



## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### PROJECT:

**“Strengthening national efforts to protect human rights of (potential) victims of trafficking in persons in Moldova”**

**Consultant within the IOM Prevention and Protection Programme for the implementation of the transnational component of the National Referral System (NRS) for assistance and protection of victims and potential victims of trafficking**

### 1. Overview

Within the framework of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs funded project “Strengthening national efforts to protect human rights of (potential) victims of trafficking in persons in Moldova”, IOM is supporting the Moldovan authorities in the development and implementation of national counter trafficking policy and actions, contributing to the protection the human rights of victims of trafficking (VoTs) and potential VoTs in the Republic of Moldova through better national mechanisms of assistance and protection.

### 2. Objective

Moldova is mainly a country of origin of victims of trafficking, with poverty and violence being the main push factors that influence victims to accept high-risk jobs. The at-risk group includes: victims of domestic violence (VoDV), single parents and particularly unemployed women or persons with low education. The National Referral System (NRS) was adopted as a strategic state policy and extended in the entire country through the creation and training of multidisciplinary teams (MDT) in districts and communities, aimed at identifying and assisting (potential) VoTs. Specialized services have been developed with the support of international partners, including IOM, and handed over by the government. However, while the state support to the functioning of the NRS has been increasing in the last years, the existing government funding for recovery and reintegration does not allow for full response to the (potential) victims’ needs and requires further efforts. Special needs of children require greater intervention, such as proper accommodation assistance. At the same time, while proper long-term reintegration of (potential) VoTs requires a special attention to education and employment-oriented services, the current state funding is able to cover such services only partially. In line with the core objectives set by the Moldovan Government in the National Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, the NRS Strategy, as well as the National Strategy on prevention and fight against trafficking in human beings, the main goal of the project is the protection of (potential) VoTs and their empowerment in view of successful re-integration into their communities/families, through the provision of tailored assistance. Among the other activities, this goal is to be achieved also through the provision of rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration services to Moldovan (potential) VoTs identified abroad, including Moldovan migrants in vulnerable situation and unaccompanied migrant children (UMCs).

### 3. Justification

The core of the project consists in the provision of rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration services to Moldovan (potential) VoTs identified abroad, including Moldovan migrants in vulnerable situation and unaccompanied migrant children (UMCs). Because of the high number of Moldovan migrants in vulnerable situation, UMCs and VoTs identified in the Odessa region (Ukraine) and the complexity of their situation, the presence of a local focal point is crucial to provide them assistance and stands at the basis of the

Transnational Referral System, connecting authorities, international organizations and civil society in Ukraine and Moldova. The activity of a local focal point based in the Odessa region will also contribute to ensure smoother communication and cooperation among Ukrainian and Moldovan stakeholders (including public authorities, services providers, NGOs, and IGOs), for the prompt and successful resolution of transnational cases. This activity is crucial, considering the number of Moldovan citizens in vulnerable situation identified in the region and requesting to be returned to Moldova and receive reintegration assistance in their home country. The presence of a local focal point will facilitate the resolution of practical aspects concerning the identification and assistance of the beneficiary, as well as the repatriation process, in coordination with relevant Moldovan and Ukrainian stakeholders.

#### **4. The Consultant**

Against this background, IOM Moldova, and in cooperation with Moldovan and Ukrainian counter-trafficking stakeholders, will commission a consultant (based on a standard IOM contract) based in the Odessa region of Ukraine, to be responsible for identifying and providing assistance to Moldovan VoTs and potential VoTs identified in Ukraine, including UMCs, migrants in vulnerable situation, victims of domestic violence, etc. The consultant will represent the local focal point in the Odessa region for the implementation of rescue, protection and assistance activities by IOM Moldova, within its Prevention and Protection Programme. More specifically, the consultant shall assist in preparation of repatriation procedures, including facilitation of documentation with local stakeholders, assistance in repatriation with relevant counterparts in the country of destination as well as facilitation of issuance of travel documents upon request with Moldovan Consulate in Ukraine. At the same time the consultant will be responsible for the provision of social assistance, legal counselling, medical and psychological assistance, within the process of preparation for repatriation and reintegration in Ukraine. These tasks shall be performed according to IOM standards of assistance and protection, as well as the methodology of the National Referral Mechanism for (potential) VoTs and victims of domestic violence, implemented in Moldova as well as in Ukraine

#### **Tasks to be performed under this contract:**

Under the supervision of IOM, the Consultant will carry out the following tasks:

- a) Detect, identify and refer the VoTs, underage VoTs, preventive cases, victims of domestic violence, children without parental care and/or legal guardianship, and of stranded migrants eligible for assistance (social, legal, medical) according to IOM Moldova Prevention and Protection Programme standards.
- b) Refer the beneficiaries' cases within the National Referral Mechanism of Ukraine, including from the "Transnistrian" region.
- c) Conclude of contracts with the beneficiaries; development and coordination with IOM Moldova, Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family of the Republic of Moldova and other governmental and nongovernmental relevant NRS partners, of plans regarding the rehabilitation and reintegration of beneficiaries in Ukraine and those eligible to be repatriated to Moldova.
- d) Assist in preparation of repatriation procedures, including facilitation of documentation with local stakeholders, assistance in repatriation with relevant counterparts in the country of destination as well as facilitation of issuance of travel documents upon request with Moldovan Consulate in Ukraine.
- e) Provide social assistance, legal counselling, medical and psychological assistance, within the process of preparation for repatriation and reintegration in Ukraine.
- f) Coordinate with partner organizations for the provision of social assistance, legal counselling, medical and psychological assistance to beneficiaries, within the process of preparation for repatriation and reintegration in Ukraine.
- g) Ensure prompt and efficient communication with local administration units of Odessa.
- h) Follow the methodology of the National Referral Mechanism for the (potential) VoTs and victims of domestic violence, implemented in Moldova as well as in Ukraine.

- i) Implement the transnational National Referral Mechanism component for assistance and protection at the national level with the participation of NGOs in the Odessa region and Ukraine.
- j) Work with local authorities, services for children affairs, orphanages and shelters and other relevant institutions, in order to ensure high level assistance and protection to VoTs and potential VoTs identified.
- k) Strengthen the cooperation between the departments of social assistance of the local authorities, the local law enforcement agencies and local NGOs, in order to provide better services and protection of VoTs and victims of domestic violence.
- l) Strengthen the cooperation with local authorities, the Border Guards, the National Police, Migration Service, and NGOs.
- m) Provide counselling services and representation during the procedures for recognition of legal residence in Ukraine, issuance of a residence permit, registration of children born in Ukraine, registration of marriages, obtaining documents on education and employment in Ukraine, whenever this is included as part of the rehabilitation and reintegration plan of the beneficiary. A priority will be the possibility of obtaining an internal or foreign passport in case of loss or expiration, as well the primary documentation in the Republic of Moldova Consulate in Odessa.
- n) Ongoing monitor and report of the implemented activities and achieved results.
- o) Promote of the cooperation between NGOs and local authorities with regard to improving the identification and support of the target groups.
- p) Contribute to the discussions and events related to the negotiations of the draft agreement between Republic of Moldova and Ukraine on repatriation and assistance of VoTs, stranded migrants and UMCs through provision of relevant expertise analysis based on best practices and personal experience.
- q) Draft narrative and statistical quarterly and annual reports and other reports upon request.

#### 5. Tentative timeline for tangible deliverables

The services hereunder will be delivered by the Consultant since February 1, 2017 to January 15, 2018.

The consultant will coordinate and consult all cases with the Repatriation Specialist within the IOM Moldova prevention and Protection Programme and should provide statistical and other type of reports to IOM upon request.

<b>15 July 2017</b>	<b>Deliverable 1: Midterm Activity Report</b>
<b>15 January 2018</b>	<b>Deliverable 2: Final Activity Report</b>

#### Qualifications required:

- Completed University Degree in Psychology, Social Sciences or other related fields
- At least 7 years' experience in the field of specialized assistance offered to victims of human trafficking, stranded migrants, unaccompanied minors and other persons at risk of abuse, trafficking and exploitation;
- Experience in working with international, national and local specialized authorities, NGOs, IOs, both Moldovan and Ukrainian
- Proven experience in delivering specialized training sessions on assistance and protection of (potential) victims of human trafficking for different stockholders

#### Potential professional advantages:

- Strong personal commitment, efficiency and ability to work effectively in stressful conditions and situations;
- General knowledge of the Ukrainian and Moldovan legislation and procedures in the field of prevention and combating trafficking in human beings and irregular migration;

- Knowledge of specific methods and techniques for the delivery of assistance to victims and potential (stranded migrants) victims of trafficking, unaccompanied minors;
- High sensitivity and strong inter-personal skills to assist highly vulnerable beneficiaries.
- Excellent communication (negotiation, conflicts' mediation) skills;
- Strong motivation to work with victims and potential victims of human trafficking.
- Fluency in Ukrainian and Russian. Basic knowledge of English and Romanian is to be considered an asset;