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# Civil Society in Action for Protection of Child Rights in Albania

## Best Practices in Child Protection





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Developed by:



**Centre for Integrated Psychological Services (SHPI)**

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# 1. Acknowledgements

“Best Practices in Child Protection” is developed by SHPI (Centre for Integrated Psychological Services) and revised by Terre des hommes, in the frame of ‘Civil Society in Action for Protection of Child Rights in Albania’ initiative.

SHPI would like to thank Terre des hommes for providing its guidance and facilitating the capitalization process, by involving beneficiaries and stakeholders and granting access to project documentation.

SHPI would like to acknowledge the continuous collaboration with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), local and national stakeholders, as well as all other individuals, who contributed to the content of this document. We are deeply grateful and appreciative of all partners, who committed themselves in sharing their experience with us.

The main findings listed in this document include the input provided by direct and indirect projects stakeholders and beneficiaries, who made significant efforts and demonstrated full willingness and openness throughout the drafting process.

## 2. Acronyms

<b>CPU</b>	Child Protection Unit
<b>CPW</b>	Child Protection Worker
<b>CSACPRA</b>	Civil Society in Action for Protection of Child Rights in Albania
<b>CSOs</b>	Civil Society Organizations
<b>DoE</b>	Directorate of Education
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>INGO</b>	International Non-Governmental Organisations
<b>LG</b>	Local Government
<b>MDG</b>	Multi-Disciplinary Group
<b>MoESY</b>	Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth
<b>MoHSP</b>	Ministry of Health and Social Protection
<b>NNPCR</b>	National Network for the Protection of Child Rights
<b>ONAC</b>	Office of the National Anti-trafficking Coordinator
<b>SARPC</b>	State Agency for the Rights and Protection of the Child
<b>SHPI</b>	Centre for Integrated Psychological Services
<b>SSS</b>	State Social Service
<b>Tdh Albania</b>	Terre des homes in Albania
<b>WPCPW</b>	Working Protocol for Child Protection Workers

### 3. Introduction

Albania has experienced significant changes in child protection over the past years. The government has undertaken several initiatives addressing the vulnerabilities and risks that affect children's safety, while investing in children and their families' resilience and ability to prevent, mitigate, or cope with such threats. Regardless of the made efforts, child rights protection system in Albania is still weak and insufficient. Many children face a series of risks and rights violations, which negatively affect their own and their families' wellbeing. Poverty is a widespread on-the-rise phenomenon. According to data from the World Bank over 2016 published in its recent Migration and Mobility report, 5.8% of the Albanian population lives in extreme poverty, while 34% live in poverty.<sup>1</sup> Ethnicity based child discrimination is reportedly quite common<sup>2</sup>. Child trafficking is a major concern, although statistics on the phenomenon are not available or up-to-date. The number of children dropping out of school seems to remain at high levels. Children on the move, as compared to their cohorts, are exposed to all kinds of risk. Economic exploitation is a visible phenomenon that affects children like those living and/or working in the streets. On the other hand, sexual exploitation is very often considered a hidden phenomenon difficult to tackle issue. Children with disabilities are still suffering from real inequalities and discrimination. Violence is a major curse especially for children and women: it is reported happening both at home and in schools. Neglect, especially in its forms of abandonment, lack of parental control and care, contributes significantly to the placement of children in residential institutions, especially when associated with high levels of poverty or ethnical belonging.<sup>3</sup>

In order to tackle these issues and to enhance child rights protection in the country, Save the Children and Terre des hommes Foundation Mission in Albania jointly designed and implemented 'Civil Society in Action for Protection of Child Rights in Albania' (CSAPCRA) initiative. The project, funded by EU over a 30 months period (1<sup>st</sup> January 2016 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018), aimed to empower Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) operating in the child protection field, by ensuring a higher level of effectiveness, inclusiveness, and pro-activeness through innovative capacity development and a comprehensive sub-granting scheme.

"Best Practices in Child Protection" document aims to identify innovative and best practices from projects implemented through the sub-granting scheme that can be further replicated by state and not state service providers at local or national level. It may serve to future projects of all CSOs working in Child Protection, more specifically in:

- Monitoring child rights implementation (Child rights situation analysis at local and national level;
- Mobilizing youth and facilitating community-based groups empowerment);

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1 <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/445651508415857577/pdf/120539-replacement-PUBLIC.pdf>

2 [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/613731/Albania\\_-\\_Eth\\_Mins\\_-\\_CPIN\\_-\\_v3.0.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/613731/Albania_-_Eth_Mins_-_CPIN_-_v3.0.pdf)

3 <https://www.unicef.org/albania/CPS-report2015.pdf> Mapping and Analysis of the Albania CP System A participatory documenting of practices and perceptions

- Advocacy at local/national level for child rights implementation (Awareness raising and communication plan involving community/youth groups in partnership with authorities);
- Capacity building, mentoring, and coaching of public and non-public professionals on child protection (police, education, social sector, health, civil status offices, justice sector, media, etc.);
- Provision of community-based prevention and protection services (drop-in centres, psychosocial counselling for children, formal and non-formal education, positive parenting counselling, identification, access and referral to public and non-public services);
- Provision of specialized services for vulnerable children (and their families).

The document provides a definition and a situational overview of each target group involved in the project and a summary description of the best practices identified throughout the implementation of the initiative both at local and national level, might they be direct service provision or capacity building, networking or advocacy.

The best practices presented in this document may be instrumental for local and national institutions, INGOs and EU Delegation for future programming in Albania, and for scaling- up the most successful projects awarded within the initiative.

“Best Practices in Child Protection” will be published online via various platforms such as Regional Child Hub, Multimedia Learning Tools, and Regional Network of Drop-in Centres for children in street situation, websites of Save the Children and Terre des hommes Foundation Mission in Albania.



## 4. Brief Description of the Action

Save the Children and Terre des hommes Foundation Mission in Albania were entrusted the implementation of the 'Civil Society in Action for Protection of Child Rights in Albania' Initiative (CSAPCRA, Reference Europe Aid/137239/DD/ACT/AL), by the EU Delegation in Albania.

Save the Children in Albania has established a high profile and sound reputation in child rights issues, particularly in three thematic priority areas: Education and Early Childhood Care and Development, Child Protection, Health and Nutrition, and Child Rights Governance. Save the Children has been operating in Albania since 1999, and its work has been focused mainly on child services' capacity building and strengthening, and the creation of a policy and legislative environment, which responds to child rights key issues in the country. Save the Children constantly monitors and evaluates all projects to ensure work quality. Save the Children is establishing and strengthening structures and mechanisms, for children's rights monitoring and advocacy, promoting ways to protect children from all forms of exploitation and violence, and empowering and supporting children in meaningfully increasing their participation.

Terre des hommes Mission in Albania has been operating for over 15 years in the field of child rights and protection, guiding a national child protection system establishment and consolidation. Terre des hommes' area of expertise ranges from direct psycho-social interventions with vulnerable children and their families and community members, to local, regional, and national level governmental institutions and key stakeholders empowerment through capacity-building and on-the-job training, in order to develop and implement proper child-sensitive structures, policies, standards and procedures. Terre des hommes has also worked towards mainstreaming child rights and child protection issues in the central government social policies and strategies by lobbying and advocacy work.

The 'Civil Society in Action for Protection of Child Rights in Albania' initiative supported interventions implemented in 25 (twenty-five) municipalities (urban, sub-urban and rural areas). It aimed to strengthen the role of 28 (twenty-eight) CSOs operating in child protection, by enhancing their skills, providing grants for specific local interventions, and facilitating networking and knowledge dissemination (please refer to Annex 1 for the full list and projects titles). More specifically, the action has contributed through the following:

- 1. Capacity building:**

The 28 (twenty-eight) selected CSOs were involved and benefited from a comprehensive capacity building program, consisting of training workshops and ongoing individualized technical assistance and coaching, focusing on organizational management, project development and management, child rights protection, advocacy, and lobbying, financial management, media and communication, monitoring and evaluation.

- 2. Sub-granting scheme:**

28 (twenty-eight) CSOs were awarded grants (12 small grants up to 10,000 euros; 11 medium grants from 10,000 to 20,000 euros; and 5 large grants from 20,000 to 30,000 euros) through the sub-granting scheme (two grant round calls were conducted) for the implementation of local projects related to two main objectives: a) Enhancing the

performance of the child protection system; b) Strengthening child rights implementation. A full and continuous technical and financial support was ensured throughout the CSOs interventions implementation.

**3. Networking and knowledge capitalization and dissemination:**

A network of CSOs working on the protection of child rights has been established, aiming at sharing initiatives to enhance the cooperation between CSOs and public institutions. The initiative established synergies and links, and provided room to network members to (i) advocate at national and local level for the implementation of the new Law 18/2017 “On the Child Rights and Protection”, (ii) support and promote CSOs good practice and joint actions i.e. guidelines and protocols for professionals to be endorsed by state institutions.

## 5. Methodology

A participatory collaborative approach was adopted in the development of this document. A balanced representation of all relevant stakeholders (CSOs, local and central authorities, children, parents) has been ensured throughout the process, by maintaining adherence to key principles such as inclusion, participation, and fair power relations.

The drafting process included four different steps:

1. Desk review and analysis of key documents, project documents (project proposal, logical framework, budget, etc.), CSOs reports, and other documents and communication materials prepared in the project framework (leaflets, posters, photos and other promotional materials).
2. Semi-structured interviews (SSIs): SSIs served to in-depth information and identification of the intervention best practices. The SSIs were conducted with project key staff, CSOs, and other actors involved (children, parents, local and central authorities).
3. Focus Group Discussions (FGDs): Small group discussions were organized with cohort groups of stakeholders from the project staff, CSOs, community members, local partners involved in the project to ask for viewpoints, insights, and recommendations, as well as complementing other interviews to allow cross-validation of the information provided by the CSOs representatives. Each focus group discussion was organized into separate cohort groups' discussions, representing project locations and types of target groups; (see Annex 5, format with questions for the FGD).
4. Best Practices in Child Protection Capitalization workshop: 3 (three) one-day workshops were conducted with the participation of staff from 28 CSOs and key partners involved in the projects implementation. CSOs division into groups was performed pursuant to the implemented projects thematic area. The methodology of these workshops included participants' prior-to-workshop preparation, to whom orienting questions were submitted, in order to develop a Storytelling for their actions (see Annex 5, agenda for the workshop). This helped the CSOs organise their input during the workshop focusing on: a) best practices, b) challenges and lessons learnt and c) recommendations. The workshop offered to participants the possibility to provide more in-depth insights on the lessons learnt during projects implementation and recommendations for future interventions for similar target groups and/or under the same scheme for sub-granting.

## 6. Definition of Main Target Groups and Concepts

### Children in street situation

Children in Street Situation are children under 18 years of age, who are somehow related with the street, usually due to living and/or working there, even on a seasonal or transitory basis.

These children may or may not necessarily be adequately supervised, or directed by responsible adults and include the two co-existing categories referred to by UNICEF as those “of the street” and those “on the street”. “Children of the street” are homeless children who live and sleep on the streets in urban areas. They are completely on their own, living with other street children, or homeless adults and street people. On the other hand, “children on the street” earn their living, or beg for money on the street and return home at night. They maintain contact with their families. This distinction is important since “children on the street” have families and homes to go to at night, whereas “children of the street” live on the streets and probably lack parental, emotional, and psychological support, which is normally provided in parenting situations<sup>4</sup>.

### Children victims of trafficking

“Child trafficking is the act of recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of a child for exploitation purposes, regardless of the use of illicit means, either within or outside a country. All different forms of exploitation shall be considered within the definition, including: exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery or servitude, the removal of organs, use of children associated with armed groups or forces, begging, illegal activities, sports and related activities, illicit adoption, early marriage, or any other forms of exploitation. A child victim of trafficking is any trafficked person under 18 years of age”<sup>5</sup>.

### Out of school children

“The definition of ‘out-of-school’ encompasses a wide range of realities and refers to children who do not have access to a school in their community, do not enroll despite the availability of a school, enroll but later than they should have, enroll in schools that have poor facilities / no teachers, drop out of the education system, enroll but do not attend school” (UNICEF 2015). Visible school dropouts: school age children, who are not attending school but are registered in education databases; these are generally children who dropped out of school.

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<sup>4</sup> [www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/files/ZIM\\_01-805.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/files/ZIM_01-805.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> UNICEF & UNESCO Institute for Statistics 2016

Invisible school dropouts: school age children, who have never attended school and are not recorded in any government database (examples: undocumented migrants, children living on the street, home confined children with disabilities).

## Children with disabilities

The term, ‘children with disabilities’ is used to refer to children up to the age of 18 who have ‘long-term physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairments, which along with various barriers, may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others’ (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Article 1)<sup>6</sup>.

## Children of imprisoned parents

The group of children having one imprisoned parent has not been historically included in the category of vulnerable children, and little or nothing has been done in this regard, remaining out of focus of either state or CSOs. In 2012, children of prisoners at international level were included in the definition of “vulnerable children”, used by both UNICEF and the European Commission<sup>7</sup>.

## Awareness raising and capacity building

Awareness raising is a form of activism. It often takes the form of a group of people attempting to focus the attention of a wider group of people on a cause or condition. Since informing the population on a public concern is often regarded as the first step to changing how institutions handle it, awareness- raising is often the first activity in which any advocacy group engages.<sup>8</sup> Capacity building is considered a further step in the change process, while individuals and organizations obtain, improve, and retain skills, knowledge, tools, and other resources needed to do their jobs competently, or to a greater capacity.<sup>9</sup> In the context of this document, “child rights awareness raising and capacity building” interventions are considered the ones focusing on these two steps of the changing process of local stakeholders, institutions, and wider population on child rights.

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6 <https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities/article-1-purpose.html>

7 <http://childrenofprisoners.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Children-of-Imprisoned-Parents-European-Perspectives-on-Good-Practice.pdf>

8 Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Article 8 “Awareness raising”

9 “Terminology”. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. Retrieved 31 March 2016.

## 7. Best Practices by Target Group

### 7.1. Children in street situation

In Albania, the phenomenon of children in street situation is of great concern. According to SC and UNICEF 2014 National Study on children in street situation in Albania<sup>10</sup>, there are 2,527 children that beg on the street, collect recycling plastic and metals, or sell various products, identified mainly in Tirana (31.5%) and Durres (18.6%). Children in street situation, mainly Roma and Egyptian are recognized as one of the main group of children engaged in labour activities. During the summer season, they also are involved in selling food and newspapers. Some of the root causes are linked to poverty, lack of parents' employment, family violence, abuse, and neglect; discrimination, lack of access to schooling, school drop-out, physical or mental health issues etc.

**Organization:** Social Centre Murialdo

**Project title:** School, art and fun for the social inclusion of Roma children in Fier

**Location:** Fier

**Best practice:** Integrating Children in Street Situation by supporting these children and their parents participation to educational activities

Roma children from the villages of Drizë and Mbrostar are identified as the most vulnerable group of children in Fier Municipality. Most of them live in the street, at a very high risk of labor exploitation, exploitation for begging purposes and trafficking. Qendra Sociale Murialdo (QSM), a local CSO operating in child protection, implemented a project that aimed to improve the literacy level among Roma boys and girls, facilitating their school access and attendance and provision of special support for their integration in the public education system. This was ensured by providing safe transportation opportunities and accompanying the children to school in order to monitor their school attendance on a daily basis. Children were simultaneously engaged in recreational, artistic, and sports activities at a local youth center supported by QSM aiming to support the integration and avoid segregation of children, and contribute to decrease the level of discrimination and prejudice among peers.

A child centred approach was adopted, aiming to prevent children's abuse and ensure their integration and protection. Since these children's vulnerability and exposure to risks factors is related to their parents' lack of parenting skills and awareness, parenting classes and family visits were conducted in order to create a better supporting environment for the child within the family as well.

The establishment of a good partnership collaboration and communication with school staff enabled the information exchange, while child situation continuous follow-up boosted the intervention success likelihood. The establishment of public institutions non-formal networks

<sup>10</sup> [https://www.unicef.org/albania/NationalStudy-children\\_in\\_street\\_situation-June2014.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/albania/NationalStudy-children_in_street_situation-June2014.pdf)



involving Child Protection Unit at the Municipality, Education Directorate, Civil Society Organizations, Roma community representatives contributed as well to the successful implementation of the project, particularly in fostering and advocating for the improvement of the accountability mechanisms related to the identification, referral and case management mechanisms at local level.

Around 103 children have regularly attended school and kindergarten, due to the support provided through after school classes, pedagogical materials and interactive participation in recreational activities, psychological counselling, and parenting sessions.



**Organization:** Center “ASET”

**Project title:** “Children’s Rights Social Protection” Compasito Method – interactive training method for children and professionals working in drop-in centres for children in street situation

**Location:** Tirana and Shkodra

**Best practice:** Promoting child participation, by providing interactive learning-based-educational opportunities

The issue of children in street situations is a highly complex one and the children experiencing these violent situations are very diverse. The children themselves are players who can alter and co-construct community life. Children in street situations have usually acquired numerous skills, including those developed on the street in order to survive. Strengthening infant-juvenile protagonism in projects leads to their active participation in social changes to safeguard their rights. ASET Centre introduced through the project the Council of Europe proposed method “Compasito”, which aims to raise the awareness and expand children’s knowledge about their rights, as well as enhance their participation in decision-making processes, by using interactive

learning methodologies such as games, recreational activities, and open discussions. This project aimed in empowering children and young people to enable them to create networks where they can become involved in operations to defend and promote their rights.



Compasito method made quite a significant contribution to children's empowerment through their active participation in planning, designing, implementation, and evaluation of activities. Child led initiatives were undertaken, in which children monitored by the staff, identified and conducted activities to advocate and raise the awareness on their rights protection.

*Last summer, in 2017, an agreement was signed between the Municipality of Vlora, the police department, and Vatra Centre, regarding identification and referral of children in street situation or trafficked and at risk of trafficking. Based on the National Action Plan for children in street situation, a task force group was established and a joint action plan was developed with shared responsibilities and roles among institutions and CSOs representatives.. The task force groups were coordinated by the CPU, while other members consisted in 1 representative of the Unit for family violence, 5 social administrators, a representative of the police department, 3 social workers from the Vatra project, trained specialists in identification and working with children at risk of trafficking.*

*The increased number of trained staff on working with trafficked victims' identification, enabled to increase the outreach, especially in the summer period, where children in street situation would come from other cities to work in the beach. As a result, more cases were identified and referred to services for further assistance and follow up.*

*Vatra staff supported the CPU in following up the service delivery to the cases, as well as provided training sessions for the social administrators of Vlora region in the identification and referral of cases from the community.*

**Interview with CPU regarding cooperation with Vatra)**



## 7.2. Children victims of trafficking

In Albania, children on the move and child trafficking are two major areas of concern. According to the Trafficking in Persons report, produced by the U.S Department of State in 2017, the Albanian government continued its efforts in providing protection to victims. The government and CSOs identified 95 trafficking victims and potential victims of trafficking (109 identified in 2015), out of whom 55 were adults and 44 children (61 adults and 48 children in 2015), 11 males and 84 females (22 male victims and 87 female victims in 2015), and 8 (eight) foreigners (four foreign victims in 2015). The real number of children victims of trafficking is higher than the data showed above, as data collection on such a phenomenon is quite difficult. Among the main causes leading to child trafficking are: their families' low economic level, low educational level and school drop-out, continuous social difficulties, child work (in and out of the street), children coming from vulnerable families such as Roma and Egyptian minorities, divorced families, presence of family violence and neglect, chronic illness and disabilities etc.

<b>Organization:</b>	Psycho-Social Centre "Vatra"
<b>Project title:</b>	Identification and inter-sectorial protection for children victims of trafficking/potential victims of trafficking
<b>Location:</b>	Vlora Municipality and Region
<b>Best practice:</b>	Fighting Child Trafficking through case identification, Management and inter-sectorial protective services

Vlora is one of the most affected areas in Albania regarding child labour and trafficking phenomena. Especially during the tourism season, many children come from various cities of Albania to work in the streets and beaches of Vlora municipality. A considerable number of such children are trafficked, or at risk of being trafficked, and despite the great deal of work being carried out in this field, there is a much larger need for intervention and support provision for children who are constantly at risk of being trafficked, exploited, or abused.

Vatra Centre project has shown that an inter-sectorial coordinated action towards this phenomenon, with the inclusion of CSO-s working in the area and local state authorities can and has dramatically improved the situation.

The project build on the system strengthening for identification, referral and protection for children victims of sexual abuse, trafficking and exploitation in Vlora (26 identified and referred children, potential victims of trafficking). The project has fostered a close collaboration among professionals involved in the child protection system in Vlora and professionals involved in the protection of victims of trafficking. The merging and coordination of these two systems (which in the past have independently worked) is foreseen by the new law 18/2017 and in the draft Standard Operating Procedures for the identification, referral, and re-integration of victims of trafficking that is expected to be approved.

Capacity building has been provided to the multidisciplinary group of professionals, coordinated by the CPU for case management.

The establishment of Mobile Units to support this project has enhanced the early identification of the victims of trafficking. Vatra Centre dedicated 3 professionals to work side by side with the local authorities, police and CPUs, helping a great deal in establishing a routine in identifying children in street situation. Vatra also made available its premises to support the management

of identified cases (26 identified and referred cases, 17 followed-up and monitored cases, 16 supported families). This practice proved to be successful thanks to a close collaboration and synergy between all stakeholders, as well as to the long and successful experience of Vatra Social Centre in Vlora territory and its consolidated network of partners all over Albania.



<b>Organization:</b>	Centre Focus “On helping Children”
<b>Project title:</b>	revision of specialized services for children in street situation, children victims of sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking
<b>Location:</b>	Tirana, Kavaja, Lezha and Berati
<b>Best practice:</b>	Fighting child trafficking by introducing a victim-centred practical guideline on case identification and management

The practice of Centre Focus “On helping Children” offered a child friendly, sensitive, and multidisciplinary model for dealing with crisis intervention, support, and assistance for children subjected to or potential victims of trafficking. The Centre piloted this model with the aim of improving the quality of existing services by developing and introducing a practical guideline for frontline professionals involved in the identification and referral of victims/potential victims of trafficking.

The development of the guideline was conducted in close cooperation with the Office of the National Anti-trafficking Coordinator (ONAC). The particular value of this guideline consists in providing a set of practical tools for conducting interviews, referral, follow up and case management, based on individual needs to enable professionals to follow unified standardized steps and easily stick to the same principles.

In addition, the Guideline incorporates a separate section on the operation of the Helpline 116 006 for reporting on the situation of trafficking in human beings. This section is particularly

relevant for the training of police representatives operating in the Helpline. Experience has shown that the professionalism and accountability of Helpline operators is decisive for the person who reports on the situation to further continue cooperation and referral for provision of support to the victim. Thus, this guideline which is endorsed by the Office of the National Anti-trafficking Coordinator (ONAC) will be a very useful tool for the training of professionals working in Child Protection sector and particularly for the police forces.



**Organization:** Creative City  
**Project title:** Children for children against trafficking  
**Location:** Malësia e Madhe  
**Best practice:** Fighting Child Trafficking through young people's active involvement in writing and staging a themed Play

Trafficking in Human beings and Children has been an ongoing social wound for the Malësi e Madhe area. Such phenomenon has been present mainly in rural areas, favored by extreme poverty, families' geographical isolation, and lack of supporting social systems. The limited presence of the anti-trafficking structures and lack of awareness raising activities for the local structures and population on how to respond to suspected cases, have negatively contributed to the success rate of the fight against child trafficking.

A good practice of this intervention was the participatory approach encouraging and promoting active involvement of youth in rural and remote areas of Malësia e Madhe, where there are very few opportunities for children and young people to be involved, heard and taken into account.

The youth involved in this project were active participants in writing a drama on trafficking and staging it at their local schools. This drama aimed to mobilize and raise the awareness



among peers regarding identification and referral of cases at risk of trafficking. Additionally, the youth that participated in the project were trained as trainers of trainers on issues related to human trafficking, thus providing a positive example of youth participation in a meaningful and comprehensive way.

The direct results of this project were increased awareness on trafficking phenomenon for children attending local schools; increased awareness of schools staff and provision of advice on how to react when suspected cases arise; a group of youth were trained on how to train others, hence becoming community peer leaders and stakeholders.



<b>Organization:</b>	Different and Equal
<b>Project title:</b>	Modelling and integrating AM and PM child care - for children of moms who are rebuilding their lives
<b>Location:</b>	Shkoza, Tirana
<b>Best practice:</b>	Supporting mothers affected by trafficking, domestic violence, and economic hardship through services tailored to their children

Organizations such as Different and Equal, whose work with trafficked and abused parents (mothers) and their children, have been long struggling with the process of rebuilding and reintegrating their lives in the society. Often, not having where to leave their children during working hours, becomes an unsolvable obstacle for single mothers, who are trying their best to succeed and integrate into the society.

Different and Equal intervention supported the establishment of two alternatives for community day care for children whose mothers/primary caregivers faced economic hardships, were former victims of domestic violence and trafficking, etc.

The alternatives offered two distinct options:

- a) A home based service- Grandmother's house day care alternative (premises rented in an easily accessible area of Tirana, in which children are ensured a safe environment and care and also provided with afternoon snack from Monday to Friday and with breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack during the Saturday. Transportation is being provided by the project for children attending this service.
- b) A kindergarten-based day care for children in which children are provided with lunch and afternoon snack from Monday to Friday and with breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack during Saturday.

This was a pilot initiative aiming to establish a new alternative and model of service provision and family and child support to be shared with the local authorities for further replication.

*"The kindergarten alternative could be replicated/prolonged in the future in the same place and can serve to the population of the same area – Shkoza- even to a larger number of beneficiaries."*

**(Interview with Director of Social Services, Tirana Municipality, A.R)**

The two alternatives are still functioning with the support of other donors, but the support of public/state authorities is yet needed to make it sustainable.

The immediate results were:

- 19 children supported by the two alternatives, while their mothers could contribute to a self-sustainable living by working full time,
- An agreement with Tirana municipality on this pilot project and possible further similar initiatives.
- 11 directly supported mothers (former victims of trafficking and domestic violence)
- Establishment and piloting of a new alternative and its operational guidelines for future replication by state local authorities



*"The nursery that children can attend up to the age of 3 is open until 4:00, and when my son turned 3 years old, I risked losing my job as my son had to move to kindergarten, which stays open just until noon (12:00). I remember being very worried at that time, having no other solution on how to keep the job, so much needed. Then the project commenced and my son fortunately enrolled in it".*

*She tells us that her son was provided a quality service at the afternoon project, with playing, food, medical care. Therefore, she is not concerned about him when working.*

**(Interview with a mother, former victim of domestic violence, beneficiary of Different and Equal).**

### 7.3. Children out of school (or at risk of school dropout)

The national school dropout rate in Albania for the 2011-2016 period according to UNRDCO Global Education Monitoring report, 2016<sup>11</sup> was 3% for males and 5% for females. Children in Albania drop out of school due to a number of reasons such as *social*: residence disparities, emigration; *cultural*: number of children in the family, parents' educational level, patriarchal mentality, gender discrimination; *economic*: unemployed parents, schooling costs and *educational*: unsuitable learning conditions, unfriendly teachers, lack of toilets, violence, bullying *reasons*. In addition to dropouts (attended, but dropped out), there are also out-of-school children (never attended), who remain 'invisible' in official statistics.

<sup>11</sup> Primary rate of out-of-school children – UIS. Estimates based on administrative data from national Education Management Information Systems (EMIS) with UN population estimates. Primary and lower secondary school attendance – Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) and other national household surveys



<b>Organization:</b>	Association of Women with Social Problems, Durres Albania
<b>Project title:</b>	Community Centre for Vulnerable Children of Spitalla
<b>Location:</b>	Spitalla (a sub-urban area in Durrës Municipality)
<b>Best practice:</b>	upporting children at risk of school drop-out through a series of integrated community services

The Spitalla area is mainly an informal community, created in the past 25 years (due to internal migration) by families coming from remote rural areas of the country and is one of the poorest communities of Durrës living in very harsh socio-economic conditions. Children's poor education is leading to school dropout and overall low level of education. Cultural traditions of these communities do not facilitate girls' empowerment: early marriage exposes girls to the risk of dropping out.

Association of Women with Social Problems implemented in this area a project offering children at risk of school dropout a series of integrated services - such as after school classes, individual and group counselling for children, recreational and awareness raising activities, family support and parents' meetings, provided by a Community Centre for Vulnerable Children.

This community centre has been a very important educational and social meeting point for children of this area, where many local structures are missing. It ensured a continuous support to such children's educational process through their daily activities, material support, and training of teachers to better understand community and children needs, and better support children at risk of school dropout. The activities extended to parents' education through periodical meetings, informal trainings on parenting, as well as other issues concerning their rights, especially women's rights.



<b>Organization:</b>	Komuniteti Papa Xhovani XXIII
<b>Project title:</b>	ABC - Albanian Best Childhood
<b>Location:</b>	Shkodra urban and non-urban areas (Bardaj, Renc, Fermentim)
<b>Best practice:</b>	Preventing children's school drop-out by providing afterschool services and school transportation

Children coming from Shkodra outskirts and nearby villages (Bardaj, Renc, Fermentim), are among the most vulnerable communities of this municipality, living in very difficult economic and social conditions. School drop-out rates are considerably high in these areas, especially when it comes to young girls. Hence, the risk of gender disparity and poverty chain reinforcement in these families is emergent, due to the early school interruption. This is the reason why grassroots intervention are of primary importance in preventing school dropping out.

Another factor hindering some of the children's regular school attendance is the absence of public transport and public schools considerably far distance to reach on foot.

This project implemented by Komuniteti Papa Xhovani XXIII contributed in preventing children's school drop-out, by providing after-school services as well as ensuring their transport from their villages, or outskirts to their school. The main goal of the after-school services was to support children in doing their homework, as well as to engage them in social and recreational activities for a better socializing and confidence building.

64 children supported by the project have regularly attended school and have graduated their class.

Direct support has been provided through didactic teaching materials, transport from places of residence to school, after-school classes, coordination with school authorities, and parenting sessions.





A contributing factor to this successful practice was the close collaboration of Komuniteti Papa Xhovani XXIII with local authorities. The Directorate of Social Services, Housing and Public Health in Shkodra Municipality, assisted in the initial data collection to select the participating children; made available 2 of the facilities for after-school classes, and committed to continue delivering this service even after the ending of the project.

However, it should be mentioned that ensuring the Municipality commitment to continue delivering the transport service after the ending of the project, was quite a challenge. The organization has continued its lobbying efforts toward the Municipality and Municipality's Council, to guarantee this fundamental service and prevent the dropout risk in Shkodra suburban areas.

## 7.4. Children with disabilities

Children with disabilities in Albania are often denied their basic rights. The legislation does not include all types of disability, and consequently there are major differences in benefits and law protection amongst categories of children with disabilities. Laws are often not accompanied by their relevant legal acts and their implementation is not real, because, among others, the responsible actors are not specified. Moreover, the strategies developed in this regard - although they serve as a good orientation - remain partially implemented due to the lack of funds.

National data on children with disabilities are based only on those individuals who have requested an assessment from Medical Commission for the Assessment of the Ability to Work (MCAAW), which in turn has evaluated them as incapable to work. Only children who have been assessed by the MCAAW as having a severe disability receive allowance and the national database includes only data related to such children. Thus, children with mild or moderate disabilities for some diagnosis do not receive the allowance, as they do not meet the criteria.

<b>Organization:</b>	Albanian Disability Rights Foundation
<b>Project title:</b>	Child's rights and disability inclusion
<b>Location:</b>	Berat, Durrës, Elbasan
<b>Best practice:</b>	Integrating children with disabilities by advocating for more inclusive policies at local level

Children with disabilities in Albania lack access and inclusion to services and support provision. There are institutional, environmental and behavior barriers that exclude and isolate them from the society.

The relevant stakeholders in cities, other than the capital, lack ground technical expertise on social inclusion approaches toward children with disabilities. Despite the many efforts made from several civil society organizations, the inclusion of the rights of children with disabilities in child and in disability agenda seems to be lacking (provision of specialized services, proper financial resources, and implementation of national action plan on inclusion).

Albanian Disability Rights Foundation implemented a project that aimed to address the limited inclusion and participation of children with disabilities, limited inclusion of issues of children with disability in the government child agenda and disability agenda, institutional, environmental and attitudinal barriers that exclude and isolate children with disability from society. In the frame of this project, an assessment was conducted on the level of inclusion of the rights of CWD in policy and practice, both on child's rights and disability agenda, which offered useful recommendations for all relevant stakeholders, to intervene, change and/ or improve the situation. The produced report served to inform the stakeholders on important policy documents such as the Law 18/2017, which for the first time features specific and clear provisions for CWD (Article 32), as also reflected in the draft Decision of Council of Minister on Case Management.

The project foresaw the provision of some training sessions as well. Targeted stakeholders in Berat, Durrës, Elbasan, were supported in developing and implementing action plans focused on inclusive development programs, and inclusive organizational/institutional development interventions.



The discussion with local Municipalities took place in an informal setting, where capacity building through sharing technical expertise by ADRF staff merged with round table discussions of local specialists from the disability and child focused sector. As a result, the local policy paper and program on CWD inclusion was drafted by the Municipalities of Elbasan, Berat and Durrës.

In this context, the Municipality of Elbasan approved a budget for the installation of playground equipment for children with disabilities in two playgrounds of the city. This is an effective approach to push local authorities to take into account the needs of the most vulnerable categories.

<b>Organization:</b>	Help the Life Association
<b>Project title:</b>	Protection of the rights of children with disability in Albania
<b>Location:</b>	Durrës, Vlora, Tirana
<b>Best practice:</b>	Improving the Protection and Wellbeing of Children with Disability in State and Non-state Services, through a Working Protocol/Manual Development and Implementation

Progress has been made towards the standardization of the work carried out in care centers for children with disabilities. However, proper operation standards are still missing and the quality of services offered needs to be improved. The staff of residential and day care centers lacks proper capacities in managing and assuring the wellbeing of children with disabilities, with regards to the protection of their rights, treatment, and management of their behavior through practical techniques.

In this context, the primary focus of the project implemented by Help the Life Association was to protect the safety and wellbeing of children with disability in state and non-state centers, residential, day care and community services, by improving the social services provided by all these agencies.

The intervention addressed the need for a better and more practical comprehension of the approved Standards of Social services for children with disability in Albania. A Protocol/Manual was prepared for the service-provider agencies, containing the guidelines for the treatment of children with disability in these institutions.

The manual served as a training tool to enhance staff skills and knowledge in:

- systematic documentation of children's behavior,
- management of difficult behaviors with children through practical techniques,
- protection of children rights,
- professional treatment of children's problems,
- providing higher quality services.

*The manual was piloted by the staff to test it and see how it fits with the work routine and children more concretely. It was deemed as useful for documenting children's behaviors and collecting a more structured data for analyses. The language used was simple and comprehensible to all staff levels.*

**(Interview with psychologist of the Development Centre Pëllumbat\*, A K)**  
**\*Residential, public center for children with disabilities.**

The manual inception and its piloting was made in cooperation with state-run residential centers, and training regarding its implementation was provided to residential centers staff. The multi-fold positive effect of this manual/protocol, drafted by Help the Life is tested for public and nonpublic intuitions and is ready to be endorsed by the relevant state institutions (SSS and MoHSP) as an official working tool for state centers working with child development issues.



## 7.5. Children of imprisoned parents

There are no official data in Albania about children of imprisoned parents. They are invisible to the social system. Children with imprisoned parents frequently suffer many forms of discrimination. They are not only deprived of a parent, but they often bear the brunt of bullying, economic hardship, stigma, social exclusion, and shame. Yet, such children have done nothing wrong, and despite the multiple challenges they face, they are not considered as a group in its own right.

<b>Organization:</b>	Institute for Sustainable Policies (ISP)
<b>Project title:</b>	The Rights of Children of Imprisoned Parents in Albania
<b>Location:</b>	Tirana and Elbasan
<b>Best practice:</b>	Promotion of rights of children of imprisoned parents

A research was conducted by ISP, targeting for the first time children of imprisoned parents in three penitentiary institutions in Tirana and Elbasan. The focus was to shed light on the conditions and the situation of the children that visit their parents in prisons. Some of the main findings of the study were:



- The facilities the meetings take place are not suitable for children and are far from being considered child-friendly premises,
- Children sometimes have to wait on the queue long hours to meet their parents,
- Entry Security procedures at the penitentiary are the same for children as those for other adults, thus making the visits extremely distressful.

This study promoted the need of children, whose parents have been imprisoned, to be considered in a situation of vulnerability, and as a result, to be treated as in need of protection by the child protection system in Albania.

Besides the study on children's situation, the project provided capacity building trainings on child rights and child protection for the staff of penitentiary institutions multidisciplinary team .



## 7.6. Child rights awareness and capacity building

The situation in Albania regarding the protection of child rights is closely related to the quality of social services targeting children and their families. Though the number of social care services has increased (in 2012 there were 187 services compared to 120 in 2007)<sup>12</sup>, publically funded social care services are limited<sup>13</sup>.

The difficult situation regarding the protection of children's rights is triggered by several factors including: lack of financial resources to guarantee child rights at the central and local level; lack of coordination of structures responsible for establishing child protection institutions at local and central level<sup>14</sup>; lack of harmonization and collaboration between public and non-public services; and lack of accountability and monitoring mechanisms on child rights situation.

<sup>12</sup> State Agency for Protection of Children's Rights. National Report on Monitoring of Children's Rights. 2014

<sup>13</sup> Ministry of Health and Social Protection. National Strategy on Social Protection Draft (2015- 2020).

<sup>14</sup> Save the Children Albania. Child Rights Situation Analysis 2012-2015

<b>Organization:</b>	National Association of Social Worker - Albania (NASW)
<b>Project title:</b>	Development of Local Action Plans for children in need of protection in Berat and Saranda Municipalities
<b>Location:</b>	Berat and Saranda
<b>Best practice:</b>	Support the Drafting and Implementation of Local Municipality Action Plans for Children in Need of Protection

The implementation of the legal framework on child protection at a capillary level has proved to be a challenging task for local authorities which often lack resources (financial, structural, human) as well as experience and expertise, and often in the range of other “more tangible” priorities, they lose focus of it. Institutions lack the necessary infrastructure and logistics for case management, and also do not have the proper education/information regarding children’s rights.

In the framework of the National Agenda on Children’s Rights, one of its main components is the drafting of Action Plans for Child Protection in each municipality. This intervention has focused its efforts to locally address the issues related to this component. The process consisted in supporting the implementation of Action Plans from municipality to municipality. Municipalities of small cities are lacking ground expertise, but also coordination among relevant stakeholders.

The project implemented by National Association of Social Worker focused on drafting the Local Municipality Action Plans for children in need of protection through the inclusive and meaningful involvement of all relevant actors. A wide process of consultation was conducted for drafting the local plans, involving important stakeholders at the local level, the State Agency for the Rights and Protection of the Child, and the project management team of Tdh and SC. The documents were shared, reviewed, and widely agreed by all actors involved in the process.

The approach of the Law 121/2016 and 18/2017 emphasizes the need to draft local policies and enhance the child protection system at the local level, and the Municipality Action Plans have contributed in this regard by involving all key stakeholders in all the steps of needs assessment and local action plans drafting.

Another component of the project was the local professionals capacity building, which will enable full implementation of the Local Action Plans on child rights, legal framework on child rights, child protection, and case management.



**Organization:** Center for Youth Progress, Kukes  
**Project title:** Community Monitoring of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in Kukës  
**Location:** Kukes  
**Best practice:** Youth Mobilization and Participation in Child Rights Monitoring

The population living in remote areas of Albania faces social and economic difficulties. Living in extreme conditions, which are often at a basic survival level, makes the advocating for a full implementation of child rights-when their basic needs are not met- a constant challenge. The overall low level of the target groups' education makes it very difficult and almost impossible for them to understand and internalize the concepts presented. Local authorities often lack understanding of CRC mechanisms, tools, and a systematic mechanism of children's rights monitoring.

The project implemented by the Center for Youth Progress strengthened the child rights implementation in Albania, by monitoring the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and mobilizing youth to act as primary agents to change in their community.

6 youth-led monitoring groups were established in rural areas of Kukës, which built partnerships to collect information on the implementation of UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in primary and high schools. Capacity building, direct support, mentoring, and coaching have been provided to child led groups through child friendly methods on how to monitor their rights, raise the awareness and advocate at local level for their fulfillment. Long-term practices and partnerships were set up with schools, communities, CPUs, and local key partners on child rights.



In the framework of this project, a toolkit named “The Manual for Monitoring Child Rights” on how to make a systematic monitoring of the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the child was developed.

This was a very practical, easy-to-use tool, which helped children work in a structured way and come up with substantial findings from the monitoring, which will be further addressed by themselves in future child rights monitoring programs. An added value to this project is that this tool and the methodology applied may be easy replicated in other projects.



<b>Organization:</b>	National Center for Community Services
<b>Project title:</b>	Positive parenting for a healthy childhood
<b>Location:</b>	Gjirokastra
<b>Best practice:</b>	Promotion of the right of the child to live in a violence-free environment

Triggering changes of phenomena like child abuse or child labor exploitation in the communities of remote or small cities is a difficult process, as they need long-term and systemic approaches to bring about a real and sustainable change in these communities. Parents in such communities, while being the main actors and role models in the child’s life, have a low level of participation in capacity building and counselling services provided by third parties, slowing down the change process.

National Center for Community Services implemented a project aiming to raise the awareness among children on the importance of living within a violence-free environment. Individual psychological counseling was provided to them when needed.



Meanwhile, work focused toward the improvement of parents' knowledge on effective, non-violent strategies to deal with childhood behavior problems. This was made possible through a series of meetings with parents, where practical techniques and approaches in relation to behavior problems were introduced. Two manuals were published: one on "Positive parenting for adolescents" and the other on "Positive parenting of 0-10 years old children". These two self-help tools were missing in the Albanian literature and practice, and have been appreciated by the parents.

529 children and 261 parents in the towns and villages in the project area were trained and benefited from sessions on positive parenting, different forms of violence and protection mechanisms against violence. A TV spot on positive parenting was produced and broadcast in the local media in Gjirokastra.

<b>Organization:</b>	Civil Society Development Center (CSDC) Durres
<b>Project title:</b>	To learn about the Child Protection Units (CPUs) in our area through narrative and visual (photo & voice) methodologies
<b>Location:</b>	Sukth, Rrashbull, Katundi Ri administrative units
<b>Best practice:</b>	Development and strengthening of the cross-sectorial case management and new CPUs capacity building to implement the coordinated multidisciplinary child protection response

Child Protection Services in Durrës Municipality are in constant development, and in the frame of the territorial reform, there are a lot of areas lacking proper services in Child protection. The new CPUs established in Sukth, Rrashbull and Katundi Ri administrative units are lacking capacities in the development and multi-sector management of cases in need for protection. There is a constant need for increased efficiency in case management, as well as improving coordination of multi-sector activities in three administrative units.

Civil Society Development Center implemented a project that aimed to enhance the role of the newly established Child Protection Units in the administrative units of Sukth, Rrashbull, Katundi Ri as key structures within the child protection system, with special focus in the identification and case management of children in need for protection.

In the frame of this project, 51 children were introduced and trained on the methodology of photo voice, ethics, photography techniques, how they can address their child rights through photography, and how to monitor their rights implementation through narrative and visual (photo & voice) methodologies. The exhibition with the pictures taken by children themselves and the reportage developed by the students were very interesting practical simple tools to bring their views and make their voice be heard by a wider public in Durrës municipality.

Capacity building activities targeting the school teachers in three administrative units were successfully conducted, focusing on the identification of signs of abuse, legal obligation for case reporting, and the protocol on how to report. The entire intervention created an enabling environment for the child protection units to fulfil their role in protecting children.



## 8. Annexes

### Annex 1

#### List of awarded grants to CSOs in the CSACPRA project framework

No.	Organization	Acronym	Project title	Contact	Location
1	Shoqata Shqiptare e Ndihmës për Integrim dhe Zhvillim Demokratik	ALB-AID	Kukës Child Right's Capacity Building	Gentian Palushi E-mail: albaid@alb-aid.org; Mob.: 067 26 01 475 Bukurosh Onuzi E-mail: e-mail: bonuzi@alb-aid.org; Mob.: 067 28 50 267	Kukës
2	Shoqata "Instituti i Politikave të Qëndrueshme"	ISP	The Rights of Children of Imprisoned Parents in Albania	Isijda Sinjari E-mail: isijda.sinjari@isp-albania.org Tel: +355 69 99 13 820 Suela: 069 60 41 111	Tiranë, Elbasan
3	Qendra Kombëtare për Shërbime Komunitare	NCCS	Positive parenting for a healthy childhood	Rita Strakosha E-mail: ritastrakosha@yahoo.com Mob.: 066 57 03 713	Gjirokastra
4	Shoqata "Qendra Sociale Murialdo"		School, art and fun for the social inclusion of Roma children in Fier	Cristina Casado Beato E-mail: cristina.qsm@gmail.com Mob.: 069 72 24 906	Fier
5	Fondacioni Shqiptar për të Drejtat e Personave me Aftësi të Kufizuar	ADRF	Child's rights and disability inclusion	Mrs. Narbis Ballhysa E-mail: adrf@albmail.com / ballhysa.narbis@gmail.com Tel: 04 22 69 426 Mob.: 068 20 67 816	Berat, Durrës, Elbasan

6	Qendra Shqiptare për Popullsi dhe Zhvillim	ACPD	Empowerment of adolescents to act on their rights in rural areas of Tirana and Shkodra	Blerina Shehu E-mail: belashehu@gmail.com Mob.: 069 57 22 233	Tirana, Shkodra
7	Shoqata Ndhmoni Jetën		Protection of the rights of children with disability in Albania	Enron Seiti E-mail: info@helpthelife.org.al Mob.: 069 36 99 489	Durrës, Vlora
8	Qendra "Të ndryshem & Të barabartë"		Modeling and integrating AM and PM Child care - For children of moms who are rebuilding their lives	Mariana Meshi E-mail: mmeshi@yahoo.co.uk Tel.: 04 22 21 892	Shkoza, Tirana
9	Shoqata "Gruaja Inteligjente" Pogradec	GIP	I can	Shpresa Blaceri Adress: Lagjja Nr. 3, Rr. "Fan Noli,, Pogradec E-mail: intelektintelekt@yahoo.com Mob.: 069 24 60 234	Pogradec
10	Qendra për Studime të Avancuara		More informed and secure against child sexual abuse and molestation	Elona Hasko E-mail: elona.hasko@gmail.com Mob.: 066 20 18 827	Konispol, Saranda
11	Caritas Dioqezan Rrëshen		More all-inclusive and education opportunities for the minors and youths coming from the poorest families living in remote areas of Burrel	Chiara Pietta E-mail: chiarapietta@virgilio.it Mob.: 068 31 95 353 E-mail: caritasrreshen@gmail.com Caritas grabova.acpd@gmail.com	Rrëshen, Burrel
12	Vatra pshyco social centre	QPS "Vatra"	Identification and cross-sectorial protection for children victims of trafficking/potential victims of trafficking and children of victims of trafficking	Entela Avdulaj E-mail: avdulaje@qendravatra.org.al Mob.: 069 42 51 709	Vlora Municipality and region

13	Albanian Centre for Rehabilitation of Trauma and Torture	ARCT	Community actions towards fostering rights of children at risk of violent extremism	Erinda Bllaca E-mail: arct@albmail.com / ebllaca@yahoo.com Mob.: 068 20 79 385	Tirana, Durrës, Kavaja, Elbasan, Berat, Korça, Vlora, Lezha, Shkodra, Tropoja, Kukës, Burrel, Rrogozhina, Peqin, Lushnja
14	Enti Kombëtar i Jozefinëve të Murialdos (ENGIM)	ENGIM	Empowerment of community-based services for children at risk of drop-out in Kuçova	Roberto d'Amato E-mail: r.damato@engiminternazionale.org Mob.: 069 87 45 725	Kuçovë
15	Center Focus "On Helping Children"		Provision of specialized services for children in street situation, children victims of sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking	Anita Pilika E-mail: kpilika@yahoo.com Mob.: 067 20 68 270	Tirana, Kavaja, Lezha and Berati
16	Alpin Association		Tropojë Child Right's Capacity Building	Astrit Metaliaj E-mail: alpin_m@yahoo.com / ametaliaj@hotmail.com Mob.: 068 24 04 490	Tropojë Municipality
17	Center For Youth Progress	CYP	Community Monitoring of Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in Kukës	Rifat Demalija E-mail: rifat_d@hotmail.com Mob.: 067 47 77 423	Kukës Municipality
18	Studies and Development Centre	QSZH	A social qualitative service towards a better generation	Vjollca Backa E-mail: vbacka@gmail.com Mob.: 069 72 56 352	Kuçovë Municipality, Berat District
19	Research and development institute Wisdom	IKZHW	Children's card to strengthen children's rights	Lediana Beshaj E-mail: beshajlediana@hotmail.com Mob.: 069 64 21 957	Përrenjas Municipality

20	Qendra e Zhvillimit të Shoqërisë Civile Durrës	QZSHSC	To learn about the Child Protection Units (CPUs) in our area through narrative and visual (photo voice) methodologies.	Mirjam Reci E-mail: miriamreci@yahoo.com Mob.: 068 26 29 527	Sukth, Rrashbull, Katund i Ri administrative units
21	Estia Dropull	SH.E.D	Minority Inclusion: Social support actions and adaptation of long term policies for children at high risk in areas populated by Greek Minority members in Albania	Evanthia Pano E-mail: anhelapano27@gmail.com Mob.: 069 62 20 303	Districts of Gjirokastra, Saranda and Delvina
22	National Association of Social Workers	SHKPS	Development of Local Action Plans for children in street situation in Vlora and Saranda Municipalities	Eliona Bimbashi E-mail: elionakulluri@gmail.com Mob.: 069 20 97 809	Vlora municipality and Saranda Municipality
23	Partnerë për Fëmijët		Strengthening the Implementation of Child Rights in Tropojë Municipality through Civil Society Advocacy	Ermjona Mekshiqi E-mail: ermjonamekshiqi@yahoo.com Mob.: 069 64 10 237	Tropojë Municipality
24	Creative City	C&C	Children for children against trafficking	Armando Lohja, Drejtor Ekzekutiv E-mail: armandolohja@gmail.com Mob.: 067 30 81 001	Malësia e Madhe, Albania
25	Association of Women with Social Problems	SHGPS	Community Centre for Vulnerable Children of Spitalla	Johana Lulo E-mail: qendraekeshillimit@yahoo.com L2 Durrës Mob.: 069 46 17 430 E-mail: qendrakomunitaredr@gmail.com	

26	Qendra për Administrim Social Ekonomik Territorial	ASET	Children's Rights Social Protection	Meriglina Rusta E-mail: rustameriglina@yahoo.com Mob.: 069 31 13 606	Tirana and Shkodra
27	Në Familje për Familjen	NFPF	Together for our children	Rezarta Sheshaj E-mail: rezartasheshaj@gmail.com Mob.: 067 44 63 338	Durrës and Fier
28	Komuniteti Papa Xhovani	KPX23	ABC – Albanian Best Childhood	Eleonora Caneva E-mail: eleonoracaneva@gmail.com Mob.: 067 52 07 379 Samuel Polidori E-mail: samuel.74@libero.it Mob.: 069 40 57 143	Urban and non- urban areas of Shkodër (Bardaj, Renc, Fermentim)

## Annex 2

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### Best Practices' Capitalization

#### Interview with key persons

This interview is carried out in the "CSACPRA" project framework, managed in cooperation with Tdh Albania and Save the Children. The information gathered during this interview aims to contribute to the capitalization of best practices obtained from implementing your projects. Feel free to share any information that you think is relevant to this process, even if it does not address the following questions.

1. What is the main focus of the work carried out on the project you are engaged or involved in the frame of "CSACPRA"?

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2. What novelties (if any) do you think your project has brought in this area of work?

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3. Which positive practice would you distinguish that, in your opinion, is worth sharing with others?

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4. Can you elaborate on or describe it in more detail? To which problem did this practice give a solution to?

---

5. Why do you think that was done in this way? According to your opinion, which factors gave way to this practice?

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6. Which are the lessons learnt from this experience?

---

7. What recommendations can you provide for similar projects/interventions in the future?

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Thank you for your contribution!



## Annex 3

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### Best Practices' Capitalization

#### Focus Group Discussion with project participants

This Focus group discussion is carried out in the "CSACPRA" project framework, managed in cooperation with Tdh Albania and Save the Children.

We are gathered here today to talk about the project in which you were (or are) participants. The information collected during this discussion aims to contribute to the capitalization (collection) of the best practices, obtained from implementing the project you were participating.

The discussion will be an open and friendly one. Each one of you is free to talk about the topic, by showing respect for the one who is speaking, and talking in turns. There are no right or wrong answers. I will be facilitating the discussion and addressing the questions, but it is your opinion that matters.

Feel free to share any information you think is relevant to this conversation, even if it does not fit into the following questions.

Which are the reasons you got involved in this project?

-----

What services have you received/are receiving under this project? Is your family receiving services as well?

-----

What novelty, change or improvement has the project brought into your life?

-----

What kind of problems were you facing prior to the project intervention? How were you facing them?

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Which positive practice would you distinguish that, in your opinion, is worth sharing with others? How did it contribute to your life/ life of others?

-----

What lessons have you learnt from this experience?

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What is your advice for the project's future work?

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Thank you for your contribution!

## Annex 4

### List of Interviewees

	Place	Organization	Interviewee and Position
1	Tiranë	Help the Life – (Pëllumbat Centre)	Enron Seiti, Project Coordinator Aurora Karaj, Psychologist
2	Shkozë – Tiranë	Different & Equal	Reta Pinderi, Project Coordinator Mira, beneficiary mother
3	Tiranë	Tirana Municipality Social Service	Anisa Ruseti, Director of Social Services
4	Durrës	Civil Society Development Center (CSDC)	Interview with CPU Olta Dedej
5	Vlorë	Vatra Psycho social center	Interview with CPU Elpiqini Giknuri Entela Avdulaj, Project Coordinator
6	Tdh Albania	Project Management staff	Elvis Popaj, Child Rights Protection Area and Network Officer (EIDHR project) Renata Kapidani, Capacity Building Coordinator (EIDHR project)

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