2020-2022

REPORT

"ON THE ACTIVITY OF THE CENTER FOR LEGAL CIVIC INITIATIVE"

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Dear friends, it's a great pleasure for me to present a brief summary of the narrative Report of the Center for Civic Legal Initiatives, on its activity during the last two years, in the period of time from 2020 till 2022. These years have marked significant developments for our organization, regarding its professional and organizational improvement and regarding the implementation of the projects. There has been an increased work volume for supporting abused and poor women with free legal help. Free legal aid is provided during these years. In this activity, along with the traditional collaboration with the network of organizations offering legal aid against gender-based violence, there has been an increased collaboration with pro bono teams set up with law faculty students. Furthermore, the Center's activity has increased regarding the implementation of new laws in the field of gender equality and combating domestic violence. The increased access of the citizens in the justice system has remained one of the main aims of our organization and its realization in our activity during this period. Thus, the circle of our requests in exercising legal means at courts in our country as well as by the Anti-Discrimination Commissioner etc., has been extended. Our activity for the legal education of the citizens, especially, in rural areas has been intensified.

An important aspect of our success is the support of and the cooperation with our donors, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), UN Women, Mediterranean Women's Fund, WAVE, FILIA, AWEN, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, whom I would like to thank. I would like to express my gratitude even to the members of the Board and to the staff of the Center for Civic Legal Initiatives for the disposition and the professionalism they have shown and performed during this period. A special thank goes for the "Amicus curie" of the Center, Lawyers who helped us to offer free legal services in the courts outside Tirana. Moreover, we have to thank the students of probono teams, who worked along with the lawyers of the Center to offer and contribute in legal counseling and other services to people in need from the marginalized groups.

Thank you,

AURELA BOZO Executive Director

1. OUR ORGANIZATION

Created in 1997, the Center for Legal Civic Initiatives (CLCI) is specialized in offering legal assistance for protecting the rights of citizens, particularly women, offering legal education for citizens and lobbying for legal initiatives in their best interest.

1.1. CLCI and partners

An important part of the success, achievements and professionalism of our organization is dedicated to our strategic partners over the years. The Center for Legal Civic Initiatives has been able to operate thanks to the support of donators and partners:

- *United Nations Development Program (UNDP)*;
- UN Women;
- Mediterranean Women's Fund;
- WAVE & FILIA;
- AWEN:
- Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

1.2. Field of activity

CLCI contributes to the development of the community and particularly of poor and abused women. Our activities are described below:

- Offering legal and psychosocial assistance, for people in need, particularly for abused women, victims of domestic violence, trafficked and poor women, through providing counseling and representing the victims in administrative cases or before the court.
- Initiating and being involved in legal initiatives and lobbying, aiming to enact new laws and other normative acts, in compliance with international standards stemming from the ratification of the international treatises by the Albanian state.
- Offering legal education for increasing public awareness, regarding exercising and defending their own rights.
- Studying and monitoring legislation and its implementation.
- Training professionals of the justice system and other professionals.
- Involving the youth, especially students of Law Faculties in the activities of the Center, by establishing and training pro bono teams, under the supervision of CLCI's lawyers.

1.3. Keypoints of organization's activity during report periods

- Strategic litigation;
- Offering legal assistance and legal opinions online;
- Working in networks;
- Increasing the visibility of the organisation's activity by using social media as a real tool.

1.4. Publications

Studies and professional publications are published by the staff of the Center for Legal Civic Initiatives during the reporting period. They do not only represent the result of our work, but they are

also a lobbying mean for our organization and other NGOs that work in the human rights field, particularly for increasing poor and abused women's access to the justice system and other services.

Some of the publications of CLCI are available in the following:

➤ Publications of CLCI in Albanian language:

https://www.qag-al.org/publikime/deklarata_e_rrjetit.pdf

https://www.qag-al.org/publikime/rap_trafikimi.pdf

https://www.qag-al.org/publikime/raport_strehimi.pdf

https://www.qag-al.org/publikime/raporti_monitorimi_ligjit.pdf

https://www.qag-al.org/publikime/raport_antitrafikimi.pdf

https://www.qag-al.org/publikime/manual_drejta_pronesore.pdf

https://www.qag-al.org/publikime/studimi_termeti.pdf

https://www.qag-al.org/publikime/studim_ne.pdf

https://www.qag-al.org/publikime/deklarate_tetor22.pdf

https://www.qag-al.org/publikime/statement_ndihma_ligjore.pdf

➤ Publications of CLCI in English language:

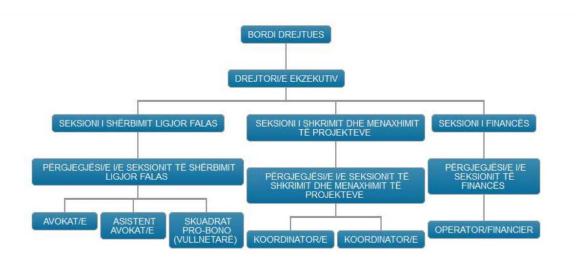
https://www.qag-al.org/ang/publication/declaration_en.pdf

https://www.qag-al.org/ang/publication/report_law_monitoring.pdf

https://www.qag-al.org/ang/publication/submission.pdf

1.5. Organizational structure of CLCI





Organizational structure of CLCI

I. Board of Directors of CLCI

The Board of Directors is the highest decision making organ in CLCI. The members of the board areas as follows:

- 1. Flutura Guri, lawyer, Head of Directors;
- 2. Arta Mandro, Member of the Board of Directors;
- 3. Xheni Karaj, Member of the Board of Directors;
- 4. Teuta Rino, Member of the Board of Directors;
- 5. Virgjil Karaj, Member of the Board of Directors;
- 6. Nadia Rusi, Member of the Board of Directors;
- 7. Petraq Pojani, Member of the Board of Directors.

II. Executive Director

The executive director of CLCI is Aurela Bozo (lawyer).

III. Section of Free Legal Aid

Head of Section of Free Legal Aid - Lawyer Lirie Dina; Jurist – Klea Cahani; Assistant lawyer – Nadia Guni and Lime Skuka; Members of *pro bono* team of Faculty of Law students.

IV. Section of Project Writing and Management



Head of Section of Project Writing and Management – Aurela Bozo (Executive director & lawyer).

V. Section of Finance

Head of Section of Finance – Diana Zebi;

Finance Officer – Eralda Gurra.

VI. Strong expertise provided by - Prof. Ph.D. Aurela Anastasi.

The staff of CLCI works with passion and devotion, in order to increase the community's access to the justice system, particularly of gender-based violence victims. The major part of the staff is made of lawyers, specialized in: Constitutional Law, Family Law, and Labor Law and in the implementation of the legislation against Domestic Violence and ensuring gender equality.

Apart from the collaboration with other organizations in the network, CLCI has a group of collaborators, made of experienced experts. Moreover, around 120 students of the Law Faculty, University of Tirana, have been involved in the activities of the Center in the last years, as members of pro bono teams. Under the supervision of the lawyers, students have contributed by offering legal counseling and legal education to the community, by preparing acts for the court or other institutions; and also by helping increase community's awareness for using their legal remedies through electronic and written media.

2. OUR SERVICES IN PRESPECTIVE OF BENEFICIARIES

2.1. An interview with beneficiaries of the free legal service, offered by CLCI's lawyers.

From Mrs. N. M.

"...I am very pleased with the legal service provided by the centre. It has been a quality service where you have shown professionalism and willingness. Thus, I want to thank you because without your help I would not have been able to manage this very difficult situation for me, you have not spared even the psychological support in addition to the legal one. I had already heard from other people about your dedicated work but now I have witnessed it myself through my personal experience. Your legal service has really been more effective than I had previously thought. I wish you will continue to help me with the legal assistance in the court hearings as I have a lot of confidence and hope that with your support I will be able to do the best for myself and my child. You deserve a lot of thanks for the great work you have done during this difficult situation of Covid-19 pandemic where the whole country is on lockdown. I wish you continue to help every violated woman where the hope and trust you build and encourage, are very important factors to succeed..."

From Mrs. E.D

"...I have asked for legal assistance from the CLCI's lawyers regarding the marriage dissolution. I felt protected from the very first moment I contacted their office. Especially when I was threatened by the former spouse, the Lawyers were willing to help, to provide legal advice



and also represent me in front of the court. The lawyers have also asked the Police State to accompany me and to be present in a court hearing of immediate protection order issuance in order to protect my life that was put in danger by my abusive husband. They are very polite and willing to offer help in any situation. I hope they continue to have such a high work standard in the future as well..."

2.2. An interview with law students of the University of Tirana, members of *pro bono* teams at the Center for Legal Civic initiatives.

"I have been a member of the center for several months, where I participated in various trainings and became part of the pro bono teams. I have gained experience which will help me a lot in my work as a lawyer. I touched cases up close and learned more about customer relations. I learned more about the rights of abused women and families in need. I am very grateful for the opportunities that the center gave me and their care towards all of us".

Naile Zebi, student at the Faculty of Law, University of Tirana, member of the pro bono team

3. THE IMPACT OF THE IMPLEMENTED PROJECTS ON THE ORGANIZATION

Project title	Period of implementation	Donor	Fund	Area of implementation
1	1 January 2020 – 31 December	AWEN	24 650 Euro	Tirana, Albania (in focus rural areas of Tirana).

OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Objectives Indicators of the achievements Increasing the access of violated and The access of the violated vulnerable vulnerable groups, in particular violated women and girls in the justice system is women and girls in the justice system, increased. ✓ Primary legal aid was provided for 896 through providing free legal aid by CLCI cases. The number of primary legal aid lawyers. beneficiaries was 231 people, of which Increasing the level of information and 41 were men and 190 were women. awareness of citizens on their rights. Secondary legal aid was provided, Strengthening practical skills of students through representation in court and the of Law Faculty, members of the new pro preparation of court documents, for 153 bono team and strengthening their cases. The number of secondary legal aid engagement in the activity of the Center beneficiaries was 53 people, of which: 4 for Legal Civic Initiatives, under the men and 49 women. supervision of CLCI's lawyers. 11 information activities were conducted with representatives the from Administrative Units Krrabë Peza,



 Advocacy and lobbing by CLCI in cooperation with other members of AWEN.

(Mushqeta), Petrelë (Mullet, Picallë), Kashar (Yrshek), Ndroq, Bërzhitë (Ibë, Bërzhitë, Pëllumbas), Dajt, Shëngjergj (Domje), Bërxullë, and Baldushk. Through these activities, beneficiaries, out of which 172 women and 51 men have increased knowledge on Law no. 111/2017 "On legal aid guaranteed by the state" and law no. 9669, dated 18.12.2006, "On measures against domestic violence", as amended.

- The capacity of 18 students of the Faculty of Law has increased, through the realization of a two-day training aimed at establishing a new *pro bono* team that supports abused women and girls.
- Issues of advocacy and lobbing are identified and put forward.

Project title	Period of implementation	Donor		Fund	Area of implementation
	31 March 2020 – 31 December		&	9,650 Euro	Tirana, Albania

OBJECTIVES AND PERF	ORMANCE INDICATORS
Objectives	Indicators of the achievements
 Increasing the access of violated women and girls in the justice system, through providing free legal aid by CLCI lawyers, during COVID 19 crisis. Increasing the level of information of violated women and girls on their rights and how to use its, during COVID 19 crisis. Providing a combined support for violated women and girls. Strengthening the cooperation of CLCI with the responsible institutions working in the field. 	 The access of the violated vulnerable women and girls in the justice system is increased, by providing free legal aid online. The number of beneficiaries – 94 violated women and girls. Beneficiaries were from the different districts of Albania (Tirana, Elbasani, Durrës, Korça, Gjirokastra, Erseka, Pusteci, Fieri, Devolli, Kavaja, Kruja, Lezha, Peqini, Himara, etc.). A combined support was provided for victims of DV, where, in addition to free legal services, support was also provided with food packages, medicaments, hygienic packages, transportation to the court, police, municipality, etc. This



combined support has been very effective	e
for the challenges brought by covid 19.	

• The cooperation of CLCI with the responsible institutions working in the field as municipalities, Local Coordinator Against Domestic Violence near municipalities, police, shelters was strengthened.

Project title	Period of implementation	Donor	Fund	Area of implementation
Support for the provision of primary, effective and quality legal aid to marginalized individuals and communities in the region of Durrës.	December 2020 - November 2021.	United Nations for Development Program, UNDP Albania.	1,575,000	Durrës, Albania.

OBJECTIVES AND PERF	ORMANCE INDICATORS
Objectives	Indicators of the achievements
 Increasing the access of people in need and vulnerable groups in the justice system. Strenthening capacities of the network of legal service providers and other actors in local level in Durrës. Strengthening the capacities of legal service providers, through organizing trainings and mentoring sessions. 	free legal aid, of which 209 received <i>primary legal aid</i> and 19



Project title	Period of implementation	Donor	Fund	Area of implementation
Supporting	November 2020	United Nations	2,520,500	Shkodra,
efficient and	November	for		Albania.
quality primary	2021	Development		
legal aid service		Program,		
delivery to		UNDP Albania.		
vulnerable				
individuals and				
communities in				
Shkodra region.				

OBJECTIVES AND PERF	ORMANCE INDICATORS
Objectives	Indicators of the achievements
 Increasing the access of people in need and vulnerable groups in the justice system. Strenthening capacities of the network of legal service providers and other actors in local level in Durrës. Strengthening the capacities of legal service providers, through organizing trainings and mentoring sessions. 	 The access of people in need in the justice system is increased, by providing free legal aid. 225 people in need has provided free legal aid, of which 217 received primary legal aid and 8 of them secondary legal aid. The capacities of the network of legal service providers and members of the Coordinated Mechanism for Referral of Cases of DV are strengthened. There are organized: 8 trainings with the staff of Free Legal Aid Center in Shkodra. 6 networking meetings and 2 trainings with legal service providers, members of the Coordinated Mechanism for Referral of Cases of DV and NGOs.

Project title	Period of	Donor	Fund	Area of
	implementation			implementation
Empowering of	1 January 2021 –	AWEN	24,650 Euro	Tirana, Albania.
the vulnerable	31 Decmber			
violated women	2021			
with free legal				
education, legal				
aid and				
advocacy.				



OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Objectives

Indicators of the achievements

- Empowering poor and marginalized individuals/groups to claim their rights through increased access to the legal aid.
- Strengthening the capacities and awareness on the legal responsibilities of the representatives of different institutions like police, municipality, social workers, child protection workers, etc, on the implementation of the law against violence in family relationships, its practical and theoretical aspects, as well as their familiarity with the latest legal amendments.
- Strengthening the capacity and practical skills of the youngest pro bono team and preparing members to contribute to the strengthening of marginalized groups of women with legal aid.

- The access of the violated vulnerable women and girls in the justice system is increased.
 - *Primary legal aid* was provided for 657 cases. The total number of primary legal aid beneficiaries was 242 people, of which 30 were men and 212 were women.
 - Secondary legal aid was provided, through representation in court and the preparation of court documents, for 115 cases. The total number of secondary legal aid beneficiaries was 72 people, of which: 7 men and 65 women.
- Free legal aid was provided for poor and marginalized individuals/groups. The category of beneficiaries of free legal aid was:
 - People without enough income 75 persons.
 - LGBTI 1 person.
 - Retired 7 persons.
 - People with disability 4 persons.
 - Person with mental health problem 1 person.
 - Victim of domestic violence 70 persons.
 - Victim of trafficking 1 person.
- The capacities of the representatives of the institutions (community policing specialists, teachers, school leaders, *social workers, child protection workers)* in the administrative units of Prush, Vagarr, Berxulle and Dait on the practical aspects of the implementation of law no. 47/2018 for some additions and changes to law no. 9669, dated 18.12.2006. "On measures against domestic violence", amended and the law no. 111/2017 "On legal aid guaranteed by the state" have been strengthened through 5 face to face informative and awareness meetings.
- The students of Law Faculty has gained more practical skills in providing free



legal aid and legal education for community, especially violated and vulnerable women, through two days trainings organized.

Project title	Period of	Donor	Fund	Area of
	implementation			implementation
Support	August 2021 -	United Nations	2,100,000 Lek	Fier, Patos,
Coordinated	May 2022	for		Roskovec.
Referral		Development		
Mechanisms		Program,		
(CRMs) for		UNDP Albania		
Domestic				
Violence Cases,				
Patos &				
Roskovec				
Municipalities				
and three				
administrative				
units of Fier				
Municipality				
and engage				
community				
members in				
urban and rural				
areas in				
promoting				
gender equality				
and end				
violence against				
women and				
girls.				

OBJECTIVES AND PERF	ORMANCE INDICATORS
Objectives	Indicators of the achievements
 Giving direct assistance to the beneficiaries (women/girls) for free legal aid and psychology support and counselling for victims of domestic violence as well as supporting them via humanitarian packages, that do include clothes, school kits, and food packages based on community work delivered by the community coordinators. Identification and referral of cases of domestic violence by community coordinators in the administrative 	 Provided free primary and secondary legal aid to 70 women and girls victims of DV. Provided psychological support to 40 women and girls victims of DV. Delivered: 20- kit-schools, 40- food packages and for clothes- 17, directly to the beneficiaries, to help women and girls victims of DV and their family members mainly their children, as a starting point in their rehabilitation process.



- units of the Municipality of Fier with highest cases of DV registered.
- Strengthening of the capacities of the Multi-disciplinary technical team of the Coordinated Referral Mechanism of cases of domestic violence in three targeted municipalities, trainings for service providers, as well as the support of the Local Coordinators against domestic violence in three municipalities to organize campaigns "Active citizens against GBV and DC".
- 6 trainings were organized during the duration of the project. The number of participants in this meetings was 115 persons, representatives of institutions, NGOs and others. The topics covered in the training were:
- ✓ Rehabilitation of victims of domestic violence - a priority of the Municipality and the Coordinated Mechanism for referring cases of domestic violence.
- ✓ Practical aspects of implementation of Law no. 9669, dated 18.12.2006 'For measures against domestic violence', amended.
 - This activities were made visible in social media.
- Three awareness campaign has been organized in each municipality. The number of beneficiaries from awareness raising campaign was 20000.

Project title	Period of implementation	Donor	Fund	Area of implementation
Free legal aid for victims of domestic violence during pandemic situation.	-	Mediterranean Women's Fund	5 000 Euro	Berat, Fier, Roskovec, Mallakastër, Bulqiza, Tirana, Poliçan, Korça, Konispoli, Librazhd.

OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS				
Objectives	Indicators of the achievements			
 Empower the marginalized women and girls, through providing free legal aid for victims of DV in targeted areas and in the whole country and legal education on the legal rights of the victims of GBV and DV. Increasing access of violated women and girls in justice system. 	 45 women and girls have benefited from free legal aid (primary & secondary legal aid). The capacities of the members of Coordinated Mechanism for Referral of Cases of DV, on legal protection for victims of DV, have been strengthened, through 7 face to face informative and awareness meetings, organized in Tepelena, Roskovec, Berat, Bulqiza, Mallakastra and Lushnje. 			



• Is strengthened the cooperation with local women's organizations and Local Coordinators Against Domestic Violence.

Project title	Period of implementation	Donor	Fund	Area of implementation
Protection of the	23 June 2021 –	UN Women	10,173,000 Lek	Municipality of
property rights	31 August 2022			Tirana, Vora,
of women and				Kamza, Durrës,
girls in the				Shijak, Kavaja,
situation of				Rrogozhina,
earthquake				Kruja, Lezha,
damage.				Mirdita and
				Kurbin.

OBJECTIVES AND PERFO	RMANCE OF INDICATORS		
Objectives	Indicators of the achievements		
 Raising awareness and legal education for women and girls affected by the earthquake. Increasing access to the justice system for women and girls affected by the earthquake by guaranteeing free legal aid. Increasing the capacities of employees of the state cadastre agency, municipalities and administrative units and notaries. Advocacy and lobbying with responsible actors. Increasing the capacities and practical skills of young lawyers, related to the reconstruction legislation but also for handling property issues from a gender perspective. 	 35 awareness meetings have been organized in municipalities and units relevant administrative districts as follows: Durrës, Fushë-Krujë, Kavajë, Kamzë, Krujë, Kurbin, Lezhë, Mirditë, Qerret, Rrogozhinë, Pezë, Shijak, Tirana-Vaqar, Thumanë, Vorë. Number of beneficiaries - 394 women and girls damaged by the earthquake. Access to justice has increased for 282 people, of which 252 have benefited from primary legal aid and 30 have benefited from secondary legal aid. The capacities of 128 employees responsible for the reconstruction process (cadastre representatives, local government employees and independent professionals such as notaries, lawyers) have been increased regarding the handling of these issues from a gender perspective, through the organization of 9 combined trainings in the district of Tirana, Durrës and Lezha. The capacities of 72 employees responsible for reconstruction have been increased through the organization of 12 on-the-job 		



- trainings in the employees' offices, with the aim of addressing problems and unifying work practices.
- Advocacy and lobbying meetings were held with the Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination, the President of the National Chamber of Notaries, representatives of the People's Advocate institution, the Ministry of Justice, local government institutions, the Cadastre, etc.
- The capacities and practical skills of 14 young lawyers have been increased through training on legal and practical aspects of the reconstruction legislation and for handling property issues from a gender perspective.

Project title	Period of implementation	Donor	Fund	Area of implementation
Communities First: Creation of a civil society hub to address violent extremism — from prevention to reintegration.	05.03.2018 05.09.2021	Forum MNE	89,692.48 Euro	Western Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244/99), Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia.

OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE OF INDICATORS					
Objectives	Indicators of the achievements				
 Increased number and strengthened role of CSOs capable of implementig P/CVE activities in relevant fields across the region. Cooperation and collaboration among CSOs in the region and connections with CSOs working in other regions so they can benefit from the best practices and lessons learned from counter parts around the globe. 	 More than 240 CSOs activities registered and verified. Minimum 360 CSOs and other stakeholders participate in the work of Working groups, Minimum 34 online meetings of co-applicants, minimum 6 offline 2 day meetings. Minimum 240 training participants about 278 participants in total participated to implement the P / CVE actions. 				



- CSOs empowered to be more than simply implementers of short term, donor funded projects, but rather catalyst and agents of change in their communities and policy advocates in their countries and region.
- More regular interactions among CSOs, FBOs and governments in the region on P/CVE policy and program issues.
- Citizens in Balkans local communities more engaged in P/CVE, understanding and supporting the narrative of strong and resilient communities
- Minimum 100 state sector representatives state sector representatives in Elbasan, Tirana, Shkodra Librazhd, Dibra have been strongly engaged.
- More than 1 million people reached.

Project title	Period of implementation	Donor	Fund	Area of implementation
Balkans ACT (Against Crime of Trafficking) Now! (BAN — phase III)	December 2018 - December 2021	ASTRA	110,028.46 Euor	Western Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244/99), Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia.

OBJECTIVES AND PERFO	RMANCE OF INDICATORS		
Objectives	Indicators of the achievements		
 Objectives Enhance CSOs involvement in public decision making and influence over antitrafficking policy development, and delivery of quality services to victims. Strengthening capacity and capability of CSOs to actively engage in evidencebased policy monitoring and advocacy while improving their internal 	 Two online advocacy trainings are organized focused on National Ant trafficking Rapporteur, with representatives from Ombudsman and civil society organizations. The number of beneficiaires was 43 persons. One workshop was organized with 		
transparency and accountability. • Strengthening anti-trafficking EU, regional and national coalition building and networking through sharing of skills,	representatives of the Ombudsman institution, Office of the National Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, and representatives of civil society organizations.		



knowledge and by improving outreach to grass root CSO's.

- Center for Legal Civic Initiatives participated in two days online activity with the National Reporter on Trafficking in Human Beings and other relevant stakeholders in Netherlands.
- Three promoting tool activities are organized with civil society organizations, focused on different parts of the monitoring tool. In three promoting tool activities, the participation was high. The number of participants was 48.

2021

- Six promoting tool activities are organized during this year, to promote the "Monitoring monitoring tool assessment of the legal framework and policies in combating trafficking in human beings", with participation of civil society organizations working on prevention and protection from trafficking in human beings and other forms of gender based violence in Elbasani, Vlora, Gjirokastra, Shkodra, Korça and Tirana.
- A workshop meeting was organized with the Dutch National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings and Sexual Violence against Children and the Head of the Bureau of the Dutch National Rapporteur on 10 November 2021.
- CLOSING REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE PROJECT Balkans Act Now! (BAN III), November 9, 2021.
- A *Technical Round Table* was organized with topic "Monitoring of policies and legal framework against trafficking of human beings: Findings of the Albanian state". The number of beneficiaries was 29 persons.