

Information on Projects of the RCT/EMPATHY, Georgia



PRACTICAL GUIDELINE FOR BENEFICIARIES

Who Can Apply
How to Apply
Services and Branch Offices

Donors: European Union, UNVFVT, IRCT/Oak, FCO



Tbilisi 2006

Information on Projects of the RCT/EMPATHY, Georgia

How to Apply

The International Psycho – Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture, Violence and Pronounced Stress Impact “EMPATHY” (RCT/EMPATHY, Georgia);

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RCT/EMPATHY, Georgia Staff



The Rehabilitation Centre in Women Colony in Tbilisi

MoJ Prison Department's Facility N5

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The Monitoring and Crisis intervention Programme in Juvenile's Pre – Trial Prison MoJ Prisons' Department Facility N5; Prison Hospital and other Prison Institution;

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The Rehabilitation Centre in Juvenile Colony (MoJ Prisons' Department's Juvenile Correction Facility)

The Rehabilitation Centre and Art Studio for Probation Service's Users

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Services, Activities, Beneficiaries, Outcomes

**Project “The Programme of Rehabilitation of Torture Victims in Georgia”
(Duration of the Project three years – 2006 – 2008);**

The aim of this proposal is to create a sound foundation for a non-governmental, nationwide system focusing on the medical and psycho – social rehabilitation of all torture victims in Georgia; to set up the international standards (**Istanbul Protocol**) for identification, medical and mental/psychological expertise of torture victims in Georgia; to promote the creation of torture preventing national mechanisms, Ratification and Implementation of UN Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture ..., etc., in Georgia as well. The program will also focus on skills-based training, awareness building, and institutional capacity building of EMPATHY and Partners.

Who Can Apply

The main beneficiaries of the project are the torture and ill – treatment victims in accordance with UN Convention against Torture ... Article 1. These target groups includes the Refugees from Chechnya, IDPs from Abkhazia and South Osetia; Civilian population living in the regions of Abkhazia, especially Gali region; Prisoners and former prisoners and other current and previous ill – treatment victims, especially the prisoners need in adequate medical services. Total N of clients should be about 500 persons per – year.



RCT/EMPATHY President with students. Lecture on Torture Outcomes at the Research Institute of Psychiatry



Project is implemented in the regions of Georgia, including the Penal System of Georgia and Military Conflict Zone in Abkhazia (Gali Region), nearest military conflict zones in Pankisi and Gori region.

Services and Activities

Project is focused on long – term and short term rehabilitation for victims of torture that includes MDT treatment and rehabilitation with participation of the several specialists: Doctors, Psychologists, Psychotherapists; Social Workers; Lawyer etc; The RCT/EMPATHY staff and other invited consultants from other State and Non State medical institutions are involved in the project; Totally about 41 persons high qualified specialists are involved permanently in the implementation of the project.

The main activities included but not limited: (1) Multi - profile treatment and rehabilitation of torture victims in Georgia, including medical, mental and psychological, social and legal support for victims of torture, both long term and short term too; (2) Preparation of the independent medical experts conclusion according to the “Istanbul Protocol” for lawyers of Victims of Torture, as well as for local and international criminal courts and for international tribunals too. (3) Mobile group activities will be implemented in the high risk areas (in military conflict regions and in pre – trial prisons). (4) the special duty doctors department with hot line service or online emergency reacting service is established and operated.

Unique to any other program in the FSU, (1) this program will include rehabilitation efforts for victims who are still inside the penitentiary system, as well as for free, or never incarcerated victims. (2) Providing the Independent Medical and Psychological Forensic Expertise for documenting of torture cases for submitting to the Courts; (3) Hot line and reacting mobile group activities in Police and Pre - Trial detention Centres; (4) Project implementation at the Military Conflict Zone (in Abkhazia); (5) Project implementation at the forensic psychiatry hospitals; (6) Specific Training – Educational programme: including the Health Care standards for prisons, international medical ethics principles and other relevant materials on torture documentation and rehabilitation;

Services:

- ❖ **Medical**
- ❖ **Psychiatric**
- ❖ **Psychotherapy (Individual, Group and Family)**
- ❖ **Art Therapy**
- ❖ **Public – educational group therapy with using of the movies**
- ❖ **Physiotherapy, Laser therapy and Acupuncture ,**
- ❖ **Counseling**
- ❖ **Community visits**
- ❖ **Referrals**
- ❖ **Financial assistance (support for travel and accommodation for out patient type treatment for VT)**
- ❖ **Social welfare**
- ❖ **Family – based treatment**
- ❖ **Psychological**
- ❖ **Legal**
- ❖ **Centre is providing independent forensic expertise medical and psychiatric/psychological in accordance with Istanbul Protocol.**
- ❖ **“Hot Line” – for immediate response and crisis intervention.**

Partner organizations:

The Penal Reform International (South Caucasian Office); Georgian Medical Association and Crisis Intervention Centre of the Women’s Association of Darcheli and Nabakevi (Abkhazia/Georgia);



Conference, Tbilisi, May 15, 2006

Associated Partners are: Georgian Ombudsman Office; Ministry of Justice of Georgia, especially Prison's Department; Public Broad Casting of Georgia – is providing programme and Hot Line advertisement.

Contracting authorities: Multi Profile Treatment Centre Outpatient Clinic in Tbilisi; National Centre of Therapy; Research Institute of Gynecology; National Centre of Urology; Forensic Expertise Centre "Vektori" etc; RCT/EMPATHY is collaborate with Research Institute of Psychiatry; National Centre of Oncology; TSMU Central Clinic; and other needed health care institutions in Georgia.

The Informational Support is providing by the International Rehabilitation Council for Victims of Torture (IRCT, Copenhagen, Denmark) and Public Broadcasting of Georgia.

Ongoing outcomes:

Total N of Treated and Rehabilitated direct beneficiaries up today are 717 persons; among them 276 Women, 288 Men and 153 Juveniles and Children. Ongoing cases are 110 – among them 37 Men; 42 Women, Juvenile 33. Ongoing cases in the Court are 2 cases; during the year about 11 cases were provided medical and psychological expertise in accordance with IP and the forensic expertise are provided in four cases. Family rehabilitation was provided in 119 cases.

The Round Table meeting related to torture with participation of several state and non – state agencies, including international organizations was held in May 15, 2006.

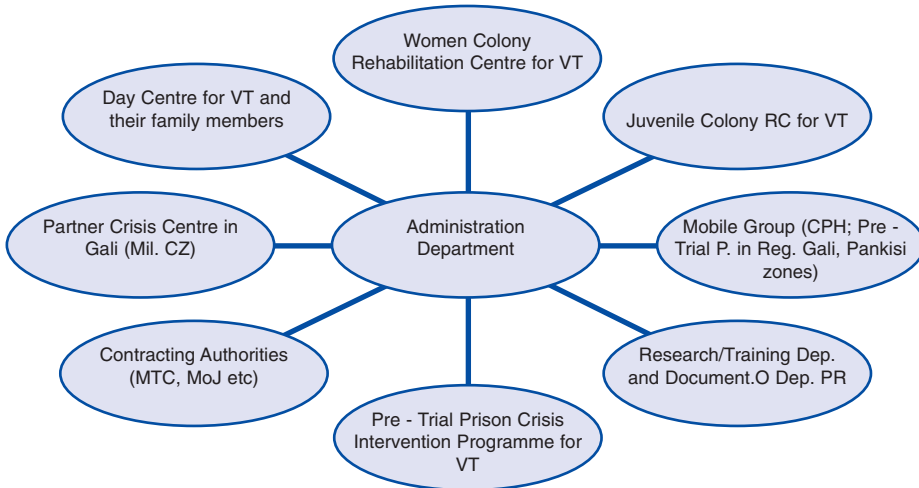
The III Conference “Together against Torture” was held in 26 June – UN International Day in Support of Victims of Torture; the several important presentations were presented during this Conference and Round table meeting on Current situation on Torture field in Georgia and the Recommendations on Reforms especially on Prisons’ Medical reform was presented too.

The Special Declaration “Together against Torture” was elaborated presented during the 26 June Conference and will be submitted to the President of Georgia, Parliament and Government of Georgia together of Published Conference materials in the end of the year.

The special posters and leaflets on the project and “Hot Line” was published and distributed in Penal System and in the Police stations in Tbilisi, in Kutaisi, in Batumi and in Zugdidi – Pre – Trial Prisons too, as well as at the Ombudsman Offices.

The crisis intervention, monitoring and consulting programme was provided in the Prison N5, Prison N1, Prison N6, Prison N7; Kutaisi Prison, Zugdidi and Batumi Prison; Rustavi Men Colony N1; Central Prison Hospital and in the Poti Forensic Psychiatry Hospital and Street Children Centre in Tbilisi as well. The consultancy visits were provided in Pankisi region, in Gori and in Gali region as well.

**Organigramme of Activities for three Years Macro Project
“The Programme of Rehabilitation of Torture Victims in Georgia”;**



The new project of the RCT/EMPATHY is “The Implementation of International Standards on Prevention of Torture in Georgia” is started in October 1, 2006.

The overall goal of this proposal is monitoring and support on implementation of the international standards on prevention of torture in Georgia; to develop the model (pilot project) of rehabilitation programme for specific vulnerable groups in Georgia.

This overall goal is included following themes: (1) To promote of implementation of Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against torture and other Cruel or Degrading Treatment and Punishment; (2) To elaborate of recommendations for necessity legislative changes on the Code of Imprisonment of Georgia, according to the international standards for imprisonment (CPT, UN etc), as well as urgent recommendations for Health System, especially mental health, reform in penal system in Georgia; (3) To promote of changes of the criminal code of Georgia on prison alternatives and conditional sentences (Development of Probation System in Georgia). (4) To set up the special monitoring and supporting programme for **specific groups of prisoners – prisoners with mental illness and other severe chronic mental health problems**; as well as juveniles being in new pre – trial prison in Tbilisi (Women’s and Juveniles Facility #5) (5) to sent up the new model of the rehabilitation programme for probation services’ users; (6) to implement the specific Torture



Prevention Training Programme for representatives of the Monitoring and Reform Department of the MoJ, for the Monitoring Group of the Public Defenders Office and for the Probation Officers.

Who Can Apply

Main target groups were: (1) Torture and Ill – treatment victims – specific vulnerable groups – Prisoners with mental illness that instead of international standards still are in the prison facilities and are subjects of ill – treatment, beating and other inhuman or degrading attitude. (2) Specific group – juveniles being in the Pre – Trial prison (new opened facility) in Tbilisi (#5) – with experience of torture, ill – treatment, lack of the medical aid and psychological or social support in the prison, with “street child “ experience, or violence and inhuman treatment experience. (Total N of beneficiaries 250 persons per year).

(3) Target group for the Training programme will be the representatives of the MoJ Monitoring and Reform Department; Representatives of the Mol monitoring Departments and Public Defenders Office Representatives, Total # 30 persons

Total number of target beneficiaries; Torture and Ill – Treatment Victims – 270 persons and 30 persons will be trained on prevention of torture;

Duration of the project 12 months.

Ongoing outcomes:

- ❖ About 20 persons prisoners were identified with mental illness; and 10 persons are in the waiting list that is submitted by the Ombudsman of Georgia to the RCT/EMPATHY, Georgia.
- ❖ 8 Juveniles from Pre – Trial Juvenile Prison was investigated and the medical and psycho – social support is providing;
- ❖ 3 persons probationers were send from Probation Bureau to the RCT/EMPATHY for participation in the Programme;
- ❖ The informational meeting with probationers' juveniles was provided at the Probation Bureau Office in Tbilisi.
- ❖ The Art Studio is established;
- ❖ The negotiation with Administration of Pre – Trial Prison for Juveniles is providing on establishing the Crisis Intervention Cabinet in the Juveniles Pre – Trial Prison in Tbilisi.

The presented project presents urgent response on the created difficult situation in MoJ on Health Care System (The Medical Department was abolished and doctors are under the Prison Department etc), as well as that is the urgent response on the request in support from the Probation

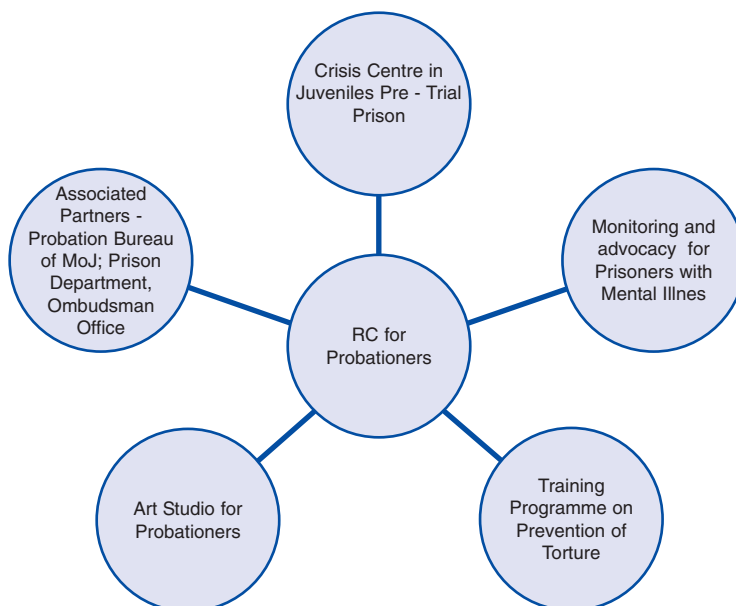
Services Authorities' and probationers' side too. And urgent response on critical situation existing regarding health condition of juveniles in Juvenile Pre – Trial Prison that in the current year was transferred from the Pre – Trial Prison # 5 to the separate Pre – Trial Prison for Juvenile; Is urgent response on critical and dramatic situation created in respect of prisoners with mental illness in Georgian penal system as well.

Partner organization: Society of Georgian Psychiatrists

Associated Partners:

- ❖ **Probation Department of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia**
- ❖ **Prison Department of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia**
- ❖ **Reforms Monitoring Department of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia**
- ❖ **Public Defender of Georgia**

**Organigramme of Activities of the Micro Project
“Implementation of the International Standards on Prevention
of Torture in Georgia”**



Funding:

The Financial support for projects of the RCT/EMPATHY is provided by European Union, UNVFVT, IRCT/Oak, and FCO



This project
is funded by the
European Union



UNVFVT



IRCT



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

How the both projects build to each – other

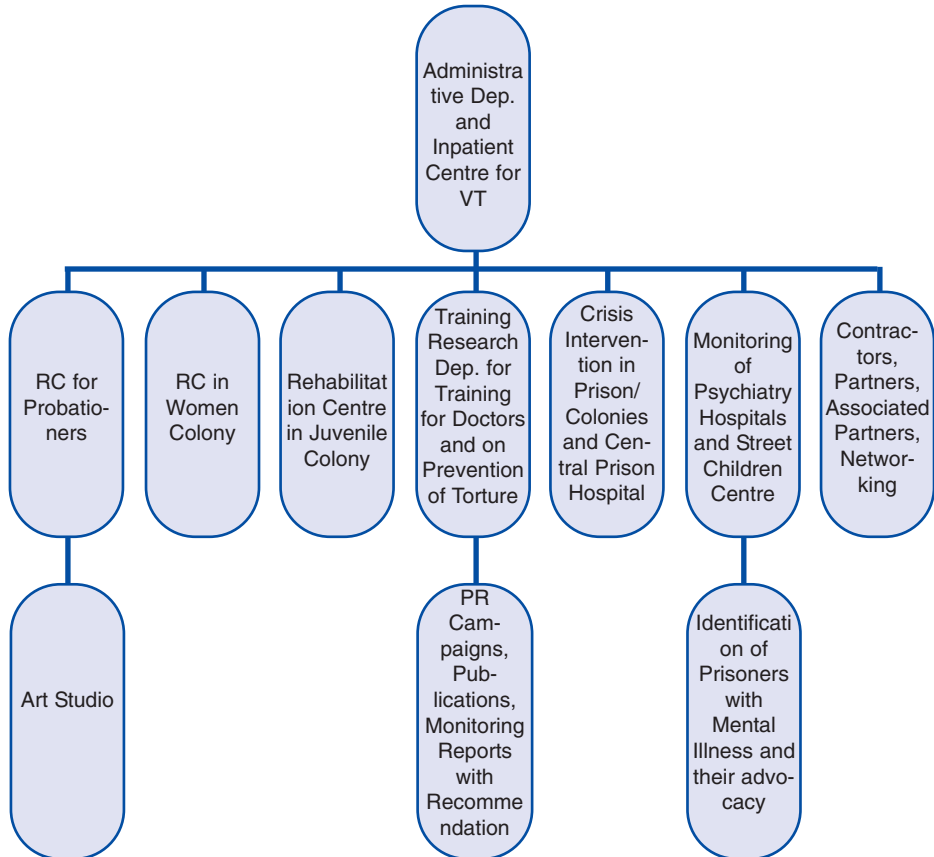
It should be mentioned that the presented programme is development of the new directions of the RCT/EMPATHY that already was approved and includes: (1) Programme for Juveniles in Juveniles Pre – Trial Prison; (2) Specific Client Advocacy and support programme for Prisoners with Mental Illness (3) Specific DRC and Art Studio for re – socialization of the offenders (probationers); (4) Specific training programme for the monitors; (5) Specific recommendations and activities for implementation of the international standards on prevention of torture in Georgia;

The listed activities is not cover the 3 years EMPATHY project activities and will be successfully build in the related activities of the other EMPATHY and partners' project.



*26 June Conference “Together Against Torture”,
Prisoners Art work Sale-Exhibition*

Organigramme of the Services of the RCT/EMPATHY and Partners



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