

**Acronym** – VoiceOver

**Title** – Victims of trafficking in human beings support and Empowerment by means of a survivor leaders  
Engagement model

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**Department** – Department of Architecture and Arts

**ERC sector** - SH7 - Human Mobility, Environment, and Space

**Iuav Role** – partner

**Lead partner** – Equality Cooperativa Sociale

**Duration** – 24 months

**Start** – 01/04/2023

**Closure** – 31/03/2025

**Project budget** – € 608 859.96

**Iuav budget** – € 49 619.11

**Funding to Iuav** – € 44 656.72

**Source of funding** – EU Call AMIF-2022-TF1-AG-THB (Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund 2021-2027)

**Description** – VoiceOver stems from a self-critical analysis of anti-trafficking systems, which often suffer from self-referentiality and therefore tend to adopt approaches that do not always adequately address the real needs of trafficked persons. Often these same practices reproduce stereotypical narratives and labels about trafficked persons and their life experiences. Victim-support organizations risk to take for granted what survivors need and want from programs, policies and interventions, without taking into account the voice of the survivors themselves. The VoiceOver partners believe that such dynamics can be reversed by including survivors as protagonists in anti-trafficking systems. For this reason, it invests in building the capacity of anti-trafficking organisations to directly involve survivors in their action, valuing their experience and agency, and supporting their recovery and autonomy by recognizing their role as experts in the field. To this end, the project will provide anti-trafficking organizations with new knowledge and tools to engage survivors as true partners, and to make their voices heard.

Implemented by a consortium composed of victim-support organizations and survivor associations from 5 EU MS, backed by action-research to be conducted by the SSIIM Unesco Chair of the University Iuav of Venice, the overall objective of VoiceOver is to build the organizational capacity to support survivor leaders and collaborate with them, in order to: better serve the beneficiaries of anti-trafficking programs; plan more appropriate intervention strategies; better identify challenges and opportunities; and increase the overall impact of anti-trafficking activities and victim assistance.

**Objectives** – The project will aim to:

- build survivor-informed capacity by training 90 practitioners of anti-trafficking organisations on strategies and methods to safely engage and work with survivor activists
- empower 20 survivors to participate in the development of anti-trafficking programs, to contribute to the decision-making process and to provide peer support to other survivors
- provide trauma-informed and gender-sensitive support to 90 trafficked persons through peer-mentoring
- facilitate the social and labor integration of 60 trafficked persons through peer-based programs
- raise awareness among anti-trafficking stakeholders about the opportunity to engage survivors, through the production and dissemination of: a replicable evidence-based model for NGOs; a set of recommendations for policy makers; five podcasts and two international events addressed to practitioners and key stakeholders
- stimulate a debate within the anti-trafficking on community on proper communication, to speak with dignity and respect about people impacted by human trafficking

**Lead partner website** – <https://www.equalitycoop.org>

**Dedicated section on SSIIM Unesco Chair website** – [www.unescochair-iuav.it/voiceover/](http://www.unescochair-iuav.it/voiceover/)



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