



## Activity update brief

### A Pool of Trainers on Investigation, Prosecution and Adjudication of Trafficking Cases Established

On June 5-8, 2018, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) - the UN Migration Agency in Turkmenistan organized a four-day training of trainers on “Multidisciplinary and Multisectoral Approach to Investigation, Prosecution and Adjudication of Trafficking Cases” in Mary, Mary velayat (region). The training of trainers (ToT) was organized for representatives of law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, judges and advocates of Mary, Lebap and Akhal velayats within the framework of the three-year project on “*Strengthening the National Action Plan on Trafficking in Persons in Turkmenistan to ensure coordinated assistance and a victim-centered approach*”, funded by the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, U.S. Department of State, launched in October 2015. This activity was the last out of three ToT conducted within the frame of the project and aimed to contribute to the consolidation of institutional capacities at the local level, through establishing a pool of trainers/experts.

The training brought together the regional level teaching staff, namely 10 prosecutors (1 female and 9 male), 4 advocates (4 female) and 6 representatives of law enforcement agencies (6 male) from Mary, Balkan and Akhal velayats of Turkmenistan. The event began with a presentation on objectives of the training in the context of the IOM counter trafficking program in Turkmenistan. The participants were also familiarized with the role of IOM and main achievements in the area of combating human trafficking, IOM practices of cooperation with governmental institutions as well as public organizations, and activities aimed at identification and referral of victims of trafficking (VoTs) for necessary assistance. The training included also a number of presentations and practical works in small groups focusing on investigation, prosecution and adjudication of trafficking cases, latest trends in human trafficking, types of exploitation, a multidisciplinary and multisectoral approach to combat human trafficking, possibilities of providing protection as well as assistance to victims of trafficking and a victim-centered approach in the identification of VoTs. Mr. Vitalii Kasko and Dr. Andrei Orlean, experienced trainers from Ukraine, drew the attention of participants to the data related to the scale of human trafficking at the global level, made special emphasis on the implementation of the key principles of international instruments in the legislation of Turkmenistan, including the non-discrimination principle. Moreover, the trainers presented preventive and cooperative counter-trafficking practices such as situational analysis, public awareness, cooperation between governmental – and non-governmental actors, vulnerability reduction, demand reduction and others.



To enhance practical skills, participants compared the definition of trafficking in human beings defined by the Law of Turkmenistan with definitions included under the international treaties, such as the Palermo Protocol, EU Convention and TIP legislation of other countries while working in small groups. As a result, participants emphasized that the key principles of international instruments such as the non-discrimination principle, prevention, cooperation and other counter-trafficking measures were implemented into the national legislation of Turkmenistan. They also analyzed concrete cases and defined these cases as crimes in accordance with the recently adopted Amendment (article 129-1) to the Criminal Code of Turkmenistan, by giving them a crime qualification. At the same time, the training increased the knowledge and skills of judges and prosecutors to prove the offence of trafficking in order to reach concrete judicial verdicts. At the end of the training, applying the acquired skills, participants were able to develop and deliver presentations on general overview of trafficking in human beings in the modern world; multidisciplinary and multisectoral approach to counter-trafficking; criminal procedural aspects of investigation, prosecution and adjudication of trafficking cases, while the trainers gave recommendations and suggestions to participants on how to better



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get the message across to audiences and improve their teaching skills.

As a result of the training of trainers, a pool of regional level trainers strengthened their knowledge and skills on investigation, prosecution and adjudication of trafficking cases applying multidisciplinary and multisectorial approach. The trainers were also equipped with adult teaching techniques that are extremely important for the effective dissemination of knowledge and skills to the other colleagues in their respective agencies through conducting trainings and seminars using the training manual developed within this project. This training complemented previous and ongoing IOM activities in Turkmenistan within the framework of the project, which are implemented in cooperation with national authorities.

For more information, please contact:

*Ms. Gulyalek Berdiyeva*

*Program Assistant*

*IOM Ashgabat, Turkmenistan*

*Tel: +993 12 488407*

*E-mail: [gberdiyeva@iom.int](mailto:gberdiyeva@iom.int)*