

**Anti-trafficking Regional Training of Trainers Seminar****50 trainers from 13 SEE countries will roll out the Regional Anti-trafficking Law Enforcement Manual**

A project to enhance regional cooperation in fighting trafficking in human beings in South-East Europe, carried out by UNDP Romania in partnership with the Romanian Ministry of Interior and with funding from USAID,



*Law Enforcement specialist Paul Holmes trained participants on anti-trafficking investigative best practices. The seminar also included sessions dedicated to training delivery techniques, presented by training specialist Maria-Magdalena Radulescu.*

began roll-out to its 13 beneficiary countries. Between 18-24 May, more than 50 representatives appointed by their governments from Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Hungary, FYR of Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, Turkey, and Ukraine attended an intensive regional training of trainers seminar in Sinaia, Romania. Following a practical examination, they were certificated as national trainers to roll out in their respective countries the **Regional Anti-trafficking Law Enforcement Manual** produced under the project.

The Manual, which went through a regional validation process last year, contains a section on investigative best practices, a regional legislative compendium and a comprehensive contact directory. A Review Group formed of the SECI Regional Center for Fighting

Trans-border Crime, the International Organization for Migration and the Center for Legal Resources supervised the quality of the Manual throughout its formulation. It takes a 'victim first' approach, in compliance with relevant UN and European conventions, and places particular emphasis on the protection and security of the victims as witnesses in judicial investigations. Its main target is border police, specialized police units and prosecutors involved in anti-trafficking investigations in SEE. Versions of the Manual in local languages will be used for in-country training.

Also present at the Regional training of trainers seminar were senior representatives from Ministries of Interior in beneficiary countries, who pledged to integrate the Manual into the regular training programmes for specialist anti-trafficking investigators, and representatives of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, who agreed with UNDP Romania on a coordination mechanism for anti-trafficking initiatives in the region.



*UNDP Resident Representative Soknan Han Jung handed certificates to trainers trained in Sinaia, who will roll out the Anti-trafficking Manual in beneficiary countries*

The closing session of the seminar benefited from the presence of Ms. Soknan Han Jung, UNDP Resident Representative, Mr. Florin Sandu, Head of Romanian Police, and of other high officials from the Romanian Ministry of Interior. In her statement, Ms. Jung stressed the importance of in-country dissemination of the knowledge and skills acquired at the seminar, with a view to enhancing cross-border cooperation in fighting human trafficking. Responding to requests from the beneficiary countries of the project, she pledged continued UNDP support to anti-trafficking efforts in SEE: "I look forward to our continued partnership, and please consider UNDP as your friend and ally in your efforts to fight trafficking in human beings". All major national media outlets covered the news conference held after the closure of the seminar.

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