



INSigHT
Building Capacity to
Deal with
Human Trafficking and
Transit Routes in
Nigeria, Italy, Sweden

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Activity 3.1: Participative Workshop for key anti-trafficking stakeholders in the Veneto Region (Italy)

BACKGROUND

The Cooperatives Equality and Azalea have organized three participative workshops for the operators employed in the N.A.Ve Project (Anti-trafficking Network for the Veneto Region). Two were held the 4th of October 2019 in Castelfranco Veneto (TV), while the last one was organized on December 3, 2019 in Padua.

The aim of the workshops was to exchange experiences and identify sustainable tools and implementation measures to promote an integrated approach to the protection of victims

The technique of *case study* was used as main tool. This technique is useful for dealing with complex cases. It allows to analyze the relationship networks, to examine in depth the story and to provide an overview of the situation avoiding unilateral and narrow visions.

Some professionals had been engaged to guide the discussions in the workshops. In the first two of them professor Ennio Ripamonti, psycho-sociologist and trainer at the University of Milano – Bicocca and the University of the Sacred Heart of Milano. The third workshop has been led by professor Natale Losi, director of the Ethno-systemic-narrative School of Rome. These figures have been chosen because of their wide experience in leading groups and for their knowledge of the world of human trafficking and exploitation.





The stakeholders have been invited via email with all the information relative to the workshops.

The participatory workshops convened a large number of operators of the N.A.Ve. Project, coming from the three different units into which N.A.Ve. is structured, namely: i) the street and contact unit, ii) the emergency and evaluation unit, and iii) hospitality unit. Among the participants, there were also case managers, cultural and linguistic mediators, managers, heads of cooperatives, socio-legal operators, etc.

Before the workshops, some operators of the N.A.Ve project were asked to be prepared to share a significant case recently experienced during their field work. Their focus was on the choices made and the motivations that led to these choices.

In the workshops the technique of the case study was used. In the first two workshops the case prepared were shared by the operators (5 cases). The discussion was facilitated by professor Ennio Ripamonti. Afterwards, the operators divided themselves into groups led by the operators who shared the cases. The groups were formed freely and each operator could choose the case which resonated the most with them. In the groups the experiences were talked about in details and questions were answered. In the third workshop the technique of dramatization was used. This was led by professor Natale Losi. In this case some operators had prepared life-stories of people followed by them in the N.A.Ve. project. After the explanation of the case some operators and the professor put the experience in show, acting in the dramatization.

The outcomes of the workshops were very relevant:

- It was a useful and fruitful moment to stop and reflect on some cases lived by the operators. Their intense everyday work life does not always allow the chance to ponder about their choices and their work;





- It was important for the operators N.A.Ve. to have the chance to reflect on their choices and the hypothesis of following other directions. Thanks to the comparisons with colleagues they have had the chance to learn about new viewpoints and take inspirations on how to act;
- It was useful to share the tools used and to think about new sustainable ones to use in the future;
- It was beneficial to have the chance to share stories among colleagues who work in various fields of the project. This way, everyone was able to bring their specific skill and viewpoint to enrich the conversation. Furthermore, approaches were combined among the various field of the project;
- È stato importante condividere gli strumenti utilizzati e pensare a nuovi strumenti sostenibili da utilizzare nel futuro;
- It was useful to get to know a case in its completeness and to understand how the professional have worked and how they came about some decisions.

GUIDELINES FOR ORGANIZING AND IMPLEMENTING A PARTICIPATIVE WORKSHOP WITH LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGED IN ANTI-TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES

Preconditions:

The implementation of this type of activity presumes the pre-mapping of the area and being in contact with all/most/many key anti-trafficking stakeholders and/or networks of stakeholders operating in the territory targeted for the activity (i.e. city, provincial, regional level). If this is not the case, preliminary activities are to be carried out to map and connect actors

It is very important to have clear in mind (and clearly communicate to stakeholders to be invited) the objective(s) of the workshop, i.e. to exchange experiences and challenges encountered during their work on the field, in order to initiate the process of building a common/shared/coherent approach towards victims and potential victims of trafficking





Using the Case study technique provided good results. It is a really useful method for dealing with complex cases. It allows to analyse the relationship networks, to examine in depth real stories and to provide an overview of specific situations avoiding unilateral and narrow visions.

Implementation:

Before the workshop, ask to some (3-4) stakeholders to be prepared to report a significant case they had to deal with recently, during their work. Highlight the fact that it has to be an emblematic case, but leave freedom in relation to the situation to be proposed.

It is focal to find a facilitator who can guide the group discussion. Finding a person who has experience in the field and who can support the group work would be ideal.

At the beginning of the workshop, the objectives of the meeting have to be restated; a round of presentations has to be made if not all participants already know each other; the facilitator has to provide clear instructions on the working method, materials to be used, schedule to follow. Then, the designated operators describe to the assembly the cases they selected, explaining the successes and critical issues of the specific situations reported

At this point, two different methods can be used (choose one or the other for one workshop)

Method 1: Case study

After the storytelling in the assembly, it is necessary to divide into spontaneous groups, in a homogeneous manner. In small groups, the operator who had prepared and told the case further deepens the story and answers questions from the





operators who are members of the group. The group has to analyze the story in details, share the choices made and not made and the outcomes. Furthermore, it is necessary to think and discuss if the case study provides general good practices transferable to other phases of the project. The operators in the groups also have to share and discuss the tools used in the cases and experimental sustainable tools that could have been used. Finally, the highlights of the group dialogue have to be collected on paper in order to be brought back to the assembly. Once all the groups are assembled, the spokespersons have to report these points to the assembly and have to answer the questions posed by the operators who had participated in the other groups. The facilitator has to guide this moment, listening to the spokespersons and making sure to keep adherence to the scheduled times. At the end of each group presentation the facilitator has to share the most significant points with the assembly. In particular, they will focus on the experimental sustainable tools mentioned by the groups and the implementation measures to promote a combined approach for the protection of the victims.

Method 2: Dramatization

After the in-depth narrative of the case, the conductor has to choose among the audience of operators some volunteers for interpreting different roles. Then the dramatization has to be made with the presence of three to six operators who play different characters (protagonist of the story, relatives, friends, operators, mediators, therapists and other professionals). The facilitator indicates which part of the case will be addressed. The operators who play the different roles have to discuss with each other by impersonating their character. In this way, the operator is able to get involved in the story and to find himself on the side of the protagonist or of another character. The facilitator handles the schedule of the dramatization and decides when to end it. After the first dramatization there is the chance to repeat it and changing the roles, or asking other operators to play the parts. At the end of the workshop the facilitator asks to the operators who played a role how did they feel. The facilitator





can use this moment to highlight the tools used by the groups and the ones that could have been used.

These two techniques can help in building shared approaches in working with victims and potential victims of human trafficking. It is a valid work method to use for complex cases, which allows to deepen the professional point view of the cases happened. Furthermore, it allows to test experimental sustainable tools and implementation measures to promote an integrated approach to the protection of victims

