**Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs of the Republic of Armenia**

**Ms. Tatevik Stepanyan, Deputy Minister, Head of the Delegation**

**Ms. Kristina Hovhannisyan, Head of the Equal Opportunities Department**

**Please see below the information regarding organized and implemented trainings/awareness events regarding trafficking**

* World Vision Armenia, in consultation with MLSA and relevant stakeholders has developed a training manual and module on Social work with trafficked persons (prevention, intervention, rehabilitation) and in order to achieve a maximized contribution, it’s envisaged to cooperate with several professional associations, government agencies, and a state university to incorporate the developed training materials into their regularly scheduled training and professional development seminars and educational curricula.

Within this framework, Trainings were conducted starting October 3 targeting community social workers, and staff of the United Social Services. The trainings are ongoing with the aim to enhance the professional skills.

**Awareness Raising and Capacity Building**

* Anti-trafficking trainings are provided by UMCOR NGO and trainings are organized to beneficiaries and specialist in the field in order to raise awareness on the dangers of human trafficking and build capacities to prevent and combat the phenomenon more effectively.
* In July 2021, MSLA has joined the Blue Heart Campaign and launched a campaign on “Human Trafficking and Exploitation Awareness and Prevention” which aimed to build public awareness and prevent and educate the general public on trafficking in human beings and exploitation. Accordingly, several TV and radio interviews[[1]](#footnote-1) with MLSA, Police, Justice, Migration Service, Health and Labor Inspection Body, Investigative Committee were aired, various sectoral discussions were organized in cooperation with partner national/ international organizations and government stakeholders, regional visits were conducted, and training courses were provided to beneficiaries and front line workers engaging with vulnerable population ( such as children's social care center, child and family support centers, orphanages, crisis centers…).
* In 2021, Awareness and information leaflets were developed and distributed in different United Social Service’ centers and with the support of the AUDIO-VISUAL Association of Reporters, 7 social videos on the prevention of trafficking were processed.
* For the closing Ceremony of the “Human Trafficking and Exploitation Awareness and Prevention campaign”, a video message summarizing the work achieved was recorded and broadcasted on December 2, International Day for the Abolition of Slavery.
* A strong collaboration and cooperation continued among various government stakeholders, international and local NGOs for the purpose of effective fight against human trafficking and exploitation. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between MLSA and World Vision Armenia within the framework of the "Together Against Human Trafficking" program implemented by World Vision with the purpose of consolidating and enhancing the efforts of the parties involved for an effective fight against human trafficking and exploitation. In addition, MLSA continues to cooperate with USAID under the Data for Impact D4I Initiative with main goals to strengthening the anti-trafficking monitoring systems of the 2020-2022 NAP.

1. Within the framework of Public Radio's "Your Voice" program, 4 programs were broadcasted. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)