

Task Force Objectives

The overall objective

The overall objective of the CBSS Task Force, which is appointed on expert level, is to counteract trafficking in human beings in the Baltic Sea Region through preventive and protective activities. The emphasis is on practical hands on work.

The CBSS Task Force represents continuation, although in different format, to the former Nordic Baltic Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings, 2003-2006.

There should be a possibility to continuously revise the exact objectives and methods of work and activities, in light of development concerning trafficking in human beings in the region as new insights are gained into the issues at hand.

Why a CBSS Task Force with focus only on adults?

Diversified efforts are already undertaken within the CBSS to address the problem on local, national and regional levels and through bilateral and multilateral channels. All the CBSS countries are actively taking part in the [Working Group for Co-operation on Children at risk \(WGCC\)](#) focusing on strengthening preventive and rehabilitation / reintegration measures and support to young persons below age of 18.

The CBSS Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings is focusing on persons over the age of 18 and is thereby complementing the work already ongoing in the WGCC, focusing on children and young persons below the age 18.

Repressive measures in the area of trafficking in human beings within the CBSS framework are handled by the [Task Force on Organised Crime](#). The challenges for the CBSS Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings are to address the gaps in the existing work, nationally and in the region.

Structure of work

Hands-on co-operation between experts

The CBSS Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings will carry out concrete, practical hands on work. While focusing on a particular problem, representatives also from other initiatives in/outside the CBSS structure (i.e. Nordic Council of Ministers, other CBSS bodies, EU, UN, OSCE and NGO:s etc) can be invited to take an active part in activities.

Furthermore, the CBSS Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings can if/when appropriate e.g. establish temporary sub groups on specific topics, projects or initiatives. Also other countries or organisations can be invited to join the efforts on an ad-hoc basis or at a later stage.

Composition of the Task Force

The new CBSS Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings is composed of experts from relevant ministries/authorities.

Secretarial function

The secretarial function is based in the CBSS Secretariat and serves as secretary to the Task Force.

Duration of Chairmanships

The Chairmanship of the Task Force rotates among Member States on an annual basis as agreed regarding the CBSS Presidency (from July 1 to June 30).

Time frame

The mandate of the Task Force will initially terminate on 31 December 2007. Upon receiving a final report, the CSO could choose to prolong the co-operation within the framework of the CSO.

The methods of work:

- To facilitate and promote co-ordination, exchange of knowledge, results and best practices between existing local, regional, national and international efforts, to help ensure that a multi-dimensional and cross-sectoral approach is applied in and between countries in the Baltic Sea Region, and to stimulate and propose additional efforts.
- Share lessons learned and best practices with other regional organisations, supplementing their work and policies against trafficking in human beings.
- Make use of the experiences of existing network and initiatives in and between the countries in the region; make the work more efficient and avoid duplication by inviting representatives of other initiatives in the region (including CBSS bodies, Nordic Council of Ministers, EU, UN, OSCE and NGO:s.)
- If/when appropriate appoint temporary working groups to work on specific issues, project or initiative, if necessary.