

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR EVALUATION OF ARISE PRESENCE IN ALBANIA

A. Overview

Albania is a global hotspot for human trafficking, with an estimated 34,000 people currently enslaved. Patriarchal norms make women and girls especially vulnerable to sexual violence and exploitation. Highly developed criminal networks exploit Albania's high levels of poverty and corruption, rendering Albanians one of the largest groups of foreign trafficked victims in the United Kingdom and other parts of Europe. As treatment of Albanian victims becomes increasingly harsh and politicised throughout the continent, it is critical that victims, including those vulnerable to re-trafficking, are protected at source.

Despite the challenges in combating human trafficking and exploitation in Albania, Arise is proud to work with a resilient group of NGOs within the United Response Against Trafficking (URAT) Network. The member organisations of this network have combined over two decades of expertise in delivering extensive rehabilitation, reintegration, and prevention services for victims of trafficking and vulnerable communities. Their multidisciplinary team comprises dedicated case managers, medical professionals, psychologists, educators, legal experts, economic empowerment specialists, shelter administrators, and reintegration coordinators.

B. Background

Through its presence in Albania, Arise supports member organisations of the URAT anti-trafficking network, which are working to prevent human trafficking in Albania.

Arise has worked in Albania for 6 years, and has established a presence through the role of the Arise Albania Coordinator since May 2022. Arise aims to conduct an evaluation to explore how effective this presence has been in Albania over the past 2 years, and its impact on the fight against human trafficking in Albania. Therefore, this evaluation aims to focus on **four key components**:

1. Evaluate if the grants provided by Arise to local organisations in Albania, brought lasting change in the lives of those targeted from the interventions.
2. Assess the role that Arise had on the effectiveness of the URAT network, including the strength of connections, coordination, and collaborations among organisations.
3. Analyse the impact of advocacy and awareness-raising activities on legislative changes and the prevalence of slavery and human trafficking in Albania, whether human trafficking rates, number of prosecutions, and number of convictions, are increasing or decreasing.
4. Analyse the impact of capacity-building sessions and tailored communications support for designated organisations. (Assessing the effectiveness of the support provided in strengthening organisational presence and awareness raising through social media outreach).

Users of evaluation

Findings and recommendations from this evaluation will be discussed and used by the internal and external stakeholders of Arise.

Scope of evaluation

This evaluation will cover all the activities implemented by Arise in Albania from June 2022 to June 2024, and sampling will be drawn from 10 network members.

C. Evaluation Criteria and Questions

1. Relevance

- a. To what extent does the Arise Albania presence respond to the needs of the network and its members?

2. Effectiveness

a. Component 1: Alignment and sufficiency of grant support to the actual needs of anti-trafficking efforts

- How did the grants address the specific needs identified by anti-trafficking organisations?
- Were the provided grants adequate to support meaningful progress in preventing human trafficking?
- What were the key outcomes or achievements resulting from the grant-supported initiatives?
- Were there any challenges or gaps in the grant allocation process that hindered the impact of the support provided?
- How did the grant support contribute to long-term sustainability and resilience in anti-trafficking efforts?

b. Component 2: Network strengthening

- What specific contributions did Arise make to enhancing coordination and collaboration within the URAT network?
- What is the number of meetings held since 2022?
- What is the number of new members since 2022?
- What is the % change in members' engagement or commitment since 2022?
- What is the number of members that increased their engagement in the network since 2022 (using a progression model to measure engagement)?
- To what extent did the regularity of contact between members increase since 2022?
- To what extent did network-facilitated actions increase since 2022?

c. Component 3: Analyse the impact of advocacy and awareness-raising activities on legislative changes and societal perceptions of human trafficking.

- To what extent did advocacy efforts contribute to a stronger response against human trafficking and support for anti-trafficking services from public institutions?
- How did advocacy campaigns influence public awareness and perceptions regarding human trafficking issues?
- Were there any notable challenges or successes in engaging the public and stakeholders through awareness-raising initiatives?
- What role did media and public outreach play in amplifying the impact of advocacy and awareness-raising activities?

- How sustainable are the gains achieved through advocacy efforts regarding long-term policy changes and societal attitudes?

d. Component 4: Capacity building

- To what extent did the confidence of network members and the application of topics change after the capacity-building training sessions?
- To what extent did the network members apply training topics? (impact measurement, strategic communication, identification of online forms of human trafficking, knowledge of anti-trafficking legislation).
- Were the tailored communications support strategies successful in improving organisational presence and outreach?
- What measurable impacts were observed in terms of increased public engagement or stakeholder involvement due to the communications support?

3. Efficiency

- Were the project resources(Financial, human and time) used appropriately?

4. Sustainability and the likelihood of achieving the intended impact

- Is the Arise Albania presence on course to achieving intended long-term changes and goals?
- To what extent has the Albania presence contributed to building the capacity of the anti-trafficking network and strengthening the network structure?
- To what extent has the support provided by Arise helped frontline organisations to effectively implement interventions in at-risk communities?
- How likely will the positive changes that came about as a result of the Arise Albania presence support continue?

D. Methodology

The consultant/team is expected to use appropriate methodologies relevant to the project and context in adherence to national and regional evaluation standards. It is expected that the following evaluation methodology should be applied:

1. A desk review of existing relevant documents such as logical framework, annual reports, and reports of findings from consultation surveys.
2. A mixed method for data collection and analysis such as but not limited to structured surveys of network members of **approximately 20 respondents from 10 organisations**, observations, and in-depth interviews.
3. Site visits and case studies from a diverse range of organisational contexts.
4. Specific assessments for communications and web development impacts using digital analytics and user feedback.

E. Evaluation activities and schedule

Task	Deliverable	Timeframe
Planning Phase		

Inception meeting	Kick-off meeting	Week 1
Desk review and preparation of inception report	Inception report	Week 2
Implementation Phase		
Fieldwork, data cleaning and analysis	Draft report of findings	Week 3 + 4
Presentation and validation of preliminary findings	Report validation meeting with Arise Team and stakeholder representatives	Week 5
Revise and Finalise report	Final report	Week 5

Suggested timetable	
2-3 days: Inception process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review evaluation objectives and scope ● Develop evaluation methodology and tools ● Desk review
1-2 days: Preparation for data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Finalise data collection plan ● Arrange logistics and dates for field visits or interviews
3-4 days: Data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conduct interviews, surveys, and data collection activities ● Monitor data quality and address any issues promptly ● Compile and organise collected data for analysis
2-3 days: Data analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Analyse quantitative and qualitative data ● Identify key findings and trends ● Prepare a structure for the final report
2-3 days: Report writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Draft evaluation report with findings, conclusions, and recommendations ● Review and revise the report based on feedback from the evaluation team
1 day: Presentation and validation of findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Present evaluation findings to stakeholders ● Facilitate discussions and gather feedback
1-2 days: Finalisation and submission of the report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Finalise the evaluation report ● Submit the final report to the Arise team

F. Budget

- Interested evaluators or firms are expected to submit a budget as a separate document from the proposal;
- A total of **18 days** are anticipated for this consultancy;
- 50% of fees will be paid on presentation of the inception report, and 50% on acceptance of the final report.

G. Experience and qualifications of the consultant/service provider

Bidders should have:

- Extensive experience in conducting evaluations for social impact initiatives/ non-governmental organisations (NGOs);
- Knowledge of local and regional trends and root causes of human trafficking;
- Ability to produce well-written and analytical reports and to present findings in English and Albanian.

Desirable:

- Experience working with vulnerable groups;
- Experience conducting evaluations for counter-trafficking interventions in Albania;
- Experience conducting assessments for communications and web development impacts using digital analytics.

H. Application process

Please submit the following application documents to anxhela@arise.foundation, no later than **16:30 pm CET, 31st July 2024**, subject line "Evaluation - Arise Presence in Albania" and include all supporting documents.

Expressions of interest should include:

- Financial proposal
- CVs of members of the evaluation team