

Kyoto Declaration - Implementation

Advancing Criminal Justice - **Victim Focus**



Levent Altan, Executive Director

Victim Support Europe

Leading European umbrella organisation

Advocating for 30+ years for

- **all victims** of crime,
- of **all crimes**
- **no matter who** the victim is.

✓ **70 Members, 33 Countries**

✓ **2.5+ million supported annually**

✓ **Policy, advocacy, capacity**

✓ **Support cross border victims**

INTERACTIVE MAP
OF SERVICES



TERRORISM RESPONSE
NETWORK



CROSS-BORDER
REFERRAL FOR
VICTIMS



TRAINING ACADEMY



STANDARDS AND
ACCREDITATION



CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
FOR 116006 Helplines AND
DISTANCE SUPPORT



PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES: SUPPORT AND JUSTICE

SIZE OF THE PROBLEM

>15%

Population victimised
annually

**>1 billion
victims**

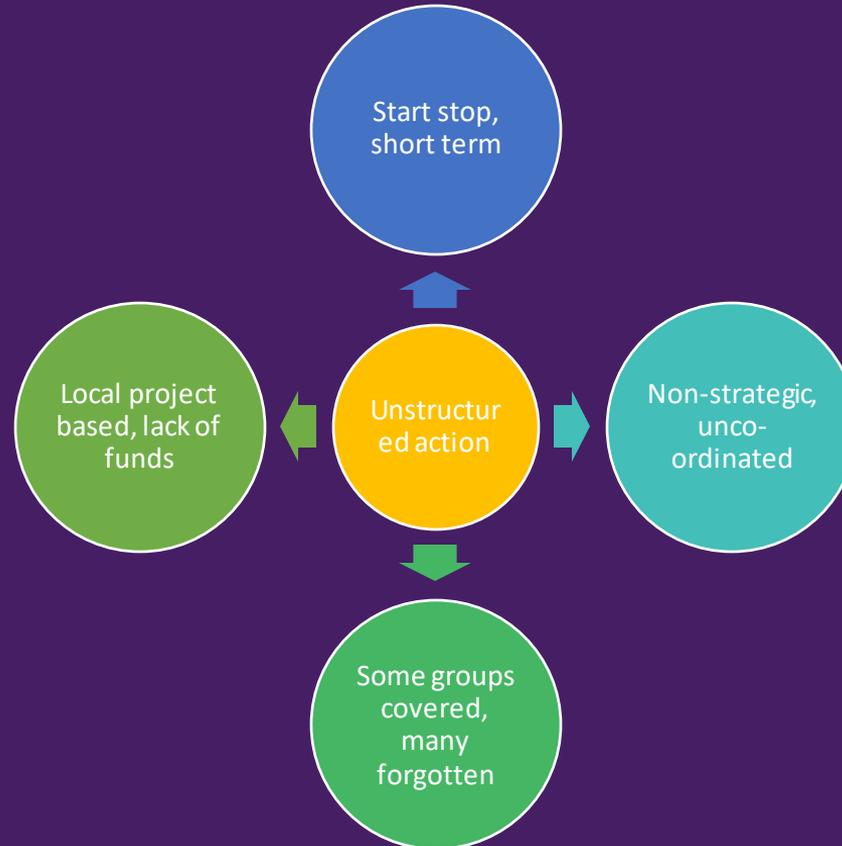
<50%

Report Crime

WE CONTINUE TO SEE STEADY PROGRESS



PROGRESS IS SLOW - almost 40 years since Basic principles



IMPACT OF THESE PROBLEMS

Implementation failures

Support and psychological help – not exist/ inaccessible, quality questions

Reporting of crime – extensive barriers exist

Participation in justice – difficult, minimised, harmful to victims: repetitive, victim blaming, lack of information...

Compensation: not exist, don't get, harmed in process

Protection measures: limited, not adapted, poor timing, don't work

TREATMENT OF VICTIMS BY INDIVIDUALS, STATE, SOCIETY:

Further trauma

Secondary victimisation

Blames victims

Disrespects them

Disempowers them

Breaks their trust

VICTIM OF RAPE: “My experience with the police in the criminal proceedings was worse than the crime itself”

SOLUTIONS: 1) RIGHTS BASED, NEEDS DRIVEN



SOLUTIONS: 2) STRATEGIC, CO-ORDINATED, STRUCTURED



CHANGE VICTIM POLICY FROM

SOLELY FOCUSED ON INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND SERVICES



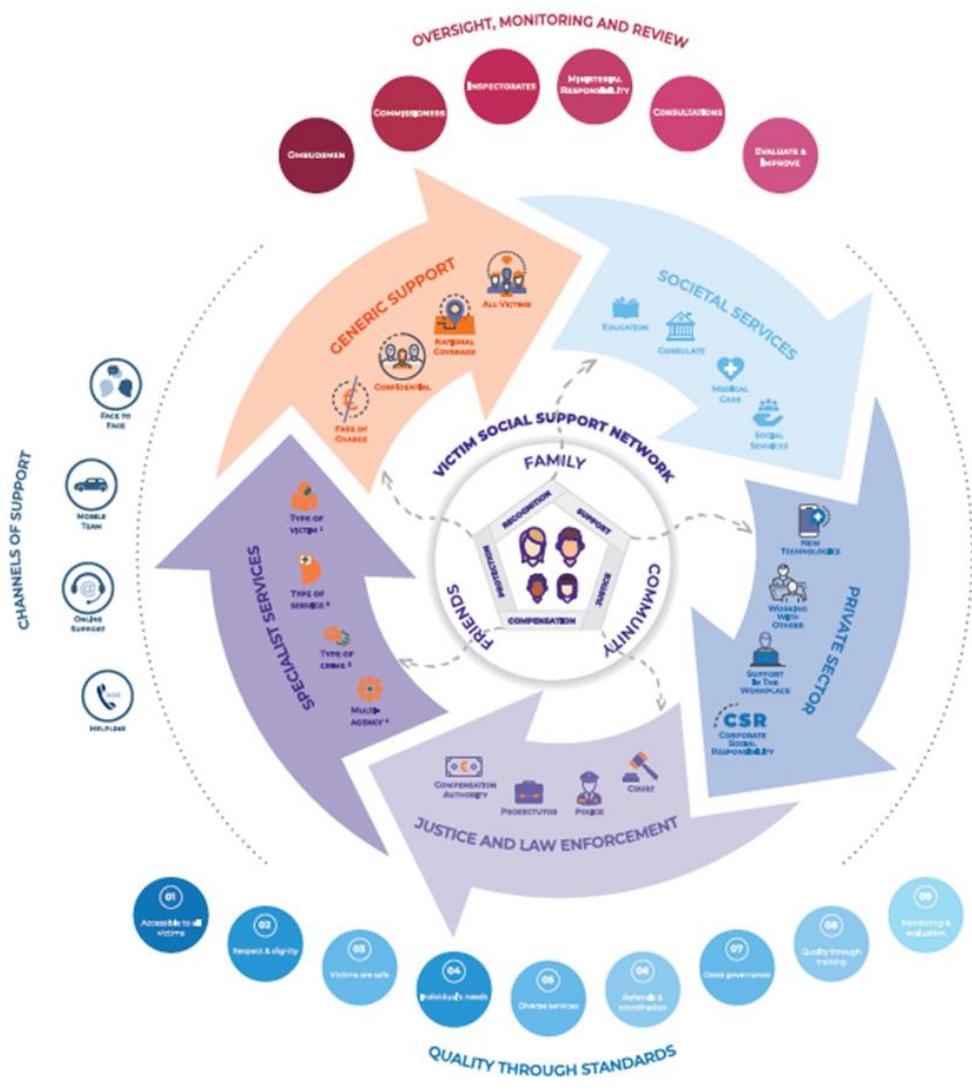
A SYSTEM ORIENTED APPROACH

FROM GOOD PRACTICES TO COMMON PRACTICES

SOLUTIONS:

3) NATIONAL VICTIM SUPPORT FRAMEWORK

- Resilience
- Social support network
- Professional victim support
 - Generic and specialist
 - Across the country
 - Multi-channels of support
- Standards
- Long term, operational funding
- Mainstreaming support



SOLUTIONS: 3) JUSTICE REFORMS – VICTIM WELLBEING & TREATMENT



SOLUTIONS: 5) COMPULSORY TRAINING

FOCUS ON SKILLS, UNDERSTANDING, TRUST

- EMPATHY
 - EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION
 - NEEDS OF VICTIMS
 - TRAUMA
 - VICTIM SENSITIVE INTERVIEWING
-
- TRAINING IS COMPULSORY – OVERCOME INDEPENDENCE ARGUMENT
 - EXPERIENTIAL, INTERACTIVE, NEW TECH – VR ETC.
 - BASIC TRAINING, LIFE LONG LEARNING, SUPERVISION
 - ACOMPANIED BY TOOLS AND PROCEDURES

SOLUTIONS: 6) FUNDING

VICTIM FUND

- VICTIM SURCHARGE
- TAX ON COMPULSORY INSURANCE
- CONFISCATION OF CRIMINAL ASSETS

NEVER IMPACT EXISTING TREASURY BUDGETS
FULLY COVER SUPPORT AND COMPENSATION COSTS

EVERY EURO INVESTED SAVES AT LEAST 5 EUROS IN COSTS

SOLUTIONS: 5) COMPENSATION

- EXISTS FOR ALL VICTIMS OF SERIOUS CRIMES
- REMOVE ADMINISTRATIVE BURDENS
- INCREASE AWARENESS
- SIMPLIFY ACCESS
- INCREASE TRANSPARENCY

AIM SHOULD NOT BE FOCUSED ON AVOIDING PAYMENTS

COMPENSATION IS ABOUT RECOGNITION AS MUCH AS MONEY

Victim centric, 21st century Justice

SAFE JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS:

INTEGRATED, SYSTEM BASED, LONG TERM SOLUTIONS

- Minimise harm to victims
- Support participation
- Maximise best evidence
- Help them on their path to recovery

THANK YOU!

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