



This project is funded
by the European Union



**European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) 2018-2019 Supporting Human Rights through Country-Based Support Schemes (CBSS)
EIDHR/2018/041-027 and EIDHR/2019/041-337**

**ANNEX VI
FINAL NARRATIVE REPORT**

**GRANT CONTRACT 2019/414-308
“CONTRIBUTING IN THE AMELIORATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS IN AND OUT THE
PENITENTIARY SYSTEM IN ALBANIA”**

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List of acronyms used in the report

CSO	Civil Society Organization
GDP	General Directorate of Prisons
PMT	Project Management Team
TLAS	Tirana Legal Aid Society
ARSIS	Accusation "Initiative for Social Change"
MKPN	Association "With the community for change"
CRCA	Centre for the rights of Children, Albania
ASSIST	Association "Assist Albania"
WISDOM	Legal Clinic

1. Description

- 1.1. Name of coordinator of the grant contract: Tirana Legal Aid Society (TLAS)
- 1.2. Name and title of the contact person: Rajmonda Bozo, executive director
- 1.3. Name of beneficiary(ies) and affiliated entity(ies) in the action: TLAS in partnership with European Centre Foundation (ECF)
- 1.4. Title of the action: Contributing in the amelioration of human rights standards in and out the penitentiary system in Albania.
- 1.5. Contract number: 2019/414-303
- 1.6. Start date and end date of the reporting period: 03.02.2020-31.07.2022
- 1.7. Target country(ies) or region(s): Albania, with particular attention to Tirana, Vlora, Shkodra, Elbasan and Lezha, with majority number of prisons and probation offices.
- 1.8. Final beneficiaries &/or target groups (if different) (including numbers of women and men): over 300 people in conflict with the law (women, juvenile, high security prisoners, probationers, etc), vulnerable to human rights violations a) in penitentiary system (prisons & detention facilities situated in Tirana (Jordan Misja, Ali Demi, Kavaja), Korça (Drenova), Vlora, Shkodra (Reçi), Elbasan and Lezha; over 120 Prison and probation staff responsible for the rehabilitation services; over 28 civil society actors able to support people in conflict with the law (and their families) to protect their fundamental rights. d) local structures' servants and police as part of the referral mechanisms.

Target groups: MOJ, MOHSP (Directorate for Health), MOE (Directorate of Education) and prison authorities (General Directorate of Prisons, and Prison's Directorate Training Centre), Probation Service and parliamentarians. **Civil society/ national NGOs**: local and national organizations that work in the field of human protection, marginalized groups of population, with proven expertise and experience of working with places of deprivation of liberties, health (including mental health), gender related subjects, legal aid and litigation as well and NGO coalitions. **Professional associations**: These include the Albanian Bar Association, the Albanian Medical Association as well as experts from Universities particularly in the field of law and health. **National human rights institutions**: The Peoples' Advocate is the only independent Human rights institution in Albania, who also has the mandate to visit places of detention and receive complaints. Furthermore, related to the case typology and interventions, the Program foresees the involvement of the Commissioner for the protection against Discrimination. **General public**: representing the entire population of Albania and in particular those persons who have experienced or are impacted by a case of deprivation of liberties or contacts with the criminal justice system or who have been in close contacts with such victims. **International actors**: These include UN human rights mechanism and agencies (CAT, UNODC, OHCHR), EU, European Parliament and European Commission Delegation in Tirana. This also includes the diplomatic community in Albania and the international donors as well as international NGOs.

- 1.9. Country(ies) in which the activities take place (if different from 1.7):

2. Assessment of the implementation of action activities and its results

2.1. Executive summary of the action

Promoting respect for human rights (HR) and protection of most marginalized individuals in our society remains a precondition that calls for attention of decision makers, law enforcement, and public oversight mechanisms. Such approach oriented the TLAS' approach and interventions towards "functional system of protection and prevention for persons deprived of their liberties and upon release, in full compliance with European standards and recognised international principles". Translated into objectives, outcomes and activities, the program combines the required recommendations into practical engagement, the previous organizational capacities, full engagement into advocacy action & public information campaigning, along with a partnership representing local contexts are considered an added value for the Program.

As such, the action combined great deal of work-related rehabilitation, litigation, advocacy and capacities, practical skills, combining the existing know- how with the consolidated mechanisms, enabling a vivid CSO contribution for reaching (intermediate outcomes): Rehabilitative approach to prison and probation management (education / legal / psycho-social and vocational support) fostered and rehabilitation and prevention prospects of prisoners improved (O.1); An interactive platform to support CSO active in the field of human rights education and litigation (O.2); All-of-government approach and engagement of civil society organizations in prison and probation settings enhanced, in particular in the field of fostering the crime prevention approach (including social reintegration of prisoners upon release). (O.3).

The activities reflect a) cooperation and exchange among partner organizations; b) mutual engagement and responsibilities during the process of implementation; c) increased competencies with their extended legal knowledge and expertise.

Throughout 30-months of implementation substantial achievements were reached, contributing towards amelioration of human rights and rehabilitation of prison population (education/ legal/ vocational training/ psycho-social support).

At Overall Objective level, it is stated that the Action will contribute to achieve the established targets of, for example, 'number assisted prisoners and good practices. All interventions, in fact, contribute towards such objective. The awarded sub grants are doing first and foremost prevention, and they cannot tackle all the above-mentioned elements, although they are focused in rehabilitative support such as provision of quality services, legal support, psychosocial assistance; capacity building for professionals of mandatory structures within prison system. Although, in general, there is high commitment to achieve specific objective, this overall objective remains very ambitious in terms of targets

Over the reporting period, the achievement of indicators of the Specific Objective has been assessed as follows:

Outcome (Oc) – *"A functional system of protection and prevention for persons deprived of their liberties and upon release is ensured, in full compliance with European standards and recognised international principles"*

Indicators: +150 persons in conflict with law receiving primary and secondary legal aid; +5 strategic litigation cases; +50 persons receiving psychosocial counselling; +120 prison staff participating in 6 trainings; +30 persons participating in focus groups; +8 modules developed and at use; +200 platform users; +1 learning platform established; +1 campaign that involved finalization of 1 comparative study; +1 Closing conference with participation of 65 public institutions representatives; at least 5 recommendations introduced to targeted public institutions; +3 audio-video productions.

The program combined the required recommendations into practical engagement. Such approach goes in line with the enhancement of capacities of local CSOs for mobilization, advocacy, networking and support their dialogue with local level institutions; Monitoring legislative improvement and HR policy implementation at central and local level, including

advocacy; Piloting of services providing rehabilitation and prevention skills for persons in conflict with the law or at risk of being in conflict with the law, especially for juveniles; implementing a HR awareness raising, by engaging youth, through innovative ideas. All these helped to *monitor for the performance of functional system of protection and prevention for persons deprived of their liberties and upon release is ensured, in full compliance with EU standards and recognised international principles*

Outcome (Oc).1 Provision of quality services to rehabilitative and social reintegration intervention to people in conflict with the law

Indicators: +150 persons in conflict with law receiving primary and secondary legal aid; +5 strategic litigation cases; +50 persons receiving psychosocial counselling; +120 trained prison staff, +3 focus group meetings; +3 sub granted organizations;

Current progress: 28 CSOs are now closely cooperating, 7 CSOs sub granted, over 150 prisoners and family assisted; 235 cases are supported; 120 trained staff; 3 CSOs worked with people in detention with 28 children, 35 female detainees and 30 prisoners under compulsory treatment, with chronic diseases, first time prisoners; and a new platform on prisoner's rights.

Oc.2. An interactive platform to support CSO active in the field of human rights education and litigation;

Indicators: a designed platform, capable to provide online training and know how;

Current progress: formalisation and sign of 1 CSO/subgrant, interactive human rights platform to support CSOs was set since the first year and an overall network of academia (www.tedrejtatedenuarve.al).

Oc.3. Advocacy dedicated to sustainable change in the legal and institutional framework for the protection of human rights

Indicators: +1 Closing conference with participation of 65 public institutions representatives; at least 5 recommendations introduced to targeted public institutions; +3 audio-video productions; over 8 publications (posters, factsheets, banners, manuals, brochures etc, including sub grantees)

Current progress: 2 leaflets and factsheets (CRCA and FOKUS); 1 case management system developed regarding juvenile offenders (CRCA, ASSIST and ARSIS); 1 program roll ups (FOKUS); 1 case identification manual (ARSIS;)1 prison training manual (FOKUS); 1 assessment report (FOKUS); press releases, launching events, information sessions and sub grantee organization invitations were published through social media and TLAS website. 1 Closing Conference

The Action was an opportunity to consolidate cooperation with GPD/ MoJ through written agreements and continuous exchange meetings; capacity building and training was organized for an overall of 120 prison professionals with regards to rehabilitation practices of detained population, including contributions from sub grantees (R1); the work on the creation and operationality of an interactive human rights platform to support CSOs was set since the first year and an overall network of academia (www.tedrejtatedenuarve.al) (R.2), human rights practitioners with extended support from the General Directorate of Prisons was maintained through various meetings and TLAS participation in identifying support through over 300 legal aid cases, over 110 psychological cases, and over 35 psychiatric/ forensic cases. Reflecting the identified shortcomings, the action presented a multidimensional approach which may offer service-oriented vocational education, and (1) making the prisoners life more active and productive; (2) changing the mindset of both persons in conflict with law and administration/staff (3) changing the mindset and behaviour of the society and business community (4) contributing to social inclusion. The Program combined prison monitoring, legal representation, advocacy and education from both partner organizations and endorsed by the prison and probation authorities.

TLAS network and partnership agreements enhanced through two rounds of sub-granting processes for 7 CSOs has contributed for a stronger voice that reassured legislative amendments during the course of the program related to rehabilitation, legal support, advocacy and litigation. A final closing event, potentiating the final results was organized in June, 2022, bringing all actors together and serving as 'inventory' of achievements.

2.2. Results and activities

A. RESULTS

OO - Promoting the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for persons in conflict with law in Albania through an active involvement of the civil society actors		
indicator	target	current status
A certified program on rehabilitation & social reintegration prospects of prisoners enhanced	Models of rehabilitation and reintegration showing the full compliance of prison system with international standards.	A platform of rehabilitation interventions applied (150 legal representation cases, 5 strategic litigation cases, 50 psychosocial counselling) □ At least 700 program beneficiaries (state, non state, agencies, etc. benefitting from the program.)
# of CSOs involved in promoting rehabilitation for persons deprived of their liberties and upon release	4 CSOs benefitting from sub-granting process	Exceeding 7 CSOs benefitting from sub-granting process
# of Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) applied in the Albanian context	Review of the national prisons regulations – based on the <u>revisions</u> of UN Standards Minimum Principles	During the program cycle, the UN Standards, at global level, included revision of the Minimum Prison Standards. Such revisions require a global advocacy campaign for each UN member state. Such approach was made possible through the program. Following the legislation amendments, the national prisons regulations have been amended based upon Mandela Rules.

SO - A functional system of protection and prevention for persons deprived of their liberties and upon release is ensured		
indicator	target	current status
- # of services dedicated to the rehabilitation and reintegration of persons in conflict with law	5% of prisoners enrolled in education programmes.	The indicator was updated in the interim report. Being flexible in the number of prisoners to be enrolled and followed – TLAs through sub-grantees – in coordination with GPD – was able to work in 9 out of 24 prisons to enrol prisoners. It succeeded successfully as it was engaged with the monitoring of

		conditional release of over 530 inmates (2021)
- # persons in conflict with law benefitting from rehabilitation programmes in targeted prisons	+150 persons in conflict with law receiving primary and secondary legal aid; +5 strategic litigation cases; +50 persons receiving psychosocial counselling	30 cases were assisted from Centre Fokus. 70 cases were assisted from CRCA. ARSIS assisted 25 juvenile offenders (14-18 y.o) in Tirana Municipality and 37 women deprived of their liberties and upon release in Women Prison. ASSIST helped 28 detained women; 4 referrals to TLAS. Legal Clinic Wisdom has assisted 65 children in conflict with law, and performed trail monitoring for 5 cases. Psychological counselling was provided by Centre FOKUS for over 45 prisoners and from ARSIS for over 35 children; CRCA has provided psychological counselling for 40 children in conflict with law.
- # of recommendation shared with and considered for adoption by targeted public institutions	A Matrix with recommendations on rehabilitation and psychosocial support developed and followed. A policy paper on Law on treatment of the detainees Commentaries on the law on the execution of penal sanctions A comparative report on COVID implications and human rights	TLAS was a member of the working group of the GPD and Ministry of Justice for the amendments of the legislative package that was discussed during the July 2021 in the Albanian parliament Risk Assessment instruments by Centre FOKUS were developed and endorsed by the GPD on mental health and rehabilitation Follow up and monitoring of the Prisons' National Strategy and Action plan with regards to rehabilitation and vocational programs for inmates were monitored. TLAs is granted access to all places of detention for monitoring and legal aid service ALTRI prepared 12 papers on treatment of the prisoners.
I.O.1. Rehabilitative approach to prison and probation management (education / legal / psycho-social and vocational support) fostered and rehabilitation and prevention prospects of prisoners improved;		
indicator	target	current value
A platform of rehabilitation and reintegration interventions applied	+150 persons in conflict with law receiving primary and secondary legal aid;	30 cases were assisted from Centre Fokus. 70 cases were assisted from CRCA. ARSIS assisted 25 juvenile offenders (14-18 y.o) in Tirana Municipality and 37 women deprived of their liberties and upon release in Women Prison. ASSIST helped 28 detained women; 4 referrals to TLAS. Psychological counselling was provided by Centre FOKUS for over 45 prisoners and from

		ARSIS for over 35 children; CRCA has provided psychological counselling for 40 children in conflict with law. Legal Clinic Wisdom has assisted 65 children in conflict with law, and performed trial monitoring for 5 cases.
	+5 strategic litigation cases; Anisa	4 cases were referred to TLAs from ASSIST; 5 typical cases were also referred for strategic litigation from Fokus.
	+50 persons receiving psychosocial counseling;	Psychological counselling was provided by Centre FOKUS for over 45 prisoners and from ARSIS for over 35 children; CRCA has provided psychological counselling for 40 children in conflict with law.
	+120 prison staff participating in 6 trainings;	66 prison staff trained from TLAS. FOKUS trained 70 prison staff. CRCA trained 40 prison and probation staff. 108 police and probation staff trained from WISDOM.
	+30 persons participating in focus groups; 3 sub granted CSOs	TLAS has finalized the focus groups 7 sub grants are contracted and fully implemented.
I.O.2. An interactive platform to support CSO active in the field of human rights education and litigation;		
indicator	target	current value
A functional module-oriented platform that is increasing HR education and know-how to end-users	+8 modules developed and at use;	ALTRI and ECF
	+200 platform users;	Over 350 users (prison staff, law students, CSOs, etc)
	+1 learning platform established;	ALTRI interactive platform www.tedreitatetedenuarve.al
	2 sub granted CSOs	ALTRI and ECF (implementing partner)
I.O.3. All-of-government approach and engagement of civil society organizations in prison and probation settings enhanced, in particular in the field of fostering the crime prevention approach		
indicator	target	current value
Recommendations in line with international standards and applicable into Albanian context	+1 campaign that involved finalization of 1 comparative study;	37 women deprived of their liberties and upon release in Women Prison; 27 child protection workers in Tirana Municipality; 8 psychosocial staff of probation service; 8 Professionals from IEPV Ali Demi were supported with didactic working materials; 80 psychosocial staff of General Directory of Prisons; 37 children were supported with animated books on the 1st June (18 girls and 19 boys); 7 Families of juveniles offenders, 80 professionals of the General Directory of Prisons, NGO's, Ombudsman, Ministry of Justice, Probation Service, from

		<p>IEVP (Ali Demi, Mine Peza, Fushe-Kruje, Vaqarr, Lezhe, Jordan Misja, Mine Peza) etc from 80 that are targeted; 200 citizens were reached with the awareness campaign, children, youth, parents, professionals and the community; 9000 individuals approximately have visited our social media publication (Facebook), on the promotion of the right of the minors, girls and women's in conflict with the law and other activities ARSIS</p> <p>One database with juveniles in conflict with the law established. 30 cases of juveniles in conflict with the law have received psycho-social and legal service, 2 families are provided with job mediation with the local public institutions in order to find a job for them</p> <p>One training program with 10 professional working for juveniles in the juvenile prison in Kavaja conducted.</p> <p>One training manual drafted and published from CRCA Albania.</p> <p>3 forums, 150 distributed posters and 3 local interviews conducted</p> <p>interactive platform</p> <p>www.tedrejtatedenuarve.al</p> <p>12 papers presenting the detainees' rights in national and international standards, ALTRI.</p> <p>121 psychosocial and educational prison staff; 5 training, 200 factsheets, 100 training manuals, Matrix, (187 users reacting on Fokus Facebook posts), etc.</p> <p>FOKUS</p> <p>28 cases in Women's Prison</p> <p>4 cases were referred to TLAS staff, 1 cooperation agreement</p> <p>1 leaflet, Facebook posts reaching 370 users. ASSIST Albania</p> <p>100 children in conflict with the law; 5 legal cases with children • 100 trained law enforcement • 20 representatives from Civil society and media and 500 Social media users. Legal Clinic WISDOM</p> <p>12 capacity building/training events, Summer camp/school (dedicated to 20 children engaged for 3 months); 6 Information sessions for parents on legal education, 5 Information session with probation, social services and school educators on child protective/preventive approaches</p> <p>MKPN, Albania</p>
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	+1 Closing conference with participation of 65 public institutions representatives;	Finalized on June 14, 2022, with the participation of 65 representatives from prison system, NGOs and local partners, human rights institutions, Ministry of Justice, etc.
	at least 5 recommendations introduced to targeted public institutions;	A Matrix with recommendations on rehabilitation and psychosocial support developed and followed. A policy paper on Law on treatment of the detainees Commentaries on the law on the execution of penal sanctions A comparative report on COVID implications and human rights Risk Assessment instruments by Centre FOKUs were developed and endorsed by the GPD on mental health and rehabilitation Follow up and monitoring of the Prisons' National Strategy and Action plan with regards to rehabilitation and vocational programs for inmates were monitored. ALTRI prepared 12 papers on treatment of the prisoners.
	+3 audio-video productions.	ALTRI WISDOM ECF
	2 sub granted CSOs	ALTRI, ECF

B. ACTIVITIES

Preliminary Activities:

1.0. Finalization of internal program management and partnership work plans

The internal workshop was held on March 30, 2020. This workshop was an introductory activity for the PMT/ TLAS and ECF. Grant contract was discussed in details, through dedicated power point presentations graphics and discussions. Reference was made on PRAG regulations, Special and General Conditions and its Annexes. Special attention was given to Finance and Contract requirements: budget analysis, eligibility criteria, procurement procedures, financial monitoring and reporting, expenditure verification and audit. Due to the situation caused by the Global Pandemic, this period of implementation required adaptation and use of teleworking and online tools. This activity, as other activities that were planned to gather more than 10 people, were redesigned (after prior approval by the donor) to be held online. The online platform used was Zoom and the workshop was recorded. TLAS and ECF effectively discussed ways how to ensure the successful project implementation and monitoring. The workshop went through all relevant project documents including the Logical Framework and the Work Plan to set a common goal and understanding for both teams. TLAS ensured that during the meeting, the PMT discussed also the Sub Granting Scheme including along with its critical stages, principles of transparency, proportionality, fair competition/ participation on equal terms and non- discrimination.

1.0.1. Setting up the Implementation team

Confirming the program management and implementation team was the first activity to be performed by TLAS and ECF. During the first month of the program, TLAS confirmed

counterparts from GDP and Probation. It also confirmed the MoU with the MoJ¹. The key persons in the implementation teams were experts in the field of legal aid and human rights activists, as well as experts in advocacy and criminal justice system along with the educators and psycho-social staff, as counterparts identified in the included places of monitoring: prisons, pre-trial detention facilities, special institutions, etc.

TLAS, in partnership with ECF have ensured the launching through social media, website and press release². Information was shared on the objectives, main activities focusing on sub-granting component, contributions in achieving the expected results etc. such information intended to support the relevant actors and stakeholders working on the protection of the human rights of detained population, building linkages and creating a solid foundation for further cooperation on project's initiatives.

Development of communication and visibility plan³: In line with the Communication and Visibility Manual of European Union External Action and following the inputs from the kick-off workshop, a detailed Communication and Visibility plan was developed during the first months of the project in order to ensure the proper visibility of the action and EU funding. The plan provided the communications and visibility framework throughout the life of the project to set the key target audience of project communication activities and the tools to engage and inform all stakeholders, ensure their participation and promote awareness. Further, this plan developed clear guidelines and formats that need to be used throughout project implementation. The draft of the Communication and Visibility Plan was also consulted with representatives from the EU Delegation in Albania. As per requirements, this plan has been shared with the EU delegation in Albania for suggestions and endorsement. During the reporting period, this plan has been used as a guide on what information to be communicated, who should perform the communication, when to communicate it and to whom to communicate to as well as which visibility tools to be used.

TLAS and ECF, have taken a proactive role in ensuring effective communication and visibility throughout the reporting period. TLAS Communication Officer and the PMT have been regularly in contact with the communication specialist of EU Delegation in Albania related to communication and visibility issues of the Action.

1.0.2. Conduct the training courses on organizational management, project development and management, advocacy and lobbying on rehabilitation and social inclusion- for local organizations

Six⁴ training workshops focusing on organizational management, project development and management, advocacy and lobbying, and protection of the rights of the child were conducted for over 28 representatives of CSOs and CBOs focusing on key issues regarding the program components, upcoming calls for proposals, concepts of rehabilitation and Social Integration, along with access to justice. Participants were invited through email contacts and social media. These events were oriented to new prison legislation that passed during June 2020. The legal amendments included changes in the Law on the treatment of the detainees, law on prison police, law on the execution of penal sanctions, etc.

Such legislative amendments brought to attention the need to amend the General Prisons Regulation and related interventions regarding medical emergencies and the administration of the emergency with COVID-19 pandemics in prison settings.

A considerable number of grassroots 'local NGOs/associations in 6 targeted areas, ie, Tirana, Elbasani, Korca, Lezha, etc (around 60 activists) were able to express opinions, participate in training, apply for sub grant schemes and contribute to the program outcomes.

¹ Refer to note 2 above.

² All public notifications were published at the TLAS and ECF webpages and respective social media platforms. For information about the publications refer to: <https://tlas.org.al/sq/announcements> and <https://www.facebook.com/tlas.org.al> and <https://www.facebook.com/Qendra-EuropianeEuropean-Centre-123611107838491>

³ A copy of the communication and visibility

⁴ One training in each of targeted areas, Tirana, Korca, Vlora, Shkodra, Elbasani and Lezha

Result 1. Rehabilitative approach to prison and probation management (education / legal / psycho-social and vocational support) fostered and rehabilitation and prevention prospects of prisoners improved;

Outcome (Oc).1 Provision of quality services to rehabilitative and social reintegration intervention to people in conflict with the law

Indicators: +150 persons in conflict with law receiving primary and secondary legal aid; +5 strategic litigation cases; +50 persons receiving psychosocial counselling;

Current progress: 28 CSOs are now closely cooperating, 7 CSOs sub granted, 108 prisoners and family assisted; 235 cases are supported; 94 out of 120 trained staff; 3 CSOs currently working with people in detention that are currently working (cases) with 28 children, 35 female detainees and 30 prisoners under compulsory treatment, with chronic diseases, first time prisoners; a new platform on prisoner's rights

1.1. Provision of support through legal/ psycho- social and vocational education aiming at consolidating holistic approaches for the rehabilitation:

Primary and secondary legal aid and psycho-social services to detainees and their families;

The methodology of TLAS staff is based on offering legal aid services in the targeted penitentiary institutions for 150 legal cases of the direct beneficiaries, that includes legal information, advice and representation before administrative and court bodies through:

- Paralegal services (solution of legal cases through administrative way);
- Legal services (solution of legal cases through court procedures);
- Law-line and Web line service (legal advice through internet and telephone line);
- Clinics (enable clients for self-representation before state authorities);
- Mediation (alternative dispute resolution before taking the case in the court);
- Mobile services (reaching vulnerable individuals for special cases in remote areas with resources);
- TLAS Portal (where the citizens find information on legal issues, templates for specific court files and direct communication with TLAS web lawyer to present the needs and receive the proper legal advice);

Apart from close collaboration with GPD staff in all targeted penitentiary institutions TLAS has used in its methodology of work close collaboration with community-based organisations, local state civil servants and law practitioners which have the necessary knowledge and information in the local level regarding legal and social needs of the detainees in each Municipality. TLAS has used this network as a very good opportunity to make use of their local influence, knowledge and to engage them not only in the process of identification and handling cases, but as well as in the process of rehabilitation after release.

As mentioned above, the unusual pandemic situation required that some of the project activities had to be adjusted. While this did not affect the implementation of activities, the work methods were re-organised but yet sticking as much as possible to the initial project approved plan. National Governments legal acts, restricted activities in person for certain months and for another period gatherings with more than 10 people were not encouraged.

The Government's through its normative Act no.7 dated 23.03.2020, gave permission opportunities to inmates to release during the COVID-19 situation, most of them very vulnerable with a crucial need to be personally supported and their families as well, to access the social state programs through access to justice. TLAS signed for this purpose with the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) the Memorandum of Understanding for coordinated actions based on the data regarding the permissions approved by the General Directory of Prisons and Directory of the Probation Services. In total there were released 377 inmates, out of whom 235 in the project target areas.

The normative act (no. 7, dated 23.03.2020) titled "On the Temporary Residence in Home of Convicted Persons", determined the conditions and criteria for the temporary stay at home of

convicts, as a special permit, during the duration of the pandemic caused by COVID-19. The normative act set the criteria for obtaining a special permit, the procedure for obtaining a special permit, obligations during temporary stay at home and the right to appeal in case the request is dismissed. All these recent procedures posed a substantial increased workflow to prison staffs but on the other hand increased the need of released detainees for legal support and advice (some of which are still under procedure for the granting of this permit or have appealed the dismissal decisions).

TLAS was in close contact with the GDP for the support of those inmates under conditional releases due to the pandemics. The MJ And GDP, under the terms of collaboration with TLAS in the frame of the project, suggested to ensure the provision of the legal aid support for the needs that this category of detainees and their families. In this context, the workload of the staff was affected in this way:

- the number of total direct beneficiaries in need to be served with legal aid increased in at least 50 more legal cases (in addition to the initial total of 150 legal cases previously foreseen and budgeted for the whole project duration); this indicator will be used as "good practice" and will continue to show full commitment of TLAS in the follow up process (next interim report, and closing conference).
- the workload for the legal aid assistance by the attorneys and paralegals had to be reorganised dictated by the new situation as mentioned above;
- It was necessary to hire a new paralegal staff in order to support the new legal procedures and needs of the beneficiaries of the project especially under the frame of the new Normative act responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The dedicated staff that was added to the team was specifically dedicated to the representation and fulfilment of the legal needs of this specific category. Since some of these detainees were home based, we were in contact with their families which had other additional legal needs to be assisted.

Some cases that were assisted are as following;

Case 1: the prisoner is 53 years old, from Elbasan. His family is in very difficult conditions. The wife recently passed leaving 8 children (aged 26 up to 11 years old) without custody. The husband is condemned for the use of narcotics and is actually accommodated at Peqini Prison. This institution accommodates high risk prisoners and it does have also special regime prisoners.

The case is very complex, as it requires particular legal support for the minor children (three boys, twins and a boy that are staying at home with the man that was leaving with the mother). The father of the twins does not understand that he has legal custodial rights for the children. Other brothers and sisters are either married or leaving in separate houses, with mental health problems. Apparently the children are left alone. The father, in prison, needs support for the legal custody and also he needs to be oriented whether to accommodate his children in a institution; as he has over 3 years imprisonment sentence until release. In the meantime, the children are not going to school but rather staying home with the deceived mother's boyfriend.

Case 2: the prisoner is charged with accusation for sexual intercourse with a minor. He is 17 years, recently turned 18 and transferred to the special institution of Zaharia, under compulsory medical treatment. The prison authorities explain that the prisoner suffers from a mental health condition which requires treatment and supervision in permanent status. Furthermore, his family belongs to a very poor and isolated Roma family, where the father is constantly ill, his brother is unemployed and in difficult conditions (his name is also under special surveillance for the use and trafficking of narcotics). The father when meeting him requires psychiatric evaluation for his son, to prove that he is not stable mentally and that he has no consciousness on his actions. Furthermore, the father requires that he visits the son, and some legal support to represent this case is also welcomed.

Case 3: the prisoner is 41 years old, he is accommodated to Rrogozhina prison with a sentence of 15 years. He is suffering from a terminal disease, diagnosed recently. The conditions require a particular health control and expensive medication. His case, if not properly treated may cause physical impairment and difficulty in managing the personal needs. The expert team considers this case as an opportunity that requires specialized

treatment and medication to slow the illness and a special dietary treatment. All these requirements are almost impossible to be fulfilled due to restrictions with regards to COVID-19.

Case 4: the prisoner is actually in the prison hospital, diagnosed by multiple sclerosis. Such health condition can cause severe suffering and furthermore, paralysis and difficulties in movements or movement impairments. The prisoner may be considered as a prisoner with terminal illness and as such he should be entitled to require special treatment due to his health conditions.

Case 5: G.B is a "special regime" prisoner that was transferred to Peqini Prison from Jordan Misja. He is condemned for organized crime and his sentence is long. In August this year, the prisoner was sentenced under the special prison regime and was transferred in an individual cell in Peqini prison, under very strict isolation conditions and without meetings (only 1 phone call per month). He is practicing the muslim rituals and refusing to use the prison' food. He started a protest, by refusing the food and requiring the dismissal of the life sentences. His requests were sent to various institutions, including the People's Advocate. A special visit with the Albanian NPM/PA was undertaken during January and thus, the prisoner' complaint was addressed to central prison administration.

Case 6. Sh.M a mentally ill prisoner accommodated in the Lezha Prison, is currently suffering from schizophrenia. He is charged with sexual harassment of her sister-in-law. His mental illness has also damaged his physical health and currently he is facing a very challenging situation. He is treated under the mental health protocols, yet it is very important that the prisoner should be continually scrutiny through professional expertise.

Case 7. R.L, 59 years old, charged with article 130/a, he is charged for domestic violence against his wife and daughter. His son is an immigrant; the prisoner is currently suffering from and anxiety disorder and he is requesting some professional help. All services that were available from the prison authorities were made available to him, but the prisoner is presented not confident in the quality of services.

Case 8: R.D, 26 years old, is female prisoner. She is convicted for various criminal acts for use and trafficking of narcotics, she is also heroin addict and she needs proper treatment. She is currently suffering from abstinence and always is agitated or conflictual with other female prisoners. Support for the use of the BECK test is urgent.

Case 9: V.SH, 29 years, female prisoner at Ali Demi Prison. She is a pre trial prisoner convicted for severe injury and she will spend over 8 years in detention. V.SH has been divorced for several years. She has two children: currently a 10-year-old girl with a former husband and 5-year-old son with cohabiting partner. With ex-husband does not save no report. After the divorce, she started living with another partner. From the conversations that took place with it shows that her partner has forced her to do work for him. Has been trafficked abroad Albania, and sheltered for a short period in the center "For victims of trafficking in Linzë ", from where he escaped. She is back again with her partner, who raped her. IN family of origin has parents (non-biological) is adopted, three sisters and two brothers. There is no proper support from the family, this also refers to the fact of economic impossibility. Meetings with family members during their stay in the institution have been infrequent due to their distance from the country of serving their sentence and financial incapacity. However within reach, family has tried to support him emotionally. The children are currently under the custody of the mother its. The socio-cultural and economic level of the family is low.

Case 10. K.H, is charged with the criminal offense: "Production and sale of narcotics" provided by Article 283 of the Criminal Code. It is ongoing trials. From the study of the documentation, it results that he has been previously convicted, recidivist, more than twice for various criminal offenses. KH has been divorced for several years from his wife, from a marriage in which they have two children: a 19-year-old girl and another 13-year-old girl, who live with the prisoner's elderly grandparents. From the conversations, the prisoner states that his ex-wife he has abandoned her daughters and has never been interested in their progress. For several years, the prisoner and his family have been transferred from Berat to Tirana in order to improve their living and education.

The family of origin of the prisoner is retired, where the father is disabled and disabled, he also has a sister, with whom he expresses that he has a good relationship and constant communication. During his stay in the institution the prisoner did not have regular meetings with his family, as his mother has to take care of the prisoner's father as he is disabled, also economic inability has been an obstacle conducting regular meetings with him. Yet his mother has shown emotional support and care within her means. The socio-cultural and economic level of his family is low.

K.H came to the institution as a user of narcotics for 20 years regular user of heroin. He was immediately treated by the institution as a vulnerable category and treated with methadone therapy, which he received regularly.

During the implementation framework TLAS worked in identifying cases that required secondary legal support based in the fact that access to justice is hampered by procedural, economic and conceptual impediments especially for detainees. In addition, due to the immediate effects of the justice reform court capacities are low and fees still remain high, legal aid services are under-funded, and judicial procedures take too long. There is a lack of counselling and legal aid services available to vulnerable and marginalized individuals in detention settings, especially from ethnic and linguistic minorities, women in detention and minors.

This was realised by numerous monitoring visits and additional memorandums of understandings, such as the one finalized with the Juvenile Correctional Centre of Kavaja⁵.

The provision of legal services is an effective tool that TLAS has used to support court cases that result from the systemic lack of the protection of fundamental rights identified in detention and/or other legal obstacles experienced by the families and/or spouses, such as: lack of birth registration or risk of statelessness; abuse and maltreatment; inadequate parenting by irresponsible or mentally-disabled parents; deprivation from parental care and abandonment; maternity and paternity attestations; practical barriers to access education, healthcare, and other social services; and lack of access for children with disabilities or disorders, etc.

Legal support and assistance added to the reporting period:

- The minor assisted is only 15 years old and he was recidivist due to the constant theft. The juvenile has been placed on probation services. The reason he steals is to support his family financially.
- A 16 year old minor was sentenced to probation for persistent theft of bicycles, shops, markets etc. The main reason that he was in that constant situation was because he was a part of a social circle that commits such crimes. He dropped out the school and his parents doesn't understand the reasons and the cause.
- The minor is under investigation for criminal offense, attempted theft, production and sale of narcotics. He was only 16 years old and the court has sentenced him to probation service due to his difficult past.
- The assisted minor only 15 years old was sentenced by the prosecution to receive psychological service due to his involvement without being conscious and pushed by his peers committing a crime.
- The minor is a repeat offender in conflict with other and in some cases has committed theft and he was found with a cold weapon. He is only 15 years old and does not attend school regularly.
- The minor has dropped out of the school in the 8th grade. He spends most of the time outside the house in the late night hours, he is constantly involved in conflicts outside and inside the house, he is obliged to be present periodically to the police station.
- Two siblings respectively 12 and 16 years are in conflict with the law for a long time due to crimes such as thieving, sale and transportation of narcotics, one of the minors is sentenced with probation services, both of them were assisted psychologically.
- 17 years old, he was firstly identified in street situation and although he have been supported by the Child Protection Worker, still he was found guilty for sailing narcotics.

⁵ Please see attached the MoU of TLAS with Kavaja Correctional Centre

- The minor comes from a situation of constants abuse, economic exploitation by the mother in the past. At 15 years old was obliged by the prosecutor to be present periodically in the police station due to some break-ins and thieving private apartments.
- Despite his good economic situation, the juvenile is involved with his friends in theft, he regularly attend school. He is only 15 years old and is obliged to be present every Monday of the week in police station.
- The twin minors are constantly in conflict with law, their history of thieving begins ate the age of 11, one of the minors has mental health problem and both of them dropped out the school. The court has sentenced both of them with probation service.
- The minor is obliged to be present at the police station every week, he is 15 years old and he has repeatedly denounced by his mother and peers for violence against them. The minor is suspected of having mental health issues.
- Minor only 16 years old is involved in steeling bicycles and he was sentenced with to be present every week by the prosecutor to the police station.
- The minor 6 years old was involved several times in conflict with his peers, last time he stabbed 5 times with a screwdriver, endangering the life of another minor. The court based on the suspected mental health sentenced him with probation service.
- The 15 year old minor was obliged to appear once a week to the police station due to his seizure of narcotics, which according to him were for personal use.
- The reason for his detention was driving without a license, he was only 16 years old and despite the first psychological and legal support he was not very collaborative.
- The juvenile have been detained several times for use and sale of narcotic, he was only 16 years old and his sentence was to be present every week in the police station and to stop using drugs.
- The minor was detained and sentenced to probation services, he was 16 years old and he had a weapon type Ak 47, which according to him he founded the weapon on the river.
- Intentional injury was the reason why the minor was sentenced to probation services, he was 16 years old and he threatened and hit another minor.
- The juvenile have been assisted with psychological services ate the request of the Child Protection Worker because the girl was a victim of sexual abuse. The minor was only 13 years old and her family was in vulnerable situation.
- The minor was obliged by the prosecutor to be present every week in the police station to his fight with his peers using cold weapons.
- The minor was found with an iron glove and narcotics, he was only 14 years old and the prosecutor decided for him to periodically monitor by the police in his home.

Furthermore, cases were assisted by sub grant organizations such as Legal Clinic Wisdom:

- Case 1: Police Commissariat no. 6 of Tirana was informed by the supermarket X which is located in "Kavaja" Street that a citizen who entered to buy in the supermarket stole several packs of cigarettes and went to the cash register. The police patrol for that area immediately went to the scene and from the surveillance of the security cameras, it was concluded that the citizen suspected of committing the criminal offense of theft is the juvenile A.Z. Immediately Police Commissariat no. 6 undertook the referral to the Prosecutor's Office of the Criminal Judicial District for the juvenile citizen A.Z for committing the criminal offense "Theft" provided by Article 134/1 of the Criminal Code.
- Case 2: Traffic police, was after a vehicle that was driving at high speed, along street x, where after checking the documentation it turned out that the vehicle was driven by an SM citizen, 15 years old, who had taken his father's vehicle without permission. Commissariat no. 6 referred the case to the prosecutor's office for the criminal offense "Driving while intoxicated or without evidence", provided by Article 291 of the Criminal Code.
- Case 3: On police number 112, an anonymous person reported a knife fight between two young men and reported injuries. The police of the Commissariat no.6, went to the scene immediately, where, after receiving first aid, the two young men were accompanied to the police station for further clarifications. It turned out that the person who had committed the injury was a minor. The Commissariat has referred the case for the criminal offense "Intentional minor injury" provided by Article 89 of the Criminal Code.
- Case 4: in the village of Ndroq, a 14-year-old juvenile B.A who had received a final decision by the Tirana Court of Appeals who had been convicted of theft, was placed on probation at the Local Service Directorate of the Tirana Probation for a period of 2 years. Since his family was in a difficult economic situation, the minor went to work during the summer holidays in Rome to him uncle. The Probation Service addressed the Tirana Judicial District Court with a

request to revoke the decision of the Tirana Judicial District Court and the Tirana Court of Appeals requested the revocation of the "condition".

- Case 5: in the village of Peza which is under the jurisdiction of the Commissariat no. 6 of Tirana from the constant control carried out by the patrols of the use of commissions in a code are caught cultivating narcotic injuries of juveniles: R.M aged 15 years, T.F aged 14.5 years, Y.P aged 17 years.\
- Advocacy and awareness on major concerns and issues that affect children in conflict with the law that aim at reducing recidivism trial monitoring to 5 individual juvenile' files consulted and advised by the program; a resource booklet on child services in 300 copies, 3 Info sessions with 65 children/youths of high schools of Tirana , and 1 promotional videoclip of good practices aiming crime prevention and recidivism.

Furthermore, Assist Albania has feed the support:

- File 1 - R. S: 20 years old, without education. She has got a minor child who has not been cared for and has no contact with him, he lives with her mother. She has very difficult economic conditions and she has used narcotic substances, under the influence of her partner. She has been released. The case will be pursued further as the girl comes from the Roma community and has socio-economic needs. She lived with her partner who consumed narcotics, a situation from which the girl was also affected and became addicted to hashish for some time. We are attempting through the local government institutions to establish a connection with R.S taking into account that after the release the convicts do not show much interest when they have a family or partner.
- Case 2 - E. L: 21 years old, married only formally. Born in Greece. Convicted of fraud, for recidivism. Sentenced to 2 years and 6 months, released at the end of 2021. She worked as a waitress and as a ballerina in nightclubs, she does not want to do this job anymore because she does not feel well in this regard. Her mother who is residing in a specialized after returning from Greece and being diagnosed with depression, does not take care after her and the father died some months ago. There was a partner who influenced on her with the use of narcotics. She has contacts with her aunt who enabled her to keep her at home after she left. She asks for psychological support even after her release because she has realized that she needs a person to guide her in the right path, because she felt good with her family before returning from Greece, but her mother's aggravated mental condition forced them to return.
- The lack of a family person who guides her has completely disoriented her. She does not have much contact with her brother; he lives with a friend in a rented house. She would love to take a tailoring course and focus on a quiet and good job, and not live the life she used to have before. The work and intervention carried out for the period July-August- was focused on concrete behaviors which are necessary to create a healthy life, to distinguish the positive and negative sides of human behaviors without relying on superficial behaviors. The behavioral education part and understanding of the positive and negative sides of human behavior is an important part of the work done with this case.
- Case 3 - V. Sh: 29 years old, from Korça. Convicted for premeditated murder to 8 years, because she attempted to kill her cohabitant due to the threat, he made to her not to abandon her and to continue prostitution. She has got treatment from a psychiatrist. She is divorced, exploited and raped, and her family is living in extremely difficult economic conditions. The children are currently living with her mother. Her father violented her when she was a child, by using strong tools such as a wet rope. She was married early, at the age of 14, to a man much older than herself about 40 years old, a stranger, and from that marriage she has a daughter. Her husband raped her and exploited her for prostitution. There have been several partners who have exploited her for prostitution. She has severe mood swings even though she is receiving ongoing treatment, and has been hospitalized in the prison hospital. She has contacts with mother and children. She cannot read and write. Education, positive orientation and emotion management has been the focus of work on this occasion. Emotional swings, the level of emotional sensitivity are characteristic of the case, for this reason the work continued in this direction, taking into account the fact that there were still a few months left from her release.
- Case 4 - R. K: 44 years old, from Elbasan, detained for premeditated murder and detriment of property, married twice and divorced, has two twin children who are currently under the care of the orphanage "Zyber Hallulli". She has been raped. She has only been working in agriculture. There is no support from her family. She tried to drown the children in the river due to her aggravated psychological condition, as a result of the violence exercised by her ex-husband. It is also stated that the house caught fire by accident and that the act of

destroying property is included in the sentence. She has difficulty expressing clearly. She gets medical treatment, diazepam. After the birth of her daughters, she has suffered for about 1 year and a half from unconscious urination, has had pronounced problems with albumin and thrombus. She is currently employed in the prison staff and deals with the sanitary services. She cannot meet and talk to her children because of the nature of the crime she has committed. Taking into account the lack of education and early dropping out of school and cognitive development, the work on this case is focused on educating behaviors that affect a human relationship, the importance of necessary care for children; Analysis of the concept of "care" for children, analysis of behaviors that affect the creation of negative situations. Work continued in this aspect.

- Case 5 - S.M. 36 years old, 8th grade school; Born in Shkodra; Sentenced to 10 years in prison for prostitution, raised by her grandmother because her mother was suffering from depression. She has worked in private local business. During conversations there are mood swings, she feels hurt and cries occasionally. Her brother is in France but has no contact with her. Her father did not talk to her because of what she has done. With the partner with whom she was caught for the criminal offense, she has been living for 12 years, she has had several abortions because her husband did not want children. She suffers from bones pain and anaemia. From the conversations it can be seen that she has a lot of desire to just talk because she has a strong attitude towards family members who do not support her. Orientation and education on the concepts of positive and negative sides of human behavior continues. Self-esteem and the positive aspect that characterizes her personality to see her own works, to take care of herself and not depend on others, mainly male.
- Case 6- A.L: 49 years old., 8th grade school. Divorced with 2 children. Her residence before sentencing was in Shkodra. Sentenced to 10 years and 8 months and will be released in August this year. The 15-year-old boy is staying in the orphanage. She has lost 8 children of different ages and has had health problems. Even her daughter and son have had health problems. The daughter is married in Italy, but the boy who is currently at "Zyber Hallulli", She has asked for help after being released for an assistance in an apartment and a job wherever possible. She has been divorced with her husband for a long time and has no contact with him. She is currently suffering from blood pressure as a result of suffering in prison. Her biggest concern is the 15-year-old boy who has lung problems. Orientation towards the relationship with the son, education about the need to communicate and cooperate with children. The importance of the work and its value despite the difficulties were the focus of the work done with this case.
- Case 7 - Gj.H: 60 years old, 8th grade school. Divorced without children. Convicted of trafficking in human beings, sentenced to 15 years in prison, currently has 7 years and 3 months left. She currently suffers from diabetes, high blood pressure, and has had gallbladder surgery. This case needs further psychological follow-up. The work on this case was focused in orientation towards the values of life though in difficulty, orientation towards work and the benefits it brings when thinking and judging in favor of a positive and peaceful life.
- Case 12 - S.Y: 45 years old, born in Ballsh; 8-year education, divorced with 2 children. She is sentenced 18 years for child exploitation and drug trafficking. After suffering her sentence for 5 years, she received amnesty 4 years and 8 months. S.Y during the conversation states that the sentence she received does not stand completely because no mother exploits her child, she also states that she knew that her cohabitant was dealing with drugs but she was not involved in this part. S.Y is divorced from her husband because he raped and abused her. After the divorce for economic reasons, she kept only the daughter in custody, while the son stayed with the father. The cohabitant says S.Y has abused her daughter and for these she has been convicted as exploiting her daughter. After the sentence the girl lived with her father. For a long time, she had no contact with her children. The girl after getting engaged and came out of the supervision of the father began to establish contact with the mother. She has not yet made contact with her son. From conversations with her it is noticed that she is highly sensitive to the words of others, mainly the inmates. She tends to translate the actions of others as an attack on her person. Easily creates misinterpretations of the words and actions of others. Requires constant attention and clearly expresses indignation at not receiving attention. She constantly says that she needs clothes, shampoo and a phone card to talk to the girl. In any conversation with her the first thing she tends to express is dissatisfactions and economic shortcomings. The work with this case is focused in self-orientation, self-esteem, reducing the influence on the words of others. Behavior analysis of human behaviors, taking into account the fact that not every word or action is necessary to be taken personally and directed at the negative sides of oneself.

- Case 13 - M.T: 26 years old, born in Berat, resident in Vlora before receiving the sentence. 9-year education, divorced with an 8-year-old boy. Convicted from the first instance court of money laundering in collaboration with her cohabitant. She has not yet received her final sentence; the case is still pending and her cohabitant is also convicted. M.T is married to a man, with whom she has a son, is divorced as the husband had a previous relationship and asked to continue the relationship with him. After the divorce as M.T.'s economic conditions were very bad, the boy's custody was taken over by the father. M.T has worked in different places due to difficult economic conditions, like local, supermarket. During her life she only knew a partner with whom she established a relationship and cohabitation. The cohabitant was a person who dealt with various abuses and used M.T as a person to withdraw money from the ATM. For this she is convicted and is waiting for the final decision. During the conversation with her, it is understood that she clearly articulates her situation and life, she is affected by the way she was deceived by her cohabitant and expresses longing for her son. She also states that she did not clearly understand and was not attentive to the actions of her cohabitant because he was correct, graduated with the right education for the work he was doing and supported him financially. She has lived a difficult economic and lonely life, she needed emotional support and this made her inattentive to any action of her cohabitant. legally. The work is focused in analysis of human behavior, self-evaluation as a priority in a relationship, evaluation of the relationship with the child, the importance of focusing on him after the end of the sentence.
- Case 14 - L. B: 55 years old, born in Poloska, Devoll. 8-year education, divorced with 3 children. She worked in agriculture. Sentenced to 25 years in prison for murder, she has been in prison for 16 years now. The criminal offense of attempted murder of the person who raped her. The victim did not die and escaped. From the conversation with LB she expresses a greater emotional burden for her whole story because the person who raped her in front of the son, after escaping, paid a person who has been convicted earlier in Greece, to kill the three boys, where after several different attempts he managed to kill the three boys. Of course, the whole event is serious and has very shocking elements both in human terms and in terms of law enforcement and police. The convict states that her sons were killed in a very painful way where even though Devoll police has been informed several times about the fact that her sons are in danger for life, no measures have been taken to prevent the serious event. Throughout the conversation the emotionally charged convict seeks to live for the sake of the boys and their good memory and demands justice, because the person who raped her is free and poses a danger to her family but also to herself once she is released. The convict's husband has established another family, she maintains contact with him. L.B has seen it as her best to engage in the work with the land and planting fruits and vegetables, for this the conditions were created to bring to the prison some vegetables and fruits to plant. This assistance was provided by Assist Albania Center in order to support her towards the most productive commitment of the time she is serving during her sentence. The psychological work with this case is focused in orientation towards the values of life, self and the importance of living even after a great pain. Evidence of reasons for living.
- Case 15 - E.L: 34 years old, born in Tepelena. She graduated in history as teacher. The unmarried woman lived with the family of origin before the sentence. She is sentenced for fraud and laundering of the criminal offense in collaboration. Sentenced to 12 years in prison, she has passed 6 years and 2 months in prison. While living in Gjirokastra, E.L worked in a bar, where she met a guy with whom she established a relationship. From the relationship, the boy gave her various things, but among other things, he gave her a considerable amount in her account, justifying it as a gift from love. After a period of 2 years relationship E.L comes to Tirana and quits her relationship with the partner, but he still continues to be obsessed with her. An E.L. friend knew this story and exploited this guy through fraud and got a considerable amount of money, through fraud. E.L states that she was not aware of this situation and when they informed her that they were using her name, she informed the boy. Despite this the boy's father has denounced her as the main person of this event. E.L with the amount obtained from the boy has bought an apartment in Tirana. E.L raises the claim that her case needs to be solved because the law for this offense has changed and she is suffering her sentence under the old law. She needs a lawyer for this because her family is not financially able to support her.
- During the conversation E.L is very sensitive and occasionally cries and feels emotionally charged. She says that she cannot stand the fact that her parents are also suffering from this situation, because the father of the boy who has filed the accusation is demanding that her parents be punished and receive maximum punishment. The psychological counselling was focused in orientation towards self-values, the importance of being self-focused. Analysis of

positive and negative behaviors of people, identification of reasons that lead to the creation of negative situations from neglected relationships with others. Evidence of the consequences of a neglected behavior even when we superficially understand that this behavior does not always benefit.

- Case 16- E.Ç 34 years old, born in Cakran Fier. 8-year education, divorced with 2 children. She did not work but only completed a professional hairdressing course. Sentenced to 18 years in prison, for attempted murder in collaboration against her ex-husband. The perpetrator of the attempted murder admitted that the convicted woman had nothing to do with the event, even her ex-husband in a second moment said this fact but he did not testify in court during the trial. E.Ç states that he had no connection with the ex-husband's brother-in-law, for which in the last months before the criminal act, she had started to notice his jealousy. E.Ç in this situation says that he has tried to stay positive and optimistic, but the biggest difficulty lies with meeting the children. Although the court has set a certain time for her to meet the children, the ex-husband has created different situations for the children not to meet the mother. She even says that although after 4 years she managed to meet the children, they seemed scared and withdrawn from the mother. From the conversations on the occasion, it is understood that the husband maintains an unfair attitude towards the relationship of the children with the mother. She seeks to cooperate as best she can in order to establish a positive relationship with the children, without forcing or pressuring them. On the part of the ex-husband, she sees a great difficulty in seeing the best side of the mental and psychological health of the children. This case needs further family support, so that the children after this story are not harmed and have psychological consequences. The work in this case is oriented towards creating a positive relationship with the ex-spouse, to then build relationships with children. The ex-spouse is difficult in nature and resists to create a positive ground in the mother-child relationship. In the future, the aim will be to establish a close contact with the father to assess the possibility of a more positive situation after the mother finishes her sentence.
- Case 17- E.Z 37 years old, born in Korça but lived in Pogradec with minimal 8 year education. She is divorced and has got a 16-year-old boy who lives with her mother. She is convicted of prostitution, she admits that she made it as a choice for economic reasons, but after this difficult period in the penitentiary system she has decided to change jobs after she leaves, taking into account that the boy can judge her for this choice. She is sentenced to 3 years and she is currently in pre-detention. During the period July-August, taking into account her desire to change the work is oriented towards: Self-values; Values of life; The values of the relationship with the son; Values of a stable job and not with negative consequences for yourself even though the economic elements affect
- Case 18 - M.K 33 years old born in Berat with only 8-year education, not married but in a cohabitation. There was a rented bar, in which he is accused of collaborating in prostitution. He is on trial, the sentence he can receive varies from 7 to 15 years, he is currently in custody. She does not admit that she was exploited by anyone, she thinks that her cohabitant also did not have an impact on this process, but it is a situation created to harm her due to his job position. Work and objective of case work for the period July-August considering the type of criminal offense and the difficulties of seeing an indirect behavior as harmful to oneself and the other is focused on the analysis of human behaviors that lead to long-term and short-term damage, how the other and the self are indirectly harmed. The importance of understanding oneself and how one thinks differently after completing the sentence.
- File 19- E.M 23 years old, born in Tirana. 9-year education, not married has been in a cohabitation. He never worked because he had the opportunity to stay unemployed, the basic family helped him. She is convicted of prostitution in collaboration with her cohabitant. She assumes that she helped a girl who was in financial difficulties, and paid for the hotel for two days, and this was taken as evidence to convict her of prostitution. She states that she has health problems such as tachycardia, thyroid and neuritis. Has made a request and has been followed by the doctor for careful evaluation in relation to tachycardia. Work and objectives on the case, taking into account the age, type of crime and health difficulties of the case was focused on self-assessment, importance to health, importance of work and engagement in a profession that makes her feel worthy.
- File 20- R.R 19 years old born in Prishtina, Kosovo. 9-year education, has lived with a partner 17 years older than her. She worked as a chef, accountant. She was convicted of theft; she left Kosovo without the consent of her partner, and together with a friend in Tropoja was caught stealing. Her cohabitant was not aware, but she believes that despite her behavior he is understanding. He is currently in the detention system, awaiting trial, he has been in the sentencing system for 1 and a half months. It is expressed with great burdens for her family,

for the separation from life of some of her sisters and brothers. It is said that there are negative memories from the Kosovo war. She is prone to extreme behaviors, such as speeding and engaging in mountain racing. During the conversation she was very rigid, and we needed to constantly stimulate the conversation because she gives short and sharp answers, and she does not show much emotion. She likes to draw, she showed us some of her drawings. Goals and objectives of the work: taking into account the difficulties and traumas that have passed since the war in Kosovo, its rebellious nature, we have focused on self-assessment in relation to dangerous and harmful health behaviors. Orientation towards a stable job and building positive relationships with others.

- File 21- D.H42 years old born in Përmet. 8 year education. She is not married and she has got 2 children. The conversation with her was very short due to the limited time we had the day we contacted her.
- File 22- F.D.34 years old born in Berat. 9 year education. Divorced with 3 children convicted of domestic violence, she violented her mother because she was an alcoholic. She is awaiting the end of her sentence, until September is her sentence, because her mother has withdrawn the charge. The lady has been an alcoholic for 10 years, she says that after drinking she gets out of control and becomes aggressive. She started drinking after she divorced her husband in Italy because he constantly raped her brutally. Unable to support the children she handed them over to a center in Italy. After some time, her husband took her from the center and the children live with her, but he does not allow her to see the children in any way. During the conversation he cries when talking about children, it is noticed that there are pronounced mood swings. She emphasizes that alcohol consumption makes her go out of her mind and not control her behavior. She also has difficulty controlling the financial income she has provided from her family. Work and work goals achieved on this case: taking into account the difficult psycho-emotional state we are focused on understanding positive behaviors, careful management of money received from family, care for friends who approach for harmful purposes. Orientation towards the importance of managing emotions for children, following a treatment and rehabilitation for alcohol.
- File 23- M.P 32 years old born in Elbasan, but lives in Gjirokastra. She has completed 9-year education, divorced from first marriage and has got a 6-years-old boy. Cohabited with the second partner from whom he was involved in the production and distribution of drugs. He is currently in detention sentenced to 4 years and 4 months, currently he has done 26 months. She states that she was not aware of the transportation of drugs. She says that her roommate had a friend who was left on the street and he offered to help by feeding and cleaning her for half a day. This roommate's friend allegedly left a bag of clothes that he would later take, and after the pursuit of the roommate's friend the amount of drugs was found in their home. She expresses shock and surprise that there was no doubt about both her cohabitant and his friend. She established a bond with the cohabitant because he showed a correct behavior with her and the boy and did not use violence as her first partner. She articulated clearly, reasonably and cooperatively to understand the truth of what had happened to her. Work done on this case: considering her commitment to understand what had happened to her, the fact that the partner may not be what she thought, we focused on self-assessment and the relationship with the child her. The importance of creating a clear concept of motherhood and independence, continuing the goal of working and being what one decides for oneself and not external elements that often confuse building a relationship for reasons of economic support or for a partner that improves livelihood.

In the pre-trial detention regime:

- Case 24 - M.P She i 32 years old, is divorced and has got a son. She is convicted of drugs distribution, production and sales. She is sentenced to 4.8 years in prison, and has already completed 26 months so far.
- Case 25 – K.M 30 years old. She is divorced and has got an 11 year old child. She is convicted of domestic violence. She has lots of difficulties in communicating during conversation, she does not understand questions and constantly repeats extreme negative assessments of her husband and mother-in-law.
- Case 26 - R.C is a single girl of 22 years old. She has had a car accident from which 5 people died. She is currently in a state of shock, she does not accept what happened and does not remember very well how it happened.
- Case 27 – Z. T is 46 years old. She is divorced and has got 2 daughters, one 23 years old and the other, a minor, 7 years old. She was sentenced to 3.8 years in prison for drug trafficking. Her family (daughters and cousins) live in a rented house in Durres. The owner of

the house refuses to make a lease with the notary, for which Mrs. T. can submit to the court to obtain "Parole". In this case we would ask TLAS to find the possibility of mediation with the landlord or its case can be helped by TLAS to enable the conclusion of the rent contract with the landlord or see any other possibility in another house. The possibility of educating the little girl for the first grade is also being pursued, as she has financial difficulties and wants even greater care from her adult daughter.

- Case 28 - V.T is a 56 years old woman from Mirdite. She is divorced and has got 3 children. She is sentenced to 17 years of imprisonment for murder. She got pregnant when she received the sentence and gave birth to the child in prison and at the age of 9 months, she decided that her child would be taken by her husband because of her inability to support him.

The strategic litigation cases have been identified at different times during project implementation. These cases have been selected from the major group of 200+ legal cases. These cases are represented strategically because from a legal point of view they represent not only the position of the victim but a more systemic dysfunction, that being law or policy itself or its implementation. Justice system is facing many problems currently in Albania, mainly delays from the Justice Reform and the vetting process. This directly affects all court cases and the length of proceedings. In addition, a strategic case, from the way it is designed, the approach, the expected legal outcome, entails possibility of exhaustion of all domestic remedies and potentially even reach international mechanisms (such as European Court of Human Rights or UN Human Rights Committee). All 5 strategic cases are represented from TLAS and are currently in review domestically. For that reason, we still are not in the position to report their result and impact. At this stage they are used as advocacy tools and as representation of the problems identified.

"Balkasi and Others v. Albania (European Court of Human Rights) 14800/18.⁶ The application concerns the lack of an effective criminal investigation into the second, third and fifth applicants' credible assertions that they had been ill-treated by police officers. The applicants complained that the treatment to which they had been subjected by the police officers on 13 December 2013 and the authorities' subsequent failure to investigate their allegations of ill-treatment violated their rights under Article 3 of the Convention.

Case of **F.P., a juvenile** in conflict with the law, 17 (seventeen) years old, who has not made a final decision but is isolated in the Kavajë Juvenile Institute. He was accused of "Murder" for blood feud and "unauthorized possession and production of weapons, explosive weapons and ammunition". His case has also become media, as he is accused of killing the brother of the person who, many years ago, allegedly killed his father, and this minor was present at the event. His mother committed suicide on the same day that his father was killed, she also passed away. His case is very special and tragic at the same time. Only 5 years old when the incident happened, he was raised by his relatives, but no one took legal custody of him. TLAS is representing a strategic litigation process with regards the rights of the children in a criminal process.

1.1.2. Training Educational, legal and psycho-social staff / Empowering the GPD Prison Training Centre

TLAS and ECF organized 6 training and capacity building sessions with 124 participants⁷; the training was organized after the newly adopted legislation on prisons (Law 81/2020 on treatment of the prisoners and persons in pre-trial detention, the law on execution of criminal sanctions, the law on prison police etc). Training included high level academics that were engaged with the preparation of tailored presentation (theoretic and audio-visual materials),

⁶ <https://laweuro.com/?p=18840>

⁷ Total number of 94 prison staff reported as reached includes: 66 participants in TLAS training + 28 participants in sub grantee activities.

shared online to all the participants.⁸ Each training included assigned prison staff through written orders from the General Director of Prisons⁹.

1.2. Periodic workshops dedicated to persons in conflict with law as part of rehabilitation individual programs (psycho- social support):

An important part of the Program is the individual rehabilitation program for the different type of prisoners with special needs. As of today, the Albanian penitentiary system operates in a centralized system of services (security, legal, psycho-educational and health), based on the initial screening mechanisms upon admission in respective institutions and/file transfers. Although, there are various indicators behind institutional files, yet there are still missing dedicated protocols on psychiatric and medical emergencies, instruments that are related to risk assessments and needs that are encounter during the detention timing.

In this regards, the classification of the groups with special needs, was done through the needs assessment report of Centre Fokus (sub grantee), and it did provide the following information:

Special Needs Prisoners in the Albanian prison system ¹⁰	# of prisoners
Mentally ill prisoners	336
Chronically ill prisoners	1253
Terminally ill prisoners	5
Acutely ill prisoners	12
Prisoners with infectious diseases	68
Prisoners with HIV/AIDS	7
Former narcotic users	87
Prisoners LGBTI	1
Roma prisoners	34
Women with special needs	23
Children/Juveniles with special needs	0
Prisoners over 65s	189
Life sentenced prisoners	175
Foreign prisoners	170

After the preliminary identification phase, TLAS, ECF and sub grant organizations closely worked with the GPD and the prison staff from all IEVP-s to distribute the data into each institution:

Kategorite	Mental health	Chronically ill prisoners	Prisoners with infectious diseases	Terminally ill prisoners	HIV/AIDS	Former narcotic users	LGBT	Roma prisoners	Roma prisoners	Roma prisoners	Roma prisoners	Roma prisoners	Acutely ill prisoners
IEVP													
IEVP J.Misja	30	81	5	0	0	12	0	12	0	0	7	0	12
IEVP M.Peza	12	37	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	6	0	0
IEVP Vaqarr	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IEVP A.Demi	31	12	1	0	1	1	0	0	23	0	0	0	5
IEVP Kukës	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4

⁸ Due to the sanitary crises caused by the Pandemic, many activities were scheduled to be delivered via online platforms after consultation and approval with the Donor. All these activities received visibility on social media platforms and were registered.

⁹ Order No. 10317, date 14.10.2020, "On participation of 22 psychosocial prison staff"; Order No.10668, date 21.10.2020 "On participation of 22 psychosocial prison staff; Order No. 10967, date 28.10.2020 "On participation of the 22 psychosocial prison staff" (attached as pdf Annex 5)

¹⁰Source: General Prisons Directorate, September- October 2021

QSB	3	0	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IEVP Tropojë	1	5	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
IEVP Shkodër	18	35	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	19	0	0
IEVP Burrel	8	22	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	6	15	3
IEVP Lezhë	3	14	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IEVP Fushë-Krujë	22	55	1	0	0	9	0	18	0	0	24	3	2
IEVP Durrës	49	81	10	1	0	10	0	0	0	0	4	0	8
IEVP Kavajë	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IEVP Rrogozhinë	21	36	0	0	0	4			0	0	11	0	0
IEVP Peqin	46	86	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	24	122	0
IEVP Lushnjë	4	26	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	11	0	0
IEVP Fier	49	123	8	0	0	8	0	5	0	0	25	0	0
IEVP Berat	7	10	2	0	0	31	0	2	0	0	3	0	0
IEVP Elbasan	7	19	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
IEVP Korçë	21	141	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	14	24	0
IEVP Vlorë	10	29	0	0	0	2			0	0	3	0	0
IEVP Tepelenë	1	12	0	0	0	14	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
IEVP Sarandë	2	0	2	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
IEVP Krujë	203	233	3	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	26	11	0

There are no previous practices with regards to individual interventions. The individual psycho-social file that accompanies each inmate is now an instrument that can provide a screening instrument, it does not reflect that change in need, or it does not provide any orientation for those inmates that are in a pre-release situation.

A consolidated Standard Operating Procedures guideline was prepared by Centre Fokus (sub grantee of the program) and published in 200 copies, facilitating the staff (new and existing) into developing concrete rehabilitative activities apart from some recreational events that prisons provide to inmates. This manual may be integrated into the actual practices and be considered as an instrument that prisons can use at a national level. During the next interim report, further information on the training sessions, number of the involved prison staff and additional developments will be added as this is considered a work-in-progress throughout program implementation period.

ARSIS, is another sub grantee organization that was fully engaged in the preparation of SOPs of rehabilitation plans for women in detention. This document will be followed by introduction workshops.

CRCA, Albania is a reputable organization that is bringing new approach and case management methodology for children in conflict with law, by introducing a holistic approach in addressing the cases from criminal approach to a social like approach.

A recent development was reported by a newly contracted sub grant organization, ALTRI, which is actually working on an e-platform that promotes prisoner's rights and full respect for human rights and dignity for this category of citizens in conflict with law (www.tedrejtatedenuarve.al).

1.2.1 TLAS organized 3 focus group discussions with GPD staff not only from the identified prisons (13 prisons), but also involving prisons representing different types of special needs' prisoners. These focus groups were organized with mixed groups of professionals from different penitentiary institutions. Some of the issues discussed in the focus groups were:

- Functioning of rehabilitation programs in relevant institutions; problems and needs;
- Methodology for handling complaints and requests of persons in detention, classification, referral and degree of realization.
- Problems of overcrowding and inequality in the treatment of the isolated due to ethnicity, poverty, etc.

- The right to information, health, education, employment within the system, family life, free legal aid for family matters, their social inclusion, psychological support, security, avoidance of forms of discrimination and violence , etc;
- How is the multidisciplinary approach for persons in the concrete penitentiary system implemented, towards a more active and productive life according to the ability of each;
- Difficulties faced by employees in the regime and problems encountered;

1.3. Education and Training of persons in conflict with the law

This activity, although started as a simple 1-way intervention, was extended beyond expectations. TLAS combined the program opportunities with the sub-grant process and the support that was provided prison population.

The General Directorate of Prisons, in coordination with TLAS, identified some indicators of potential prison settings or inmate profiles that may be easy to engage such as the first timers, juvenile offenders. Based on the experience from the pilot VET it is necessary to establish a system of Vocational Education and Training in prisons which will be applicable and functional upon the completion of the project as well. The theoretical and practical training for one of the five chosen professions will show the inmates which is the right path for them after being released from prison.

Parallel to discussions of TLAS, the subgrantee program implemented by Centre Fokus, directly engaged with inmates and ASSIST, coordinated efforts to support the process for smooth reintegration of inmates that were released under conditional release and also benefitted from the probation.

Centre Fokus has prepared the Manual and organized focus groups.¹¹

ARSIS prepared SOPs of rehabilitation plans for women in detention.¹²

CRCA prepared case management methodology for children in conflict with law.

¹³TLAS organized 3 focus groups.¹⁴

Result 2. An interactive platform to support CSO active in the field of human rights education and litigation;

Indicators: a designed platform, capable to provide online training and know how;

Current progress: formalisation and sign of 1 CSO/subgrant (work-in-progress) and introduction with a new human rights platform on prisoners' rights; e-learning program by ECF is planned for the next phase

2.1. Design a campaign dedicated on European human rights standards for CSOs which work with detainees, citizens in probation services, and their families.

The Campaign was an opportunity mobilize the communities impacted either due to high level of criminality, in the six the geographic settings of the program with police, courts, probation, schools etc. The campaign was developed based on themes and case law, litigation cases that are identified throughout the program.

The European Centre Foundation interlinked its work with vulnerable communities, and local representatives from government and communities to identify sound interventions and facilitating the greater impact of all planned activities. 1 sub-grant was dedicated to such particular activity, that was implemented by Legal Clinic WISDOM.

¹¹ Please see Annex 8

¹² Please see Annex 10

¹³ Please see Annex 9

¹⁴ Please see Annex 6

The project of the Center "Legal Clinic Wisdom" aimed at introducing an all-of-government approach and engagement of all actors in fostering the crime prevention approach, by enabling advocacy for sustainable change in the legal and institutional framework for the protection of children rights. The project combined (a) trial monitoring and (b) assistance for beneficiaries, capacity building and engagement for law enforcement and probation authorities – by enabling them with information regarding the rights and responsibilities when dealing with children in conflict with law. Having this addressed, the project facilitated the opportunity of (c) referred legal cases to specialized support, and as end-result aimed to solve the cases by alternative measures, for the benefit of the child as first-time offender and for reducing recidivism at early ages. Proper engagement of law students was an added value for the project. A pool of students has already been identified and will continue to support the program by ensuring trial monitoring. The project dedicated advocacy events (information sessions) to youth in high schools of Tirana District and 6 administrative units in the suburb of Tirana.

The specific Project Objective (S.O) was focused towards: addressing the legal and rehabilitation needs for children in conflict with the law in suburban areas of Tirana (including 6 administrative units) Police Commissariat 6 in Kombinati area, villages of Prush, Preze, Ndroq). (S.O) Indicators: 1 training module (R1), 5 training Courses for xxxx police, probation professionals and law students on Juvenile in conflict with law (R1), 5 trial monitoring and data collection regarding child' rights (5 cases) (R1); a resource booklet on child services in 300 copies (R2), 3 Info sessions with 65 children/youths of high schools of Tirana (R2), and 1 promotional videoclip of good practices aiming crime prevention and recidivism (R2) (link)

Data from field mission and daily work with courts and individuals in conflict with the law have shown an increasing trend of arrest and detention of juveniles. Such approach was flagrant during the latest protests in Tirana, where all police commissariats were overcrowded by children and juveniles accompanied in police cells.

The Juvenile Code and the criminal procedural code in the Republic of Albania show the principles of the imprisonment as "last resort". But this was not the case for the law enforcement authorities. Thus, the Law on Police also shows the cases where a juvenile should be accompanied. In all monitored cases, flagrant violations were identified, showing police brutality and overuse of restrictive measures. All these factors call for interventions.

2.2. Transferring "know-how" through direct and E - trainings on vocational rehabilitation, legal education and pro bono legal services in line with EU standards and practices.

The online programme will be adapted in a way to potentially address additional topics in the future. The experts who will prepare the e-modules will be national high profile legal experts with relevant expertise in the field. The modules will be accompanied with audio-visual templates that will combine theoretical and practical approach to the participants (local community representatives, grass root activists, local state structures, students and service providers). The European Centre comes with prior experience in community mobilization and capacity building and the program is based upon knowledge yet creating an innovative method that will help to better transfer "know-how" on the abovementioned topics.

This method will be designed to be an easy- to- access and interactive. This activity was part of the Campaign and an opportunity to better coordinate and mentor the activities described in the activity 2.1.

By implementing the initiative "Fostering European human rights standards for resilient and sustainable communities!", ALTRI Center has created an interactive platform www.tedrejtatedenuarve.al which raises awareness and ameliorate knowledge of CSOs ,institutions which work with detainees or respect their rights as well as community (especially vulnerable communities) related to national and European human rights standards and promotes the mobilization of them toward the realization of these rights.

This initiative was realized through two main specific objectives: SO1. Informing and raising the awareness of CSOs and institutions which work with detainees related to European human rights standards. SO2. Promoting interactive discussions between

CSOs, institutions and vulnerable communities towards the fulfilment of the rights of detainees in line with European standards.

ALTRI Center, with the start of the project held several preliminary meetings in order to launch the initiative in terms of establishing cooperation and presenting the initiative with institutions and Civil Society Organizations of the target cities present the project. The procurement procedures for the human rights expert and IT expert were developed as well as holding meetings with the selected experts in order to share the work.

In the framework of Activity 1.1 were made the necessary research for the implementation of the initiative, conception of the platform and its content etc. The concept of the platform was created by the IT expert. The human right expert prepared the 12 papers which consisted on informing and deepening the knowledges of CSOs and institutions that work with detainees on the rights of this group based on national and European standards. The legislation in national and European level and all other information that serves the initiative was identified and presented in the conceptualized platform. For the realisation of the second activity which consisted on consultation of the platform with CSOs and institutions, two meetings were held with the CSOs (May 26, 2021) and institutions (June 03, 2021). These meeting served as an important component to build the platform in the way it facilitates their use and to integrate the materials and topics that for the target beneficiaries seems to be important or that serve them or the society more. Many suggestions were given during these meeting which were also reflected on the platform and on the papers by experts. ALTRI experts, after the development of the meetings and noting their recommendation and suggestions, have undertaken the immediate steps to complete the recommendation given and to improve the platform and its content.

The platform got established and putted into function. For the promotional of the platform and in order to ameliorating knowledge of CSOs and institutions, in the framework of Activity 2.1 were held 3 online forums (19, 21 and 22 July 2021). During these forums were presented the papers prepared for national and international standards for detainees' human rights. In each day of the forum were presented 4 papers (12 in total). These forums not only served as informative sessions by raising awareness and, but also served to develop discussions and expand contacts between these actors.

Later, in order to engage citizens and other CSOs to get inform and to register in the platform, ALTRI Center carried on a platform presentation and promotion of European HR standards on social network and media. For this, 3 interviews in local media were held (Shkoder, Korçe and Elbasan), 150 posters have been distributed on the main points of the targeted cities, a promotional video for the platform has been produced and shared on social media, as well as 10 Facebook posts have been posted and boosted for a greater audience.

Based on the specific objectives and the implementation of the activities envisaged on the initiative, the achieved results are as below:

- Result 1: CSOs and institutions have ameliorated their knowledge on selected topics on national and international human rights standards;
- Result 2: CSOs, institutions and vulnerable communities are mobilized and engaged through the platform towards the fulfilment of the rights of detainees in compliance with European standards.

The target group and the beneficiaries of this initiative are:

- Institutions that work with detainees and those who respect their rights such as Ministry of Justice, Peoples Advocate, Institutions for the Execution of Criminal Decisions in Albania and police. These institutions were involved in the initiative since in the first stages of conceptualising the platform. Institutions, through their participation on the online meetings were able to get informed about the initiative, the conceptualised platform and its content as well as were able to give suggestions to better improve and facilitate the use of the platform. Institutions also raised their awareness and knowledges about national and international standards of the detainees' rights. The platform gives a special space for institutions, CSOs and citizens to exchange opinions and discussion.
- Same as institutions, the initiative served for CSOs as well, where the CSOs from Tirana, Kavaja, Korça, Vlora, Shkodra, Elbasan and Lezha were invited and participated in

the online meetings for the discussion of the conceptualized platform by giving their suggestions on it contain. CSOs from these cities raised their knowledges and awareness by following the 3-day forums on presenting detainees' human rights standards. 15 CSOs are already registered on the Forum of the platform.

The main beneficiaries of the initiative are vulnerable communities such as detainees, those in probation, their families, juveniles in conflict with the law and convicted women who benefited from the results of the initiative. They have been encouraged to register on the platform, to be informed about their rights, to bring up their stories, questions and difficulties as well as to seek the intervention and support of CSOs and institutions. More than 6000 users are registered on the platform (this number is variable due to everyday registrations).

Result 3. All-of-government approach and engagement of civil society organizations in prison and probation settings enhanced, in particular in the field of fostering the crime prevention approach

Indicators: +1 Closing conference with participation of 65 public institutions representatives; at least 5 recommendations introduced to targeted public institutions; +3 audio-video productions; over 8 publications (posters, factsheets, banners, manuals, brochures etc, including sub grantees)

Current progress: 2 leaflets and factsheets (CRCA and FOKUS); 1 case management system developed regarding juvenile offenders (CRCA, ASSIST and ARSIS); 1 program roll ups (FOKUS,); 1 case identification manual (ARSIS); 1 prison training manual (FOKUS); 1 assessment report (FOKUS); Furthermore, press releases, launching events, information sessions and sub grantee organization invitations were published through social media and TLAS website; 1 closing conference.

3.1. A comparative research and recommendations dedicated to social reintegration of prisoners upon release

Based on the good practices coming from the program sub-granting process and implementation of the program activities (based on articulated needs) for a thorough evaluation regarding the impact that probation, alternative measures and electronic surveillance. Through such research, the outcomes created the opportunity to set up a reference point in time when it comes to documenting the state of crime and prioritize recommendations for the crime prevention policies. It is important, before taking a position on which paths to follow in the future, to assess the current situation and trends. The TLAS was responsible to supervise this activity and identify a sub grantee/ an organization able to perform the research, discuss and finalize policy recommendations, as part of the crime prevention national strategy.

And this event was performed by CRCA, and it was finalised in its respective closing event of the sub grant.

3.2. Public awareness Campaign (publications, posters, leaflets, reports, articles, and social media)

Conceptualising the national campaign, TLAS engaged a communication officer who was engaged with the preparation of visibility and communication manual, that helped with set standards and rules to be followed for all products that were finalized by implementing partners and by the sub grantee organizations. TLAS identified the production of:

- 2 leaflets and factsheets (CRCA and FOKUS)
- 1 case management system developed regarding juvenile offenders (CRCA, ASSIST and ARSIS)
- 2 program roll ups (FOKUS, MKPN and WISDOM)
- 1 case identification manual (ARSIS)
- 1 prison training manual (FOKUS)
- 1 assessment report (FOKUS)

- 1 e-platform on prisoners' rights established (ALTRI)
- Furthermore, press releases, launching events, information sessions and sub grantee organization invitations were published through social media and TLAS website.¹⁵

3.3. Convene closing conference under the overall topic of social inclusion / the social reintegration of prisoners, in close cooperation with the Albanian General Directorate of Prisons, relevant line Ministries and a wide range of civil society organizations

The closing conference under the overall topic of social inclusion / the social reintegration of prisoners, in close cooperation with the Albanian General Directorate of Prisons, relevant line Ministries and a wide range of civil society organizations was organized on June 14, 2022. TLAS prepared program and invitations.

The purpose of the conference was to ensure wide-spectrum CSO coordination, discussions between the key actors as Ministry of Justice, GD of Prisons on criminal justice system and independent institutions which work on the area of protection of the fundamental rights and freedoms of detainees and convicts, the penitentiary system and the probation service due to their successful management and integration into society. So all the participants emphasised that the project and Conference served as an opportunity for all partners, subgrantees, direct beneficiaries as prison staff and pre-release and post-release persons, and more. Your speech, the deputy Minister of Justice, Mr. Klajdi Karameta, Deputy General Director of Prisons, Ms. Klotilda Kareci, the Commissioner for the protection from Discrimination, Mr. Robert Gajda have presented their greetings remarks, highlighting very important results and the need for further cooperation, continuation and strengthening the sustainability of such concrete projects in the area.

<https://www.facebook.com/350226091726124/posts/pfbid0ZxapqRyoY8f9kxmPrR7AYLghNRJp6PK77n9msYCsiddH3VtBbyJ41DWwpVmH2xZQI/>

Sub granting process:

The sub grant scheme and organizations: *The sub granting component has been completed in early January and sub grant contracts were finalized to start in February 1, 2021. Within the reporting period all sub grantees finalized their contracts and reporting.*

GRANT SIZE	MIN (EUR)	MAX (EUR)	TOT planned # as per DoA	Grant-I Round #	Budget granted I Round EUR	Budget granted II Round EUR	TOT. #	TOT BUDG per grant SIZE
Medium up 12 months	15,000	30,000	3	3	59,995	-	3	59,995
small 6 months nor exceed 9 months.	10,000	15,000	4	4	-	45,000	4	45,000

Priorities sectors or themes:

1. Promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for persons in conflict with law in Albania through an active involvement of the civil society actors.

¹⁵ All public notifications were launched in a dedicated part of TLAS website, in both English and Albanian Language. All notifications were shared through social media channels of TLAS and ECF.

TLAS website notifications section: <https://tlas.org.al/sq/announcements>

TLAS Facebook account: <https://www.facebook.com/tlas.org.al>

ECF Facebook account: <https://www.facebook.com/Qendra-EuropianeEuropean-Centre-123611107838491>

2. Enabling a functional penitentiary system of protection and prevention for persons deprived of their liberties and upon release, in full compliance with European standards and recognised international principles.

Type of activities: Examples of field of intervention (this is non-exhaustive list):

First open call: <https://www.tlas.org.al/sq/njoftim-për-thirrje-për-propozime>

Second open call: <https://www.tlas.org.al/sq/njoftim-për-thirrje-për-propozime-0>

(this is available at TLAS webpage) at:

<https://www.tlas.org.al/sites/default/files/List%20of%20Sub%20grantee%20programs.pdf>

Activities (non-exhaustive) for which an application may be submitted:

- *Provision of legal and psychological support to detained people:* intending to identify vulnerable categories of prisoners for better access to justice and rehabilitation services; promote networking and collaboration for a consolidated system of effective responses to persons deprived of their liberties; that includes also families of these target groups. Working towards a consolidated case system that provides grounds for the identification of strategic litigation cases is an added value.
- *Provision of good models of psychosocial and rehabilitation to advocate for institutional changes:* intending to review existing rehabilitation mechanisms and instruments within prison contexts, advocate for improved penitentiary practices by building capacities, knowledge and information on psychosocial treatment, counselling and follow up as an opportunity to change current practices into functional and operational intervention. Particular attention will be given to missing and/or outdated protocols of psychiatric and medical emergencies, consolidating access to rehabilitation as a precondition to release and facilitate communication among prisons and probations when it comes to continuation of the pre-and-post release plans. Targeting prisoners with special needs such as female detainees, juvenile offenders, first time prisoners, elderly over 65 years of age or any related vulnerable communities are an added value.
- *Advocacy actions that aim at maintaining positive pressure on prison system for better material condition, humane and dignified treatment:* intending to revitalize the preventive detention monitoring as an instrument that responds to any prisoner' and family relatives complaints due to violations by prison authorities; provide opportunity for civil society networking and consolidate the watch dog role when concerns about human rights are raised. These actions may be also used as an opportunity to monitor the National Prisons Strategy and Action Plan 2020-2022, in terms of the concrete interventions in terms of legislation, administrative performance and staff integrity.
- *Assisting efforts towards vocational education and training within prison settings:* intending to help prisoners under pre-release programs to effectively use education and training, enabling for life upon detention; exploring innovative ideas and actions that provide good practices upon release, and creating a positive record of reducing recidivism. Particular attention to prisoners with short sentences, or under pre-release programs. such data and information may be facilitated through official data provided by the General Prisons Directorate. Prior agreements or actual agreements of cooperation with the GPD are an added value.
- *Designing advocacy campaigns* intending to potentiate effectiveness of the programs in terms of rights of people deprived of their liberties access to justice, quality of life and rehabilitation by exploring different types of activities that can bring cases not only from the governmental authorities, but also families, and communities that will accept a former inmates as part of such communities.

The program will facilitate an opportunity to explore innovation and use of technology as an option to propose the implementation of specific activities

While the priorities for the Second Round of Applications was oriented upon the following:

Priorities sectors or themes:

3. An interactive platform to support CSO active in the field of human rights education and litigation, as part of the Program' Campaign dedicated on European human rights standards for persons' deprived of their liberties and good practices
4. All-of-government approach and engagement of civil society organizations in prison and probation settings enhanced, in particular in the field of fostering the crime prevention approach, that enables

advocacy for sustainable change in the legal and institutional framework for the protection of human rights

Type of activities:

- Design a campaign dedicated on European human rights standards for CSOs which work with detainees, citizens in probation services, and their families: intending the mobilisation of communities that are impacted either due to high level of criminality, in the six the geographic settings of the program and, furthermore as an opportunity that maintain engagement with various law enforcement institutions such as prison and police, courts, probation, schools etc. The campaign will be developed based on themes and case law, litigation cases that empower promotion of European
- human rights standards for persons' deprived of their liberties and good practices.
- Production and launching of the Audio-Video documentaries on: i) Importance of Vocational education and training; b) Organization of time during the serving of prison sentence; c) Alternative upon release from prison; intending to combine PR and communication activities with services and direct human stories from families, individuals who have benefitted from the Program. A specific requirement will be the production of documentaries with English subtitles and in formats convertible

and easy-to-upload, accordingly:

- 1) Importance of Vocational education and training (showing experiences from program activities).
- 2) Organization of time during the serving of prison sentence: (showing experiences from juvenile offenders).
- 3) Alternative upon release from prison (experiences from inmates who benefit from probation and are currently working and supporting community)

- Implement advocacy actions that aim at maintaining positive pressure on all-of government approaches for better material condition, humane and dignified treatment: intending to coordinate a set of thematic public events dedicated to community crime prevention and potentiate various good practices.
- Provision of legal and psychological support to detained people: intending to identify vulnerable categories of prisoners for better access to justice and rehabilitation services; promote networking and collaboration for a consolidated system of effective responses to persons deprived of their liberties; that includes also families of these target groups. Working towards a consolidated case system that provides grounds for the identification of strategic litigation cases is an added value.
- Assisting efforts towards vocational education: intending to help prisoners under pre-release programs to effectively use education and training, enabling for life upon detention; exploring innovative ideas and actions that provide good practices upon release, and creating a positive record of reducing recidivism. Particular attention to prisoners with short sentences, or under pre-release programs. such data and information may be facilitated through official data provided by the General Prisons Directorate.

<https://www.tlas.org.al/sites/default/files/List%20of%20Sub%20grantee%20programs.pdf>

Consolidated table providing info about activities and deliverables:

A.1.1. Provision of primary and secondary legal aid through legal /psycho-social and vocational education aiming at consolidating holistic approaches for the rehabilitation:		
Sub-activities (Please fill out for all sub-activities)	status (please choose option) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ongoing as planned • Finalized as per planned calendar • Finalised with a delay • To be done (as per plan) • Cancelled 	Comment
1. Finalization of internal program management and partnership work plans	1. Finalized 2. Finalized 3. Monitoring visits finalized	1. Calendar of 1 st year, ToRs, staff contracts, MoU with ECF and Ministry of Justice. internal workshop was held on March 30, 2020. Communication and Visibility

<p>2. Setting up the Implementation teams of VET</p> <p>3. Field missions and provision of legal aid through visits performed in 3 prisons of Albania (3 experts x 6 prisons) each prison at least once visited</p> <p>4. Coordination meetings after each field mission (1 prison staff + 3 monitors + 3 prisons)</p> <p>5. Conduct 6 training workshop courses on organizational management, project development and management, advocacy and lobbying</p> <p>6. Development of the Training Modules (methodology) on legal aid, education and rehabilitation;</p> <p>7. Training of the prisons staff on rehabilitation process</p> <p>8. Training courses dedicated to inmates (3 week courses; 15 specialists engaged per each training course)</p> <p>9. Quality services dedicated to rehabilitation of inmates; a Manual and 3 focus groups; a sub grant (launched and contracted)</p> <p>10. Monitoring and follow up of the cases/ Identification of Litigation cases</p> <p>11. Sub-grant dedicated to Stress management training program (launched and contracted)</p> <p>12. Education and Training dedicated to prisoners/inmates (sub-grant dedicated to VET component)</p>	<p>4. Finalized</p> <p>5. Finalized</p> <p>6. Finalized</p> <p>7. Finalized</p> <p>8. Finalized</p> <p>9. Finalized</p> <p>10. Finalized</p> <p>11. Finalized</p> <p>12. Finalized</p>	<p>plan</p> <p>2. Working group TLAS +Contact Point from General Prisons Directorate (B.Doci)</p> <p>3. Authorizations from GPD were granted</p> <p>4. These meetings were part of the monitoring visits – outcomes were discussed with prison directors and staff</p> <p>5. Workshops were organized online with ECF, and prison authorities and CSOs. Six training workshops with 28 representatives of CSOs and CBOs.</p> <p>6. TLAS methodology on the cases; referrals etc. sub grantee # of cases</p> <p>7. These training were made in coordination with the GPD, organized by TLAS. 66 prison staff reached from TLAS events and 28 from subgrantees.</p> <p>8. Courses were part of the individual treatment plans and of the cases that were followed within prisons. No costs</p> <p>9. Centre Fokus has prepared the Manual and organized focus groups. ARSIS prepared SOPs of rehabilitation plans for women in detention. CRCA prepared case management methodology for children in conflict with law. TLAS organized 3 focus groups.</p> <p>10. The monitoring and follow up was an ongoing activity that was followed by TLAs through partner contribution.</p> <p>11. Activity was part of the Centre FOKUS. The program was implemented through workshops with prison staff</p> <p>12. Education and training, although conceptualized as dedicated grant, was part of Centre Fokus and ARSIS on their engagement with prisoners' employment and coordination with local governments. ALTRI contributed with information provided to new platform.</p>
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A.2.1. Design a capacity building programme on European human rights standards for CSOs which work with detainees, citizens in probation services, and their families.		
1. Organizing 6 events dedicated to community mobilization and program impact 2. a sub-grant dedicated to grass root initiatives	1. Finalized 2. Finalized	1. These events were accomplished by the contribution of Legal Clinic Wisdom. 2. The subgrant was implemented by Legal Clinic Wisdom
A.2.2. Transferring “know-how” through direct and E - trainings on vocational rehabilitation, legal education and pro bono legal services in line with EU standards and practices.		
1. development of 8 professional modules 2. finalized format for use 3. certification of pdf formats 4. use of the training modules into practical terms from different types of professionals	1. Finalized 2. Finalized 3. Finalized 4. Finalized	The partnership with ECF included the finalization of the Activity 2.2 formalisation and sign of 1 CSO/subgrant and introduction with a new human rights platform on prisoners' rights (ALTRI); e-learning program by ECF
A.3.1. Public awareness Campaign (publications, posters, leaflets, reports, articles, and social media)		
1. Community events and best practice exchanges 2. comparative report (sub-grant) 3. Audiovisual productions n: i) Importance of Vocational education and training; 4. closing conference & final review with outcomes and recommendations to follow by stakeholders	1. Finalized 2. Finalized 3. Finalized 4. Finalized	1. These events included also activities with sub grantees. 2 leaflets and factsheets (CRCA and FOKUS) 1 case management system developed regarding juvenile offenders (CRCA, ASSIST and ARSIS) 2 program roll ups (FOKUS, MKPN and WISDOM) 1 case identification manual (ARSIS) 1 prison training manual (FOKUS) 2. 1 assessment report (FOKUS) on access to services and care. CRCA Comparative Report on the Juvenile Justice Strategy 3. Audiovisual materials were prepared from ECF, Legal Clinic Wisdom and ALTRI 4. Will be organized as planned
Sub-grant management: Total of 105,000 Euro		
1. preparation of ToRs and information package 2. preparation of the communication and PR package 3. launching of the grants / info sessions 4. Grant evaluation committee work 5. information sessions to	1. finalized 2. finalized 3. finalized 4. finalized 5. finalized 6. finalized 7. finalized	1. TLAS has prepared a Sub Grant Operational Manual and related Guidelines for Call for Applicants have been drafted. 2. TLAs has prepared the communication and visibility manual 3. Launching of calls via TLAS website and facebook. Info sessions were organized for

winning grantees 6. on-the-spot visits/ quarterly reporting process 7. final reporting and audits		each round 4. Grant evaluation committee ToRs, engagement contracts and evaluation grids 5. TLAs has prepared and shared pptx and guidelines of reporting, planning, coordination, monitoring. 6. Visits were performed at least twice for each organization, while online mentorship was regular on monthly basis. 7. To be done
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2.3. What has your organisation or any actor involved in the Action learned from the Action and how has this learning (including evidence from monitoring and evaluations) -been utilised and disseminated? What has and has not worked?

The project has continued to be relevant throughout implementation and provided an adequate response to the priorities recognised by the EC jointly with the Ministry of Justice, General Directorate for Prisons (GDP). The project has been implemented efficiently, with good time planning and utilisation of resources.

The project has provided benefits for the wide range of target groups by contributing to bridging the gap in service provision for people in conflict with the law (legal aid and psycho-social counselling); it has also provided the basis for strengthening the prison service and authorities through training and provided set of modalities, procedures and recommendations for improvement of the overall system of rehabilitation and resocialisation. The project also prepared materials to lead the way for future capacity building.

This intervention bridges the recognised gaps by working towards rehabilitation and resocialisation approaches inside and outside of the penitentiary system in Albania through the engagement of CSOs who primarily offer specialized psycho-social and legal assistance to inmates and their families, as well as training for prison and probation staff. Additionally, through the evidence collected through the work with inmates and discussion with prison staff, the intervention provides a set of modalities, procedures and recommendations for improvement of the overall system.

The need for free legal aid and psycho-social counselling for the inmates (among the pre-trial population, as well as detainees and post- prison groups) has proved to be great, evidenced by the demand towards the implementing organisations.

The MoJ and the GDP were consulted during the design stages of the intervention and the needs have been recognised jointly; securing commitment to the objectives. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the GDP and TLAS on providing support services in prisons. The acknowledgment of the expertise of the lead partner TLAS was additionally demonstrated by including the organisation as a member of the working group of the MoJ for the amendments of the legislative package that was discussed during 2021 in the Albanian Parliament. Throughout the implementation, the ownership and commitment by MoJ, GDP and selected prisons have been very commendable and helped successful realisation of the project. The institutional actors enabled the project team to access both the inmates and the prison staff, even under Covid restrictions.

Primary legal aid (representation in court cases), secondary legal aid (support regarding family issues, custodies, children, visitation rights, expiration of ID cards, various administrative issues, etc.) and psysho-social counselling has been provided to around 380 detainees. The originally targeted number has been overachieved by almost double. Among

the persons assisted were vulnerable groups; women, juveniles, inmates with health problems, including those with terminal illness and mental health problems, foreign prisoners, "special regime" prisoners, drug addicts, etc. Over 280 prison and probation staff have been trained on the topics of rehabilitation and resocialisation approaches. This also represents a significant over-achievement of the original target of 120.

As planned, 5 strategic litigation cases are now represented by TLAS (selected from over 200 cases that have been identified during project implementation) and are currently under domestic review. These cases refer to conditions in detention, procedural rights and special needs of vulnerable people in detention and are to point to a more systemic dysfunction, that being a law or policy itself, or its implementation.

The Human Rights CSO interactive platform has been established and is running. It is open and user-friendly, containing information on fundamental rights, links to relevant institutions, services, case studies, an open forum with provision of responses, possibility to issue complaints on violations of rights. A series of training workshops for human rights CSOs has also been delivered.

2.4. The Logical framework (logframe) matrix should evolve during the Action project

	Results chain	Indicators	Baseline (incl. reference year)	Current value Reference date	Targets (incl. reference year)	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Overall objective: Impact	Promoting the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for persons in conflict with law in Albania through an active involvement of the civil society actors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A certified program on rehabilitation & social reintegration prospects of prisoners enhanced • # of CSOs involved in promoting rehabilitation for persons deprived of their liberties and upon release • # of Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) applied in the Albanian context 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No data on good practices regarding rehabilitation from GDP, Probation • No particular programs re: rehabilitation for prison context • No data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scarce socio-economic opportunities of prisoners, including upon release • Few CSOs qualified for the required services • A draft strategic document that needs to be implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A platform of rehabilitation interventions applied (150 legal representation cases, 5 strategic litigation cases, 50 psychosocial counselling) • 4 CSOs benefitting from sub-granting process • At least 700 program beneficiaries (state, non state, agencies, grass root representatives) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platform, Website, case law • Reports (program related and grants related) • Memorandum of understandings, strategic documents, e-manuals, publications 	
Specific objective(s): Outcome	A functional system of protection and prevention for persons deprived of their liberties and upon release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - # of services dedicated to the rehabilitation and reintegration of persons in conflict with law 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no data - Fragmented program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5% of prisoners enrolled in education programmes - No data on 	+150 persons in conflict with law receiving primary and secondary legal aid; +5 strategic litigation cases; +50 persons receiving psychosocial counseling; +120	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - case files documented in the office; training modules, programs, lists of pax; at least 3 CSOs working in rehabilitation; reports (program related and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GDP willing to enhance rehabilitative approach to prison management - GDP, MoJ and MoE willing to

	is ensured, in full compliance with European standards and recognised international principles	<p>- # persons in conflict with law benefitting from rehabilitation programmes in targeted prisons</p> <p>- # of recommendation shared with and considered for adoption by targeted public institutions</p>	<p>provided sporadically by CSOs</p> <p>- No data</p>	<p>CSOs working in prison system regarding rehabilitation</p> <p>-A draft strategic document that needs to be implemented</p>	<p>prison staff participating in 6 trainings; +30 persons participating in focus groups</p> <p>+8 modules developed and at use; +200 platform users; +1 learning platform established</p> <p>+1 campaign that involved finalization of 1 comparative study; +1 Closing conference with participation of 65 public institutions representatives; at least 5 recommendations introduced to targeted public institutions; +3 audio-video productions.</p>	<p>grants related)</p> <p>- at least 2 implemented programs; reports (program related and grants related), modules; list of platform users</p> <p>- 1 bilingual Assessment report; conference proceeding document; program, conference list of participants; #.of produced audio-video recording</p>	<p>cooperate with each other and with CSOs to support the social reintegration of prisoners in the course of a holistic approach to social inclusion (Memorandum of understanding signed in place)</p>
Outputs	I.O.1. Rehabilitative approach to prison and probation management (education / legal / psycho-social and vocational support) fostered and rehabilitation and prevention prospects of	A platform of rehabilitation and reintegration interventions applied (150 legal representation cases, 5 strategic litigation cases, 50 psychosocial counselling); training modules and capacity building for 120 prison staff	<p>- vast majority of prisoners not benefitting from rehabilitation programmes</p> <p>- no tailored training for prison staff and/or service providers</p>	- see percentage figures above	+150 persons in conflict with law receiving primary and secondary legal aid; +5 strategic litigation cases; +50 persons receiving psychosocial counseling; +120 prison staff participating in 6 trainings; +30 persons participating in focus groups; 3 sub granted	on-site prison visits and records of training courses, list of pax, case files, training modules; photographs from activities; project records; list of project proposals submitted by CSOs; decisions from external evaluation committees; ToRs,	- solid and continuous buy-in of GDP, Probation, AP, CAD, CSOs

	<p>prisoners improved;</p> <p>I.O.2. An interactive platform to support CSO active in the field of human rights education and litigation;</p> <p>I.O.3. All-of-government approach and engagement of civil society organizations in prison and probation settings enhanced, in particular in the field of fostering the crime prevention approach (including social reintegration of prisoners upon release).</p>	<p>A functional module-oriented platform that is increasing HR education and know-how to end-users</p> <p>Recommendations in line with international standards and applicable into Albanian context</p>	<p>- Probation Services over-burdened to assume task of assisting former prisoners</p> <p>No data</p>	<p>- minimal support for prisoners upon release</p> <p>n.a.</p>	<p>CSOs</p> <p>+8 modules developed and at use; +200 platform users; +1 learning platform established; 2 sub granted CSOs</p> <p>+1 campaign that involved finalization of 1 comparative study; +1 Closing conference with participation of 65 public institutions representatives; at least 5 recommendations introduced to targeted public institutions; +3 audio-video productions. 2 sub granted CSOs</p>	<p>social media and communication posts, website updates, TV interviews</p> <p>training modules; photographs from activities; project records; list of project proposals submitted by CSOs; decisions from external evaluation committees; ToRs, social media and communication posts, website updates</p> <p>project records, promotional material and outreach products, documentaries, 1 assesment published and launched, 1 closing conference, list pf pax; conference proceedings, social media and communication posts, website updates, TV interviews</p>	
	<p>A.1.1. Provision of primary and secondary legal aid through legal /psycho-social and vocational education</p>			<p>Means: Costs</p>	<p>Legal mechanisms enabling the civil society organizations</p>		

	<p>aiming at consolidating holistic approaches for the rehabilitation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalization of internal program management and partnership work plans • Setting up the Implementation teams of VET • Field missions and provision of legal aid through visits performed in 3 prisons of Albania (3 experts x 6 prisons) each prison at least once visited • Coordination meetings after each field mission (1 prison staff + 3 monitors + 3 prisons) • Conduct 6 training workshop courses on organizational management, project development and management, advocacy and lobbying • Development of the Training Modules (methodology) on legal aid, education and rehabilitation; • Training of the prisons staff on rehabilitation process • Training courses dedicated to inmates (3 week courses; 15 specialists engaged per each training course) • Quality services dedicated to rehabilitation of inmates; a Manual and 3 focus groups; a sub grant (launched and contracted) • Monitoring and follow up of the cases/ Identification of Litigation cases • Sub-grant dedicated to Stress management training program (launched and contracted) • Education and Training dedicated to prisoners/inmates (sub-grant dedicated to VET component) <p>A.2.1. Design a capacity building programme on European human rights standards for CSOs which work with detainees, citizens in probation services, and their families.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizing 6 events dedicated to community mobilization and program impact • a sub-grant dedicated to grass root initiatives 	<p>Please refer to TLAS Interim Financial Report</p>	<p>conduct actions targeting good governance and rule of law (watch dog activities, monitoring of public institutions, professional expertise, participation in public decision-making, etc.) are in place.</p> <p>Public institutions, at local and central level, are willing to open up to and cooperate with civil society organizations in the areas of good governance and rule of law.</p>
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	<p>A2.2. Transferring “know-how” through direct and E - trainings on vocational rehabilitation, legal education and pro bono legal services in line with EU standards and practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • development of 8 professional modules • finalized format for use • certification of pdf formats • use of the training modules into practical terms from different types of professionals <p>A.3.1. Public awareness Campaign (publications, posters, leaflets, reports, articles, and social media)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community events and best practice exchanges • comparative report (sub-grant) • Audiovisual productions n: i) Importance of Vocational education and training; • closing conference & final review with outcomes and recommendations to follow by stakeholders <p>Sub-grant management: Total of 105,000 Euro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparation of ToRs and information package • preparation of the communication and PR package • launching of the grants / info sessions • Grant evaluation committee work • information sessions to winning grantees • on-the-spot visits/quarterly reporting process • final reporting and audits 		
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2.5. Explain how the action has mainstreamed cross-cutting issues such as promotion of human rights,¹⁶ gender equality,¹⁷ democracy, good governance, children's rights and indigenous peoples, environmental sustainability¹⁸ and combating HIV/AIDS (if there is a strong prevalence in the target country/region)¹⁹.

The project has mainstreamed cross cutting issues as follows:

Human rights: Apart from the main target groups, the project was targeting people deprived of their liberties and in difficult conditions to benefit from their rights.

Gender equality: the project adopted a proactive approach of ensuring fair representation of gender in project activities. Data are reported related to number of cases, participation F-M having a 46:49 representation and professionals, parents' groups have a 65:45 representation of women and men.

Democracy & good governance: There was full involvement of beneficiaries in decisions relating to the project and full disclosure of project resources to stakeholders and the beneficiaries.

Children rights: The project ensures that no infringement of people deprived of their liberties, as it is entirely focus on rehabilitation and reintegration efforts. The program considers the provision of accessible services of utmost importance, while reinforcing that there is the efforts for further support.

Environmental sustainability: The activities undertaken were considered not to have very little if any impact on the environment.

Combating HIV/AIDS: The activities undertaken were considered not to have very little if any impact related to combating HIV/AIDS

2.6. How and by whom have the activities been monitored/evaluated? Please summarise the results of the feedback received from the beneficiaries and others.

Continuous internal monitoring carried out by the TLAS program management team on the sub-grantees: on the spot visits and field missions, participation in the events, etc were constantly happening during the program; and also Finance, M&E, Grants, Advocacy, Thematic Areas carried out several missions and assisted.

On-spot monitoring visits: during the implementation 7 sub-granted organizations were visited by TLAS sub grant expert. The monitoring reports prepared by the expert were shared with PMT. The findings and the recommendations of these reports were then discussed and shared with TLAS and EUD. The reports highlighted the following critical issues: a) programmatic component: delay of signing of the collaboration agreements, partial achievement of the expected results due to not measurable indicators or lack of internal instruments to measure them or poor documentation of project activities; LFs (logical framework) not realistic, or repetitive b) Administrative and financial management of funds: no selection procedure provided by SGs for some human resources position, lack of evidence to support project activities implemented, various problems observed in terms of the level of effort of the project staff assigned; and c) Visibility: project title and EU logo not included in various project documents.

Regular communication was kept between sub-grantees and communication department of SC to ensure compliance with rules of the EU Visibility Manual.

¹⁶ Including those of people with disabilities. For more information, see 'Guidance note on disability and development' at https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/disability-inclusive-development-cooperation-guidance-note-eu-staff_en

¹⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/toolkit-mainstreaming-gender-equality-ec-development-cooperation_en

¹⁸ Guidelines for environmental integration are available at: https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sectors/economic-growth/environment-and-green-economy/climate-change-and-environment_en

¹⁹ Please refer to EC Guidelines on gender equality, disabilities, etc.

Feedback included the reasons behind the raised weaknesses. Among them, the lack of capacity by the CSOs to manage EU funds and comply with its rules and procedures; and the weak experience in dealing with different project management tools such as Logical Framework, Monitoring and evaluation plan, risk assessment, double entry book keeping.

The main measures taken to address the expert reports' findings were: drafting and sharing of a Memo with the CSOs (containing relevant information on how to improve the quality of their work and documentation), a closer follow-up of the CSOs projects' activities, a stronger financial monitoring towards the weakest CSOs, the organisation of a practical training for all the CSOs on the financial and reporting component), designing of amendments or no cost extension agreements when relevant, update of action plans with additional elements in support of achieving project results.

Result Oriented Monitoring mission: a ROM was carried out from April 4th to April 22nd 2022. The ROM agenda combined online meetings with relevant stakeholders, the project team and awarded CSOs with specific field visits of ongoing activities. Relevant project documentation and contracts have been put at the disposal of the ROM's consultant. Report findings were shared with TLAS.

Another finding of the report was related to the sub grantees' capacities: their skills were improved thanks to capacity building program and coaching but in terms of level of improvement there were variations from project management team perspective and the perspective of the sub-grantees themselves.

Final program expenditure verification report is undergoing.

2.7. What has your organisation or any actor involved in the action learned from the action and how has this learning been utilised and disseminated?

TLAS and ECF learnt from the encountered challenges of the project the importance of:

- A longer duration and higher amounts of the grants to ensure more comprehensive interventions and a greater impact and sustainability;
- Finding a better balance between human resources for the monitoring and number of CSOs to be supported;
- Being flexible on the financial requirements with the smallest and weakest CSOs;
- Establishing real partnership to enable CSOs to grow as organizations.

CSOs learnt from the implementation of their projects the importance of:

- Participating to the networks in order to be more effective in advocacy actions for a greater impact at local and central level;
- Strengthening local stakeholders through specific capacity building programs in order to better coordinate prison-related initiatives;
- Outreach prevention work and proactive support in order to provide an integrated and coordinated response in case management;
- support of rehabilitation components as a legal requirement ;
- Supporting the economic empowerment of prisoners along with awareness raising in order to ensure better living conditions and opportunities;

All above learning was shared within:

- a) The conference held on 14th June for all participants including EUD representative;
- b) Joint network meetings and Capitalization document development;
- c) program results, videos, online platforms, etc.

2.8. Please list all materials (and number of copies) produced during the action on whatever format (please enclose a copy of each item, except if you have already done so in the past).

Please state how the items produced are being distributed and to whom.

Conceptualising the national campaign, TLAS engaged a communication officer who was assigned with the preparation of visibility and communication manual, that helped with set standards and rules to be followed for all products, including implementing partner ECF and sub grantees. TLAS identified the production of:

- 2 leaflets and factsheets (CRCA and FOKUS)
- 1 case management system developed regarding juvenile offenders (CRCA, ASSIST and ARSIS)
- 2 program roll ups (FOKUS, MKPN and WISDOM)
- 1 case identification manual (ARSIS)
- 1 prison training manual (FOKUS)
- 1 assessment report (FOKUS)

Furthermore, press releases, launching events, information sessions and sub grantee organization invitations were published through social media and TLAS website.

Access to legal, medical, psychological and psychiatric support is provided to over 235 cases, by direct support of adult women and men, prisoners under compulsory treatment, people in pretrial detention, mentally ill, juveniles in detention and in conflict with law etc.

Material	No. of copies	Distribution
1 prison training manual (FOKUS)	200	Prison staff, CSOs, online
1 assessment report (FOKUS)	300	Prison staff, CSOs, online
leaflets (CRCA)	1000	Prison staff, CSOs, local government units, police, probation, online
factsheets (FOKUS)	200	Prison staff, CSOs, online
Online platforms (ALTRI) + (ECF)	2	All different stakeholders
Training manual for police working with children (WISDOM)	500	Prison staff, CSOs, local government units, police, probation, online

2.9. Please list all contracts (works, supplies, services) above EUR 60 000 awarded for the implementation of the action for the whole implementation period since the last interim report if any or during the reporting period, giving for each contract the amount, the name of the contractor and a brief description on how the contractor was selected, including compliance with EU restrictive measures.

Not applicable

3. Beneficiaries/affiliated entities, trainees and relations with Government/other cooperation

3.1. How do you assess the relationship between the beneficiaries/affiliated entities of this grant contract (i.e. those having signed the mandate for the coordinator or an affiliated entity statement)? Please provide specific information for each beneficiary/affiliated entity.

The working relationship between TLAS and ECF has been effective and positive during the reported period. This good working relationship, along with consolidated partnership agreements with Ministry of Justice and General Directorate of Prisons, was a crucial element for the success of this initiative. During the reported period TLAS Project Team has frequently been in constant exchange and monitoring in order to ensure the funds are effectively and efficiently used for the purpose originally intended. Additionally, TLAS project team has been committed to collaborate smoothly and on a daily base with ECF

staff, understanding clearly what each partner brings to the table and expects from the partnership. The good communication, trust and mutual respect between the parties have been present during the whole project implementation period. TLAS and ECF have built upon mutual interests, and shared resources to work toward shared objectives. They have worked together to find appropriate solutions to challenges came out during the project implementation period. Regular communication and exchange is being carried out, as the main applicant of the Action especially when revising the Operational Manual and finalising the Administrative and Technical evaluation process in both Rounds.

TLAS and ECF jointly prepare and implement plans for monitoring, capacity building and coaching of the sub grant implementing partners by providing full support to them, exchange of relevant resources and expertise.

3.2. Is the above agreement between the signatories to the grant contract to continue? If so, how? If not, why?

This agreement has terminated with the program. But the partnership is continuing through second EC funded program.

3.3. How would you assess the relationship between your organisation and State authorities in the action countries? How has this relationship affected the action ?

TLAS has continuously provided information to the GDP/MoJ and Probation not only to keep their staff updated on the ongoing project activities and events, but also to make sure of being in line with the government policies, strategies and with the national prison strategy and newly adopted legislation. All relevant information in both Grant Call Rounds has been shared with the GDP along with summary of the winning projects under the sub granting scheme to ensure all sub grant projects are in line and synergy with the national prison strategy and newly adopted legislation in which TLAS has provided its contribution.

TLAS has actively participated in the activities and events organized by the prison authorities and probation; prison representatives were engaged with priority setting processes, in order to effectively impact the program.

Close cooperation has been ensured with local government units (i.e Municipality of Tirana, Korca, Kukes, Lezha, Elbasan etc) with regards to their commitment towards projects related with direct services for children in conflict with the law, their engagement towards capacity building of professionals as well as application of methodologies that ensure sustainable interventions to be endorsed by the local government. Project proposals' intervention approved to be implemented by sub grant partners have been consulted, validated and confirmed to be in line with priorities and long term strategies of General Prisons Directorate. Joint meetings have been held with sub grant partners to ensure a coordinated action toward the objective of the sub grant proposal.

Relations have been established with Ombudsman national prevention mechanism under the advocacy and networking component and the Commissioner for the Protection against Discrimination.

3.4. Where applicable, describe your relationship with any other organisations involved in implementing the action:

- **Associate(s) (if any)**
- **Contractor(s) (if any)**
- **Final beneficiaries and target groups**
- **Other third parties involved (including other donors, other government agencies or local government units, NGOs, etc.)**

TLAS has maintained a very close cooperation and coordination with regards the beneficiary sub grant organizations. Over the reporting period, TLAS has been in contact and continuous communication with other organizations entitled to administer EUD sub-grants. The communication has consisted in sharing the experience in regard to grant

scheme procedures, documents and templates in order that any paper produced and issued such as the guidelines, forms, protocols, evidences to be in line with the EUD guidelines.

At the level of capacity building and advocacy components under the Action, existing actors working in the area of criminal justice and judicial reforms have been invited and participated in the advocacy trainings/ meetings as well as capacity building events.

Furthermore, TLAS entered the program with consolidated network of organizations with clear roles and motivation.

3.5. Where applicable, outline any links and synergies you have developed with other actions.

N/A

3.6. If your organisation has received previous EU grants in view of strengthening the same target group, in how far has this action been able to build upon/complement the previous one(s)? (List all previous relevant EU grants).

The program was the first to be supported by the European Commission.

3.7. How do you evaluate cooperation with the services of the contracting authority?

The cooperation with the contracting authority has been constructive and useful. Communication flow with European Union Delegation has been interactive, operational and responsive to needs at any stage of the Action (especially within the preparation of the Grant Round Calls). Full support and collaboration has been received from the EUD focal point. Periodic correspondence and online meetings have been organised to share updates on the project and to receive feedback on specific matters. Phone calls and exchange of emails have been used as well as communication tools.

The program was implemented in a very difficult pandemic context, yet there were no delays.

3.8 Where applicable, include a traineeship report on each traineeship which ended in the reporting period to be prepared by the trainee including the result of the traineeship and assessment of the qualifications obtained by the trainee with a view to his/her future employment.

N/A

4. Visibility

How is the visibility of the EU contribution being ensured in the action?

The European Commission may wish to publicise the results of actions. Do you have any objection to this report being published on the EuropeAid website? If so, please state your objections here.

The visibility of the EU contribution was ensured in the Action through a variety of communication materials produced by TLAS, ECF and Sub-Grantees during the implementation of the Action. SC approved all communication materials, and ensured that all SGs' related communications were clearly stating 'This project is financed by the European Union' with the logo, as well as a disclaimer when necessary.

All communication materials produced were shared with the EU communication team for review and approval prior to dissemination by ensuring visibility of the EU contribution in all these materials. A communication and visibility plan was developed and agreed upon with the EU at the beginning of the Action.

Main strategies used to ensure the project visibility were:

- Public launch event with the participation of national and local media, written and electronic ones. Public promotion of this event was conducted, before and after the event, through the website, social media, press release, news, interviews and networks with beneficiaries.

Additionally, an information package before, on the day of and after the event was shared and delivered to the beneficiaries and public via emails and social media.

- An informative leaflet was produced and reprinted for delivery to public and target audience during a) information sessions, b) the project launch event and c) public event organized by TLAS and ECF. The informative leaflets were distributed as well as via e-mail to the organizations who have received the self-assessment questionnaire, website and social media.
- A project info paper has been developed and distributed during the final conference to all participants showing main results achieved by the Action.
- Project dedicated banners were produced in line with EU visibility guidelines and used during the project launch event, information sessions and other media or community events. During the information sessions, pictures and social media show case have been produced.
- The project documentation, including grants guidelines and templates and other relevant information for the target audience produced were published in the website and social media.
- All the project activities and visibility products were in line with EU visibility guidelines and received approval of the EU project involved team. This has been ensured by the PMT (Communication Officer and SC Sub Grant Coordinator) through frequent consultations and feedback provided to sub- grant partners on each visibility and promotional material developed. A specific session and instruction package on visibility has been provided to all 7 sub grant partners as a reference for use²⁰.

<https://www.facebook.com/tlas.org.al/posts/pfbid0a6cDS1LJ6gDB1f2fT8BnjYeX35YXvriMzbcHSHgHkM8qFugSgnet15shziLNUfgpl>
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<https://fb.watch/OCYU2EVZU/>
<https://www.facebook.com/350226091726124/posts/pfbid0Z9g7t4hf8NrLHL1w7PYsnU9dnFyD1VYkssNMqcpafM988JVQstghEL9c3gzNvoiSI/>
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²⁰ Please see Annex no.2

<https://www.facebook.com/350226091726124/posts/pfbid0Pzoe4twCKnkKiKJPbpHGYXSGW7QTVkThznhGTNjBMdVPtA74XTXbgnpSnLv5Grwal/>
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5. Location of records, accounting and supporting documents

Please indicate in a table the location of records, accounting and supporting documents for each beneficiary and affiliated entity entitled to incur costs.

NAME	STATUS	RECORDS	ACCOUNTING AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS
TLAS	Applicant	Internal system	- Original documents related to the funds directly managed at the office
ECF	Co-applicant	Internal system	- Original documents related to the funds directly managed at the office

The European Commission may wish to publicise the results of actions. Do you have any objection to this report being published on the website of DG International Cooperation and Development ? If so, please state your objections here.

Name of the contact person for the action: **Raimonda BOZO**

Raimonda Bozo

Signature: *RBozo*

Location: **TIRANA**



Date report due: 31.10.2022

Date report sent: 24.10.2022

Annexes

Annex 1 – Partnership agreements
Annex 2 - Guidelines on Communication and Visibility.pdf
Annex 3 - Info about the training sessions with CSOs.pdf
Annex 4- TLAS caselaw and legal practice and MoU
Annex 5- Info about Capacity building training session with prison staff.pdf
Annex 6- Info about focus group discussions TLAS.pdf
Annex 7- Implementing Partner Folder.ECF
Annex 8- Subgrant Folder.FOKUS.pdf
Annex 9- Subgrant Folder.CRCA.pdf
Annex 10- Subgrant Folder.ARSIS.pdf
Annex 11- Subgrant Folder.MKPN.pdf
Annex 12- Subgrant Folder.ALTRI.pdf
Annex 13- Subgrant Folder.WISDOM.pdf
Annex 14- Subgrant Folder.ASSIST.pdf
Annex 15- Procedures of the sub granting process.pdf
Annex 16- Info about the Closing Conference.TLAS.pdf