



# The Role and Activities of EASO with Regard to Trafficking in Human Beings

EMN Ireland Conference

*“Challenges and Responses to identifying Victims of  
Trafficking”*

29 November 2013, Dublin

# Role and activities of EASO with regard to THB

## Outline of the presentation

THB and International Protection

Mandate and role of EASO

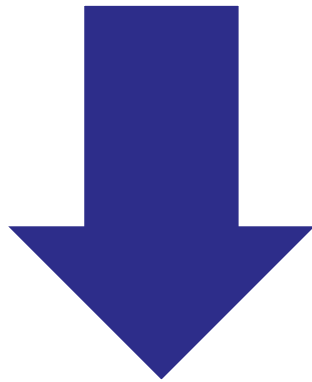
- Regulation (EU) No. 439/2010
- Directive 2011/36/EU
- EU Strategy towards the Eradication of THB 2012-2016

Activities of EASO in 2013

Course of action beyond 2013



# THB and International Protection



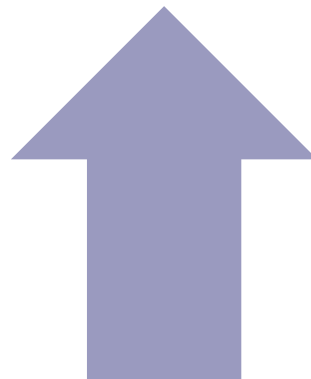
- Root causes
- Context
- Means

*Trafficking in human beings is a complex transnational phenomenon rooted in vulnerability to poverty, lack of democratic cultures, gender inequality and violence against women, conflict and post-conflict situations, lack of social integration, lack of opportunities and employment, lack of access to education, child labour and discrimination.*

**EU Strategy towards the Eradication of THB 2012-2016**



- Grounds for protection
- Nature of protection
- Responsible authorities

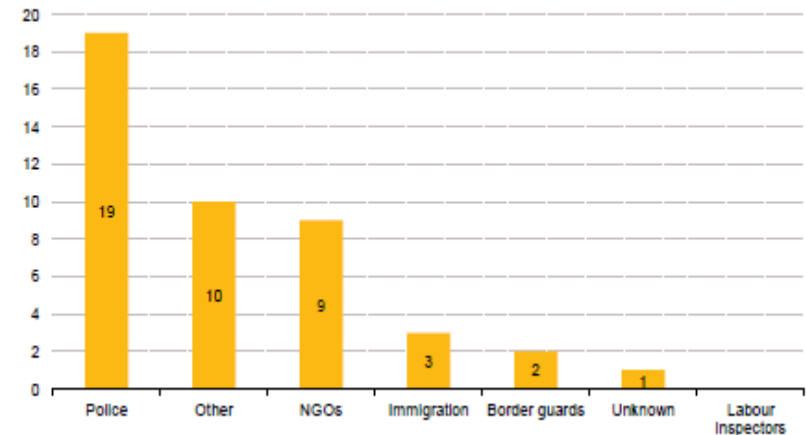


# THB and International Protection

## Role of EASO

- Raising awareness and equipping asylum officers with the knowledge, skills and (common) tools to:
  - identify victims of THB as early as possible
  - refer victims of THB to the respective assistance and support mechanisms
  - cooperate with other authorities as appropriate
- Article 20(3) QD (recast)
- Article 21(3) & Article 23(2)(c) RCD (recast)

Figure 1: Member State sources of data victims  
(number of countries)



Source: Eurostat.

# Mandate of EASO

## *Support is our mission*

### Regulation (EU) No 439/2010

Permanent support	Special support	Emergency support	Information & analysis support	Third-country support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Common training &amp; training material</li><li>• Common quality</li><li>• Common COI</li><li>• Facilitating practical cooperation</li> <li>• Specific Programmes<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Courts &amp; Tribunals</li><li>• UAM</li><li>• <b><u>THB</u></b></li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tailor-made assistance</li><li>• Capacity building</li><li>• Relocation</li><li>• Specific support</li><li>• Special quality-control processes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Organising solidarity for MS subject to particular pressures</li><li>• Temporary support and assistance to repair or rebuild asylum and reception systems</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sharing and merging information and data, analyses and assessments at EU level</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supporting the external dimension of CEAS</li><li>• Coordinating MS actions on resettlement</li></ul>



# Preventing and combatting THB and protecting its victims

Directive 2011/36/EU

- Preventing and combatting THB is a **priority for the EU** and the MS. (Preamble Rec.1)
- **Subject matter (Article 1):**



- **Protection of victims:**
  - As soon as the competent authorities have reasonable-grounds indication for believing that the person might have been subjected to THB offences;
  - Linked to criminal proceedings, but not conditional on participation in them;

# Preventing and combatting THB and protecting its victims

Directive 2011/36/EU

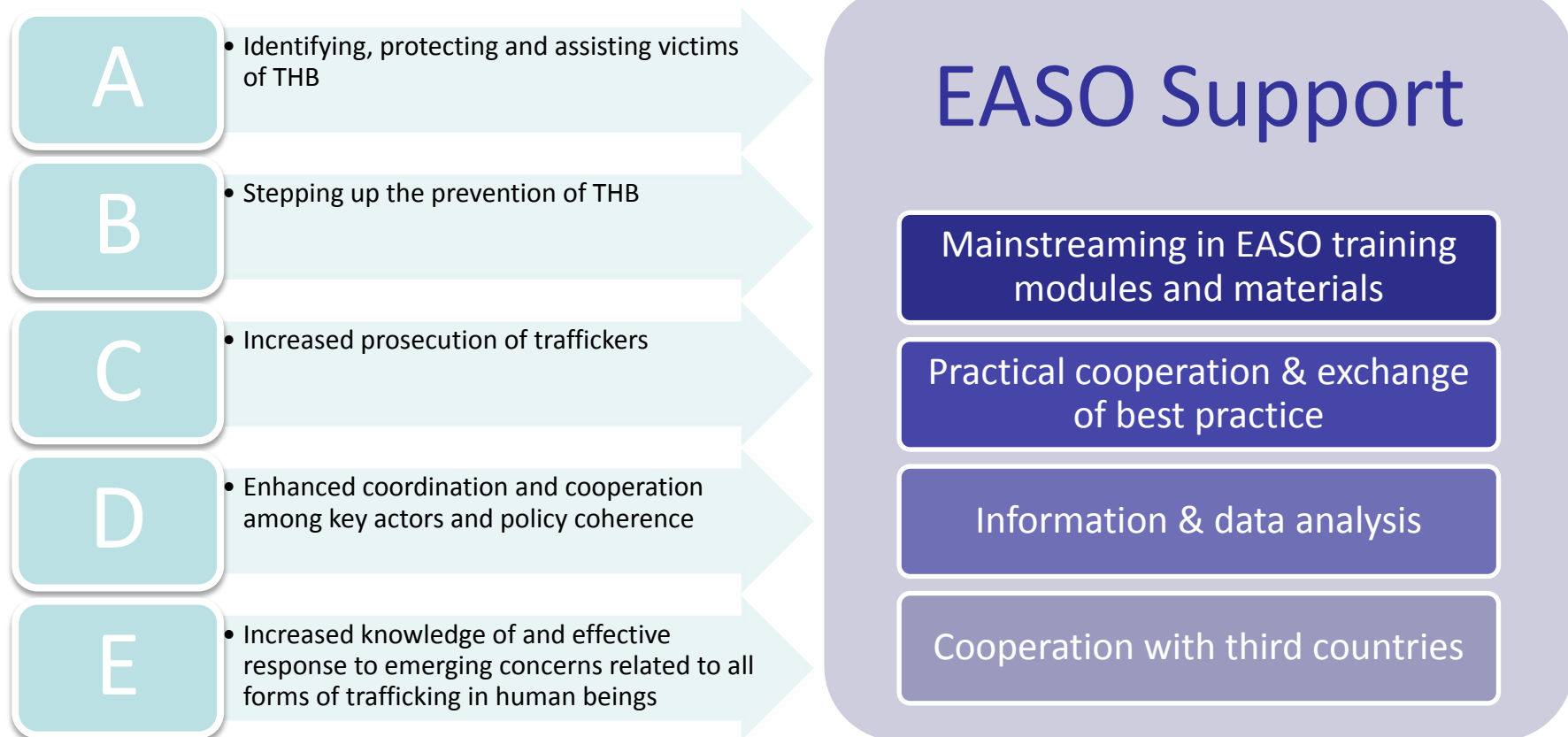
## Considerations relevant to International Protection

- Appropriate **mechanisms aimed at the early identification** of, assistance to and support for victims, in cooperation with relevant support organisations;
- Promotion of **regular training for officials likely to come into contact** with victims or potential victims of THB;
- Information, including on the **possibility of granting international protection pursuant to QD and APD**;
- Preventing secondary victimisation;
- Victims with special needs, esp. children;



# EU Strategy towards the Eradication of THB 2012-2016

## Priorities:





# EASO Work Programme & Activities 2013

## Specific Programmes: Section 3.6.2

*A coordinated approach on THB is being set up with the European Commission and as part of interagency cooperation.*

- Joint statement of 18 November 2011
- EASO Contact Person
- Officer on gender and vulnerable persons, including THB

*Potential victims of THB are a special group within vulnerable groups in the asylum process.*

- Age Assessment publication
- Family Tracing expert meetings

*To ensure that asylum officials will have a raised awareness of detecting and referring THB victims, tools and information will be part of capacity building in the EASO tool box, for example in training modules and manuals.*

- Update of the EASO Training Curriculum Module 'Interviewing Vulnerable Persons'
- Update of the EASO Training Curriculum Module 'Interviewing Children'

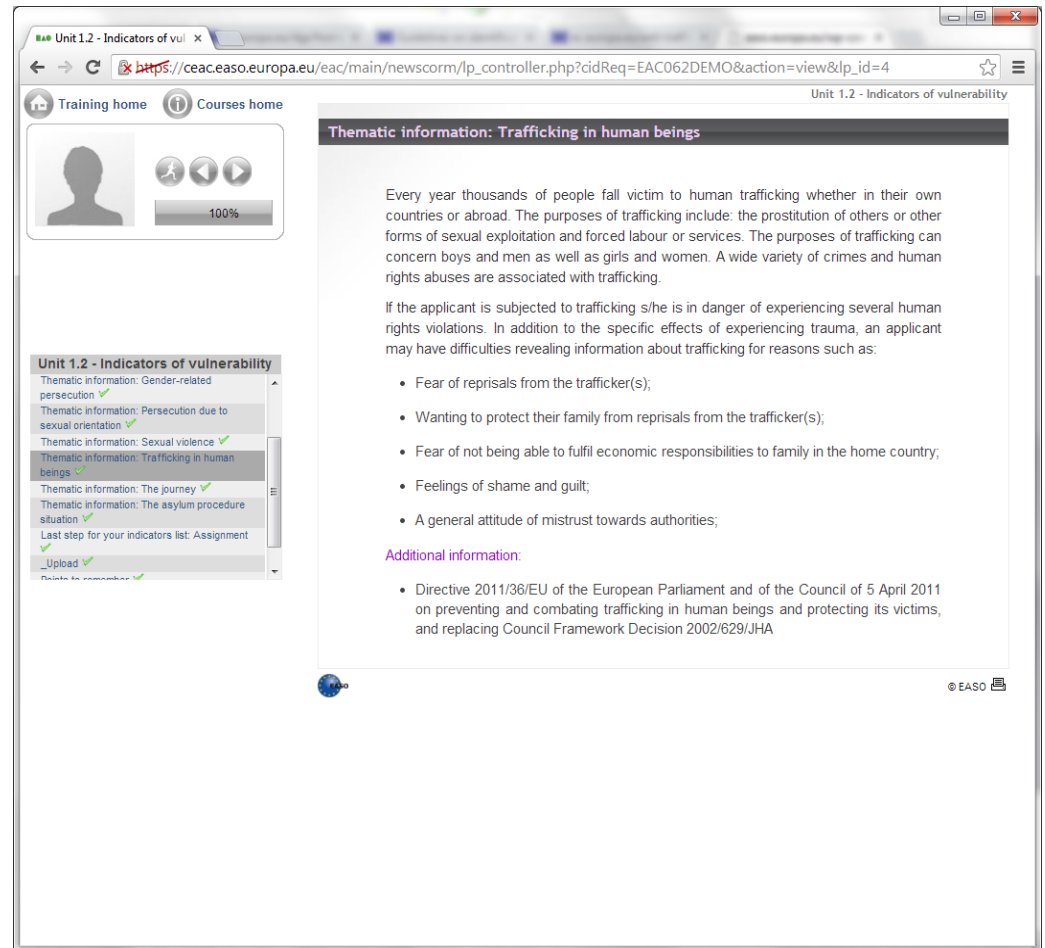
*EASO will look into the possibility of using its Early warning and preparedness System to analyse trends in THB flows in the EU and keep the anti-trafficking coordinator informed of the implementation of these initiatives.*



# EASO Training Curriculum

## Interviewing Vulnerable Persons 3.0

- **E-learning:** Thematic Information: THB as an indicator of vulnerability; Interview with Grace;
- **Face-to-face:** the case of Joy from Nigeria (handling difficult situations)



Unit 1.2 - Indicators of vul x

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Training home ⓘ Courses home

100%

Unit 1.2 - Indicators of vulnerability

Thematic information: Gender-related persecution ✓

Thematic information: Persecution due to sexual orientation ✓

Thematic information: Sexual violence ✓

Thematic information: Trafficking in human beings ✓

Thematic information: The journey ✓

Thematic information: The asylum procedure situation ✓

Last step for your indicators list: Assignment ✓

\_Upload ✓

Thematic information: Trafficking in human beings

Every year thousands of people fall victim to human trafficking whether in their own countries or abroad. The purposes of trafficking include: the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation and forced labour or services. The purposes of trafficking can concern boys and men as well as girls and women. A wide variety of crimes and human rights abuses are associated with trafficking.

If the applicant is subjected to trafficking s/he is in danger of experiencing several human rights violations. In addition to the specific effects of experiencing trauma, an applicant may have difficulties revealing information about trafficking for reasons such as:

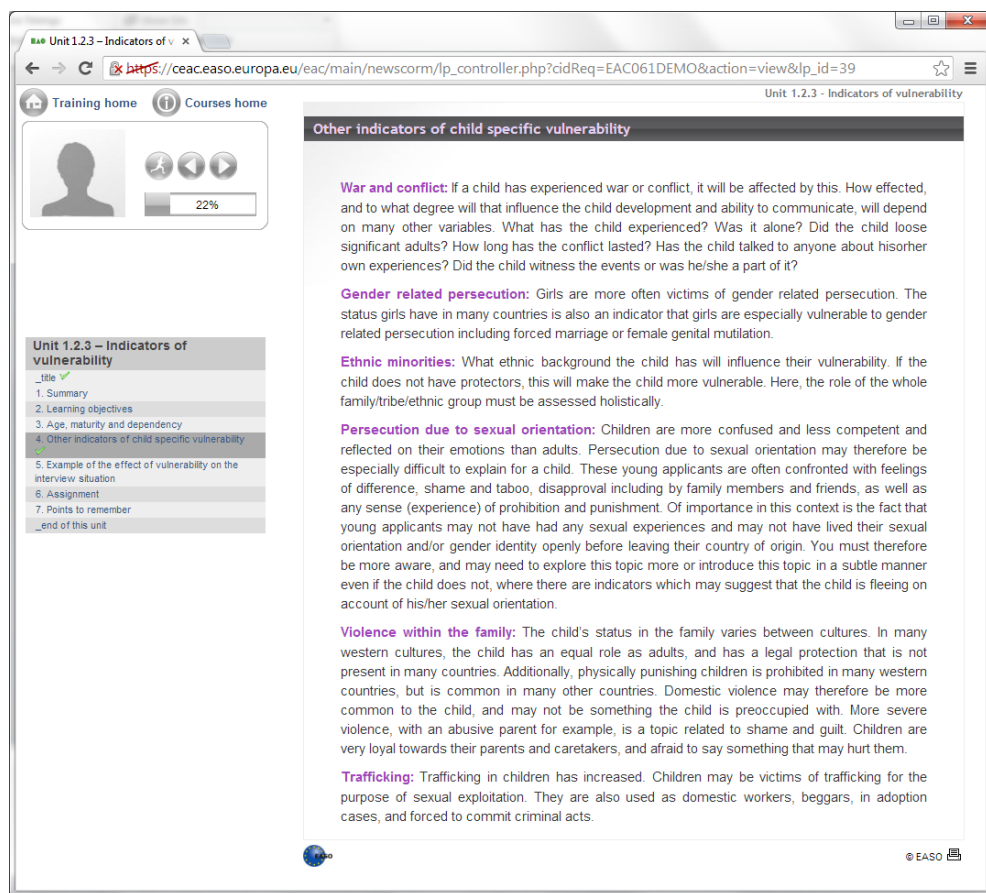
- Fear of reprisals from the trafficker(s);
- Wanting to protect their family from reprisals from the trafficker(s);
- Fear of not being able to fulfil economic responsibilities to family in the home country;
- Feelings of shame and guilt;
- A general attitude of mistrust towards authorities;

Additional information:

- Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2011 on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA

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# EASO Training Curriculum Interviewing Children 3.0



The screenshot displays a web browser window with the URL [https://ceac.easo.europa.eu/eac/main/newscom/lp\\_controller.php?cidReq=EAC061DEMO&action=view&lp\\_id=39](https://ceac.easo.europa.eu/eac/main/newscom/lp_controller.php?cidReq=EAC061DEMO&action=view&lp_id=39). The page title is "Unit 1.2.3 - Indicators of vulnerability". The main content area is titled "Other indicators of child specific vulnerability" and contains several paragraphs of text, each starting with a purple heading:

- War and conflict:** If a child has experienced war or conflict, it will be affected by this. How effected, and to what degree will that influence the child development and ability to communicate, will depend on many other variables. What has the child experienced? Was it alone? Did the child lose significant adults? How long has the conflict lasted? Has the child talked to anyone about his/her own experiences? Did the child witness the events or was he/she a part of it?
- Gender related persecution:** Girls are more often victims of gender related persecution. The status girls have in many countries is also an indicator that girls are especially vulnerable to gender related persecution including forced marriage or female genital mutilation.
- Ethnic minorities:** What ethnic background the child has will influence their vulnerability. If the child does not have protectors, this will make the child more vulnerable. Here, the role of the whole family/tribe/ethnic group must be assessed holistically.
- Persecution due to sexual orientation:** Children are more confused and less competent and reflected on their emotions than adults. Persecution due to sexual orientation may therefore be especially difficult to explain for a child. These young applicants are often confronted with feelings of difference, shame and taboo, disapproval including by family members and friends, as well as any sense (experience) of prohibition and punishment. Of importance in this context is the fact that young applicants may not have had any sexual experiences and may not have lived their sexual orientation and/or gender identity openly before leaving their country of origin. You must therefore be more aware, and may need to explore this topic more or introduce this topic in a subtle manner even if the child does not, where there are indicators which may suggest that the child is fleeing on account of his/her sexual orientation.
- Violence within the family:** The child's status in the family varies between cultures. In many western cultures, the child has an equal role as adults, and has a legal protection that is not present in many countries. Additionally, physically punishing children is prohibited in many western countries, but is common in many other countries. Domestic violence may therefore be more common to the child, and may not be something the child is preoccupied with. More severe violence, with an abusive parent for example, is a topic related to shame and guilt. Children are very loyal towards their parents and caretakers, and afraid to say something that may hurt them.
- Trafficking:** Trafficking in children has increased. Children may be victims of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation. They are also used as domestic workers, beggars, in adoption cases, and forced to commit criminal acts.

The interface also shows a sidebar with a navigation menu for "Unit 1.2.3 - Indicators of vulnerability" and a progress indicator showing 22% completion.

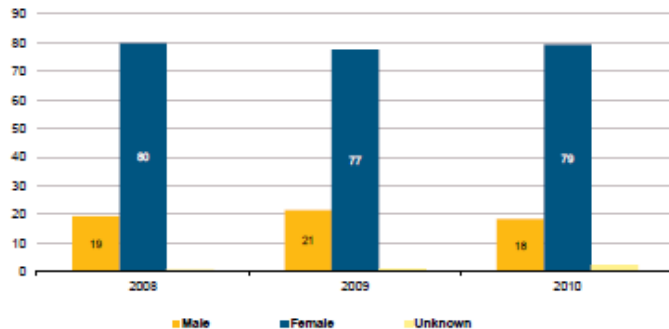
- **E-learning:** indicator of child-specific vulnerability, etc.
- **Face-to-face:** group discussions on preparation for the interview



# EASO Training Curriculum

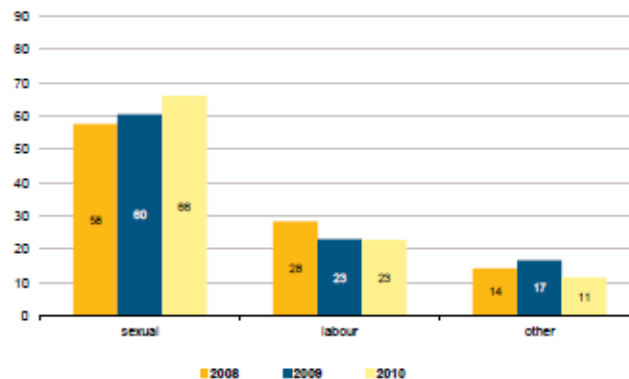
## Gender, Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation

Figure 3: Identified and presumed victims by gender  
(% of total number of victims)



Source: Eurostat

Figure 6: Victims by type of exploitation  
(% of total number of victims)



Source: Eurostat

- To be developed 2013 – 2014
- MS experts and Reference Group (COM, FRA, UNHCR, ECRE, IARLJ, Odysseus)
- Content:
  - Legal framework
  - Sensitivity in the asylum processes
  - Reception conditions
  - Assessment of the application
  - Forms of persecution or serious harm

# EASO Work Programme 2014

## Specific Programmes: Section 3.5.3

### 3.5.3. Trafficking in human beings

EASO activities towards the eradication of trafficking in human beings		
<b>EASO objective(s)</b>	EASO aims at supporting the EU strategy towards the eradication of trafficking in human beings (2012–16) and its coherent implementation.	
<b>New in 2014</b>	EASO will mainstream trafficking in human beings (THB) aspects related to asylum in all EASO activities and support policy coherence.	
Performance		
<b>EASO activities in 2014</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
Participate in JHA coordination activities and other cooperation activities to prevent and fight against THB.	Q1–Q4	Number of joint meetings attended; Number of joint activities; Use of the output of the meetings.
Organise one EASO practical cooperation expert meeting with Member States' representatives and the European Commission on trafficking in human beings.	Q1	Number of meetings; Number of participants; Level of satisfaction of the participants; Use of the output of the meetings.
<b>Budget</b>	3203 Quality processes	
<b>Human resources</b>	Centre for Training, Quality and Expertise	



# Possible course of action for EASO

## ➔ Mainstreaming in the EASO Training Curriculum

- Background knowledge on THB and broad needs of victims
- Guidelines for the identification of victims of THB
- Raising awareness of referral mechanisms in place

## ➔ Enhancing practical cooperation

- EASO Conference on THB, March 2014

## ➔ Mainstreaming in other activities

- EASO Quality Matrix
- EASO COI
- EASO statistical data & analysis of trends
- EASO Annual Report – Vulnerable Groups - THB
- EASO Emergency and Special Support

## ➔ External dimension



Thank you!

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