# **Joint efforts** the way

## Chapter

## **COORDINATED AND ARTICULATE WORK**

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Fighting against Human Trafficking requires effort and transversal effects. With this clarity, the Citizen Council establishes alliances with authorities and social organisms both national and international



The President of the Citizen Council, Salvador Guerrero Chiprés and the head of the Financial Intelligence Unit, Santiago Nieto, signing the agreement between both institutions.

## **ALLIANCE WITH THE UIF**

Human Trafficking is a lucrative crime qualified as the third worldwide after gun trafficking and illicit drugs trafficking. According to calculations made by the UNODC in 2016 it had produced earnings close to 32 thousand million dollars.

Traffickers use mechanisms such as Operations of Resources of Illicit Origin (money laundering) to fulfill their economical purposes. Freezing their resources limits their operations.

For this reason, the leaders of the Financial Intelligence Unit, Santiago Nieto Castillo and the Citizen Council for Safety and Justice in Mexico City, Salvador Guerrero Chiprés, signed in 2020 a collaboration agreement to elaborate the Evaluation Guide in cases of Human Trafficking and Money Laundering and compare essential data from the reports of the LNCTP. "Attention to this crime must be based on a virtuous triangle in which citizens, authorities and businessmen participate in a coordinated manner to bring information to the most vulnerable population."

> Salvador Guerrero Chiprés President Council of the Citizen Council in Mexico City

This with the purpose of offering data for investigations against the use of resources from an illicit origin.

Through the denunciations that they receive at 800 5533 000, the Citizen Council committed to using said Evaluation Guide provided by the UIF through which they'll identify information about the way, time and place that helps authorities define criminal operations and money laundering.

According to Nieto Castillo, Human Trafficking is almost always related with operations of resources from an illicit origin, a chapter in which they're working to detect suspicious bank operations and the use of bitcoins. "Traffickers tend to use diverse mechanisms to move their resources thus committing other types of crimes, as is the case of money laundering."

https://www.uif.gob.mx/work/models/uif/librerias /documentos/tipologias/Tipologia\_Trata\_Lenocinio.pdf



## EVERYTHING COUNTS: TOGETHER AGAINST TRAFFICKING

The work of the Citizen Council in the fight against Human Trafficking is renowned nationwide, in other aspects, by participating in the Inter-Ministry Commission for the Prevention, Sanction and Eradication of Crimes in Matters of Human Trafficking.

#### NATIONAL LINE AND ©HAT AGAINST - HUMAN TRAFFICKING **800 5533 000**-

promote it as a channel for safe denunciation.

As part of this work, the Council participated in the elaboration of the National Program to Prevent, Sanction and Eradicate Crimes in Matters of Human Trafficking and to protect and help victims of these crimes 2019-2024.

Also, it collaborated in a legal-normative



The Citizen Council participates in the Interministerial Commission against Human Trafficking, headed by the Secretary of the Interior, Olga Sánchez Cordero.

This organization is in charge of defining and coordinating the implementation of a State policy against this crime and it's presided by the Secretary of Government Olga Sánchez Cordero. Leading the Technical Ministry is Félix Santana Ángeles and it's integrated by different Government instances such as:

The Foreign Relations Ministry

- Citizen Safety and Protection Ministry
- Ministry of Laborand Social Welfare
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Tourism
- -General Attorney's Office in the Republic
- National Migration Institute
- National Women's Institute

The Citizen Council participates in the Commission where it has positioned the LNCTP, meaning that all the dissemination and Trafficking prevention materials include it an analysis of chapter 23 of the T-MEC that establishes the fight against forced or mandatory labor in Mexico, United States and Canada.

The Citizen Council also participates in the Inter-institutional Commission against Human Trafficking in Mexico City, presided in 2019 and 2020 by the Ministry of Government and contributes with strategies and prevention campaigns against this crime in a local context.

http://directorio.consejociudadanomx.org.mx/



#### NATIONAL LINE AND ©HAT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING 800 5533 000—

Among other dependencies, this Commission is integrated by the Fiscalía General de Justicia de la Ciudad de México, the Comisión de Atención a Víctimas y el Sistema Integral para el Desarrollo de la Familia (DIF).

## THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUING WITH ONLINE SUPPORT

The LNCTP's directory is a tool that's integrated by over one thousand service providers including authorities for the procurement of justice, local and federal government institutions, organisms of the civil society (that own refuges, shelters and other aids) and academics. This allows connecting and/or channeling reports with the different sectors, in agreement with people's needs.

On the other hand, throughout these years we've worked in coordination and collaboration with the Special Attorney's Office for Crimes of Violence Against Women and Human Trafficking (Fevimtra) of the General Attorney's office and with the Trafficking Office in Mexico City and in other states.

During these years we strengthened bonds with the Human Rights National Commission (CNDH) and we created new alliances with authorities such as the Specialized Unit in Investigation of Minors, People and Organ Trafficking (UEITMPO) of the Specialized Assistant Attorney General in Investigation of Organized Delinquency (SEIDO).

These actions have enabled offering opportune attention to victims of Trafficking and contribute to the opening of investigation files and rescue of victims.



## THE FIGHT, A TASK FOR ALL

When Ana received the call from the National Line of the Citizen Council, she had a few hours of having come back home and still didn't understand that she had been a victim of the crime of Human Trafficking. A family member asked the Citizen Council to contact her.

She only knew that a woman had involved her in a network of social services. Ana was "deceived" in a motel in Puebla, where she worked.

On one of her dates, the young woman met a man who offered help to leave that situation and go back home. Ana returned with her mother, who had already called the National Line. After a process of sensitization and attention from our counselor, the woman agreed to receive help. She joined the ANTHUS association to receive attention and treatment.

### **TRAINING, VITAL FOR PREVENTION**



Preventing the crime of trafficking is understanding its dynamic and disseminating it with the purpose of bringing that knowledge to people and minimizing the risks of them being victims.

One of the fundamental tasks of the Program Together Against Trafficking is to work in training for the attention and prevention of the crime in diverse sectors, mainly among women, girls, boys, teenagers and young people. The Citizen Council trains different actors including authorities on citizen safety, so that they have a general scope of the greatest risks, and so that they can identify possible victims.

During 2020 and derived from the COVID-19 contingency and as part of the adaptation to the new normality, the Council redesigned work strategies and it began to offer workshops, lectures and trainings through digital platforms like Saberes, created by the Citizen Council for long distance training, with interactive audiovisual contents for all audiences.

In two years we trained a total of 2 thousand 8 people, 1,072 in 2019 and 936 in 2020.

In 2017 the Citizen Council established an alliance with Truckers Against Trafficking for

NATIONAL LINE AND ©HAT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING 800 5533 000

the prevention and fight against Human Trafficking.

It works through training and sensitization because public, commercial and tourist transport operators play a very important role identifying possible victims.

Transport drivers are taught how to report at the LNCTP 800 5533 000 or, in its case, inform an authority if there's a risk or real and imminent danger, and they receive a certification known as "Asphalt Guardian".

Since January 2019 235 asphalt guardians have been trained in states such as Puebla, the State of Mexico, Nuevo León, Sonora, Chihuahua, Veracruz, Campeche and Tabasco.



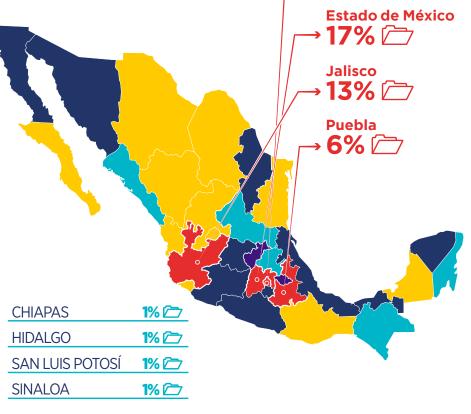
**Ciudad de México** 

28%

## **INVESTIGATION FILES**

From 2019 to may 2021 the Citizen Council has contributed with opening 126 investigation files for Human Trafficking in 21 entities, mainly: Mexico City, the State of Mexico and Jalisco

QUERÉTARO	4% 🗁
TLAXCALA	4% 🗁
BAJA CALIFORNIA	3% 🗁
SONORA	3% 🗁
TABASCO	3% 🗁
GUANAJUATO	2% 🗁
GUERRERO	2% 🗁
MICHOACÁN	2% 🗁
MORELOS	2% 🗁
NUEVO LEÓN	2% 🗁
YUCATÁN	2% 🗁
VERACRUZ	2% 🗁



## **OUR ALLIES SAY**

chula and the increase in the number of migrant women has been 100% more than in other years, a fact that, added to the COVID-19 pandemic, is a reason for them to be easily hooked.

We have made alliances with the International Organization for Migrants (OIM) in which we formed a network of organizations for the attention of Human Trafficking in the northern triangle and the southern border in Mexico, with the purpose of monitoring and giving attention to victims.

Elsa Simón Ortega President of Por la Superación de la Mujer

## RAHAMIM

We regret that, despite the confinement due to the pandemic, people continued to go missing, violence against women and feminicides increased. Migrants continued to arrive, real job offers were

scarce will fake ones increased and so we are in a situation of great vulnerability; the continuous use of internet and social networks augment this situation.

As far as sexually exploited women, both in Mexico City and Puebla they are at a greater risk and hooking through social networks has increased. There are also more women working in the streets and they are in a critical economical situation, so they continue to prostitute themselves in order to get more money by offering more services without any method to protect themselves from COVID-19.

> Herman Carmen Ugarte García Coordinator Red Rahamim-Red of Consecrated Life Against Human Trafficking







POR LA SUPERACIÓN DE LA MUJER

I regret to say that authorities in Chiapas have been careless about the topic of Human Trafficking because it's a topic that is not easily detected and they have to invest resources to detect victims. We have a lot of migrants stuck in Tapa-

## **OUR ALLIES SAY**





#### **SIN FRONTERAS**

Human Trafficking is one of the topics in which we've worked more recently at the organization. It's a problem that is almost impossible to cover due to the lack of data, information and interest from different government instances.

At Sin Fronteras, this is a problem we started to detect more and more in the attentions we offer migrants who seek for international protection in Mexico, even during the current context of the pandemic.

Many times, following up on these cases, we continue to find practices of discrimination and lack of sensitivity on the part of authorities when they offer attention to these crimes. People and up abandoning their legal processes because they don't trust institutions and authorities.

Beyond the viability of treaties of national laws, we are facing a scenario in which certain patterns continue to be reproduced and they don't allow guaranteeing the safety and rights of victims.

> Ana Mercedes Saiz Valenzuela General Director of SIN FRONTERAS

### SINTRATA

During the first months of the pandemic it was necessary to create an emergency fund to support women and families belonging to our community. We provided economical and material aids in the form of groceries and medicines to survivors of the crime of Human Trafficking and members of groups that searched for missing women and children. The reason why it was necessary to create an emergency fund was due to the loss of employment and health problems.



We believe that the challenges we will face after the pandemic are related with responding to the increase in vulnerability conditions. The economical crisis generates unemployment, the collapse of small business, poverty and more debts, as well as the emotional wear out due to these problems. The consequences of the pandemic put potential and current victims at risk of Human Trafficking, mainly in populations of children and teenagers who have to leave school and/or financially support their families; people who work and depend on sectors at risk of Human Trafficking, such as housework, agriculture, construction and factories, and migrant people who are looking for better opportunities. We know that the crime has worsened during the pandemic by using more frequently the cyber space to hook and exploit people.

Maestra Mariana Ruenes de la Fuente President and Founder of Sintrata, A.C.

## **OUR ALLIES SAY**



#### **TRUCKERS AGAINST TRAFFICKING**

Imagínese si los profesionales del transporte en toda América del Norte fueran educados, equipados y empoderados para reconocer los signos de la Trata de Personas y supieran cómo responder. Con Truckers Against Trafficking operando en Canadá y Estados Unidos y Guardianes del Asfalto en México, existe el potencial de paralizar las redes de tratantes mientras recuperan a las víctimas y arrestan a los perpetradores. El potencial

de éxito es enorme a medida que trabajamos juntos a través de las fronteras, por lo que estamos agradecidos por nuestra asociación con el Consejo Ciudadano.

> Kylla Lanier Deputy Director & Co-founder of Truckers Against Trafficking

#### UNODC

In the crime of Human Trafficking criminals are adjusting their business models to the "new normality". At the same time, COVID-19 has an impact on the state authorities' capacity and non-government organizations (ONG) in the provision of essential services for victims.

Recommendations for action:

· It's necessary to gather and analyze data about the effects of COVID-19 in Human Trafficking.

 $\cdot$  Countries must continue to support the work against Trafficking and adapt their assistance programs to the new and extraordinary circumstances created by the pandemic and its sequels.

 $\cdot$  Agents in charge of enforcing the law must stay alert to face the new and changing criminal modalities.

 $\cdot$  Whenever possible, technology must be used to enable access to legal processes and facilitate gathering and presenting proof, delivering documents and presenting or solving motions or petitions at court.

