



VANGLATEENISTUS

ESTONIAN PRISON AND PROBATION SERVICE

INTERAGENCY COOPERATION REGARDING GBV-RELATED PROBATION CLIENTS IN ESTONIA

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VANGLATEENISTUS

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

- Historically high rates of violence and homicide
- Severe impact on women (and children)
- Deep and undiscovered well of sexual violence
- Domestic and Sexual violence have been priority areas for criminal policy for more than a decade
 - Support services for victims
 - Support for „giving up“ violence
- Well trained police investigators and prosecutors
- Short criminal proceedings
- Child protection involvement
- Frequent use of criminal mediation in case of first time offenders (offered by victim support)
- One system for 3 prisons and probation service
- Prison and probation rates are in long-term decline
- 1/3 of workload is community work, 1/3 released prisoners, 1/3 probation supervision as a conditional sentence
 - Underuse of pretrial reports and EM in cases of restraining order and pretrial detention
- Domestic violence and Sexual violence are priority areas for probation beside young offenders and long-term prisoners who are being released to probation
- Around 500 DV and 100 SV cases currently (out of 2700) committed against women or children

WORK IN CASES OF GBV

OUR AIM

- We understand the nature of violence and its impact on all parties
- We are able to spot hidden violence and control also in all cases
- We take measures to actively reduce the current risk of repeat violence in order to protect victims
- We make an effort to stop the intergenerational cycle of violence

OUR STRENGTHS

- Specialized probation officers with lower workload to manage complexity and to prevent compassion fatigue and burnout
- Higher level of work intensity (more meetings and home visits)
- Advice to court includes also measures to protect the victim
- Cooperation with the victim and child protection
- Social-educational programs in active use
- Special risk assessment for SV
- Support by co-vision and group supervision meetings

OUR NEEDS

- Acute risk assessment for domestic violence (like DASH)
- Social program adaptations based on relationship
- Social program adaptations for lower intellectual ability
- Community support and surveillance measures for sex offenders

TURVALISE KOOSTÖÖ RAAMISTIK - TUKO FRAMEWORK FOR SAFE COOPERATION

WHY?

- Complex problems need shared responsibility
- High - risk cases often involve several stakeholders with important information and abilities
- Fragmented support and Control → ineffective rehabilitation and danger for the victim
- TUKO offers a structured, coordinated, and shared approach
- Inspiration by the example of MAPPA and MARAC models

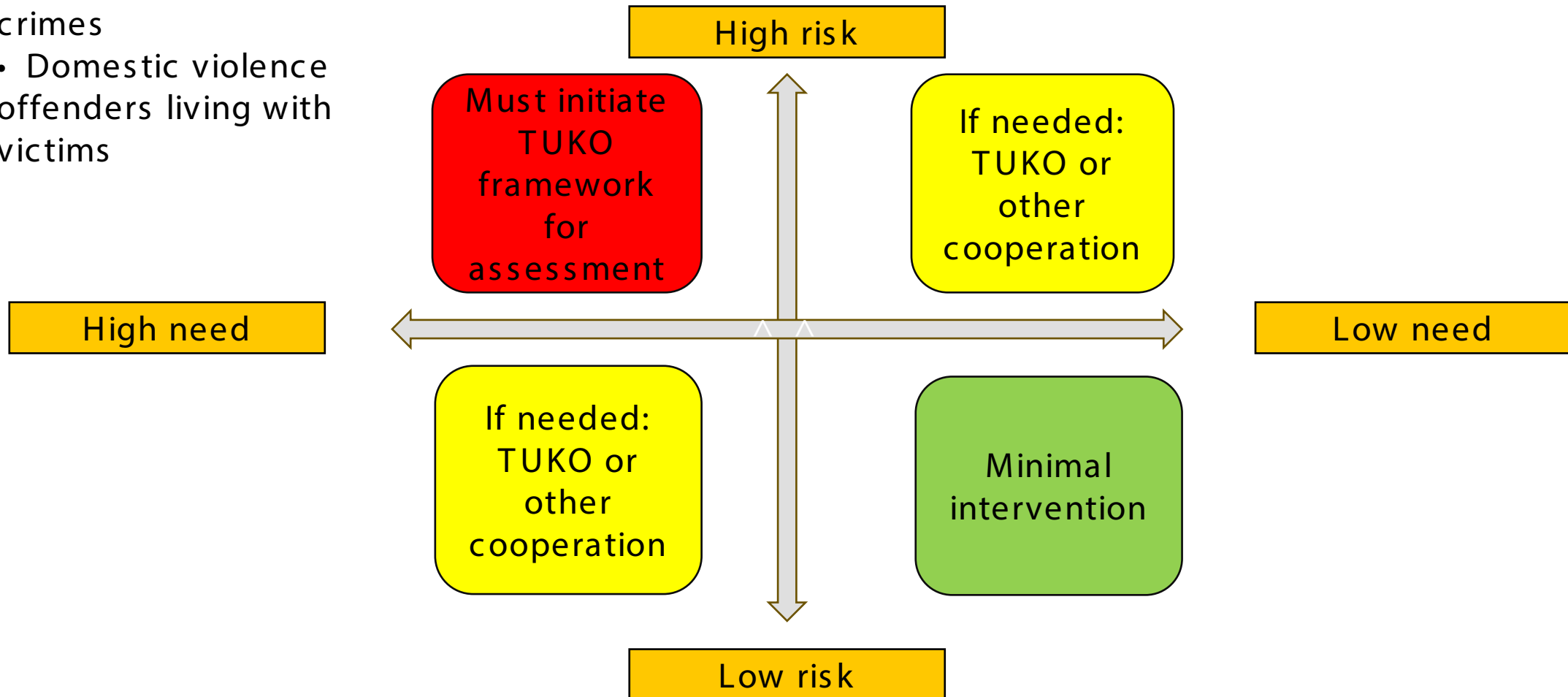
WHO?

A multidisciplinary network tailored to each case:

- Probation officer (case leader)
- Prison staff
- Local municipality
- Mental health, addiction & social workers
- Police
- NGOs
- The client whenever possible and safe

RISK-NEED MATRIX

- Contact sexual crimes
- Domestic violence offenders living with victims



STAGE 1 – NOTICE AND INFORM OTHERS

- Precondition of TUKO is that at least one network partner notices the need for cooperation to increase the safety for the victim or community and to reduce the risk of reoffending.
- Probation officer as a case manager gathers/informs the network around the case.
- *In some cases the probation offices needs to always assume the need.*

STAGE 2 – SHARE INFO AND EVALUATE

- Meeting is lead by probation officer. Every participant shares relevant information and gives their evaluation about risks, needs and ways to work further.
- Common assessment is made:
 - Who is in threat?
 - What is the probability of damage to someone's health or life?
 - What is the threat about? In which conditions it is more likely present itself?
 - What can increase or decrease the risk?
 - What are the needs and motivation of the client? What motivates the client?
 - What are the known protective factors?
- If the network find that there is a need for interagency cooperation the situation and its risks are described, and the cooperation moves to the next stage.
- If there is no need for further coordinated action, the case is closed until someone brings up the need again.

STAGE 3 – MAKE A PLAN

- In the third stage a written agreement on the further action will be made in the form of the **risk reduction plan**.
- Network members take responsibility if the form of tasks that corresponds to their area of competence and authority.
- In the crisis situation the timeframe is in days, in other cases in weeks.
- The time of the next meeting and in between communication is agreed.
- The plan is sent to all participants after the meeting to support responsibility and action.

STAGE 4 – COORDINATED CASE MANAGEMENT

- In the fourth stage a coordinated execution of the plan takes place.
- Partners communicate with each other to keep each other informed.
- Possible outcomes of the stage:
 - New meeting to assess the situation and to make adaption to the plan.
 - If there are no needs and risks have been reduced, the probation officer documents the situation in written form and lets partners know that TUKO process has been finished.
 - If risks and need reemerge, a process will be started again.

LESSONS

- Legal framework helps a lot
- Make sure the WHY is answered for your key staff (involve in creation, communicate a lot)
- Don't be afraid to prioritize
- Don't be afraid to involve the client
- Build good partnership and involvement of other authorities (lobby)
- Understand partners' need and perspective – cooperation need also to be useful for them
- Give appropriate training and update work instructions (from goodwill to professional practice)
- Give support on an appropriate level (the use of coordinators)
- Make yourself visible to build further cooperation (partnership days)
- Collect feedback/user experience