URAT network and other guests were present.

UN-GIFT Box was opened in Tirana for 6 days and it was visited by 3127 citizens.



**PHOTO 28**



**PHOTO 29**

**- Training of volunteers, Tirana**

On October 1, training of volunteers was conducted in Tirana. 30 young people attended the training and contributed later in the UN GIFT Box campaign in Tirana.



**PHOTO 30**



**PHOTO 31**

**- UN GIFT Box, Shkodra**

UN GIFT Box campaign was opened in Shkodra on 25 October and remained open for seven days. It was visited by 6.400 citizens who got aware of the trafficking in persons, where to ask for help or to report trafficking cases.



**PHOTO 32**



**PHOTO 33**

- **Training of volunteers, Shkodra**

Training of volunteers in Shkodra took place on 24 October and it was attended by 50 volunteers who were then engaged in informing citizens that visited the box.

## **2.7 Activities for prevention of sexual violence and trafficking**

University of Bedfordshire in the UK, supported by the Council of Europe and OAK Foundation, has implemented "Our Voices" project (2013-2016). This European project aims to promote youth involvement in efforts to prevent sexual violence in Europe, based on the ideas and experiences of Youth Advisers who come from different backgrounds.

"Different & Equal" is one of the regional organizations invited to become part of the project and in 2014 it became involved with holding three consultations with Youth Advisers. Young people involved, have been exposed to different types of sexual violence, and they are beneficiaries of our organization.

In the framework of this project, there are held 15 awareness-raising meetings with young people. The meetings on the prevention of sexual violence were held in three cities Lezha, Tirana and Berat. The meetings were held in Universities, High schools, Youth Centers and Churches' Youth Centers.

During the event, along with information, **an awareness-raising video** produced by the organization's beneficiaries, was shared with the participants. A poster also prepared by the beneficiaries was distributed in many schools and places populated by young people.



PHOTO 34



PHOTO 35



PHOTO 36



PHOTO 37

### 3. Trainings and presentations provided by D&E

D&E provided one-day training for psychologists, deputy directors and directors of high schools of Lezha, Shkodra, etc, on *"The psychologist's role in the prevention of trafficking and legal framework"* The training was organized in the Education Directorate environment in Lezha.

Training provided for Police Women on *"Identification, referral and protection of victims of trafficking"*.

Training on *"Mentoring"* organized by "Different & Equal", provided for D&E staff, volunteers and students.

### 4. Staff participation in different trainings

- Training on **"Communication and PR"**, organized by ERSTE Foundation;
- Training on **"Fundraising: Communications, Community, Strategy"** organized by ERSTE Foundation;

- Training on **“Project Management for Community Engagement: New approaches for co-creating a mission, vision, and plan using collective intelligence”**, organized by ERSTE Foundation;
- Training on **“Journalistic Writing: How you can tell the stories and positions of your organization to the media”**, organized by ERSTE Foundation;
- Training on **“Exploring the untapped potential of EU Funding: a practical approach”**, organized by ERSTE Foundation;
- Training on **“Intercultural communication and cooperation”**, organized by ERSTE Foundation;
- Training on **“Supervision”** provided by TdH;
- Participation in the training **“Empowering Local State Structures to protect Victims of Trafficking in Albania”** organized by Caritas Albania;
- Participation in the training **“Resolution 1325. Women’s rights from the concept of Albanian reality”** organized by the Association of women with social problems in collaboration with the Swedish organization “Operation 1325”;
- Participation in a two day training on **“Community mobilization”** organized in the framework of “Move Albania” project in collaboration with “Partners Albania for change and development”;
- Participation in training organized by OSCE held in Venice-Italy, **“The first simulation training on combating trafficking through migratory routes”**. The training was attended by representatives of different state and non-state agencies, different NGOs from 31 countries, members of OSCE;
- Training on **“Trauma and related issues”** organized by “Different & Equal” organization and delivered by the expert Ivana Slavcovic. The three days training was attended by all D&E staff;
- Participation in the International Conference **“Investigation and prosecution of human trafficking”** organized by Medaile Trust in England. The conference was held in Bled, Slovenia and the aim of this training was to provide an international perspective on human trafficking issues and exchange of experiences between organizations and other stakeholders involved in this field;
- Participation in **“2nd European Assembly of RENATE in Rome, “Ending trafficking begins with us””**, organized by RENATE, in Rome, Italy;
- Participation in the training on **“Advocacy, lobbying and campaigns”** organized by RENATE, March 2016, in Hungary;
- Training of volunteers and staff members on **“Awareness campaign against trafficking in human beings, “UN Gift Box Campaign””**, provided by URAT network.

## **5. Coordination with other anti –trafficking actors**

- Participation in the meeting organized by ARSIS for the organization of an advocacy campaign "On procurement of public funds to social service delivery by civil society organizations in Albania".
- Participation in a consultative meeting on the draft housing law organized by the Ministry of Urban Development. During the meeting it was presented the new draft and

recommendations were given by participants included D&E suggestions, submitted in advance in writing.

- Participation in the Round Table on "Discussing Findings and Recommendations from the Study on the Punishment of Corruption Actions in Public Sector", organized by the Albanian Helsinki Committee (AHC).
- Participation in anti-discrimination activities organized by the Council of Europe in the framework of the Joint Program of the EU / CoE "Increasing the effectiveness of the Albanian system in protection of human rights and anti-discrimination". In these activities it was discussed the mechanisms that were built up to combat discrimination and there were given opinions and ideas for improving the legal framework and instruments against discrimination.
- Participation in the event organized by Terre des Hommes Foundation in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth and the State Social Service, with the support of Austrian Development Agency (ADA), the operational unit of the Austrian Development Cooperation, with the object of presenting the project "Improving living conditions and re-integration of migrant children in Albania". This event also presented an analysis of the situation "Migration and Social Protection in Albania, Impact on children".
- Participation in the hearing session at the Parliamentary Working Committee, for giving opinions on the Draft law on Social Services - the material sent in advance in writing was presented on behalf of D&E during the hearing session.
- Participation in the activity organized by TDH in the framework of the project on emigration of children. The meeting presented a TDH report on the situation of children in emigration.
- Participation in the activity "People's Legislative Initiative in Republic of Albania", organized by the Center for Legal Civic Initiatives. This event was introduced by CLCI initiatives for the draft law "On the popular legislative initiative in the Republic of Albania" and discussed the innovations that bring this initiative to direct democracy.
- Participation in the activity of the Ombudsman for the presentation of the CEDAW Committee report.
- Participation in the hearing session held by the Committee on Labor, Social Affairs and Health, to review the draft budget for 2017, concretely, to the line ministries of the commission, MSWY and MH.
- Participating in the signing ceremony of the cooperation agreement with the Ombudsman and the Coalition "Justice for All". The event was held at the Ombudsman's premises. The agreement aims to enhance the cooperation of the Coalition of CS organizations "Justice for All" and the Institution of the Ombudsman to lobby and work together to accelerate the reform in justice.
- Participating in the press conference on the theme "Respect for the rights of Albanian citizens for 2016" organized by the Albanian Helsinki Committee (AHC).
- Participation in the conference "Encouraging and Supporting an Enabling Environment for Civil Society Development in Albania" organized by TACSO Office in cooperation with the

European Union Delegation in Tirana, held on 13 December 2016 at Hotel Tirana International. This conference aimed at discussing the most problematic issues regarding legal and fiscal obligations of CSOs and providing recommendations for appropriate improvements in the future in order to create a fiscal environment simple, clear and conducive for the activities of CSOs in Albania.

- Participation in all coalition meetings "Justice for All", organized by USAID in December in the context of lobbying activities to encourage and accelerate judicial reform, including the reading of a public statement on behalf of the Coalition "Justice for All "presented at the premises of Hotel Tirana International on 13, December 2016.

### **SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE STATUS**

Consultative Status of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) is the highest status given by the United Nations for the non-governmental organizations, allowing them to participate in United Nations work. **This year the status was also accorded to D&E, which based on this status, D&E is a Counselor organization on trafficking issues for the UN in New York, Genève and Vienne.**

## **6. Fundraising activity**

In November, D&E has organized for the fourth consecutive year a raising funds event. This year, it was organized a “Fund raising Event in support to victims of trafficking” where guests have contributed through buying tickets for the event, purchasing products in a Silent Auction, products which were donated by businesses. **The contribution can also be done through donations to the organization's account.** It was also launched a song, sung by Juliana Pasha (a great Albanian singer), and supported by D&E with the aim of community awareness on issues of trafficking.

D&E could earn in total the amount of 1100205 leke, 307000 leke is the amount needed for expenditures and the profit from this event was 793205 leke.



**PHOTO 38**



**PHOTO 39**

## 7. D&E publications

Different & Equal organization in partnership with the Religious Congregation “Sisters of Good Shepherd” and “Franziskanerinnen von der Ewigen Anbetung, Olpe” aiming to increase the awareness on trafficking in persons phenomenon, launches for the first time the song “**LIVE**”, realized in collaboration with the well-known singer **Juliana Pasha**, music **Adi Hila**, lyrics by **Olti Curri**.



**PHOTO 40**



**PHOTO 41**



**PHOTO 42**



**PHOTO 43**