



# **Role of Municipalities in the work against Trafficking in Human Beings**

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# — THE STROM PROJECT —

**aims to strengthen the capacity and role of municipalities in the chain of assistance to victims of human trafficking in the Baltic Sea Region**

**providing strong and efficient administrative approach**



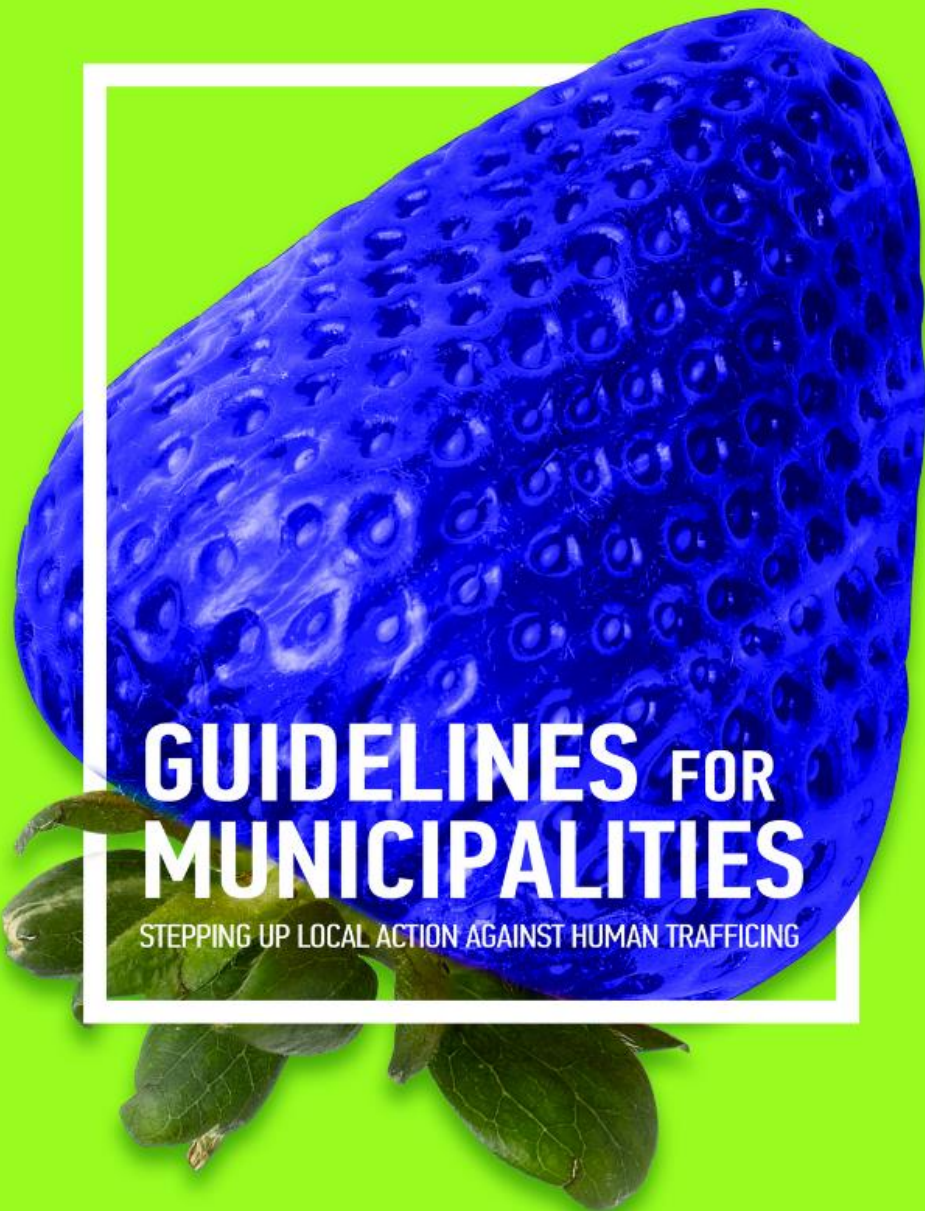
Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Latvia



# — THE STROM PROJECT —

## **Main identified challenges:**

- **Lack of cooperation at the local and also national level;**
- **Lack of mandate;**
- **Lack of local referral mechanisms;**
- **Lack of regular trainings at the national and local level;**
- **Lack of adequate assistance system for victims;**
- **Stigmatisation of victims and stereotypical thinking;**
- **Lack of funds.**



# GUIDELINES FOR MUNICIPALITIES

STEPPING UP LOCAL ACTION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICING

## General aim of these guidelines

provide local actors with

- the knowledge and
- right tools

to strengthen their role in the work against human trafficking and increase the

- effectiveness of the anti-trafficking actions by ensuring proper and timely victim identification,
- adequate and sustainable assistance and protection

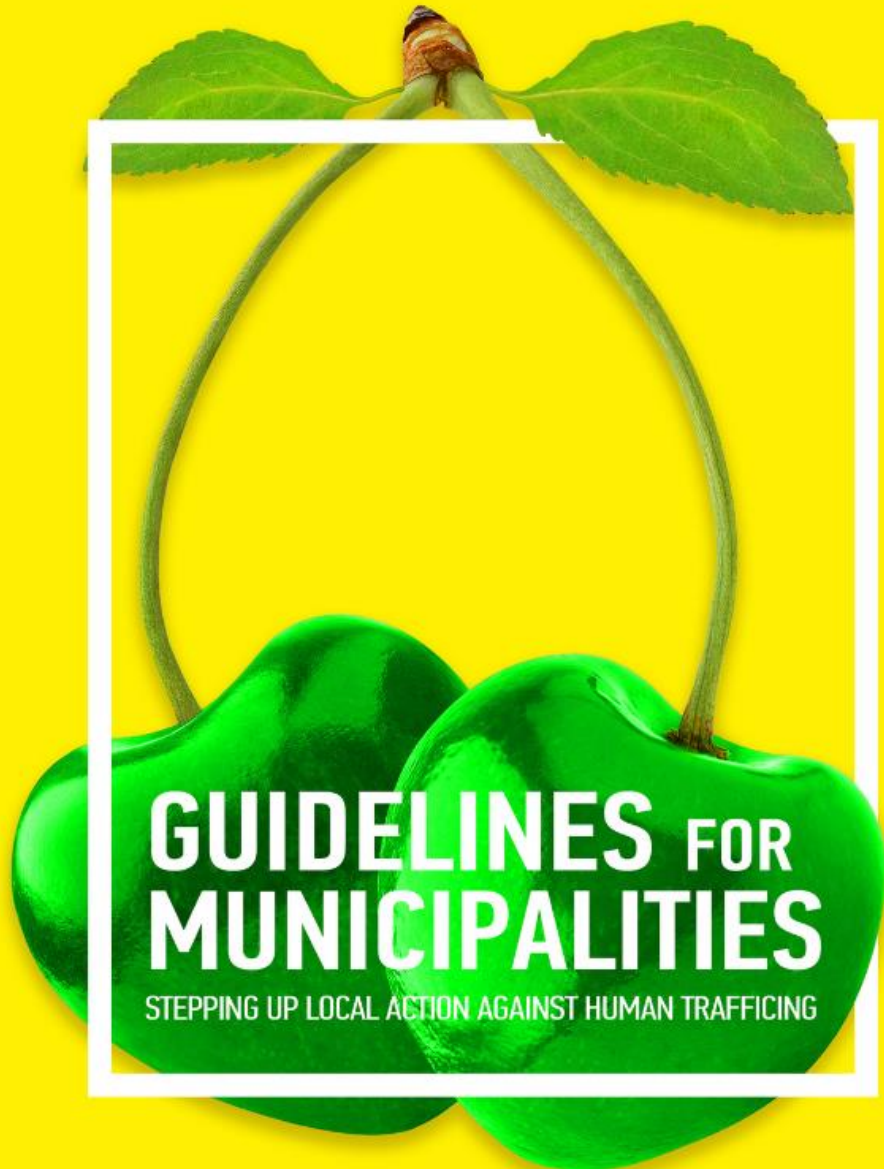
# Action points for municipalities

- **Map out services available for (potential) victims within the municipality and actors providing or actors who could provide these services.**
- **Establish a flexible and quick to respond chain of assistance with clear roles and responsibilities assigned to the different actors involved.**



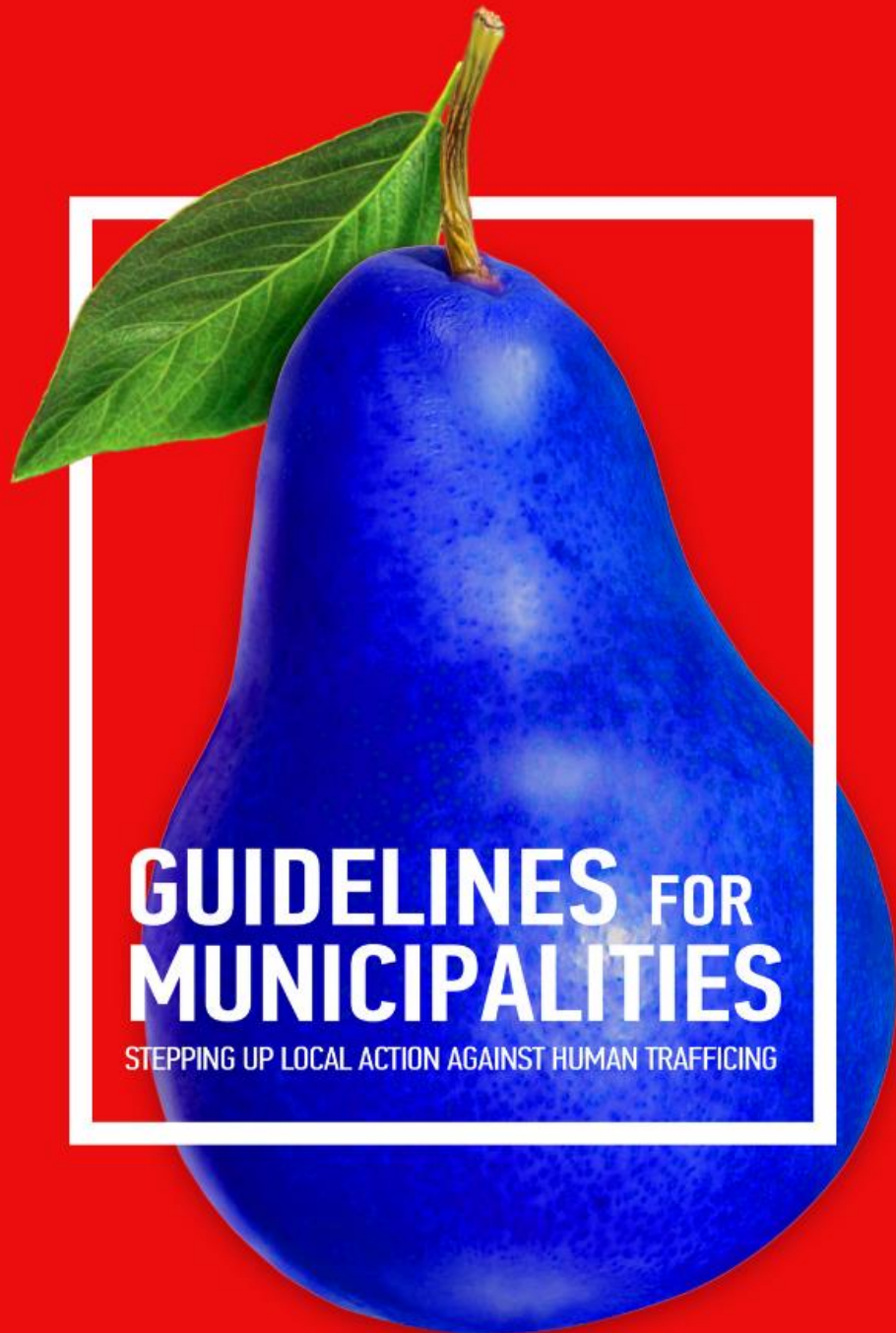
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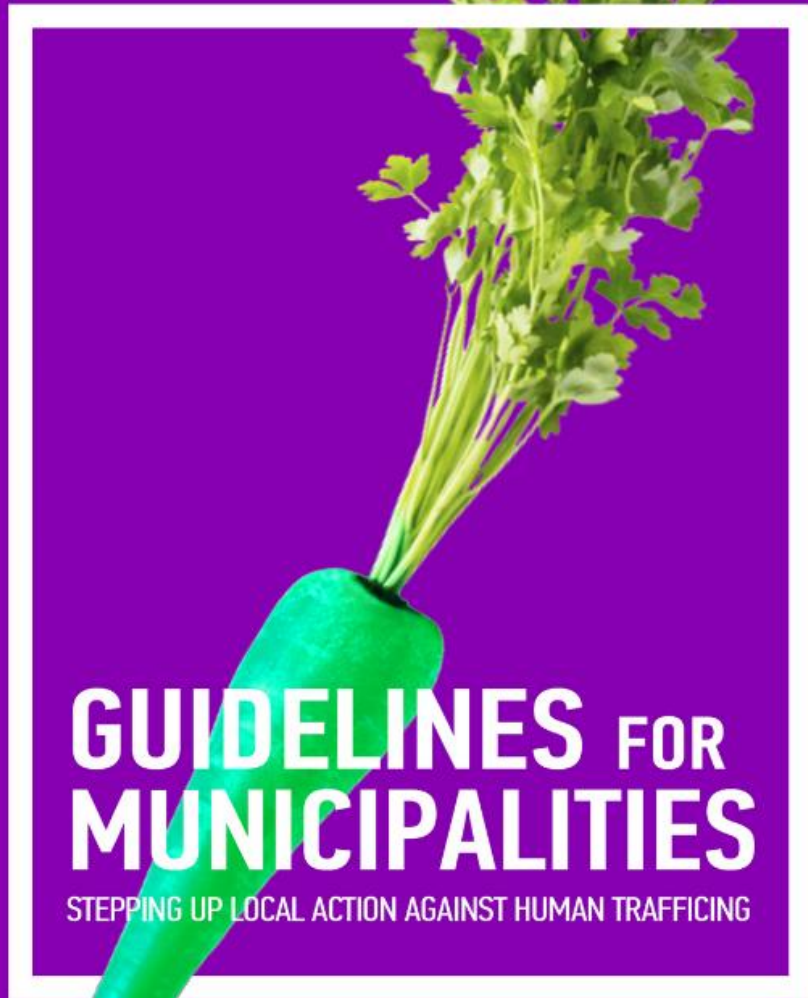
# Action points for municipalities

- **Harmonize the local anti-trafficking work with a national level activities (national referral mechanism where relevant) in providing assistance to victims of trafficking.**
- **Improve efficiency of victim assistance by introducing formal cooperation tools such as cooperation agreements and Memoranda of Understanding (MoU).**



# Action points for municipalities

- **Provide unconditional (not depending on victim's cooperation with the law enforcement) and rights based assistance not only to formally identified victims of human trafficking, but also to potential victims in vulnerable and unprotected situations.**
- **Provide assistance tailored to the specific individual needs of the victim taking into consideration their background, gender, age, ethnicity, orientation, identity.**



# Action points for municipalities

- **Promote trust, professional attitude and dialogue in well-functioning system of victim assistance and protection.**
- **Build multi-disciplinary partnerships to enhance prevention of trafficking at the local level.**





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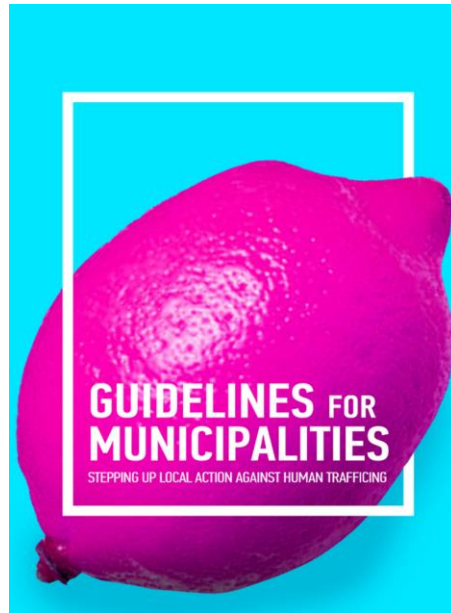
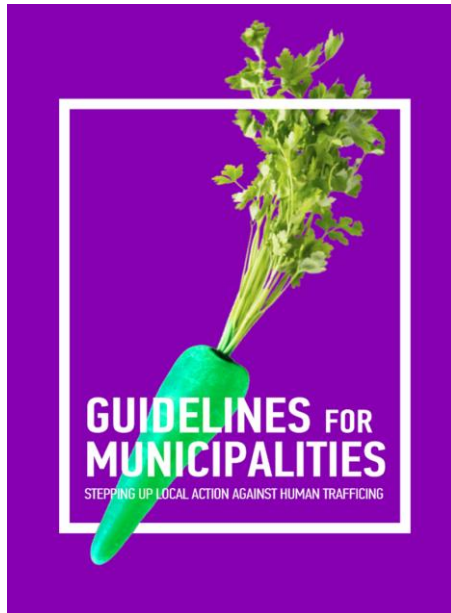
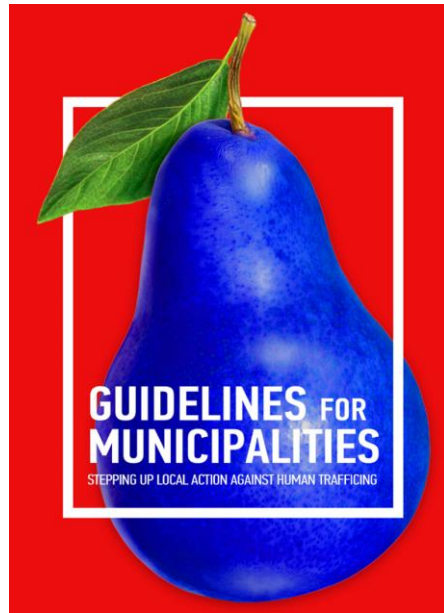
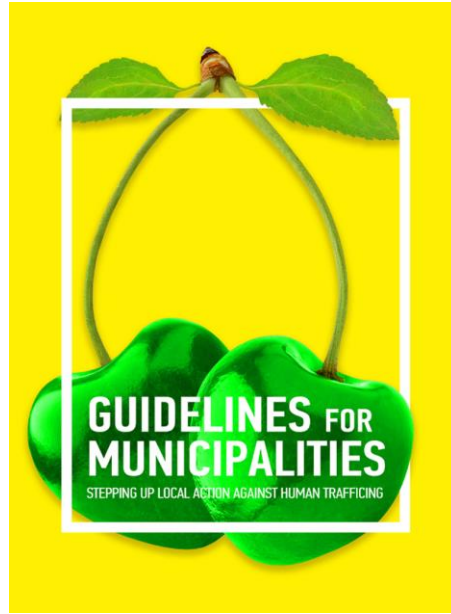
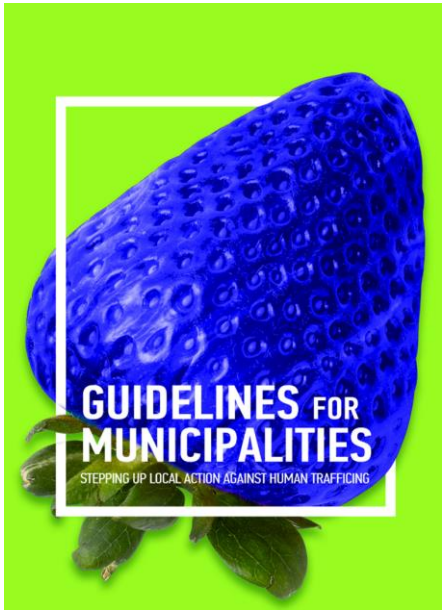
**The local response to human trafficking should always be tailored to the specific situation, trends and groups at risk identified.**

**Trafficking prevention requires building of multi-disciplinary partnerships - engaging, mobilising and coordinating actions from a variety of actors within the municipal administration, relevant regional and national public services, civil society, trade unions and businesses.**

# **THE STROM PROJECT**

## **Follow-up project «Strengthening the Role of Municipalities in the Work against Trafficking in Human Beings»**

- Facilitate the implementation of the CBSS-developed guidelines for municipality work on counteracting trafficking in human beings in 8 municipalities in the Baltic countries and North-West Russia**
- Develop specific and sustainable implementation models in the participating municipalities**
- Improve preventive work in the selected municipalities**
- Create a platform for networking of experts at the local, national, and also regional level**



**Thank You for Your attention!**

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