

June 21, 2021

Human Trafficking Institute, Ugandan Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, and Liberty Shared to launch Uganda's first digitized data system for human trafficking cases.

The **Human Trafficking Institute** (HTI) and **Liberty Shared** are pleased to announce a new partnership with the Ugandan **Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions** (ODPP) to develop the *Trafficking in Persons Mobile App Platform* (TIPMAP), Uganda's first database for collecting and sharing data specifically from human trafficking investigations and prosecutions.

TIPMAP will support the government in its efforts to eradicate human trafficking by providing up-to-date and consistent information on investigations and prosecutions occurring in all 16 ODPP regions of Uganda. The sharing of case data across regions will provide opportunities for collaboration across departments to track information on suspected and convicted traffickers and trends in trafficking in persons crimes. TIPMAP will assist HTI's work with the ODPP to provide prosecutorial expertise, in-depth training of law enforcement and prosecutors, and support specialized investigative units in their efforts to address human trafficking crimes.

The database adds a new tool to support HTI's work with law enforcement and prosecutors throughout Uganda. HTI's Special Counsel Tyler Dunman provides full time embedded support to ODPP and has led multiple training sessions for over 400 police and prosecutors since late 2020. During these trainings, investigators, prosecutors, and service providers received instruction and resources on prosecution-led and victim-centered investigative techniques. Since the start of these trainings, the number of investigations, prosecutions, and victims protected by local police and prosecutors more than doubled when compared to 2019. TIPMAP will provide vital support to further track and increase the good work already being achieved.

The Government of Uganda is making significant efforts to increase its ability to combat trafficking crimes. Specifically, the government has prioritized increasing the number of investigations and the success rate of prosecutions of traffickers. This partnership with HTI and Liberty Shared demonstrates the Ugandan Government's dedication to combating human trafficking. Effective record keeping and information sharing infrastructure in parallel with improved investigative and prosecution techniques is crucial for all criminal justice stakeholders to function better and improve efforts to eliminate human trafficking in Uganda.

The Human Trafficking Institute exists to decimate human trafficking at its source by empowering police and prosecutors to stop traffickers. Working inside criminal justice systems, HTI provides the embedded experts, world-class training, investigative resources, and evidence-based research necessary to free victims. HTI has partnered with the Government of Uganda since 2017, and together have worked to remove over 400 victims from exploitation and prosecute over 350 traffickers.

Liberty Shared aims to prevent human trafficking through legal advocacy, technological interventions, and strategic collaborations with NGOs, corporations, and financial institutions globally.

For further information, please contact media@traffickinginstitute.org.