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Project title: Strengthening the Identification and Integration of Survivors of Sex Trafficking from West Africa through a Peer-to-Peer-Approach and through Transnational Deportation Counseling and Assistance (SISA)

WP4: Transnational Deportation Counselling and Assistance

Case Study #4

Organisation that has provided deportation counselling and assistance during deportation:

The Justice Project e.V. (TJP)

Organisation that has provided assistance during deportation and ongoing assistance after deportation: Pope John XXIII Community Association (APG23)

The client received psychosocial counselling from The Justice Project e.V. (TJP) since the beginning of 2021.

May
2021

In the course of meeting with the client, it was discovered that she held an Italian Passport and was not subject to Dublin Return. The client expressed concerns about her ability to successfully integrate into the German Culture and wanted assistance in relocating to Italy in a supported context. Relevant information from the SISA Pre-Return Manual was shared with the client and direct contact was made to SISA Partner, APG23 in Italy.

May
2021

Social worker in Germany (TJP) exchanges information with social worker in Italy (APG23) to find out what help is available for the client. Social worker presents the help available in Italy to the client. She is somewhat disappointed and wants to go to England. Social worker provides further clarification regarding offers of help. Client then actually wants to go to Italy.

→ Since the client has an Italian passport, she can't receive the help available for asylum seekers and Dublin returnees. Instead, she falls into the clientele of homeless assistance until she finds a job and a place to live.

	APG23 can help with referrals but cannot offer housing.
May 2021	Social worker in Germany (TJP) fills out the client information sheet together with the client (see SISA website) and sends it to the social worker in Italy (APG23).
May 2021	Client travels to Rome on her own. During the trip, she informs the social worker in Germany and the social worker in Italy about it.
May 2021	There are some misunderstandings because the client introduced herself to the social worker in Italy with a different name. Phone calls between the social worker in Germany and the social worker in Italy were able to clear up misunderstandings and exchange important information about the client.
May 2021	The Italian social worker refers the client to the Homeless Services in Rome. The client is not satisfied with the assistance offered. She therefore sleeps in a hotel in Rome at her own expense.
May 2021	Client informs German social worker that she has moved to Denmark and asks for help there.
May 2021	German social worker tries to stabilize client psychosocially. She also explains to the client that because of her Italian passport, the assistance available to her is similar in all EU countries (she cannot apply for asylum, but falls into the assistance system for the homeless).
June 2021	Client informs German social worker that she is now back in Germany, in Dortmund. Lots of psychosocial stabilization on the phone. Referral to women's aid organization specializing in human trafficking in Dortmund. They in turn accompany the woman in the help system in Dortmund.
June 2021	Client surprisingly shows up in Karlsruhe and asks for help. Meanwhile, the social workers in Dortmund have found a good housing and assistance offer for the client. The social worker in Karlsruhe does extensive counseling with the client and the client finally decides to take up the offer in Dortmund and goes back. The case is handed over to the social worker in Dortmund for ongoing support.

→ The client's volatility can be attributed to the post-traumatic stress disorder resulting from her exploitation. A lot of psychosocial support and trauma-sensitive stabilization can help to stabilize the client and help her to make logical decisions and accept the help offered. If the client is willing, a connection to a specialized trauma therapist should follow.