

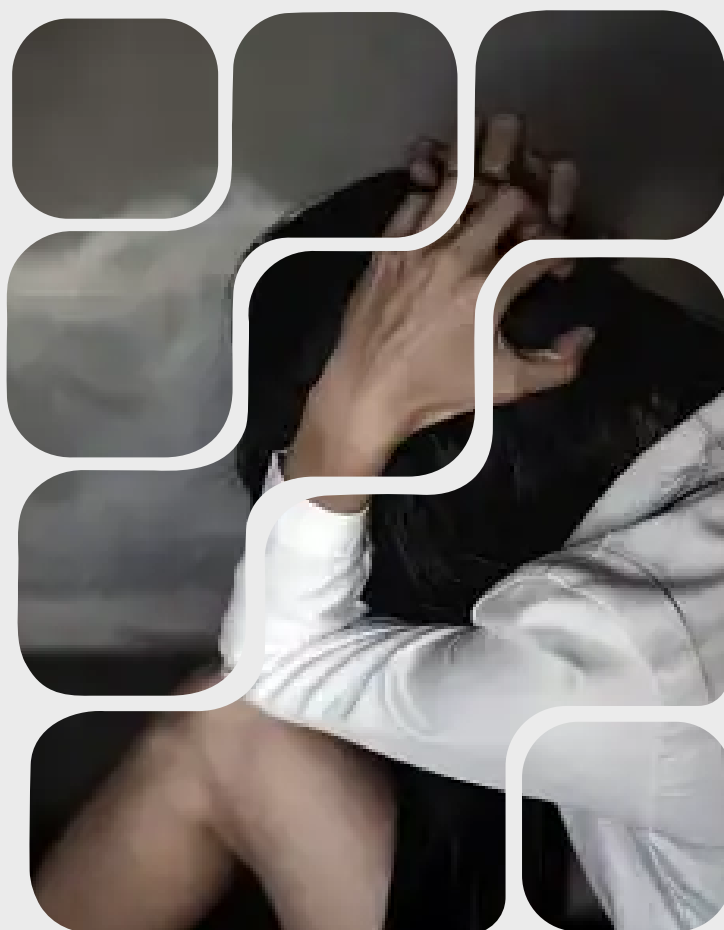
**External  
Evaluation**



**SAFE – SUPPORTING AND ACTING  
FOR EMPOWERMENT  
CREATE A SAFE WORLD**

**2025**

**TIRANA, ALBANIA**



Prepared by: Edlira Gjoni  
November 2025

# Table of Content

<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Methodology</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Overview of assessed criteria</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Main interventions and outcomes</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Findings at outcome level</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Stakeholders insights</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Analysis of the findings</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Detailed Criteria Assessments</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Strengths observed</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Other highlights</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Conclusions</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Reccomendations</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Annexes</b>	<b>24</b>





## Executive Summary

The external evaluation of the SAFE Project, implemented by the Mary Ward Loreto Foundation (MWL) and supported by Misan Cara, was conducted in October and November 2025.

The purpose of this evaluation is to provide an independent, evidence-based assessment of SAFE's performance, sustainability, and impact. Objectives include evaluating the project's relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and impact against its stated objectives and Misan Cara's development priorities.

The evaluation is based on comprehensive desk review, monitoring data analysis, interviews with stakeholders, MWL staff, partners, and beneficiaries.

The SAFE Project aimed to improve protection and life quality for victims and those at risk of trafficking, domestic and gender-based violence (GBV), while enhancing local capacity, youth engagement, and systemic responses through empowerment, advocacy, and Service Learning initiatives.



---

The project directly supported 356 beneficiaries, surpassing the target of 300, and indirectly reached over 700 individuals through advocacy and partnership activities. Key findings confirm the project's strong alignment with national anti-trafficking and human rights strategies, as well as with MWL's faith-based mission emphasizing human dignity and social justice.

Effectiveness was demonstrated through tangible results, including the establishment of the first Child Protection Service Expert Assistance in Saranda, the development and accreditation of professional training modules, and the promotion of youth civic engagement through Service Learning in five communities.

MWL-supported ASC activities delivered 970 advice and referral services, along with 236 direct services that included legal assistance, psychological support, food packages, rent support, healthcare, and transportation coverage. As a result of MWL's interventions, beneficiaries were also able to access 354 existing services.

The project's efficiency was reinforced by MWL's self-managing team structure, enabling adaptive decision-making and transparent financial oversight. Impact was evident across multiple dimensions—empowered survivors, strengthened institutional coordination, and increased societal awareness.

The integration of research and advocacy on migrant vulnerabilities positioned MWL as a credible national and regional actor. Sustainability measures included capacity building of staff and stakeholders, local ownership through peer mentoring, and diversification of funding sources.

Challenges encountered—such as more beneficiaries than foreseen requesting help and assistance—were addressed promptly. MWL Foundation demonstrated resilience and adaptability throughout implementation.





The evaluation concludes that the SAFE Project was well designed, effective and strategically impactful, producing sustainable change across all intervention levels. It stands as a model of community-based, survivor-cantered and values-driven practice, built upon what MWL does for years: deliver with care and impact!

Overall, the SAFE Project reflects excellence in mission-driven social development, combining compassion with measurable results and systemic influence.

#	Recommendations	Priority
1-	Scale up institutional partnerships and the presence at the local governance level, such as the Child Protection Service Expert Assistance model in Saranda.	HIGH
2-	Expand and promote accredited training modules for further institutional uptake	MEDIUM
3-	Now that there is experience in the field, explore how to support migrants/return migrants and their exploitation	HIGH
4-	Advance the well-established research, evidence-based advocacy and partnerships.	HIGH
5-	Continue investing in staff development and wellbeing.	MEDIUM
6-	Consider launching a dedicated project to combat misinformation on social media.	HIGH
7-	Further formalize collaboration and referral mechanisms with local institutions by building on existing protocols and aiming to integrate project tools into municipal structures.	MEDIUM
8-	Bring more survivors to the front line of the action so that their voice can be clearly heard in every action. Let the survivor lead the way with their voice and as co-workers in the field.	MEDIUM

# 1. INTRODUCTION

---

“Mary Ward Loreto Foundation has helped me build my self-confidence, gain trust in myself and find the strength to breath again and fight for my life. A long way from the isolation I was feeling before I've met them” - B.C, project beneficiary, Saranda.



The evaluation assesses the project using the DAC criteria—relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability, and coherence—while adhering to Misesan Cara's guidelines and aligning with MWL's mission and strategic framework

The evaluation was conducted through a mixed-methods approach including desk review of project reports, monitoring data, stakeholder consultations, and focus discussions with MWL staff and beneficiaries. It covers the full implementation period and highlights lessons learned, best practices, and recommendations for future interventions.

The SAFE Project built on MWL's longstanding work in combating human trafficking, gender-based violence, and exploitation through empowerment, advocacy, and community-based approaches.

It aimed to improve the protection and quality of life of victims and persons at risk of trafficking, domestic and gender-based violence, and to empower youth and communities to take active roles in prevention. The project further worked to enhance institutional capacity, strengthen partnerships, and promote civic engagement through Service Learning and empowerment initiatives.

In 2025, project activities were implemented in key areas across Albania, particularly Rrëshen, Lezhë, Puka, Saranda, and Tropoja. The intervention adopted MWL's holistic and faith-based approach grounded in dignity, justice, and solidarity. The SAFE Project directly reached 356 beneficiaries, exceeding its target of 300, and indirectly impacted more than 700 individuals through awareness, training, and partnership activities.

## 2- Methodology

The evaluation employed a participatory and evidence-based approach combining quantitative and qualitative analysis. Key methods included:

- Review of project documentation (reports, monitoring data, case studies)
- Semi-structured interviews with MWL staff, ASC leaders, and local stakeholders
- Focus groups with direct beneficiaries (women, youth, community members)
- Comparative analysis with previous MWL project results
- Triangulation of findings to ensure accuracy and objectivity



### → What was evaluated?

Evaluation criteria followed OECD DAC standards, with focus on relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and impact: **relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability, and replicability**. These criteria were chosen to provide continuity from previous evaluations, as well as a comprehensive assessment of the project's ability to meet its objectives, utilize resources wisely, and deliver lasting benefits to the community. The methodology is similar to previous evaluations, with semi-structured interviews, focus groups, participatory observations and desk review being the main methods to finalise the document.

### → Reflecting Backwards

By examining these aspects, the evaluation aimed to determine the project's overall success and potential for future application in similar contexts.

### Looking ahead

Evaluate how MWL can build on its successes by further expanding its reach and impact, to enhance community empowerment in new areas.



## 3.1 - Overview of Assessed Criteria



### Relevance

The project addressed key vulnerabilities and exceeded targets (356 beneficiaries vs 300 target). Service-Learning (SL) effectively engaged youth and received national recognition.



### Effectiveness

SAFE exceeded output targets and demonstrated strong qualitative impact. The Saranda child protection intervention reduced trauma for minors & opened new opportunities for them.



### Efficiency

Demonstrated strong efficiency through optimal use of resources, clear coordination among partners, and timely delivery of planned outputs.



### Impact

Individual and systemic changes evident—especially accredited training modules and introduction of new municipal services.



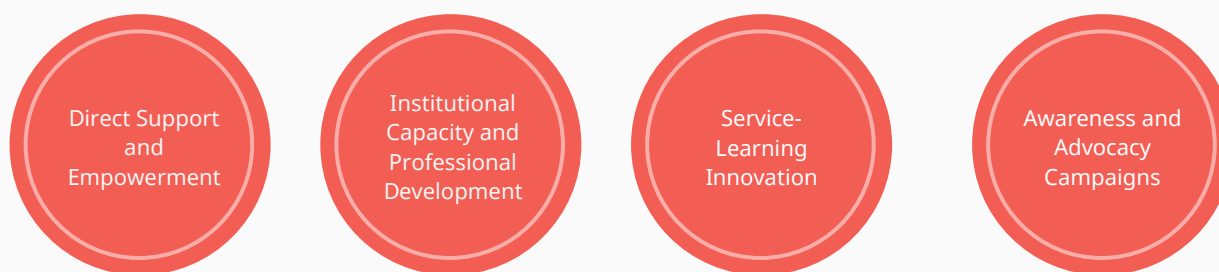
### Sustainability

Local ownership seems promising. MWL is being recognised as a key partner not only at the implementation level. but also at policy discussions and future partnerships.



## 3.2 - Main Interventions and Outcomes

Throughout its implementation period, the SAFE project directly reached more than 1,350 individuals across its prevention, protection, and reintegration components. Over 600 youth participated in Service-Learning initiatives, applying civic skills to promote awareness on trafficking and exploitation; 145 women and young people benefited from targeted health and well-being sessions; and over 400 community members and professionals took part in training and awareness events on protection and rights. The Child Protection Service Expert Assistance in Saranda assisted dozens of referred minors, offering individualized, trauma-informed support. Additionally, two accredited professional training modules were developed and integrated into institutional frameworks, ensuring sustainability and long-term professionalization.



Main results reported are:

Outcome	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Actual
1. Improved life quality and protection for THB, DV and GBV victims and/or people at high risk.	Number of victims / survivors / those at risk who are reached through the project	0	300	356
2. Improved effectiveness of support towards THB, DV and GBV victims and/or people at high risk.	Number of people who have had their capacity enhanced through this capacity building initiative	0	100	112
3. Youth engagement and youth leadership is promoted in local levels, increasing their capacities to asses needs and address issues linked with THB, DV, GBV and more.	Number of youth engaged in addressing issues in their local community	0	430	550

## 4.1 - Findings at outcome level

The SAFE project has demonstrated strong alignment between its objectives and the evolving needs of vulnerable populations.

Its integrated approach—combining protection services, empowerment programs capacity building, education, and awareness—has generated measurable progress across all four outcome clusters.



MWL continued to play a pivotal role in establishing a range of support programs through collaborations with its institutional partners. Operating under various agreements, MWL implemented another impactful project, building on its areas of expertise and often taking extra steps to support the individuals who consistently turn to them for help. The foundation's strength lies in its ability to address diverse issues at all levels, as demonstrated by the quotes below from direct project beneficiaries and institutional partners at local government units:

“

Every time I need guidance, help, ideas, further support, MWL's team is always there. They answer the phone, listen, find a way to help me move forward. I wish all services were like theirs, for our sake - S.M, Beneficiary Mirdita

”

“

Their impact, thoroughness, and dignity stand out. MWL Foundations' humbleness quietly reminds us what institutional excellence should look like, and why we value them as partners - A.Z, Local government, Lezhe

”

“Trust in service providers in Tirana has increased largely due to MWL's work. Their frontline staff show very strong capacities to manage complex situations, which makes our collaboration even more fruitful. Their consistent results are enabled by remarkable field presence, active follow-up of cases, accessible services with minimal bureaucracy, and a collaborative attitude across their managerial team. We are thankful to have their services present here” - A.P, stakeholder, Tirana Municipality

## 4.2 - Stakeholders' insights

Structured interviews with institutional partners in Saranda, Lezha, Mirdita, and Tirana highlighted common themes of appreciation about the SAFE project. The frontline staff is highly praised, the presence of the organization in the communities is impressive and applauded by the local government, and the effectiveness of interventions, professionalism, and access to services are specifically appreciated by all interviewed stakeholders.

As per their feedback, the project aligns closely with the Municipalities' core priorities, particularly in social inclusion, protection of vulnerable groups—especially women, youth, and individuals at risk of trafficking—and the provision of community-based services. It fills critical gaps not covered by municipal structures or other actors, notably in psychosocial assistance, direct protection, and reintegration services.

Project activities have led to tangible improvements. They contributed to stronger awareness across communities, more effective institutional cooperation, and better identification of vulnerable cases.

Gender considerations were addressed appropriately, reflecting distinct vulnerabilities faced by girls and boys at risk of trafficking, including those in street-connected situations. Additional targeted support for adolescent girls—particularly relating to safety and access to services—would further reinforce the gender-sensitive approach.

The project enjoys solid acceptance among local government actors, civil society organizations, and community members, who value both its visibility and its direct interventions. Sustainability prospects are positive, particularly through continued professional capacity-building, strengthened referral mechanisms, and close alignment with existing local systems for case management.

The project stakeholders highlighted several areas for possible expansion, including further formalizing inter-institutional cooperation protocols, continuing capacity-building efforts, strengthening community engagement, and further consolidating referral mechanisms.

Ensuring continuity will require stronger municipal ownership, dedicated budget allocation, integration of project tools and approaches into existing structures, and access to social fund mechanisms to support ongoing initiatives.



# 1

## Direct Support and Empowerment Services

Through individualized accompaniment, referral mechanisms, and the EmpowerFULL program, the project strengthened beneficiaries' self-awareness, confidence, and ability to take informed decisions. Youth engagement in economic empowerment initiatives reduced vulnerability to exploitation by offering viable pathways for personal and professional growth. The financial and mentoring support provided to small business ideas contributed to local economic resilience, fostering a sense of ownership among participants.



# 2

## Institutional Capacity and Professional Development

SAFE contributed to systemic improvement by developing accredited and tailored training modules based on a comprehensive needs assessment. These resources enhanced the competencies of social workers, educators, and institutional partners engaged in anti-trafficking and protection efforts. The training program's accreditation ensures sustainability, enabling replication and continuous professional learning within and beyond the project's lifetime.



# 3

## Education and Service-Learning Innovation

The project solidified MWL's leadership in SL. The establishment of the Lezha Service Learning Network of Schools represents a key institutional milestone, promoting collaboration among educators, youth, and local authorities. These efforts have embedded the principles of social responsibility and civic engagement, ensuring youth participation in long-term community transformation.



## 4

### Awareness and Advocacy Campaigns



SAFE achieved notable visibility through creative and participatory awareness campaigns co-designed with youth to address trafficking, domestic violence, and gender-based violence. The use of locally produced materials and school-based activities, ensured cultural relevance and engagement. These campaigns not only increased public awareness but also reinforced local commitment to prevention and reporting mechanisms.



### Overall

The SAFE project achieved outcomes that are qualitatively deep and institutionally anchored. It built community trust, professional standards, and youth-led civic responsibility, while positioning MWL as a credible and influential actor in Albania's national anti-trafficking framework. The combined social, educational, and institutional gains indicate a sustainable trajectory toward systemic resilience

## 5.1- Analysis of the findings

---

The SAFE – Supporting and Acting for Empowerment project has effectively addressed the complex challenges related to human trafficking, gender-based violence, and community vulnerability through a coordinated and well-structured approach. By integrating prevention, protection, and reintegration measures, the project has created a strong continuum of care for survivors and at-risk groups.

Through targeted interventions in awareness, education, and local capacity strengthening, SAFE has reached diverse beneficiary groups, including women, youth, social workers, and institutional partners. Educational and Service-Learning activities have involved over 600 students and youth, creating a bridge between academic learning and community engagement. This approach not only promotes civic responsibility but also nurtures a generation of young leaders equipped to identify and address social issues proactively.

In the protection and reintegration sphere, the establishment and operation of the Child Protection Service Expert Assistance in Saranda has marked a major achievement. This service provides critical, trauma-informed assistance to minors and vulnerable individuals referred by institutions, ensuring safer and more coordinated case management. It stands as a replicable model for other municipalities seeking to improve child and youth protection mechanisms.

Partnership building remains one of SAFE's strongest assets. The project has reinforced cooperation between MWL and local and national institutions, including its active engagement in the National Referral Mechanism (NRM). Through these alliances, MWL has gained influence in shaping policy discussions, ensuring that survivor-centered approaches are embedded within institutional frameworks.

In the field of organizational development, MWL has advanced significantly under SAFE. The accreditation of professional training modules and the expansion of its Service-Learning network have positioned MWL as a recognized leader in social innovation and empowerment. The organization's increased visibility—supported by a redesigned and more accessible website—strengthens its public image and outreach capacity.

Governance and management practices under SAFE demonstrate solid oversight, transparent reporting, and effective coordination. The leadership team's responsiveness and data-driven approach have ensured consistency between strategic objectives and operational realities.

Regular feedback loops and reflection sessions have also enabled adaptive learning and continuous improvement.

Overall, the SAFE project embodies MWL Foundation's long-term vision of empowerment, prevention, and systemic change. By combining direct support services, institutional collaboration, and education-driven community engagement, the project has generated tangible results and sustained local ownership. It stands as a model of coherence, professionalism, and compassionate action in addressing human trafficking and building safer, more resilient communities across Albania.



---

## 5.2- DETAILED REVIEW OF THE MAIN CRITERIA ASSESSED

---

01

### **Relevance**

The SAFE Project remained highly relevant to Albania's socio-economic and human rights context. It addressed pressing national priorities related to human trafficking, gender-based violence, and youth empowerment. The project also aligned with Misesan Cara's strategic goals on human rights, participation, and empowerment, while responding to gaps identified in state and local protection mechanisms. Beneficiary needs were well identified, particularly among marginalized groups such as Roma and Egyptian communities, persons with disabilities, migrants, and single-parent households. The project's focus on both prevention and rehabilitation made it contextually responsive and inclusive.

02

### **Effectiveness**

The project achieved or exceeded most of its planned outcomes: - 356 victims/survivors/at-risk persons received comprehensive support through ASC centers; - 112 professionals enhanced their capacity to respond to trafficking and gender-based violence; - 550 youth engaged in civic initiatives addressing community issues; - Establishment of a licensed child protection service in Saranda, a pioneering regional model; - Development and accreditation of professional training modules, positioning MWL as a certified training provider. These achievements reflect strong implementation, adaptive management, and effective use of monitoring data. Collaboration with local institutions and NGOs strengthened cross-sectoral responses.



## Effectiveness Rate: Very Good!

The project positions very well against the effectiveness criteria

1	Design, planning, relevance to context and beneficiary needs	Very Good
2	Inclusiveness of partners in design and planning	Present
3	Project delivery against design objectives	Compatible
4	Project delivery in light of changes in context	Timely and adapted
5	Gender mainstreaming in project implementation	Present and visible
6	Long term, positive changes at the systemic level	Very likely

## 03

### Efficiency

The project demonstrated efficient use of resources, maintaining high outputs despite external challenges. Staff training, coordinated referral systems, and strong partnerships optimized costs and avoided duplication. MWL's internal management model—self-organizing teams—proved effective in decision-making and ensured accountability at all operational levels.



## 04 **Impact**

The SAFE Project contributed to significant and sustained changes at individual, community, and institutional levels: - Empowerment and recovery: Survivors rebuilt confidence and autonomy through psychosocial support, vocational training, and economic empowerment. - Systemic change: Local authorities integrated MWL's models (e.g., afterschool programs for children with disabilities) into municipal budgets. - Advocacy influence: MWL informed policy and research, especially through evidence on migrant vulnerabilities and cooperation with the SAFE HAVEN initiative. - Faith-based added value: The project embodied MWL's missionary approach, fostering compassion, integrity, and social justice in all actions.

## 05 **Sustainability**

Sustainability was integrated throughout implementation. MWL strengthened local capacities through accredited training, peer learning, and formal partnerships with public and private institutions. The empowerment of former beneficiaries as community leaders and peer mentors enhanced local ownership. MWL's fundraising strategy, including property acquisition and co-funding opportunities, demonstrates forward-looking planning for financial resilience.

## 06 **Replicability**

The project's holistic approach, characterized by comprehensive interventions in advice, service provision, civic education, and economic empowerment, positions it well for replicability in similar contexts. By integrating proven methodologies and tailoring interventions to local needs, the project creates a scalable model that can be adapted to other regions facing analogous challenges. The emphasis on building local capacity and fostering partnerships ensures that the core components of the project can be effectively implemented elsewhere, promoting sustainable change and resilience against human trafficking on a broader scale.

## 5.3-What made the project memorable?

TMWL Foundation is recognized as a trusted partner, maintaining transparency and ethical standards while leveraging strong networks and deliver impactful interventions.



### → Trustworthy and reliable MWL

Local authorities are grateful, collaborative, and welcoming. A domino effect is underway—former beneficiaries have now joined the network, speaking volumes about the sustainability

### → Service Innovation

Child Protection Service Expert Assistance in Saranda fills critical gaps effectively. This new model ensures minors receive safe, trauma-informed support, setting a scalable example for the region.

### → Youth Engagement

Service Learning Impact, as Youth actively apply civic skills in local initiatives. Builds responsibility, empathy, and community engagement.

### → Accredited Trainings

MWL develops licensed professional modules, enhancing staff and stakeholder capacity. Builds recognized expertise and long-term sustainability

### → Stronger Visibility

MWL's national presence has grown significantly. Now an active member of the NRM, the organization influences policy, leads on Service Learning, and maintains a dynamic, professional online presence that authentically reflects its expanding impact.

## 6- Other highlights

### 6.1- Insights from Partners and Beneficiaries



#### → Institutional Partners

According to A. Zefi, the stakeholders at Lezha Social Services, MWL brings a sense of relief, and is their most reliable institutional partner, addressing the pressing needs of vulnerable communities by enhancing their economic resilience

#### → Youth Participant

A young participant shared, 'Through MWL's projects, I've learned how to stay away from the risks of being lured abroad or targeted. It has helped me understand my responsibilities and protect my future.'" - V.G, Tirana

#### → A migrant's gratefulness

A migrant participant reflected, 'I thought there was no help left—no ears for dignity or hope—until I met MWL team. Now I feel clearer about what I need to do. Albania is tough for people of colour who don't speak English, but MWL found a way to help me deal with all my challenges'" - J.F, Cameroon/Tirana

#### → Women Participants

"MWL projects give me a sense of life that stays with me long after the program days are over. It's not just the activities; it's the feeling of being seen, supported, and reminded that I still have strength and direction' - D.P, Miridite





## 6.2 - New Entry

### The Child Protection Service Expert Assistance

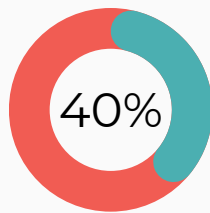
The establishment of the Child Protection Service Expert Assistance in Saranda stands as one of the most tangible and transformative outcomes of the SAFE project. Prior to its creation, local institutions were slow within the Child Protection Service to respond effectively to cases of child abuse, neglect, or trafficking risk. Coordination gaps between police, social services, and educational institutions often left vulnerable minors without timely support or proper referral pathways.

Through the SAFE project's leadership, MWL facilitated a collaborative process involving the municipality, law enforcement, schools, and health institutions to design and operationalize a comprehensive local service model.

Staff received specialized, accredited training in trauma-informed care and child protection protocols, ensuring that the service could respond both professionally and compassionately to sensitive cases.

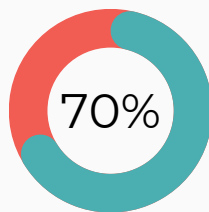
Since becoming operational, the Saranda Child Protection Service Expert Assistance has provided individualized accompaniment and follow-up to dozens of minors, helping them access psychosocial, legal, and educational support.

Institutional partners report a visible improvement in coordination and case management, noting that communication among agencies has become faster, clearer, and more responsive to children's needs.



Improvement in case response time

This initiative has become a replicable model for other municipalities seeking to strengthen local protection systems and act fast under their own circumstances and recourses to help children in need of services.



Of minors received at least two types of direct services

It demonstrates how targeted capacity building, trust-based partnerships, and clear operational frameworks can transform fragmented responses into cohesive, survivor-centered care.

The Saranda experience illustrates the SAFE project's ability to translate strategy into sustainable structures that safeguard children's rights and well-being at the community level.

# 7- CONCLUSIONS

This project implemented by the MWL Foundation has successfully met the evaluation criteria across several key areas:

- **Relevance:** Objectives and activities are well-aligned with the priorities of the target groups, effectively addressing their needs. **Effectiveness:** Demonstrated strong performance in key areas: education, health, human rights advocacy.
- **Efficiency:** Resources have been used cost-effectively and mostly on time.
- **Impact:** Contributions to local social, economic, and cultural improvements.
- **Sustainability:** Ongoing positive influences expected as a result of its interventions.

## For Participants

It has improved access to services for over 3,000 residents, Improved health and economic conditions for 26 families. Measures to prevent trafficking in six regions. The employability of over 1,000 young people has been enhanced. Income generation and independence for women.

## Crisis Response and Strategies

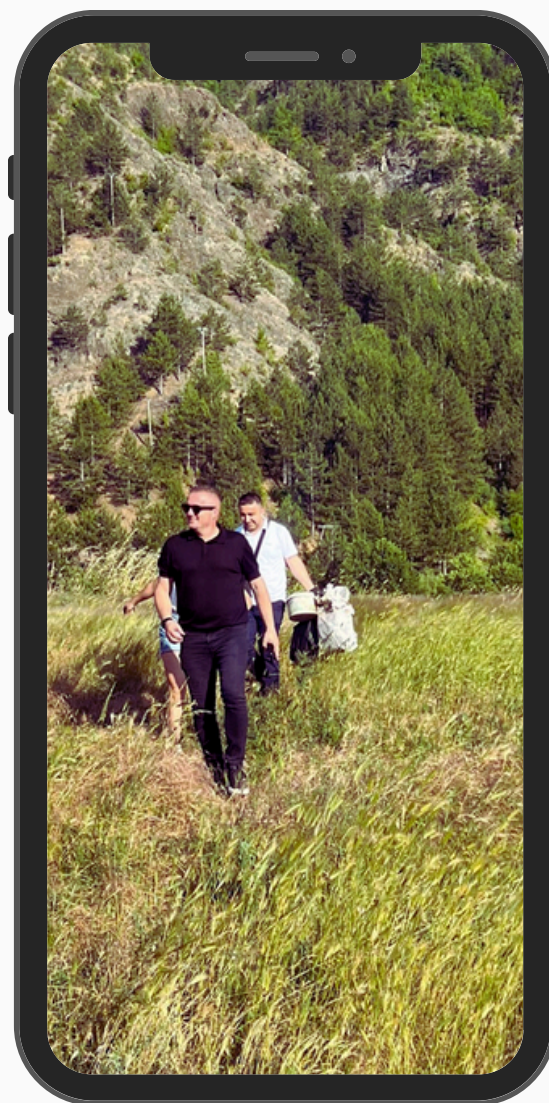
Addressed underlying causes, reducing risks of domestic violence and exploitation. The 'ASC Programme' has increased access to information and safety for potential victims, improving the quality of life through rescue, referral, and counseling services.

## Basis for the Next Steps

The MWL Foundation's commitment to transparency and coordination with other NGOs is evident, as project documentation is readily available and shared with stakeholders and evaluators. This collaborative approach ensures that the foundation remains aligned with broader goals and initiatives.

## Outlook

Future initiatives should build on established successes in vocational training, human rights advocacy, and community engagement, while addressing emerging needs to expand support for vulnerable communities across Albania



## QUALITY AND RELEVANCE OF DESIGN

- The external evaluation showed that the project was well-designed and relevant to the community's needs. Stakeholders noted that the project effectively combined education, advocacy, and support services, creating a positive impact. Beneficiaries appreciated the customized help that addressed their specific challenges, and collaboration with local partners strengthened the project's effectiveness. Overall, the project aligned well with community priorities and had the potential for lasting benefits.

## IMPLEMENTATION EFFECTIVENESS

- Stakeholders highlighted that activities were carried out as planned, with timely execution and clear communication among team members. Beneficiaries reported high levels of satisfaction with the services received, noting that the support provided made a real difference in their lives. Overall, the project demonstrated strong organizational capacity and adaptability, leading to successful outcomes.

## EFFICIENCY

The evaluation found that the project utilized resources efficiently, maximizing outputs with minimal waste.

## IMPACT

The impact of the project will be significant, as it has improved the lives of beneficiaries and strengthened community resilience.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

- The evaluation showed that the project has good potential for sustainability and replication. The strategies used were well-received and effectively met community needs. Local partnerships and involvement from beneficiaries created a sense of ownership, which is important for continued support. Additionally, the project's flexible approach makes it easy to replicate in other communities facing similar issues, allowing the positive effects to reach more people. Overall, this project is set up for long-term success and can be applied in other areas.



## 8- Recommendations

---

1

### **Optimize Use of MWL's Existing Data**

It is necessary to use the existing knowledge, data, and research, to pinpoint trafficking hotspots and tailor interventions where they are most needed, both in existing and emerging areas.

---

2

### **Link (again) Health with Prevention**

Build on the superb work and develop new health initiatives that address vulnerabilities related to trafficking, such as mental health support, thereby reducing the risk factors. Integrate these health services in more communities, exploring new models.

---

3

### **Serve as a Resource Centre**

MWL can be the perfect example for other groups and NGOs by sharing best practices and successful strategies in trafficking prevention, fostering a collaborative environment and initiate large scale cooperation, conferences, exchanges.

---

4

### **Become a Research hub**

Build on the superb research, offer practical anti-trafficking ideas, facilitate partnerships that bridge the gap between theory and practice, ensuring that research findings are effectively applied to structural and daily challenges.

---







## ANNEXES

**Annex 1: List of methodological instruments for the review**

**Annex 2: Timeline of data gathering**

**Annex 3: List of interviewees and focus groups**

**Annex 4: List of documents consulted for the monitoring and review**

**Annex 5: Questionnaires used**

## ANNEX 1 - LIST OF METHODOLOGICAL INSTRUMENTS



## ANNEX 2 - TIMELINE OF DATA GATHERING

Profile of stakeholder(s)	Data collection approach	Indicative timings
Tirana Municipality	Structured interviews	16 Nov, 2025
4 + 6 participants	Interviews and Focus Groups, project documents, minutes, virtual meetings	15 Oct-15 Nov
Local Government units: Mirdita, Saranda, Lezha	Structured interviews, 45-60 minutes	28 and 30 Oct, 6 and 13 Nov
Other NGOS	Semi structured interview	22 October 2025
Project Team feedback	In-depth interviews with 5 members	27 October 11 and 17 Nov.

## ANNEX 3 - LIST OF INTERVIEWEES

The list of individuals who were consulted, together with their institutional affiliation

Name	Institution	Method
Eliana Shkurti Brunilda Cela	Municipality of Saranda, Chief of staff	In-depth interviews
Erinda Biba D.Prenga Suzana Mikeli	PAM Centre and Local. Gov. deputy mayor	Semi-structured interviews Focus group
Marte Fetaj Ardita Zefi Luljeta Seferaj	Social Services, Multifunctional centre	Semi-structured Interviews
Aida Isaraj Julius Fontlem	Municipality of Tirana	Semi-structured Interviews Focus group

From MWL Foundation, interviews were conducted with: I. Poole, R.Qirjazi, G.Mema, I. Kraja, L.Dizdari.

## ANNEX 4: LIST OF DOCUMENTS REVIEWD AND CONSULTED

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Proposal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minutes of meetings, list of participants |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Report   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partnership arrangements                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results Tool     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regulations and policies                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Plans     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outreach and visibility documents         |

# Annex 5 - Questionnaires used

---

**01**

## **Project Background**

A brief description of the project and the surrounding context

**02**

## **On Quality and Relevance of Design**

Assessed what adjustments have been made and what others might have been necessary. Asked and find answers to these questions:

- 1.To what extent does the project respond to priority issues?
- 2.To what extent are the objectives of the project still valid?
- 3.Is the project team planning the most appropriate strategies?
- 4.Are there any major risks or that are not being taken into account??

**03**

## **On Effectiveness**

Assessed what major achievements have been accomplished in relation to the project's objectives. Asked and found answers to these questions:

- 1.To what extent have the project activities led to meaningful changes?
- 2.What factors contributed to the outcomes we observed?
- 3.Did the project implementation align with the planned activities?
- 4.How effectively did the project address gender considerations?

**04**

## **On Efficiency of Planning and Implementation**

Assessed to what extent resources were being used economically to deliver the project. Evaluated whether plans were being implemented and adapted.

- 1.Was the overall project action plan used and kept up to date?
- 2.What percentage of activities in the workplan was delivered?
- 3.Was financial spending in line with the plan?

**05**

## **On the Impact**

Assessed to what extent the project contributed to a long-term positive effect on people and nature, focusing on how MWL made a difference. Evaluated the potential for sustainability, replication, and magnification:

- 1.What is the social, community-level, and political acceptance of the project?
- 2.Will the project contribute to lasting benefits?
- 3.What could ensure the continuity of project activities in the project area?



# Albanian Mission Against Human Trafficking



<http://www.marywardloreto.org>

## **External Evaluation - SAFE project**

Covering Period: January -November 2025

Author: Edlira Gjoni, PhD

November 2025