



NARRATIVE REPORT 2013

INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGNING

January 2013, Lebanon. COATNET was represented at the meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean project in Beirut. With the goal of exploring the situation of migrants and possible trafficking cases, visits to refugee camps and houses for victims of domestic servitude were made. The results of the meeting are published in the Euro-Mediterranean project's newsletter, which can be downloaded at www.coatnet.org.

February 2013, Tunisia. Caritas Lebanon and Secours Catholique represented COATNET at the World Social Forum. A Caritas Internationalis event on Migration and Development was organized and included the issue of trafficking.

March 2013, Mexico. COATNET participated at the meeting of World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations on Trafficking in the Latin American region. Participants from all over Latin America and the USA participated in the meeting, discussing the many facets of human trafficking. A final document with recommendations and commitments from participants was released. As a result, WUCWO decided to become a member of COATNET.

September 2013, Thailand. Caritas Asia's Anti-Trafficking programme staff met in Bangkok to exchange experiences and plan

activities. COATNET was invited to present its work with migrants and victims of trafficking and to contribute to the plans.

September 2013, Malaysia. COATNET was invited to participate in the World Youth Forum's meeting on trafficking and contribute to planning activities for youth NGOs in the Asia region.

November 2013, Vatican. COATNET participated in the meeting "Trafficking in Human Beings: Modern Slavery" organized by the Pontifical Academy of Science at the request of Pope Francis. Contributions to the discussion and recommendations to the final statement were proposed (the final statement can be found at the Academy's website, www.pass.va). Caritas Internationalis has also proposed COATNET as a coordination platform for Christian organizations (or even with an interreligious dimension) working on the issue. CI is further pursuing this.

COATNET developed a briefing paper on trafficking for labour exploitation for its members' advocacy activities. Publication is foreseen for 2014.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON PREVENTION AND ASSISTANCE

Cooperation with the Italian NGO Slaves No More (assisting Nigerian victims of

trafficking) was established for better assistance to the re-integration of victims.

A directory and a booklet containing the contacts and activities of members, as well as the database of organisations assisting victims, was updated and is available on the internal platform Baobab.

With the assistance of COATNET, contacts and relationships were built and a victim of trafficking was protected (with the engagement of the secretariat) from being expelled to prevent the risk of being re-trafficked. From time to time, the secretariat receives assistance requests which can be solved with the help of the network.

RAISING AWARENESS

With the purpose of raising awareness about human trafficking and about the possibilities for the Church to counteract it, COATNET presented its activities to the bishops of Latin America and Africa.

COATNET used its website www.coatnet.org and the Caritas Internationalis website www.caritas.org, as well as COATNET's Facebook page, to inform readers about various forms of trafficking and update them about Caritas' anti-trafficking activities.

NETWORKING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Thirty-seven organisations were members of COATNET in 2013, among them four new affiliates: the United States Conference of

Bishops (USCCB), Caritas Nigeria, Caritas Slovenia, and HAART (Prevention of Human Trafficking in Kenya).

Quarterly e-newsletters on COATNET activities and global anti-trafficking activities were sent to members. This newsletter was mentioned in the Midterm Review of Caritas Internationalis as a good example for keeping members updated.

Fundraising possibilities were constantly monitored. Additional funds were raised for BIAM in January 2014 and for activities of the network.

Biennial meeting of COATNET (BIAM)

The meeting was held in January 2014. In 2013, organising the meeting in collaboration with Caritas Spain included developing the agenda, identifying speakers, and handling logistics. The meeting's focus was on labour exploitation for domestic servitude.

Olha Zhyvytsya, April 2014