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TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING. TOGETHER.

**CHILD TRAFFICKING AND UNSAFE
MIGRATION IN KENYA IN THE TIME OF
COVID-19, AND WHY COLLECTIVE DATA
IS KEY TO ITS PREVENTION**



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Awareness Against Human Trafficking (HAART)
Counter Human Trafficking Trust-East Africa (CHTTEA)
Movement Against Child Trafficking (MACT)
Nairobi Children's Remand Home
Terre des Hommes Netherlands (TDH-NL)
The Salvation Army
Trace Kenya

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FOREWORD

I am delighted to write this foreword to a study that represents a significant step in the right direction in addressing child trafficking and all forms of child sexual exploitation. This publication aims to enhance advocacy in Kenya and Eastern Africa of an end to all forms of child trafficking and child sexual exploitation. Indeed, the lack of disaggregated data on child trafficking and child sexual exploitation has posed a significant challenge for CSOs and governments in Eastern Africa. Data plays a significant role in understanding the manifestations of the global scourge of child trafficking and child sexual exploitation; it helps CSOs devise practical advocacy efforts and supports policymakers in the design of effective systems that respond to the challenge.

The COVID-19 global health pandemic has had a significant impact on children. The immediate socio-economic implications of the epidemic have led to a rise in child poverty, and a severe threat to their survival, safety and health. The pandemic has also exacerbated a learning crisis and has highlighted the inequity of access to education experienced by a majority of children. These challenges likely lead to situations of vulnerability to human trafficking, and many children are likely to become the silent victims of this global crisis of exploitation.

Across Kenya and in many countries in Eastern Africa, many children have been trafficked into labour on farms to sustain their families, and girls have been sexually exploited in homes, leading to a rise in teenage pregnancies. Many others have been forced to marry at a tender age. The EACRN and its partner networks have also documented the emergence of new forms of trafficking of children across the borders of Kenya and Uganda, where locals have participated unknowingly in the transportation of girls to Kenya. Furthermore, response and rescue efforts for trafficked children have significantly dropped during emergency lockdowns as NGOs cannot carry out child rescue missions during these times.

This data collection is therefore a valuable addition to our understanding of the impact of COVID-19 on child trafficking and child sexual exploitation in Kenya. Because child trafficking and child sexual exploitation is not a uniquely Kenyan problem, but rather a regional and international concern, the research has also demonstrated the need for these crimes to be dealt with at higher levels of government across Eastern Africa. Furthermore, it shows that the enforcement of lockdowns did not halt child trafficking and child sexual exploitation; instead, traffickers devised new ways of moving children across borders, while some children were forced into labour or into sexual exploitation online.

I would like to thank the Eastern Africa Child Rights Network coalition, through the leadership of the Management Committee, for their consistency in the advocacy of ending child trafficking and child sexual exploitation. Equal thanks to the secretariat of the EACRN and to all the contributing partner organizations. Finally, special thanks to Stop the Traffik Kenya and Freedom Collaborative for the conceptualization of this publication, and for taking responsibility for analyzing and presenting the data.

We trust that you will find this publication interesting and useful.

Anita Nyanjong
Regional Coordinator
The Eastern Africa Child Rights Network

ABOUT THE EASTERN AFRICA CHILD RIGHTS NETWORK (EARCN)

The Eastern Africa Child Rights Network (EARCN) was established in March 2014 to coordinate efforts by national child rights coalitions in Eastern Africa on child rights advocacy; it has members in Madagascar, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia and South Sudan. The network's mandate is to implement programmes that focus on the realization of child rights as contained in the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The advancement of the child rights agenda through the EARCN is achieved through engagement with governments, regional human rights bodies and other stakeholders working around children's issues both nationally, regionally and internationally. The network seeks to accomplish this through capacity building of national coalitions and the promotion of information sharing among network members.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS



ANPPCAN

African Network for the Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN) is a Pan-African network that promotes child rights and child protection in Africa.



HAART Kenya

Awareness Against Human Trafficking (HAART), an NGO, was founded in 2010 and is dedicated to ending all forms of human trafficking in Kenya and East Africa.



CHTEA

Counter Human Trafficking Trust East Africa (CHTEA) is a sub-regional non-state agency registered as a trust in Nairobi; it was founded in 2006 as a response to the human trafficking dynamic in Kenya and East Africa.



Movement Against Child Trafficking (MACT)

MACT brings together organizations, professionals, volunteers and other individuals to share resources to help end abuse, exploitation, radicalization, trafficking, torture and all forms of violence against children.



Nairobi Children's Remand Home

The Home admits child offenders and whose cases are being processed by the Children's or other Courts. For rescue purposes only, the institution admits children in need of care and protection.



The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is deeply committed to fighting and responding to modern slavery and human trafficking and works in more than 130 countries worldwide.



Terre des Hommes

TDH is an international childrens' rights organization that provides assistance to more than four million children and their families every year, in around 40 countries.



Trace Kenya

Trace Kenya, an NGO based in Mombasa, is focused on counter trafficking and aims to rescue, rehabilitate and reintegrate women, youth and child victims of trafficking.

INTRODUCTION

In June 2020, Kenya's Anti-Human Trafficking and Child Protection Unit (AHTCPU) raised a red flag over the alarming and sudden spike in the online trafficking, recruitment and exploitation of children in Kenya, amid concerns that the trend will continue.¹ The COVID-19 pandemic, and measures introduced to curb its spread, have affected the lives of untold numbers of children and families around the world. In Kenya and across the region, children remain out of school. As we write, reports state that 1.7 million people in Kenya have lost their jobs since the beginning of the pandemic², leading to family crises such as income loss and economic insecurity.

What emerges in reports from organizations that work with vulnerable children is a sense of the complexity of the current risks and dynamics of child exploitation in the country, and an understanding that a comprehensive strategy to prevent abuses is long overdue.

The Eastern Africa Child Rights Network (EACRN) recognizes that a vibrant civil society community exists around children's issues in most countries in the region. However, they believe that greater progress can be achieved through more concerted collaborative efforts. Child trafficking is linked to other complex child protection issues, and programs for prevention, protection and empowerment must reinforce each other in order for anti-exploitation initiatives to be successful and keep children safe. EACRN's mission is to bring together the various groups working on children's issues, increase information sharing between them, and coordinate a comprehensive prevention-oriented strategy to protect and enforce children's rights.

While the scope of their work includes the promotion of evidence-based advocacy for child rights within the East Africa region, EACRN almost entirely lacks the mechanisms for systematic and communal data collection, analysis and sharing, as well as practical support for establishing this type of scheme. While research and media reports have highlighted the issue of child trafficking in Kenya, in particular in the coastal region, no initiative has been launched for data collaboration or for pooling available data from individual organizations for collective analysis

¹ <https://allafrica.com/stories/202006020452.html>

² <https://www.businessdailyafrica.com/economy/jobs-lost-during-Covid19-lockdown/3946234-5617770-9fklqx/index.html>

During the recently concluded CSO Forum on the Africa Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, as well as at other recent forums, this lack of centralized data on child trafficking and the exploitation of children has been repeatedly noted as a knowledge gap. In Kenya, the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act (2010) provides for the government to create a data repository for cases of human trafficking. At the drafting of this report, no repository had been developed.

EXPLORING THE POTENTIAL FOR DATA COLLECTION IN KENYA

In 2019, Stop the Traffik Kenya (STTK) and Freedom Collaborative piloted and coordinated a collaborative data effort on human trafficking routes with a pilot group of STTK's network members. Seeing data sharing in action and understanding the opportunity to achieve more with their own data, several organizations were motivated to participate in a second data collection initiative in 2020.

Both groups are immensely proud to have started the process of demystifying the complexity of joint data collection for civil society organizations working against human trafficking in Kenya. In addition to the data insights created, the initiative has provided a practical framework for the implementation of data efforts that will create the kind of evidence base that participants collectively envision.

Using the same type of approach, enhanced by lessons learnt, we were able to support EARN in conducting a similar pilot project focusing exclusively on child trafficking and exploitation in Kenya. This small-scale data collection exercise allowed EARN and its network members to test the data collection instrument, identify data questions and needs, and become familiar with the process of data submission and discussion. It therefore provides EARN with a model for collaborative data gathering which they can develop and replicate across their countries of operation and which supports their work in driving an evidence-based approach to child protection and advocacy.

The gathering of this data is extremely timely as the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the exploitation of vulnerable children in Kenya. The participants recognized the need to collect information during these times, in order to capture the changing patterns of exploitation they are seeing in their service provision and case management.

This report provides an overview of the data collected from the pilot group. As well as an insight into child trafficking in Kenya in general, the analysis also highlights a number of current trends that have emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic, a situation that has made children even more vulnerable.

CHALLENGES TO DATA SHARING IN RELATION TO CHILD TRAFFICKING IN KENYA

In preparation for this data collection exercise, EACRN, STTK and Freedom Collaborative hosted a gathering of organizations concerned with child protection and anti-trafficking work in Kenya, to discuss their perspectives and, in particular, to understand the obstacles to data sharing.

The following challenges were identified by the participants:

1. Absence of a national data repository: despite the provision for a repository within the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act (2010) there is still no structure to facilitate the compilation of data collected by different stakeholders.
2. Working in silos: stakeholders noted that most of them still work independently, which has led to continued distrust among them. They said that, despite structures such as the National Referral Mechanism, which calls for collaboration among stakeholders, there is a lack of goodwill between groups.
3. Internal policies: some noted that their internal policies place restrictions on data sharing, and this has prevented them from sharing information with other stakeholders in the past.

All participants agreed on the vital importance of cooperation and partnership, and that their difficulties in obtaining information at the national level could be eased by a coordinated effort to collect relevant data.

The data-sharing pilot was agreed upon as a starting point for an exploration of the available data, identification of knowledge gaps, and the planning of follow-up activities.

SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

Data sources

This analysis includes data from eight civil society organizations working in multiple counties within Kenya, including the coastal, northeastern and western regions. All of them work directly with children who are victims of child trafficking and/or the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC).

Data collection

The contributing organizations submitted their data through a data collection tool housed on Freedom Collaborative's platform. The Freedom Collaborative team worked closely with EARN and involved other partners in the design of the data collection instrument, the determination of data points to be collected, and the adjustment of the instrument to align with the common terminology and concepts used in Kenya in this space.

The final data collection form included the following data points:

Significant factors that influence child trafficking and unsafe migration:

- Push factors that contribute to cross-border trafficking of children
- Pull factors that contribute to cross-border trafficking of children

Trafficking patterns and (cross-border) routes:

- Country of origin, City of origin
- Country of destination, City of destination
- Know transit locations

Spectrum of exploitation and abuse of vulnerable children:

- Prevalent forms of exploitation
- Type of work the children are engaged in

Circumstances under which recruitment and movement took place:

- Means of recruitment and coercion
- Number of cases of unaccompanied children from 2019 until now
- Details on cases of unaccompanied children

Identification and response:

- Number of cases cared for in the last year from 2019 until now
- Assistance provided by the Kenyan government

COVID-19 impact:

- Changes observed during the COVID-19 pandemic

It is important to note that the small number of organizations participating in the pilot, coupled with a general lack of reliable information, creates huge challenges for knowledge generation. The data collected does not allow substantive conclusions to be drawn on the prevalence of the different forms of exploitation of trafficked children. However, while the data set is limited, it illustrates the variety of exploitation and complexity of child trafficking in Kenya, and underscores the need for much improved data capture to analyze the issue more comprehensively.

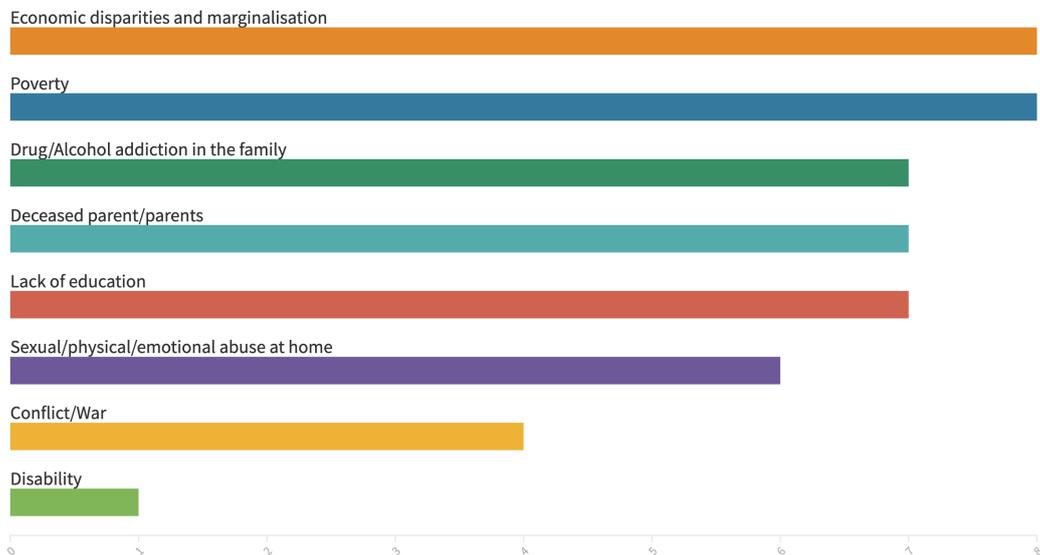
The following chapters provide a summary of the data collected and highlight prevalent trends that have emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic, which organizations have experienced in the past months.

FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE CHILD TRAFFICKING AND UNSAFE MIGRATION IN KENYA

Multiple push and pull factors for cross-border child trafficking have been identified by contributors, the first determining the supply of victims from countries of origin, and the latter determining the reasons why children or their families choose to pursue risky opportunities.

Poverty is a consistent risk for human trafficking and is central to both push and pull factors. As desperation pushes families and youth to accept any opportunities to earn money, it also makes them vulnerable to fraudulent employment offers. Economic disparities and marginalization with regards to economic wellbeing fuel migration towards countries that seem to offer better financial opportunities.

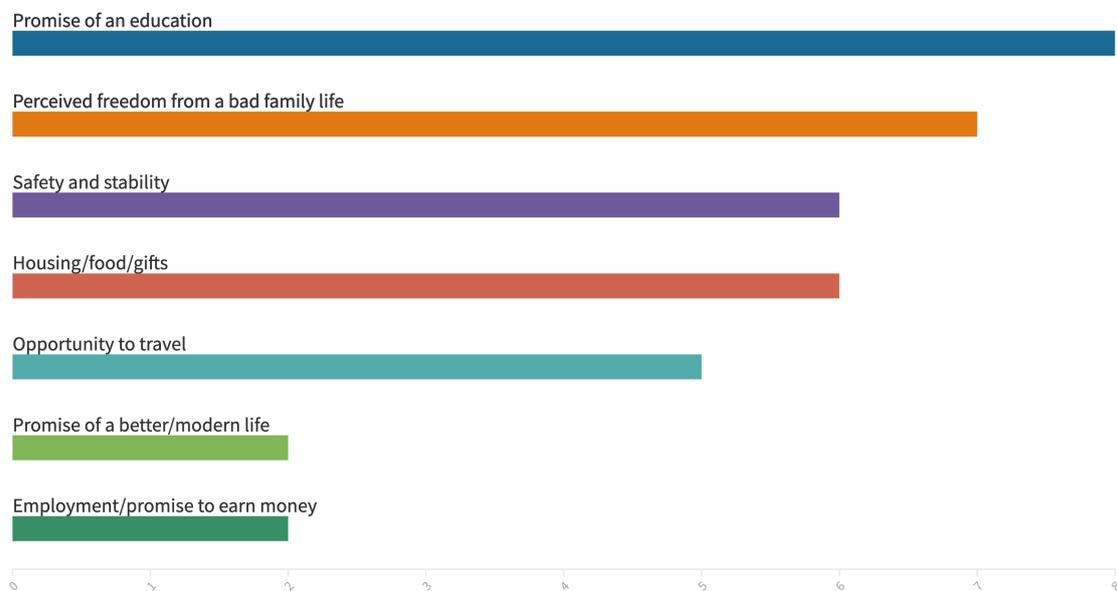
In the case of children, the data identifies education as both a main push and pull factor. Those in disadvantaged communities hope that securing an education for their children will break the cycle of poverty – it is well established that education is one of the most significant factors for achieving this goal. Sadly, these dreams are taken advantage of by traffickers who deceive families into believing that their children will receive a better education elsewhere.

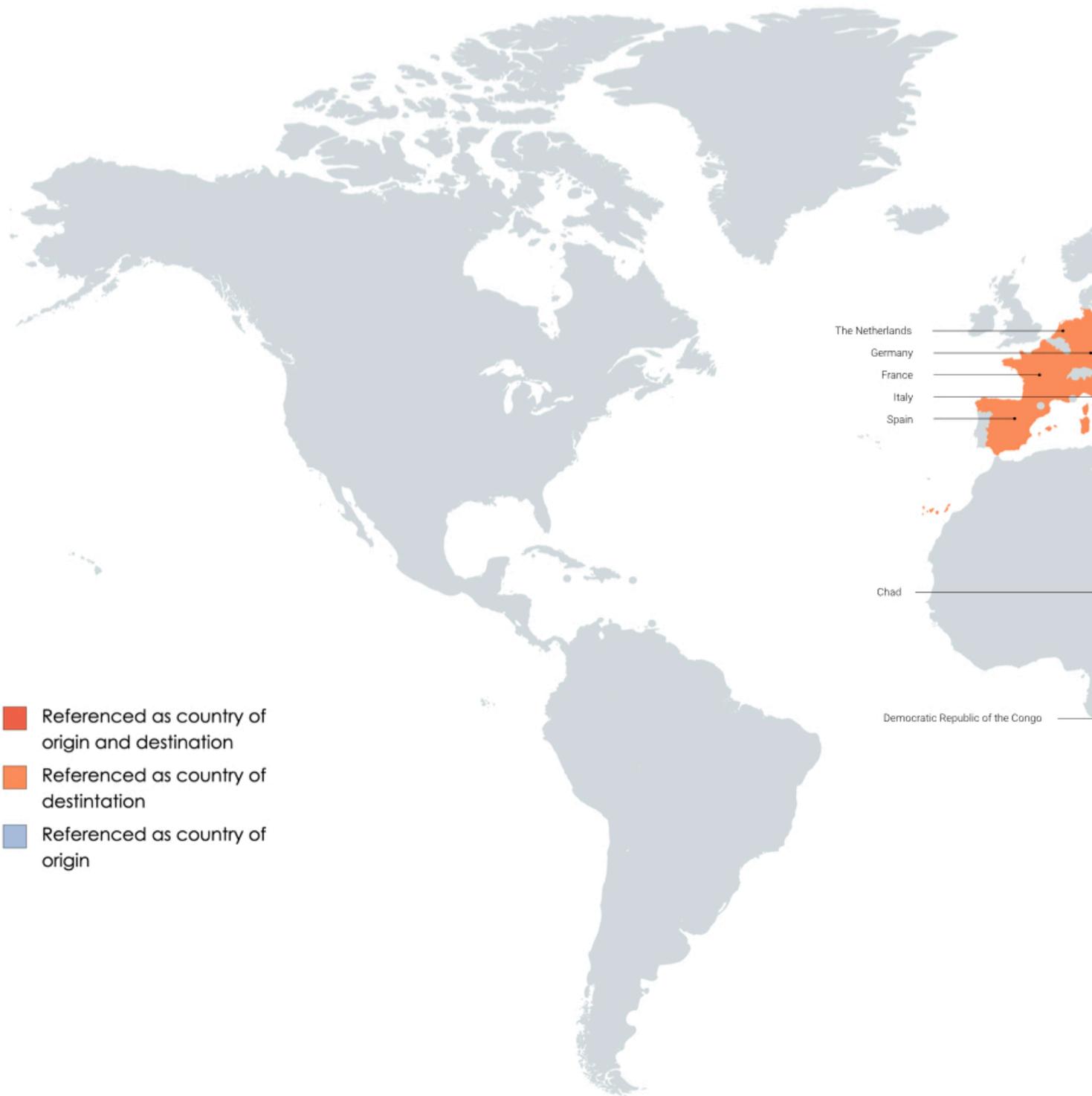


An unstable family situation, characterized through the addiction problems of family members and/or abuse, is another factor that leads to children and youth leaving their home. Children from unstable families may seek freedom and independence from their home life, and are vulnerable to traffickers who prey on isolated young people without parental care and guidance.

Identified pull factors include promises of a better life and a more modern lifestyle. Orphans are particularly vulnerable, as weak adoption laws also expose them to exploitation. Children with disabilities may be abandoned by their parents and susceptible to exploitation by criminal groups.

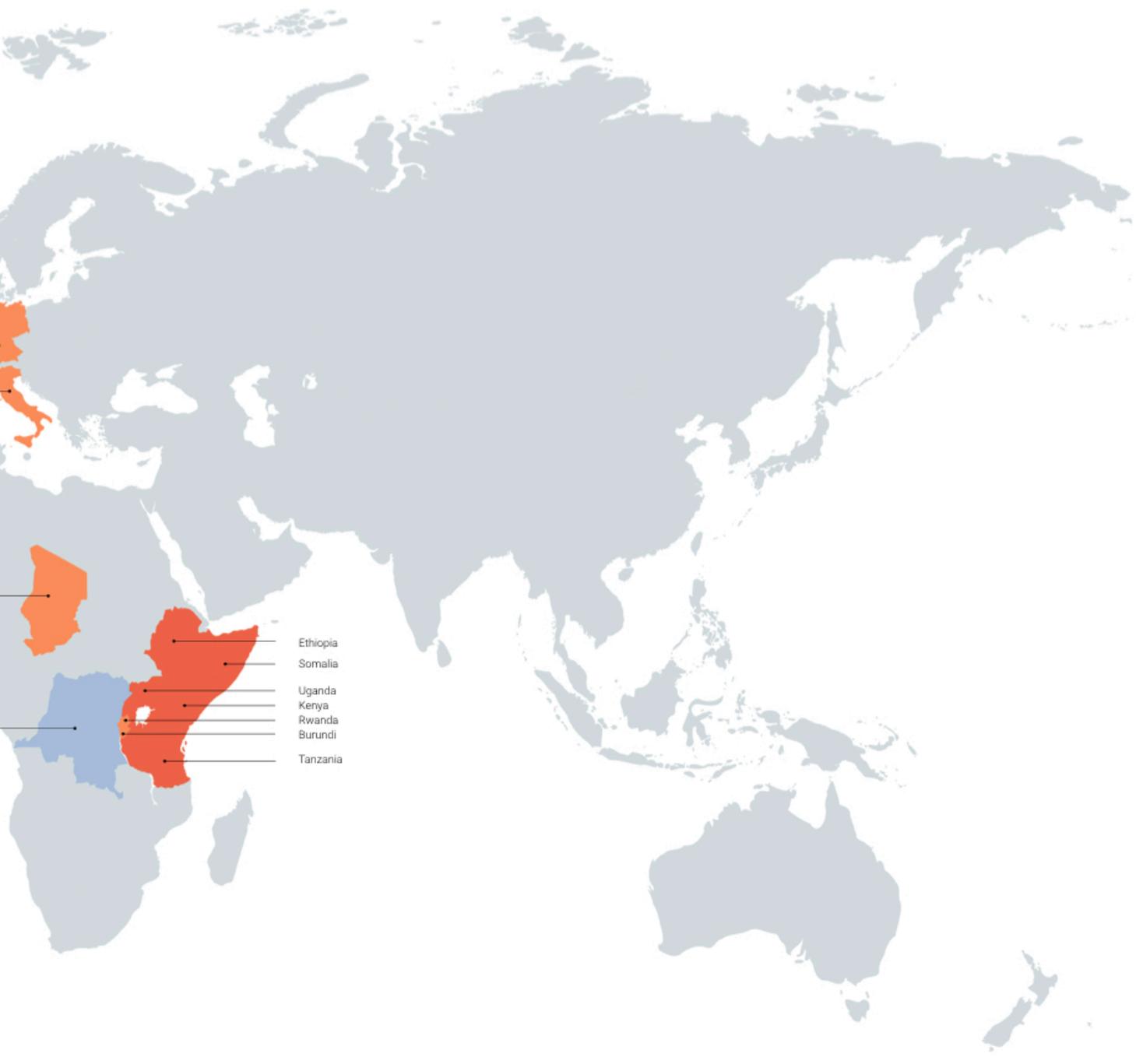
Conflict and war and safety and stability are also noted as push and pull factors linked to child trafficking.





- Referenced as country of origin and destination
- Referenced as country of destination
- Referenced as country of origin

- The Netherlands
- Germany
- France
- Italy
- Spain
- Chad
- Democratic Republic of the Congo

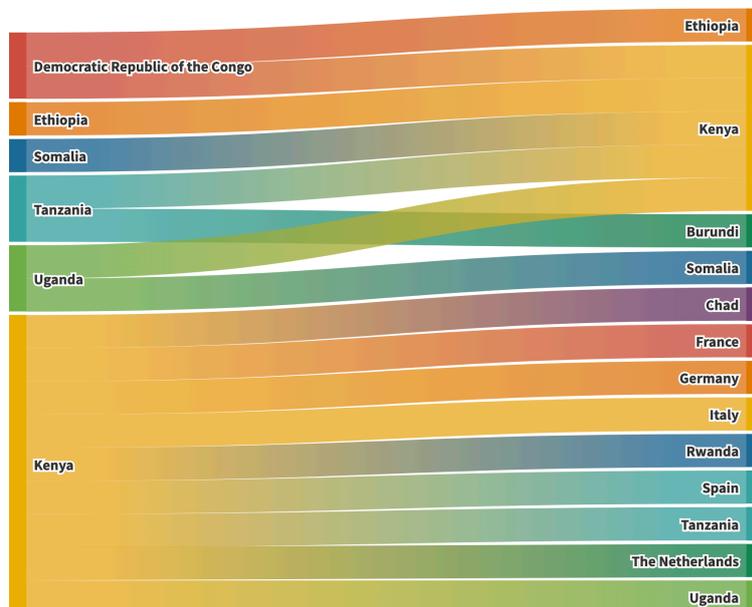


TRAFFICKING LOCATIONS AND CROSS-BORDER ROUTES

Kenya has been identified as both a country of origin and country of destination for child trafficking. The contributing organizations submitted 98 routes in total, as well as data on border transit points that are used during children's migration journeys.

The reported source and destination countries pairs were:

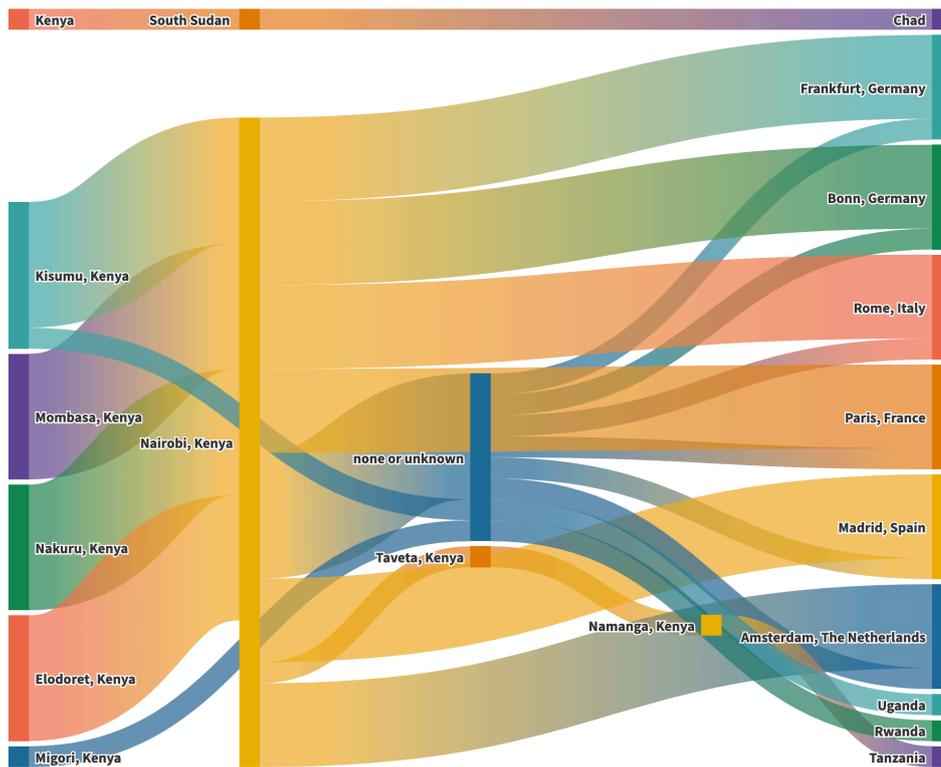
- Democratic Republic of the Congo to Ethiopia
- Democratic Republic of the Congo to Kenya
- Ethiopia to Kenya
- Kenya to Chad
- Kenya to France
- Kenya to Germany
- Kenya to Italy
- Kenya to Rwanda
- Kenya to Spain
- Kenya to Tanzania
- Kenya to The Netherlands
- Kenya to Uganda
- Somalia to Kenya
- Tanzania to Burundi
- Tanzania to Kenya
- Uganda to Kenya
- Uganda to Somalia



Kenya as a country of origin

Children from Kenya are trafficked to a number of countries in Africa, including Chad, Tanzania, Uganda, and Rwanda. Children are also trafficked to Europe, primarily through illegal adoption to Germany, Italy, France, Spain, and the Netherlands.

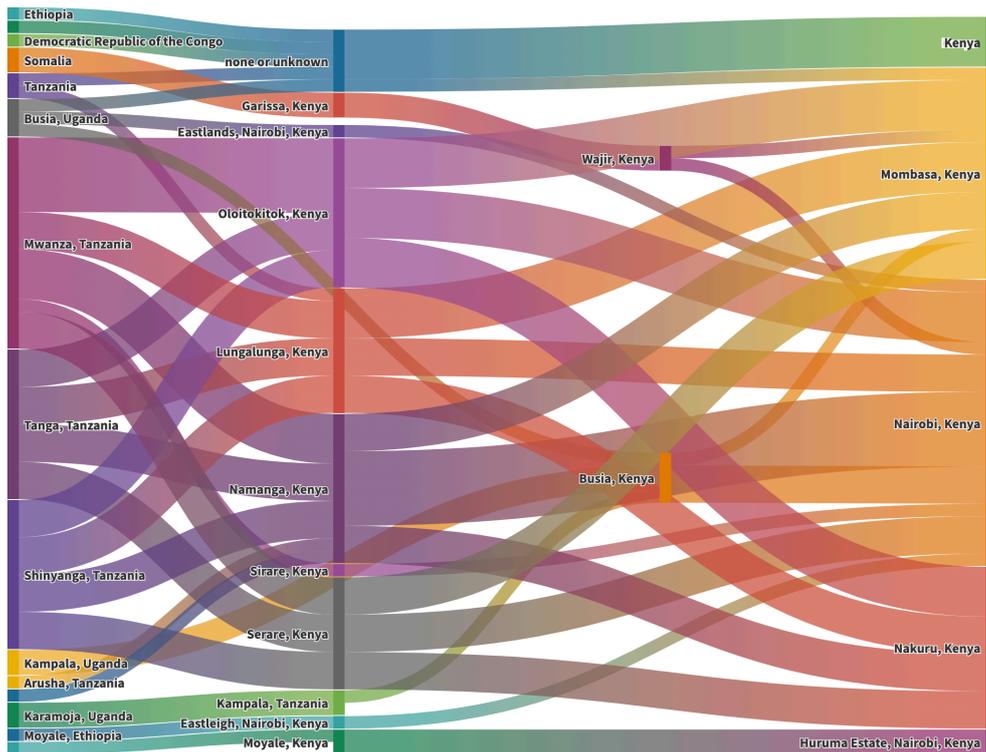
The graphic below provides an overview of the specific locations involved in trafficking from Kenya that were submitted by the organizations. Multiple provinces were identified as locations of origin, and Nairobi is a main transit hub for onward movement to other countries – both in Europe and other regions.



Kenya as a destination

Kenya is also a destination country for children from other countries in the region. The participating organizations have managed exploitation cases of children from Tanzania, Ethiopia, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia, who had traveled to Kenya.

The visualization below provides an overview of specific origin locations for trafficking cases, as well as known transit points for entrance to Kenya. Mombasa, Nairobi, and Nakuru are the main locations of destination where children have been exploited.



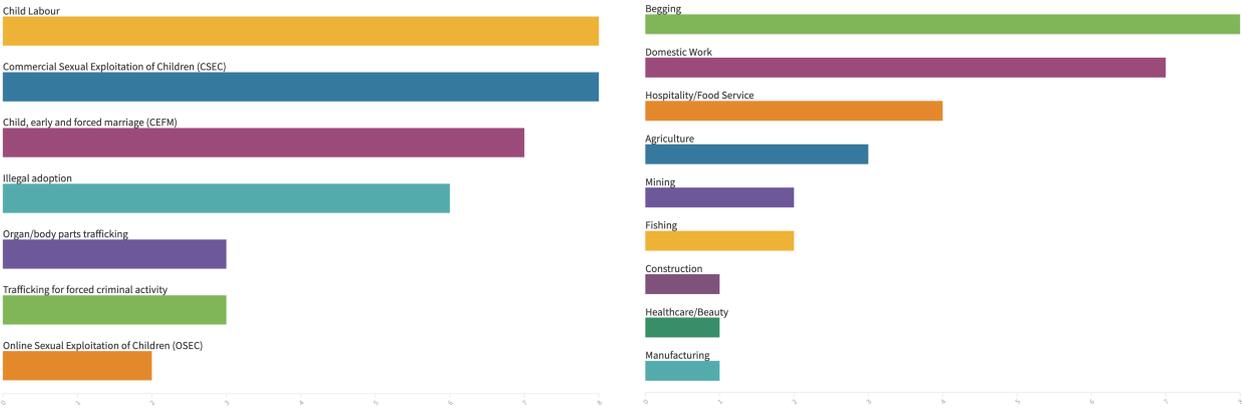
TYPES OF EXPLOITATION AND INDUSTRIES

Exploitation of children for labour is one of the most common forms of child trafficking encountered by the participating CSOs. Children are recruited to work as beggars and are placed in domestic servitude, as well as in the hospitality and food service industry, in agriculture, construction, health care and beauty services, mining, fishing, and manufacturing.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) affects many children, who are trafficked into brothels and the sex tourism industry, and cases of Online Sexual Exploitation of Children (OSEC) have also been noted.

Children are also often trafficked for illegal adoption, as well as child, early and forced marriage (CEFM). CEFM is considered as form of sexual exploitation under the Kenyan Counter Trafficking in Persons Act.

Three submissions were made on the link between child trafficking and organ/body parts trafficking.



A CASE STUDY: THE UGANDAN GIRLS FROM THE KARAMOJA REGION WHO ARE TRAFFICKED TO KENYA

The Karamoja region in Uganda consists of seven districts in the northeast of the country (Kaabong, Kotido, Abim, Moroto, Napak, Amudat and Nakapiripirit) and is classified as one of the world's poorest areas, with high rates of malnutrition and a disproportionate number (61 per cent) of its 1.2 million people living in absolute poverty. Hunger, stunted growth and a lack of access to food are prevalent. Food insecurity is a major and ongoing challenge, and a heavy reliance on the area's natural resources means that livelihoods are vulnerable to climate change.

The female population in the region is particularly vulnerable, and girls as young as eight have been trafficked to Nairobi with the promise of a better life and greener pastures. Poor families also resort to dangerous measures such as sending their young daughters to collect firewood to sell at local markets, where human trafficking recruiters lie in wait.

Some young Karimojong women are trafficked to Nairobi, having been told of opportunities for a better life. Their numbers have continued to grow in recent years and it is estimated that there are more than 3,000 Karimojong workers in Nairobi alone, particularly in Eastleigh, Majengo, Pumwani, Pangani (Chai Road) and Shauri Moyo.

Many end up in domestic servitude, but some become sex workers, employed in massage parlours and red light districts, or work in bars. Reports are rife of murders and other deaths of workers, in particular in Eastleigh, but these alleged crimes are not reported and it is suggested that the perpetrators go to great lengths to cover them up.



Some girls from the Karamoja region are believed to have traveled to the Middle East, while others are reported to have traveled south to the Kenyan Coast where they work in brothels and other low-paying service sectors. Rare and unconfirmed reports have emerged, suggesting that some of the girls have traveled to Somalia, potentially as Al-Shabaab brides. The main route for this has been mapped through Mombasa, Malindi and Lamu with a border crossing into Somalia at Kiunga. However, these reports need further investigation.

Following concerted efforts by civil society organizations and the media to highlight the plight of trafficked girls from the Karamoja region, there is interest from both public and government spheres.

This has led to the development of a consortium whose lead agency is the Anti-Human Trafficking and Child Protection Unit at the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI), alongside the Counter Trafficking in Persons Secretariat under the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection. Other members of the consortium include the Ugandan Embassy in Nairobi, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Transnational Organized Crime Unit of the DCI (all state-related agencies), the International Federation of Women Lawyers in Kenya (FIDA Kenya), the Counter Human Trafficking Trust-East Africa (CHTEA) and the Candle of Hope Foundation (CoHF).

Currently, the consortium welcomes viable partnerships with donors in order to raise the requisite financial, technical and material support.

MEANS OF RECRUITMENT AND COERCION

The recruitment of children is more complex than the common perception of child trafficking would suggest. While some traffickers abduct children, recruiters also use well planned and tailored processes to identify and recruit their victims.

A recruiter is often someone familiar to the child, such as a relative, friend, neighbor or community member, who can establish a close relationship with them and gain their trust. Children in general can be more easily tricked and manipulated than adults, and are often very receptive to promises of a job that will enable them to help their family. These jobs may turn out to be non-existent or the children may find themselves in a situation that differs greatly from their expectations.

In line with the identified push and pull factors, the promise of a better education is a widespread tactic used to recruit children to move between countries or from rural areas to cities. Children from other countries are often promised free education in Kenya.

In addition to this, organizations have noted that cartels are often behind the recruitment of children into various forms of exploitation. The involvement of cartels was noted particularly in cases of child beggars and some forms of sexual exploitation.

Recruiters also recruit children online, a trend that has increased in the past few months during the COVID-19 pandemic.

DEMOGRAPHICS

The participating CSOs have encountered cases of child trafficking of both girls and boys. The ages of the children exploited range from two-week-old babies trafficked for illegal adoption through all age groups of children and youth up to 18 years old.

UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN

Organizations are also encountering cases of unaccompanied children. They report that most of these cases are coordinated between known relatives or neighbors who facilitate the movement of the child away from their home to a location where they are either abandoned or handed over to agents and traffickers.

In other cases, children leave their homes without the knowledge of their family. Reported cases include those of children who leave with the hope of finding casual work in other cities, kids who leave home after meeting a stranger online who promises to help them find a job, and children who run away because they fear punishment by their families for small offenses, such as losing a school book, and are too afraid to return home. Children traveling on their own are extremely vulnerable to traffickers who pretend to want to help them.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Section 15 of the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act (2010) defines the protection and support victims of trafficking should receive. This includes:

- Return to and from Kenya
- Resettlement
- Re-integration
- Appropriate shelter and other basic needs
- Psychosocial support
- Appropriate medical assistance
- Legal assistance or legal information, including information on the relevant judicial and administrative proceedings

This section also reminds the government to consider the age, gender, and special needs of children and persons with disabilities, and the personal circumstances of each victim of trafficking, in regards to their support and protection.

Support services should be able to accommodate the specific needs of victims, who might have experienced any number of traumatic events and situations. Any combination of the above services may be required by a survivor but, at present, some gaps in service provision and implementation still remain.

INCREASED RISKS FOR CHILDREN DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Rise in exploitation of children for labour

Since March 2020, organizations have seen a surge in the number of cases of children engaged in child labour, when schools closed following the coronavirus outbreak. The COVID-19 pandemic has increased economic hardship for families and poverty is a major push factor in the trafficking of children for labour. A general lack of awareness of trafficking risks makes families more vulnerable and leaves them exposed to exploitation, and organizations have reported a lot of inter-county movement, with children transported to work on sugarcane plantations, in sand harvesting and in the offloading of cargo from lorries transiting at the border between Kenya and Uganda.

The COVID-19 period has also affected the economic stability of the families of reintegrated victims who had received support from CSOs previously and are now at risk of being re-exploited. Organizations who participated in this data collection exercise, have set up income-generating activities to try to alleviate the economic hardship that results in vulnerability to trafficking, including trafficking of children.

Online exploitation

Children are now exposed to uncensored access to online pornography and trafficking risks. School closures and online lessons mean that children spend more time at home unsupervised, and this is exacerbated when unemployed parents have to leave the house to look for work. Girls continue to be the main victims of child trafficking as they sometimes resort to sex work in order to contribute to the family income or even pay for personal necessities such as sanitary pads and hygiene products (lotions, soap, clothing).

Teenage pregnancies

COVID-19 has exacerbated existing socio-structural deficiencies within Kenya, with women and children continuing to face gender-based violence and discrimination. This can be seen in the increased number of teenage pregnancies and cases of domestic violence – some children have had to endure the trauma of a violent home without any respite (closed schools, reduced social interaction). The increase in teenage pregnancies and early child marriages indicate an absence of protection measures for children against sexual predators.

There has been an explosion of teenage pregnancies in Kenya and this is unsurprising – in some cases desperate single mothers encourage and sometimes force their young daughters to have sex with older men. This problem is particularly acute in Nairobi's slums, where families are at risk of starvation. The outcome for such children carries dire consequences – for many of them education will be put on hold or terminated, which further diminishes their chances of independent living and reduces their life choices.

Recruitment by gangs

There has been a rise in child recruitment into gangs in Kenya, due to widespread unemployment, lack of parental supervision, poor living conditions and a lack of access to education due to school closures. Without school and their usual friendship groups, children are more vulnerable to gang recruitment, which offers a sense of belonging.

Children exploited by gangs are pressured to take part in criminal activities and robberies; the incentive is the chance to earn money to support their families.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTIONS

As a result of this draft report, EACRN plans to advocate for the following:

1. Empower the Kenyan Counter Trafficking in Persons Advisory Committee to implement section 20 (g) of the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act (2010), which provides for the compilation and documentation of data and information on cases of trafficking in persons for purposes of policy formulation and program direction.
2. Replicate the data collection exercise in different countries within the region. EACRN partners in Eastern Africa can assist in this and we believe it would be beneficial to our understanding of the CT and CSEC situation within the region.
3. Establish and strengthen the systems necessary for counter-trafficking efforts. This includes ensuring that there is a more inclusive Counter Trafficking in Persons Advisory Committee in which all government departments are fully represented.
4. Establish safe houses for children rescued from all forms of trafficking and child sexual exploitation, including children rescued from child marriages, and ensure their access to education.
5. Accelerate prevention efforts for all forms of human trafficking by putting in place measures to address the poverty, gender discrimination and inequality that leads to human trafficking.

Freedom Collaborative was launched in 2016 by Liberty Shared as an online platform to facilitate cross-border cooperation between anti-trafficking service providers in Asia. The first forum of its kind, and now in its fifth year, Freedom Collaborative continues to support collaboration between a wide range of civil society, government, and private sector stakeholders from around the world, through tools and services for data and information sharing. It is the largest community of professionals and other activists working to end human trafficking, forced labour and exploitation globally. By providing our frontline partners with accessible data collection and analysis tools, Freedom Collaborative brings together data sets on exploitation activity, contextual factors, and the existing response landscape. The team provides anti-trafficking organizations with free support for the development and implementation of data collection that can be adapted to local contexts and implemented quickly.

STOP THE TRAFFIK Kenya (STTK) is an affiliate of STOP THE TRAFFIK Global (STTG) which is a movement that aims to prevent human trafficking. The founding members of STTK are The Salvation Army, Awareness Against Human Trafficking (HAART) Kenya, Trace Kenya, Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa (CAPA) and Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa (FECCLAHA). The current steering committee members are CAPA, HAART Kenya, The Salvation Army and Trace Kenya. Stop the Traffik- Kenya was officially launched in February 2018. STTK seeks to prevent trafficking by engaging in community transformation, gathering and sharing knowledge as well as through global campaigning. The membership is open to individuals, civil society organizations and the private sector.