

## Zakarpattia Women's NGO Vesta

- Founded in August 2001
- Since 2002, member of the national NGO network to combat trafficking in persons in Ukraine created by IOM
- Mission: provision of assistance and support to socially-unadapted groups based on the principle of confidentiality
- Goals: implementation of social projects, provision of information, legal, psychological and educational assistance to residents of Zakarpattia Oblast

## Key Areas of Work & Challenges

- Prevention of trafficking, assistance to victims
- Implementation of social programs using progressive methods
- Legal, psychological and socio-economic counselling
- Cooperation with state agencies, law enforcement, and NGOs to counter trafficking in persons
- Cooperation with mass media to highlight issues related to trafficking in persons and labor migration

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- Insufficient funding
- Office space
- Staff turnover
- Lack of support on behalf of state agencies

## **Main achievements**

- **103 victims of trafficking** provided with comprehensive assistance, including 15 children, 6 men, and 82 women and girls
- Functioning **Center for Migrant Advice**
- **5,000 persons** received consultations on legal psychological, and socio-economic issues
- Frequent organizer of thematic educational events for state agencies and law enforcement on trafficking in persons
- **Member of the Coordination Council** for countering trafficking in persons of the Zakarpattia Oblast State Administration
- **16 social projects** implemented

## **Main achievements (continued)**

The result of our work is improved understanding of the issue of trafficking in persons among:

- 90 employees of the State Service for Children
- 144 social workers
- 149 teachers
- 105 employment centers' specialists
- 137 journalists and journalism students at the local University
- 189 law enforcement officers