

UNITED NATIONS  
TRUST FUND FOR VICTIMS  
OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING



**From victim to survivor  
A second chance at life**



Managed by



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

# The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons (UNVTF)

The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund: An integral component of a global effort to address trafficking in persons.

The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (UNVTF), was established by the UN General Assembly in 2010, within the UN Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. The UNVTF aligns with the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, as the first global international legal framework to protect and assist victims of trafficking with respect for their human rights.

Administered by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Trust Fund's mandate is to provide humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking in persons through established channels of assistance, including governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations. The UNVTF is supported by a five-member Board of Trustees appointed by the Secretary-General for a three-year term.

## The Trust Fund Victim-Centred Approach

The Trust Fund directly supports around 3,000 survivors every year through its NGO partners.

Through the funding of projects, the Trust Fund emphasises a victim-centred approach that aligns with the “3P” paradigm of “Prevention”, “Prosecution” and “Protection”, formulated under the Trafficking in Persons Protocol. This paradigm serves as the fundamental framework used by governments around the world to combat human trafficking and seeks to guarantee the rights of each individual victim.



### Action Line 01 - Protection

Immediate humanitarian assistance for victims' protection and psychosocial support, including shelter, counselling, education, medical and psychosocial assistance.

### Action 02 - Legal Assistance

Access to justice, legal advice and assistance, including legal representation for victims to obtain legal status, remedies, compensation and/or aid packages.

### Action 03 - Empowerment and Prevention

Necessary empowerment and support for victims' personal autonomy through the provision of vocational and independent livelihood skills training, advocacy and awareness-raising actions, and where possible reintegration into communities, to prevent re-trafficking of victims.



# The Blue Heart Campaign against Trafficking in Persons

The Blue Heart Campaign directly supports the work of the Trust Fund as a global awareness raising initiative to fight human trafficking and its impact on society. It encourages involvement from governments, civil society, the corporate sector and individuals alike, to inspire action, and help prevent this heinous crime.

The Blue Heart is increasingly recognised as the international symbol against human trafficking, representing the sadness of those who are trafficked while reminding us of the cold-heartedness of those who buy and sell fellow human beings. All proceeds to the Blue Heart Campaign go directly to the Trust Fund in support of trafficking victims.

## Trust Fund in Numbers

**4.2** million US\$ in contributions from a wide range of supporters, as of April 2018.

**520,000** US\$ the average level of contributions per year since 2010.

**3.6** million US\$ committed to support grassroots non-governmental organisations that directly assist victims globally.

**34** NGO projects funded in 30 countries during the first and second grant cycles.

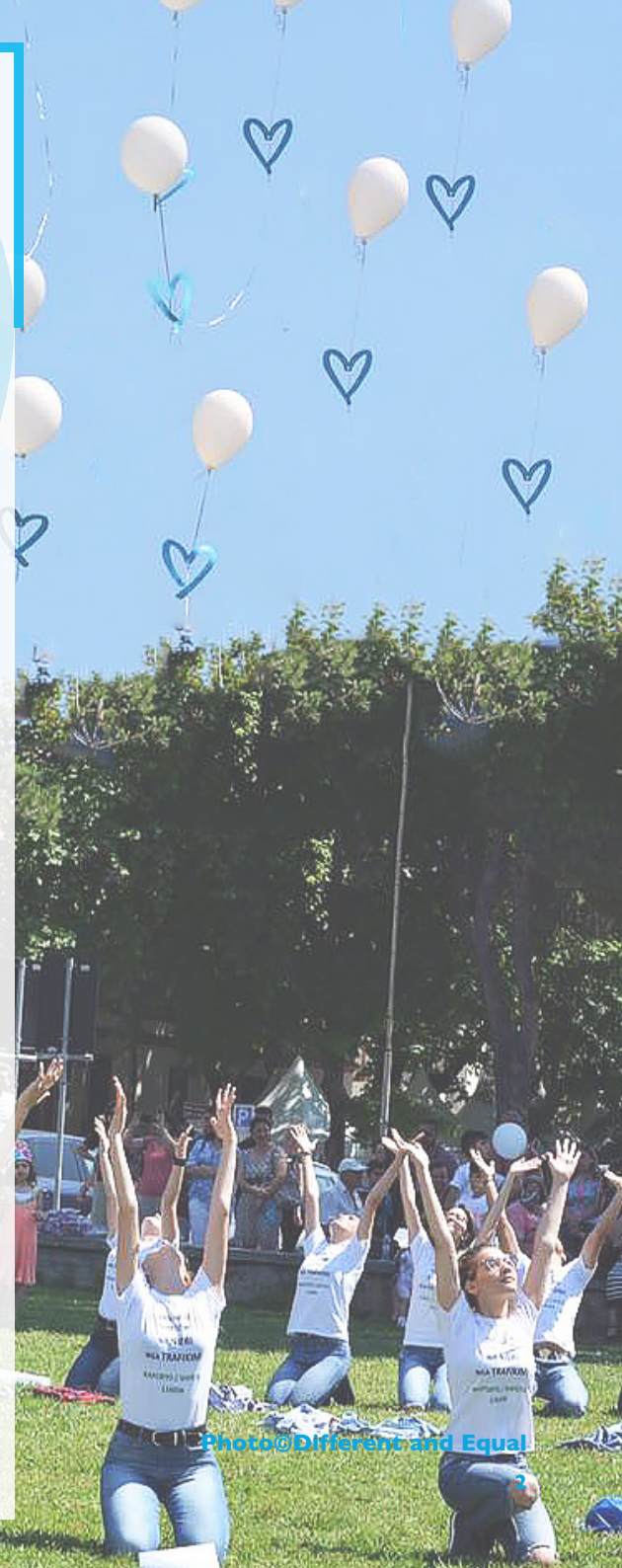


Photo © Different and Equal



## Trust Fund achievements

### UNVTF helps NGOs operationalise key activities for victims to reclaim their dignity.

Through the work of its NGOs partners, the Trust Fund supports the implementation and delivery of activities and services that both enhance the psychological recovery and social reintegration of victims and empower survivors to reclaim their rights to justice and fair compensation, as part of the global fight against trafficking. This includes through the identification of victims, legal, prosecution assistance, coordination and information sharing across relevant actors.

#### *Identification of Victims:*

- *Enabling survivors to be formally recognised as victims through screening methodologies;*
- *Claiming remedies for victims including compensation and aid packages;*
- *For example, our NGO FOCUS runs a Human Trafficking phone Helpline in Thailand where it receives reports of human trafficking and verifies facts as part of the identification phase.*

#### *Legal and Prosecution Assistance:*

- *Providing victims with legal advice and information about their rights;*
- *Access to justice and witness protection for victims to achieve reparations and end impunity of traffickers;*
- *For example, our NGO Justicia Para Nuestras Hijas in Mexico successfully concluded a historic trial on behalf of four deceased families resulting in five traffickers each sentenced to 697 years in prison, and fined US\$ 839,274 in damages.*

#### *Coordination and Information Sharing Across Relevant Actors:*

- *Concerted and collaborative action by NGO partners working to end trafficking;*
- *Enhancing formal national referral mechanisms to promote accountability and provide adequate training to officials;*
- *For example, our Indian NGO Bachpan Bachao Andolan working with law enforcement authorities rescued 260 child victims of forced labour, recovered US\$ 37,000 in owed-wages, and shut down 16 labour factories.*

# What is human trafficking?

Human trafficking harms women and men, girls and boys and affects every country in the world – as countries of origin, transit or destination or a combination of all three.

Under the Protocol, Trafficking in Persons is defined as “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.”

The crime of human trafficking is heavily rooted in social and economic conditions including poverty, family violence, marginalisation, and lack of education. It is facilitated by practices that discriminate against the most vulnerable groups in society – in particular, women and children, but also refugees and migrants.

On the basis of the Protocol definition, the crime of trafficking has three constituent elements:

**THE ACT** =) Recruitment, transportation, harbouring or receipt of persons;

**THE MEANS** =) Threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, or giving payments or benefits to a person in control of the victim;

**THE PURPOSE** =) For the purpose of exploitation, which includes exploiting the prostitution of others, sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or similar practices and the removal of organs.



sexual exploitation



domestic servitude



forced labour



forced criminality



emerging trafficking



removal of organs

•Children account for 1 in 3 victims of human trafficking worldwide.

•Women and girls make up 71 per cent of overall trafficking victims and are most commonly trafficked for sexual exploitation.

•Men, frequently overlooked as victims, are often exploited for forced labour, enduring harsh physical conditions and abuse.

## VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS



Source: UNODC Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2016

## Our impact around the world

### The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund: An integral component of a global effort to address trafficking in persons.

Our global impact is demonstrated through our ongoing grants programme, which awards multi-year grants to specialised non-governmental organisations around the world that provide critical assistance to victims.

In its first grant cycle (2011-2014), 11 NGOs from across the globe were selected and awarded grants for up to three years, totalling US\$ 750,000.

In the second call for proposals, launched in 2014, grants were disbursed to 23 NGOs totalling US\$ 1.25 million for projects providing tangible assistance to victims over a three-year cycle ending in 2017.

In 2018, the priority of the third call for proposals focused on projects assisting victims coming out of a context of armed conflict and those identified among large movements of refugees and migration flows. US\$ 1.5 million in grants will be awarded to NGOs as part of the third grant cycle.



The Trust Fund provides Member States, the private sector and individuals with an opportunity to show their solidarity with the victims of trafficking in persons in a concrete way.

Each contribution goes towards the provision of essential services, protection and direct assistance to victims of trafficking in persons worldwide.

We particularly thank our five largest donors for their support: Italy, Qatar, France, Australia and Sweden.

*“We would like to thank all of our collaborators, donors, supporters and friends for your invaluable support, without which we could not reach the thousands of survivors who benefit from the Trust Fund.”*

Benita Ferrero-Waldner, Chairperson Board of Trustees  
UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons

**THANK YOU!**



Photo © Blue Dragon Children's Foundation

# Get involved

## UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING



With your help, we can give back to victims what human traffickers have stolen from them: DIGNITY!



**HAVE A HEART!  
DONATE...  
A SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE.**

### **Where does your money go?**

The UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons is managed by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime. All UNODC staff working as part of the Trust Fund Secretariat are paid by UNODC, thus allowing the Trust Fund to direct most of its funds to specialised NGOs and to use only 10% of funds as direct operational costs.

*Disclaimer: The photos are unrelated to the stories in this brochure and serve an illustration purpose only. Most of photographs are not images of confirmed trafficking victims. Front Cover Photo Credit: Photo©Blue Dragon Children's Foundation.*

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