Ministry of Internal Affairs



2016

REPORT

ON

THE TREND OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN UGANDA

&

COUNTER MEASURES CARRIED OUT AGAINST THE CRIME

Prepared by:

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

In accordance with Section 21 of the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons (PTIP) Act 2009, an office was set up at the Ministry of Internal Affairs Headquarters to be responsible for monitoring, coordination and overseeing the implementation of counter human trafficking activities in the Country. The Office carries out the above mentioned mandates through close operational collaboration with a multi-sectoral National Task Force Committee and several stakeholder action bearers, including Government and Non Government Agencies. Through the multi-sectoral collaboration, the Coordination Office collects data on the crime. The information in this report is therefore a product of the analyzed data from all the known relevant stakeholders involved in countering trafficking in persons in the country.

During the year of 2016, incidents related to trafficking in persons were experienced at the domestic and trans-national levels. It affected both children and adults as victims. According to registered reports, Ugandan was mainly a source of victims; there were however a few incidents registered which indicates that Uganda is also a transit and destination country for victims of the crime.

Given the complexity of the crime, the statistics given in this report is not practically exhaustive; there are many other un-registered incidents of trafficking in persons which are known to be taking place in the country but not properly documented.

Several interventions were carried out to counter the crime which included preventive measures against the crime, prosecution of offenders, protection of victims and several cross-cutting activities.

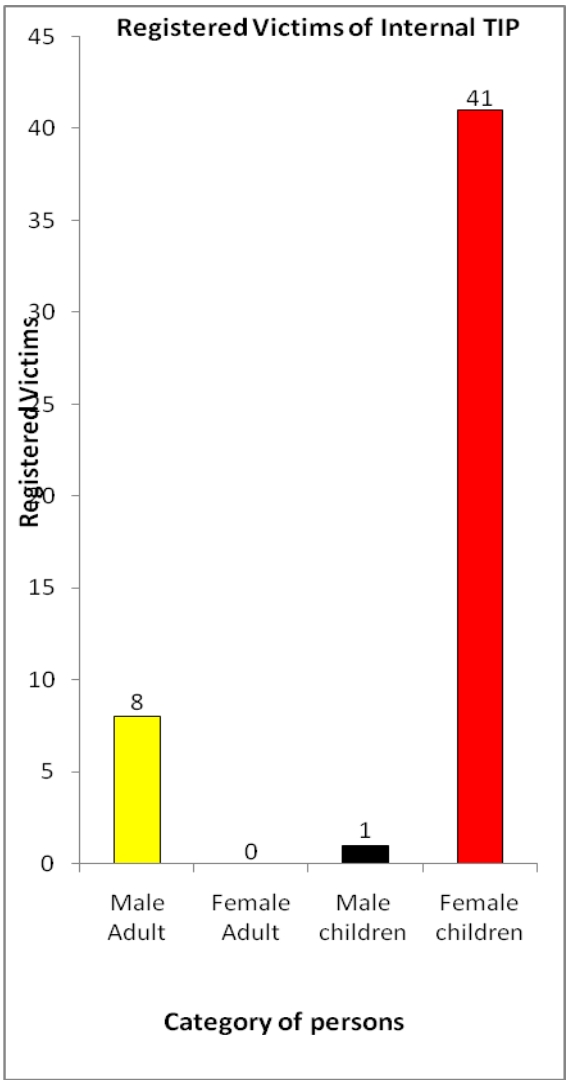
2.0 GENERAL APPRECIATION OF THE CRIME SITUATION OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN UGANDA FOR 2016

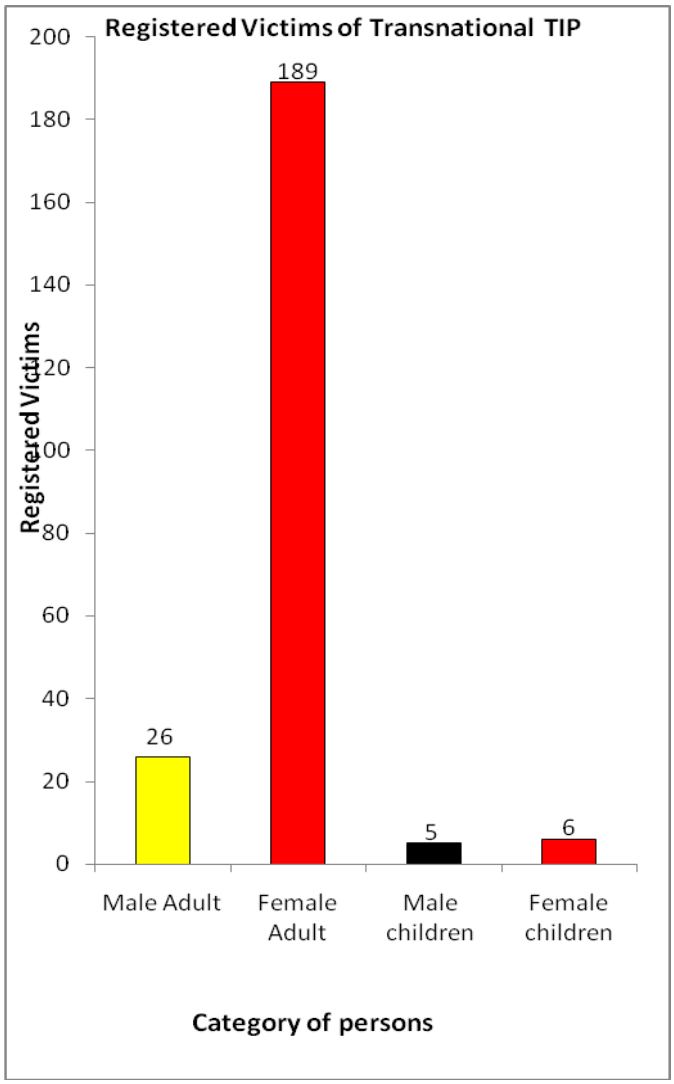
The **total** number of registered **victims** was **283**; out of whom **57** were **victims of internal trafficking** while **226** were **victims of transnational trafficking**. In addition, there were a total of **256 intercepted victims** of transnational trafficking. The general appreciation is that the number of registered victims was generally low but the number of the intercepted potential victims was generally high. The reasons for this scenario include the following:-

- Heightened vigilance by the public and enforcement agencies against suspected domestic child trafficking and child sacrifice.
- The ban of export of Ugandans for housemaid jobs in January 2016 and the follow up actions by the MoGLSD and other stakeholders to enforce the ban.
- Enhanced public awareness campaign by various concerned agencies and individuals, including key stakeholder agencies, SCOs, religious and community leaders; on how to avoid becoming victims of trafficking, provision of information on safe migration for jobs abroad, public testimonies from some victims and media exposure of identified illegal labour recruiters.
- Heightened vigilance at exit points by the Immigration staff and other security agencies which led to many interceptions of potential victims before they exited Uganda.

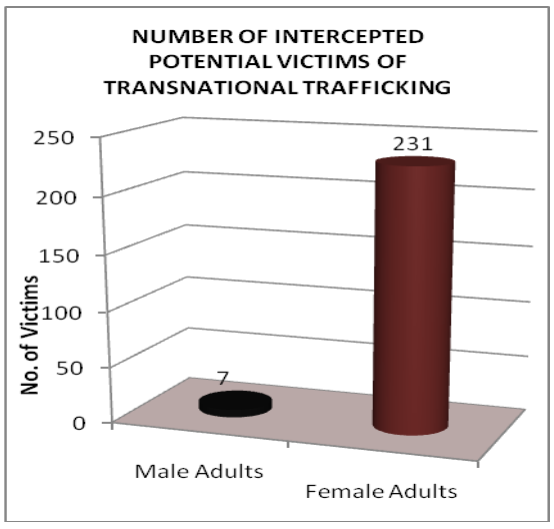
Details of the statistical data of the registered actual and potential victims are illustrated in the following 3 tables:-

2.1 Registered number of actual victims of trafficking per category of persons for 2016.





2.2 Registered Intercepted potential transnational victims



Categories of Undocumented Trafficking Incidents for 2016

- Some foreigners trafficked into Uganda for labour and sexual exploitation or as a transit route to some other destination countries of exploitation
- Some children trafficked internally for illicit acquisition of wealth, child marriages, child prostitution, online sexual abuse and child labour
- Some children and adults trafficked internally and externally for use in commission of other illegal activities

2.3 Trafficking in Persons as Expressed in the Print Media During 2016



Ugandan maids being secretly exported to Oman

By Henry Sekanjako

According to an Omani newspaper, Uganda has become their favourite destination for maids because it provides cheap labour



Okukukusa abantu kweyongedde

Bya JOSEPH MUTEBI

Binoga (ku ddyo) ng'alaga omu ku bawala abaanunulwa ebweru.



'Mothers aiding human trafficking'

By Henry Nsubuga

Bishop Ssekamanya



ADF recruiting children from Uganda, says Wama

BETWEEN THE LINES:

omrade to deliver lecture



Rakai witchdoctor committed to High Court over child sacrifice



Uganda challenged to end child marriages

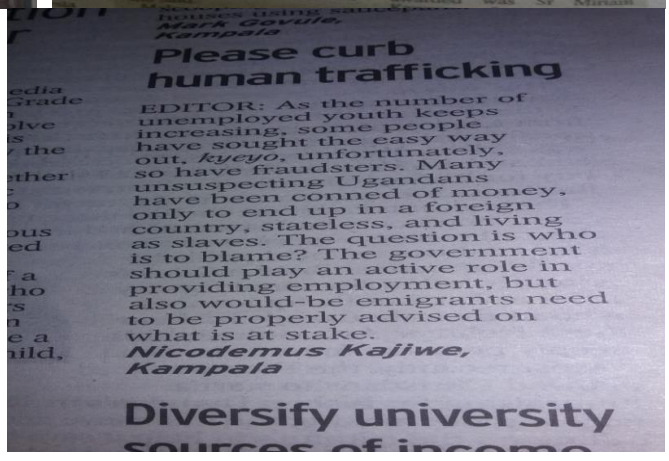
By Henry Nsubuga

Rosa Malango



Remains of 4 children recovered in suspected Rakai ritual murders

History of child murders



Please curb human trafficking

EDITOR: As the number of unemployed youth keeps increasing, some people have sought the easy way out, *kyeyo*, unfortunately, so have fraudsters. Many unsuspecting Ugandans have been conned of money, only to end up in a foreign country, stateless, and living as slaves. The question is who is to blame? The government should play an active role in providing employment, but also would-be emigrants need to be properly advised on what is at stake.

Nicodemus Kajiwe, Kampala

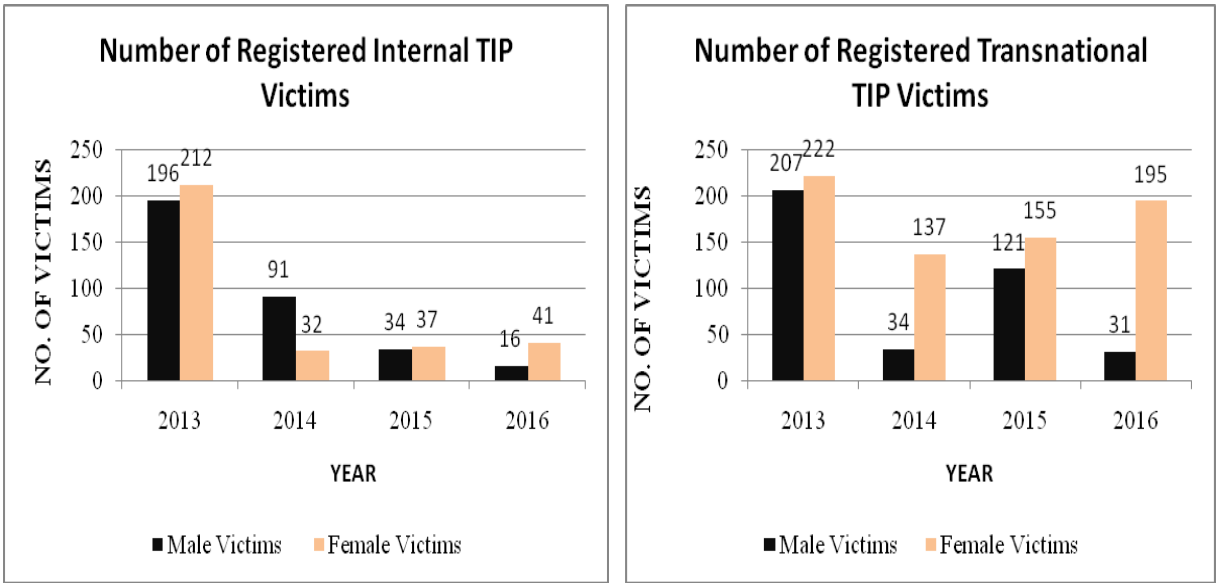
Diversify university sources of income

3.0 ANALYSIS OF THE TREND OF THE CRIME OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AS OF END OF 2016

3.1 Decreasing number of Registered Victims of Trafficking; Females the most Affected

The number of registered victims of trafficking for both domestic and transnational trafficking has been reducing since 2013. However, on average, the females have been the most affected in all the four consecutive years.

3.1.1 Illustration of the trend of trafficking in persons in Uganda for the last 4 Years in the 2 Graphs below:-

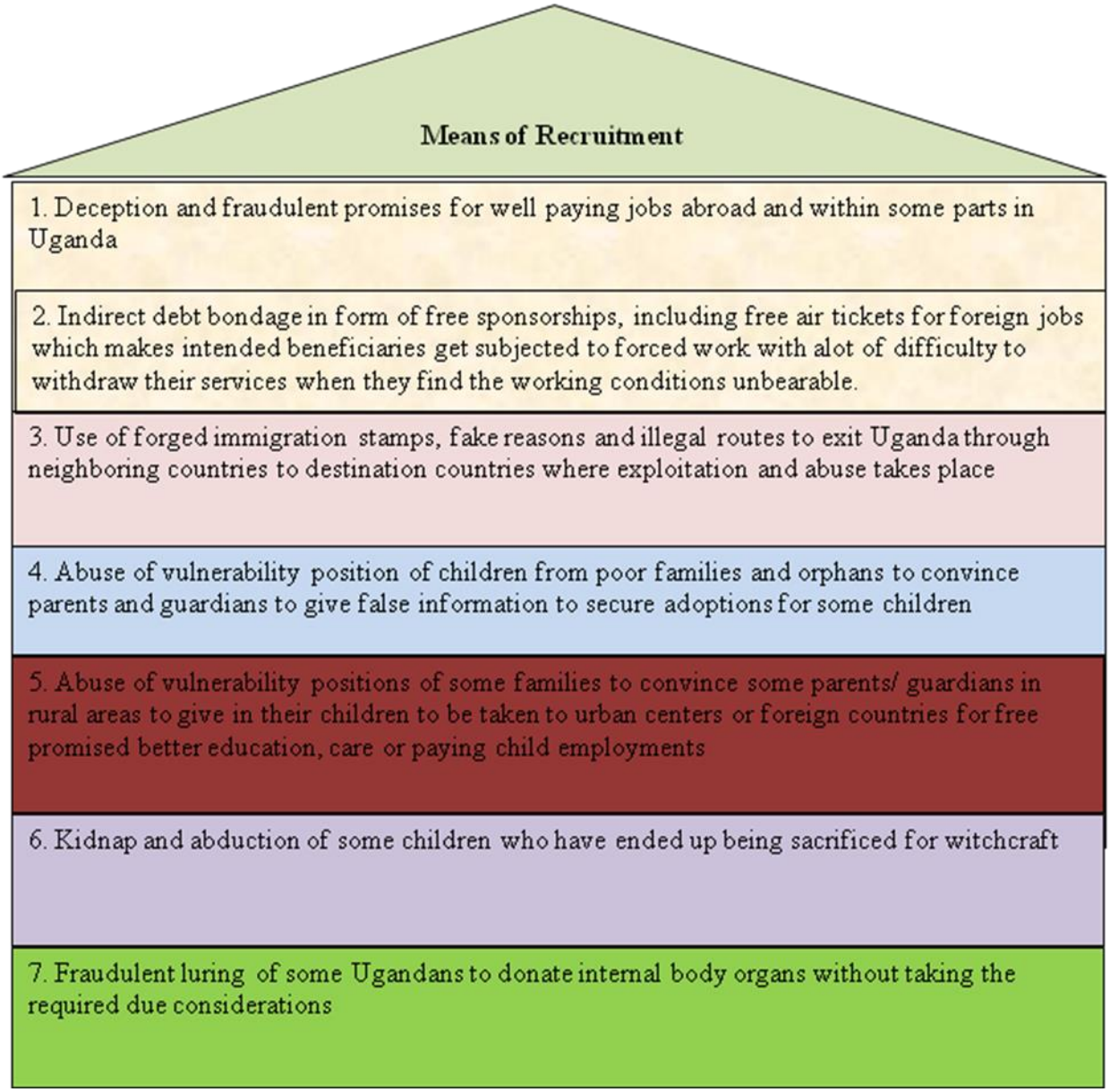


The decreasing number of registered victims does not necessarily mean that the crime has been reducing. Some of reasons for such a scenario include following:-

- Enhanced preventive measures including public awareness campaign, enforcement of the Regulations and Guidelines for labour export and Children's Homes, amendment in the Children's Act, maintaining a Police Check point at the boundaries with Karamoja sub region and interception of potential victims of trafficking.
- Increasing involvement of more concerned groups of people, including religious leaders, cultural leaders and politicians in the awareness rising against the crime.
- Improvements in investigative and prosecution strategies, including quick presentation of witnesses before they are influenced to lose interest in the cases, which serves as warnings for other would be criminals.
- Increased levels of partnership and coordination amongst stakeholders which has promoted quick information sharing and joint operations against the trafficking agents.
- Increased efforts by Government to create jobs for youths and to change the mind sets of the youth to become job creators other than job seekers.
- On the other hand, it is also suspected that many victims are not making reports because some of their close relatives and friends are involved in the process of their recruitment, while others have been influenced, either through simple compensations or threats, by the criminals not to report.

3.2 Means of Recruitment

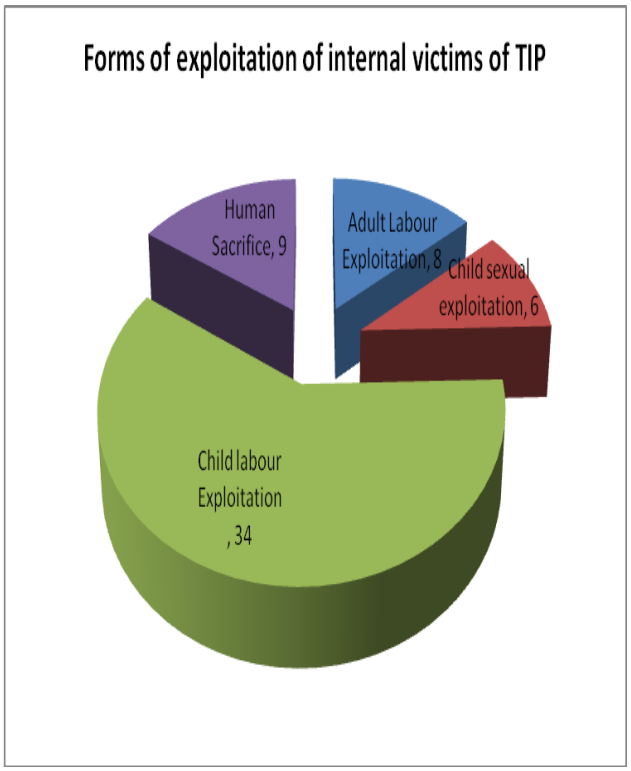
The means of recruitment of the victims by the trafficking agents were varied, including deceptions, fraud, use of forged Immigration documents, debt bondage and abuse of position of vulnerability, as per the information below:-

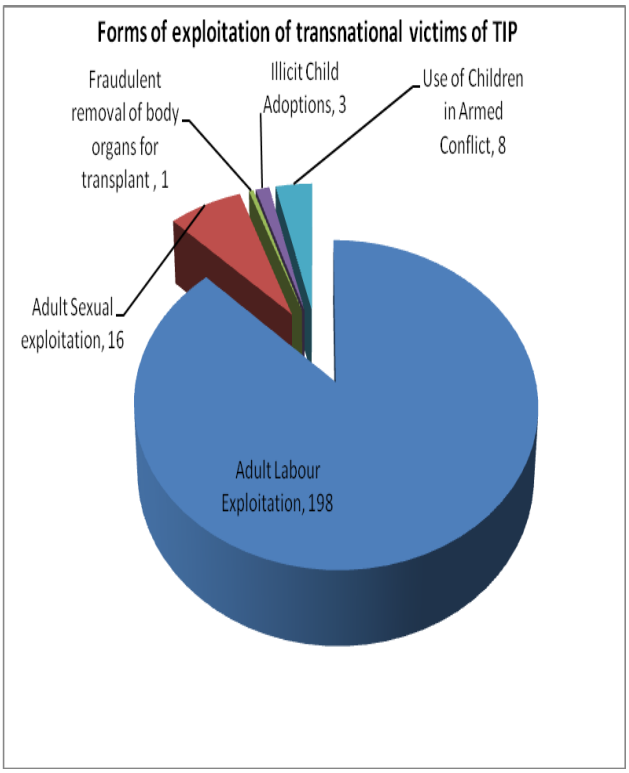


- Majority of the victims were trafficked by means of deception, fraud and debt bondage for jobs abroad.
- Some children from poor families were trafficked by means abuse of vulnerability of the poor situation of their families while others were trafficked through kidnaps or abductions.

3.3 Forms of Exploitation

Among the forms of exploitation subjected to the registered victims of trafficking for the year under review were:- labour and sexual exploitation for both adults and children, fraudulent removal of body organ for transplant, illicit adoptions, use of children in armed conflicts, and human sacrifice, as per the break down in the pie charts below:-





3.4 Source and Transit Districts for Victims of Trafficking for 2016

Kampala and the surrounding areas plus the border districts were the source for most of the transnational victims of trafficking. Meanwhile, Karamoja sub region and some districts in the Busoga sub region were the source areas for most of the victims of domestic trafficking in persons. The full list of the source districts that served as the sources is as follows:-

Source, Transit & Destination Districts for the Registered Internally Trafficked Victims	**Source & Transit Districts for the Registered Transnational Trafficking Victims**
Napak, Mayuge, Teso Sub-region, Mbale, Busia, Iganga, Jinja, Bugiri, Wakiso, Kampala	Kampala, Wakiso, Mukono, Ntungamo, Masaka, Jinja, Busia, Bugiri, Iganga, Kamului, Sironko, Kasese, Butaleja, Mayuge, Tororo

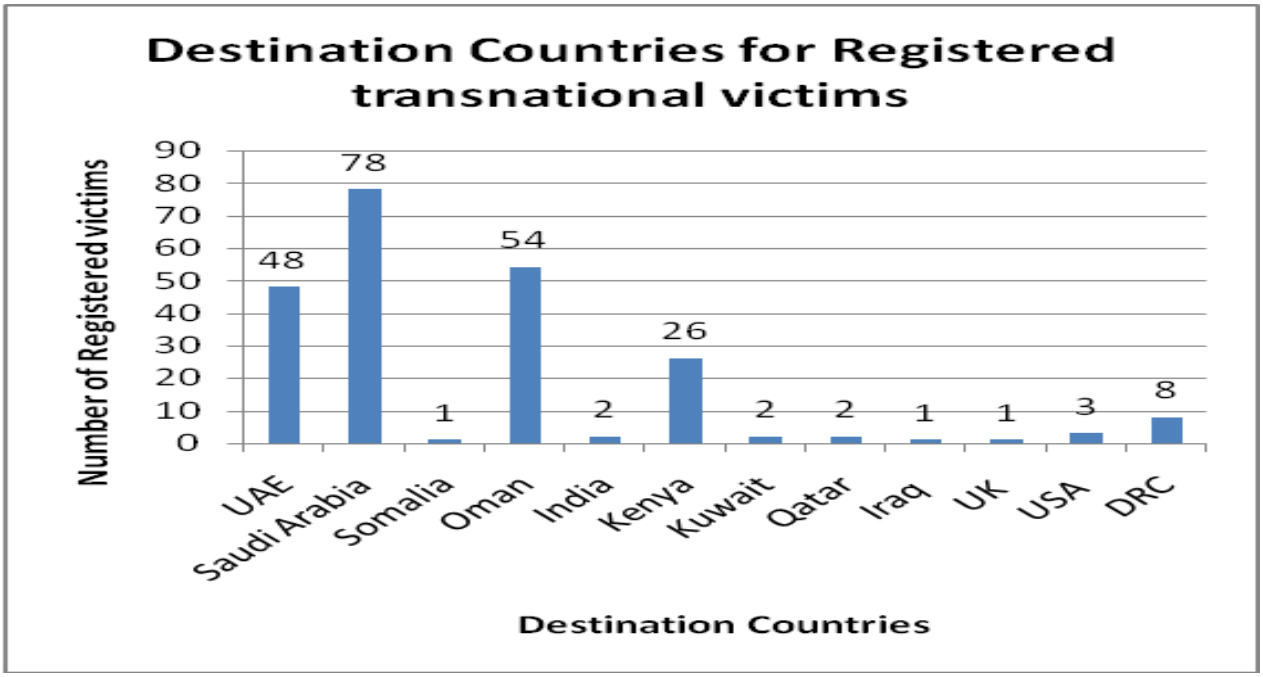
3.5 Summary Information on the Registered Cases of Human Trafficking

By the end of the year, a total of 9 victims of murder for witchcraft or dangerous rituals were registered; 7 of whom were children, as per details in the table below:-

Gender Distribution					**Parts of Bodies Targeted**				**Cases in Court**	**Districts affected**
Adult Male	Adult Female	Child Males	Child Female		Head	Tongue	Blood	Ear & Hand		
2	-	2	5		3	1	3	1	4	Gulu, Wakiso, Bugiri, Ntoroko, Busia, Rakai Mityana,

3.6 Actual or Intended Destination Countries for the Registered Transnational Victims of Trafficking

Saudi Arabia and Oman were the most destination Countries for majority of the victims of transnational trafficking registered in 2016. Other Countries include UAE, Kenya, DRC, India, USA, Kuwait, Qatar and Somalia, as per the table below:-



Saudi Arabia became the largest destination country for Ugandan victims of trafficking because of the influx of many house maid workers who were taken to that Country by many unlicenced labour recruiters soon after the signing of the bilateral labour agreement in 2015 and early 2016. The export of Ugandan housemaid workers was made hurriedly by licenced recruitment companies before a clear implementation framework of the bilateral labour agreement was designed and this provided advantage to the illegal recruiters who jumped on the band wagon, leading to the outcry that ensured and imposition of the ban of housemaid workers in January 2016. Some of the victims were diverted to UAE and Oman by the illegal recruiters after initially being told that they were being taken to Saudi Arabia.

3.7 Common Routes Used for Internal Trafficking Activities

- Karamoja Sub-region to Teso Sub-region – Mbale – Busia / Malaba – Iganga – Jinja – Kamuli
- Other rural areas to urban centers and other busy economic areas

3.8 Common Routes Used for Transnational Trafficking Activities

- Kampala to Several foreign countries through Busia, Malaba, Entebbe Airport, Katuna, Elegu and Mutukula, mostly in disguised ways.
- Jinja, Iganga, Bugiri, Busia, Mbale to foreign countries through the Kenyan border line
- Northern Uganda Sub-region to foreign countries through Elegu

4.0 COUNTER HUMAN TRAFFICKING INTERVENTIONS APPLIED IN 2016

Among the interventions carried out to respond to the above incidents were:-

- Preventive Actions
- Investigations and prosecutions
- Rescue, protection and provision of assistance to victims
- Cross-cutting Activities, Partnership and Coordination Activities

4.1 <u>Preventive Actions</u>:-

It included awareness rising through various ways including; public awareness on existing trends of the crime, banning of export of housemaids, signing of bilateral labor agreements, strengthening of legal and regulatory frameworks, enhancement of enforcement of the regulatory and criminal justice systems and interception of potential victims of trafficking.

4.1.1 Radio, TV and Outreach Awareness Campaign by the Ministry of Internal Affairs Headquarters

This has been carried out on radios, TVs and through direct address of some targeted groups people, including Secondary schools candidates, University students, members of refugee communities, Buganda youth groups and Recruitment agencies. Testimonies of some victims related to their sad stories as a result of having been trafficked were published through the media to serve as a way alerting the public about the changing trends of the crime. Also some identified traffickers and illegal recruiters were publicized through the media as a way of warning the public against dealing with them.

As a result of the consciousness created, increasing number of people, have been seeking guidance from the stakeholder authorities on safe ways of accessing employments abroad, scholarships and care for children, incidents of missing children have been reported promptly and many relatives have been seeking information on updates about their relatives who went abroad for work.

4.1.2 Printing, Dissemination and Display of Information, Educational and Communication (IEC) materials by Ministry of Internal Affairs

A set of Posters and brochures with messages aimed at prevention of human trafficking generally and child trafficking in particular were printed and distributed to the targeted audience. Banners with messages on how to avoid becoming victims of trafficking were maintained at the Passport Control and INTERPOL Offices.

4.1.3 Publication and Distribution of Updated Lists of Licenced Recruitment Companies for labour export by the Ministry of Internal Affairs

The Ministry of Internal Affairs Headquarters published and distributed several updated lists of the Licenced Recruitment Companies for attention of the public to minimize promotion of incidents of illegal labour export.

4.1.4 Awareness Rising on Prevention of Trafficking through Community Policing Activities by the Uganda Police

The Police Community Liaison Officers (CLOs) and Child & Family Protection Officers (CFPOs) continuously carried out public sensitization campaigns on prevention of trafficking in persons on radios and during public outreaches, in several parts of the country.

4.1.5 Inclusion of Prevention of Child Trafficking in the National Campaign on Violence Against Children by the Ministry of Education and Sports

During the year under review, the Ministry of Education and Sports specifically included the issue of prevention of child trafficking through its ongoing national campaign on prevention of violence against children.

4.1.6 Licensing of more Recruitment Companies by the Ministry of Gender Labour & Social Development (MoGLSD)

By the end of the year a total of 63 Private Companies had been licensed by the MoGLSD to recruit labour for export. This has helped to minimize incidents of promotion of trafficking in persons through unregulated labour migration.

4.1.7 Enforcement of the Ban of Export of Ugandans for Housemaid Jobs and Crack Down on Illegal Recruitment Agencies by MoGLSD and Partners

The ban for export of Ugandans for housemaid jobs which was imposed in January 2016 has been maintained throughout the year as a way of minimizing incidents of abuse and exploitation of Ugandans, especially in the Middle East Countries. At the same time, the MoGLSD has worked with the Police to crack down on illegal labour recruitment agencies and individuals, as a way of minimizing human trafficking through illegal recruitments. During the year under review, some identified illegal recruiters were denied licences for labour export while a number of others were arrested and prosecuted in courts of law.

4.1.8 Further Engagement of Other Countries for Bi-Lateral Labour Agreement by the Ministry of Gender Labour & Social Development and Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The MoGLSD in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) has continued to engage some of the Middle East Countries for signing of favourable bilateral labour agreements. By the end of the year, a new Bilateral Labour Agreement had been signed with JORDAN.

Through a well planned implementation plan of the bilateral labour agreements with Saudi Arabia and Jordan, it is hoped that there shall be better standards of regulating labour export from Uganda, thus reducing incidents of trafficking of Ugandans to such countries through illegal means.

4.1.9 Inquiry Committee into Illicit export of Ugandans to Middle East Countries by the MoGLSD

Following a big outcry of mistreatment, exploitation and abuse of Ugandan migrant workers in some of the Middle East Countries, the MoGLSD instituted an inter-ministerial committee to investigate the matter and make recommendations on the way forward.

The Committee observed that the biggest problem was with house maid workers and the "Kafir" Visa system used by the labour exporting countries in the Middle East.

Among the recommendations made by the Committee was that the ban for export of housemaids be maintained as modalities are worked out to guarantee clear monitoring of the housemaid workers in the Middle East. The Ministry has also used the findings of the Committee to strengthen its mandate of regulating and monitoring labour recruitment and export.

4.1.10 Review of the Guidelines and Regulations for Externalization of Labour by MoLGSD

With the financial support from UNDP, the MoGLSD also started the process of reviewing the Guidelines and Regulations for labour export to strengthen areas related to prevention of trafficking in persons through the business of labour export which were not sufficiently provided for in the original documents. After the validation of the same, it is hoped that issues of punishing people involved in promotion of trafficking in persons through illegal labour recruitments shall be handled more harshly. This shall help to send strong messages to those involved in illegal labour recruitment activities.

4.1.11 Completion of the Process of Amendment of the Children's Act led by the MoGLSD

During the year under review, the process of amending the Children's Act was completed in the Parliament and the Ministry has now embarked on developing the Regulations for the amended Act.

One of the objectives of the amendment was to streamline the process of intra adoptions to minimize incidents of trafficking of Ugandan children through illicit and fraudulent adoptions as had been the practice previously.

However, during the current transition period, three cases of suspected illicit adoptions were registered and were still being investigated by the end of the year, by the a combined team of CID and MoGLSD officials.

4.1.12 Interception and delay of potential victims of trafficking by the Directorate of Citizenship & Immigration Control and Partners

Irregular migration and smuggling Ugandans out of the country through the neighbouring countries have been identified as the most contributing ways trafficking of Ugandans has been taking place. As one of the ways of minimizing such incidents, a total of 250 Ugandan intending travelers to suspicious foreign countries or those who could not properly explain the purpose for their travel were intercepted at the various exit points, including Busia(149), Malaba(86), Elegu (6), Milama Hills(1) and Entebbe International Airports(8). In addition, some 64 interceptions were made at Jommo Kenyatta International Airport Nairobi, Kenya and 3 at Cairo International Airport. Some of the victims intercepted at Jommo Kenyatta International Airport were prosecuted in Kenyan courts for illegal entry.

The intercepted persons had their Passports temporarily withheld by the authorities and were guided on the proper ways of accessing jobs abroad before the Passports were returned to them.

In a related incident, one female Somali child who had been smuggled into Uganda using other persons British Passport was intercepted at Entebbe International Airport by the Uganda Immigrations Officers on the way to the United Kingdom. The child was repatriated back to Somalia while the trafficker was charged in court and convicted for promoting trafficking in persons using false travel document.

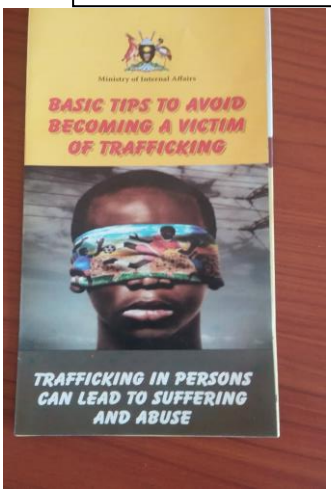
The interception of potential victims and prosecution of some of them in Kenya has helped to send warning messages to other potential victims and has greatly contributed to the low levels of registered actual victims of trafficking. Follow up investigations of some of the interceptions has led to some suspects charged with illegal labour export and attempted trafficking.

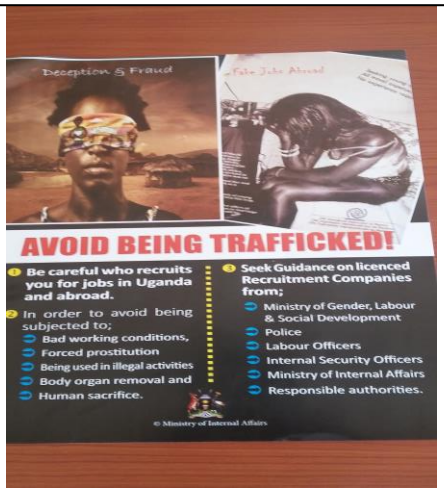
4.1.13 Screening and Guidance on Safe Migration by INTERPOL

The INTERPOL offices in Kampala have contributed to the prevention of the crime of trafficking in persons by ensuring that the applicants for Certificates of Good Conduct intending to go abroad for work should be recommended by duly licenced Companies and also sensitized about trafficking in persons at the offices. This has helped to minimize the chances of some people being taken abroad for jobs by illegal recruiters or under unclear circumstances that exposes them to exploitation and abuses.

4.1.14 Preventive Actions Against Trafficking in Persons in Pictures

Brochures & Posters Printed and distributed during sensitization Sessions







Awareness rising through TV & Radio Talk Shows





Awareness talk to Refugees in Arua



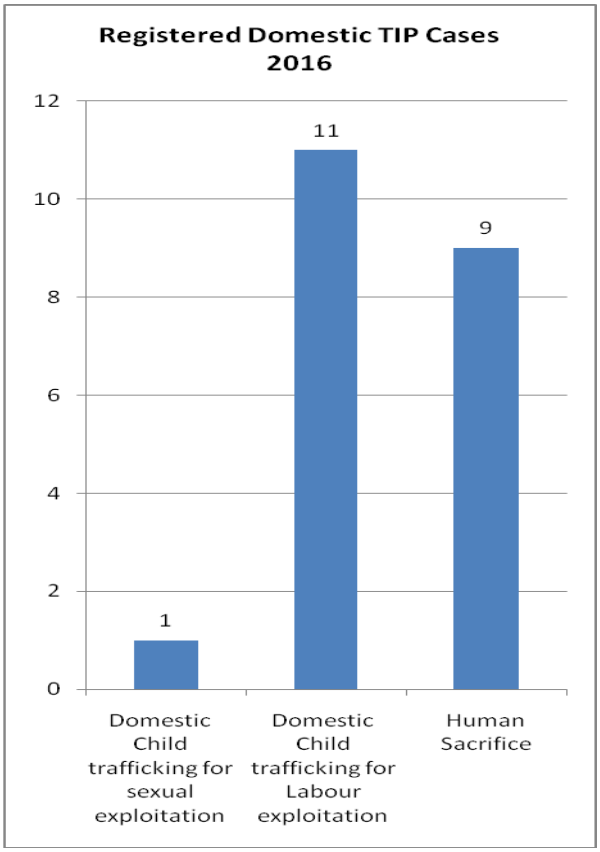
Awareness Walk by the Uganda Girl Guides

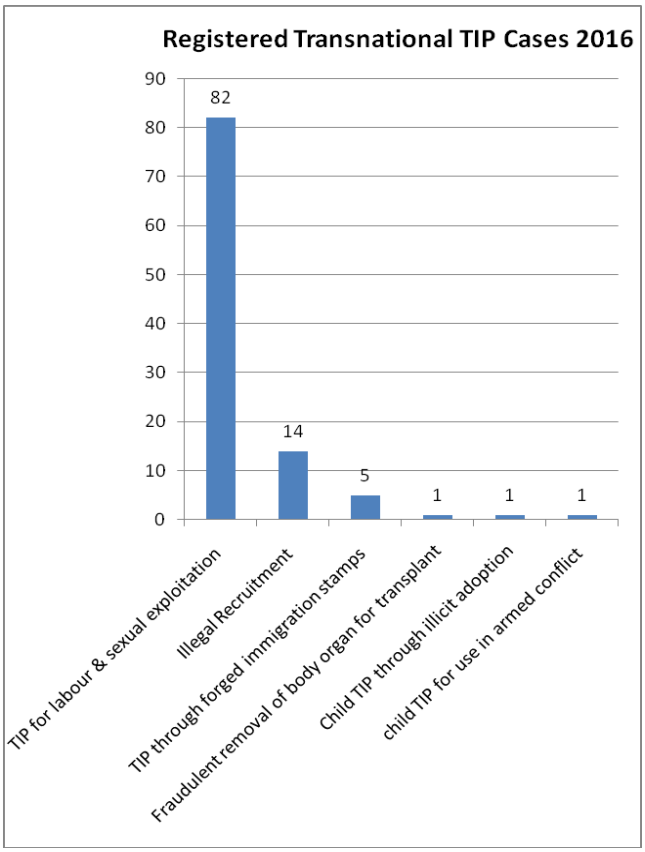


4.2 Investigations and Prosecution Activities

A total of 125 Cases were registered at various stations in the Country including; the Special Investigations Division (SID) Headquarters, Busia Police Station, Malaba Police Station, Tororo Police Station, Elegu Police Station, Kampala Metropolitan CID Headquarters, Kampala Central Police Station, Wandageya Police Division, Kawempe Police Divisions, Kira Police Division, Kira Road Police Station, Mukono Police Station, Kabalagala, Katwe and Aviation Police Station Entebbe, among others.

Among the domestic offences registered included child trafficking and human trafficking. On the otherhand, among the transnational trafficking offences registered were trafficking of adults for sexual and labour exploitation, illegal recruitment, promotion of trafficking through forged immigration stamps, fraudulent removal of body organ for transplant and illicit adoptions and use of children in armed conflict, as per details in the 2 tables below:-

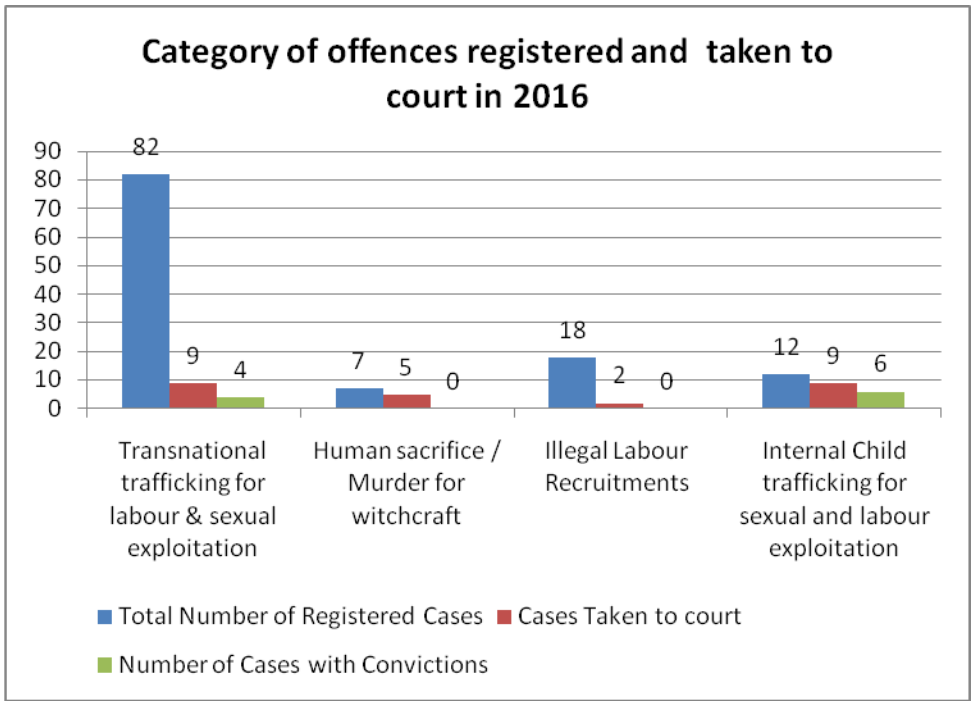




4.2.1 Marked Improvement in Management of the Registered Cases related to Trafficking in Persons

There were improved levels of management of the Cases related to trafficking in persons as judged from the relatively high number of cases taken to court and those with convictions: By the end of the year 25 Cases had been taken to court for prosecution; while more other 7 Case Files had been sanctioned by the DPP and were pending the re-arrest of the suspects to be taken to court.

Out of the Cases taken to court so far, 12 Cases had received convictions involving 16 convicts. This information is illustrated in the graph below:-



- As indicated above, the Cases taken to Court by end of the year involved transnational trafficking for labour & sexual exploitation, human sacrifice, illegal labour recruitment and internal child trafficking for sexual & labour exploitation
- Out of the 82 Cases of transnational trafficking registered, 9 of them had been taken to court by end of the year; 4 Convictions had been attained in the Busia Court. Four more Case Files handled in some of the Kampala Police Stations had been sanctioned by the DPP pending production of suspects in Court.
- On the other hand, out of the 7 Cases of human sacrifice that were registered, 5 of them had been taken to Court and all were still on going by the end of the year.
- Further more, 2 of the 18 Cases related to illegal recruitment had been taken to court by the end of the year. However, over 3 Case Files had been sactioned for prosecution and were pending re-arresting the suspects to be taken to court.
- By the end of the year 9 Cases of child trafficking of Karamojong children out of the Sub region , for labour exploitation had been taken to court and 6 of them had attained convictions.

4.2.**2Comparison table of Cases Registered and those taken Courts for 2013 – 2016**

Year	Total number of Registered Cases	Cases Taken to court	No of Cases with Convictions	No of Suspects Convicted
2013	154	33	2	4
2014	105	23	3	4
2015	108	12	3	3
2016	125	25	8	16

According to the statistics above, there was a marked improvement in the handling of investigations and prosecutions. This is attributed to the following factors:-

- Vigilance and cooperation between Police and the ODPP at Busia, Napak/Moroto and Kampala Metropolitan Policing (KMP) area where successful prosecutions were handled.
- Enhanced vigilance by the MoGLSD through close liaison with the MoIA and Police and the Licenced Recruitment Companies against illegal recruitment.
- Enhanced coordination, monitoring, logistical support and technical guidance by the Coordinator Prevention of Trafficking in Persons.
- Timely support of some of the rescued victims with temporary shelter and psycho social counseling by the active Civil Society Organizations which helped to win the confidence of the victims to accept to testify against the criminals.

4.2.3 Some of the Prosecution Actions in Pictures

Arrest of an Illegal Recruiter by Police & MoGLSD Official in Kampala



Passports recovered during Operation against Illegal recruitment at Kireka



Media Coverage of some of the Actions



Woman arrested over human trafficking

BY YAHUDU KITUNZI

TORORO. Police in Tororo have arrested a 37-year-old woman suspected to be a human trafficker.

The woman, a casual labourer and resident of Akolodongo village, Malaba Town Council in Tororo District, was arrested on Monday at her home after she allegedly trafficked two young girls to neighbouring Kenya.

The woman is suspected to have taken advantage of the victims who are of tender age after promising them well-paying jobs in Kenya, where they were to work as house girls for domestic jobs in

The suspect, with the help of mali woman, has also been edly recruiting young girls countries for similar odd jobs.

"We have arrested her over man trafficking of two young We are still interrogating her more details," Mr Kamulyo, sa

According to police, the went missing in August, prom their parents to report the ma Malaba Police Station.

"We started our investigation we got information that the are in Kenya," he said.

Parents with missing childre the neighbourhood have been



Abasaze omwana babasuuzizza omutwe

4.3 P**rotection and provision of assistance to victims**

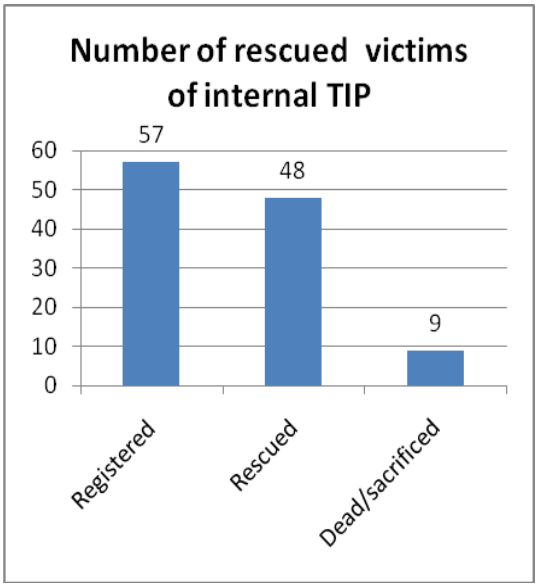
Just like during the past years, provision of assistance to victims of trafficking was carried out through collaborative efforts of relatives of some of the victims, some of the suspects implicated, Police Officers, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Gender Labour & Social Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, INTERPOL, International Agencies and a number of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

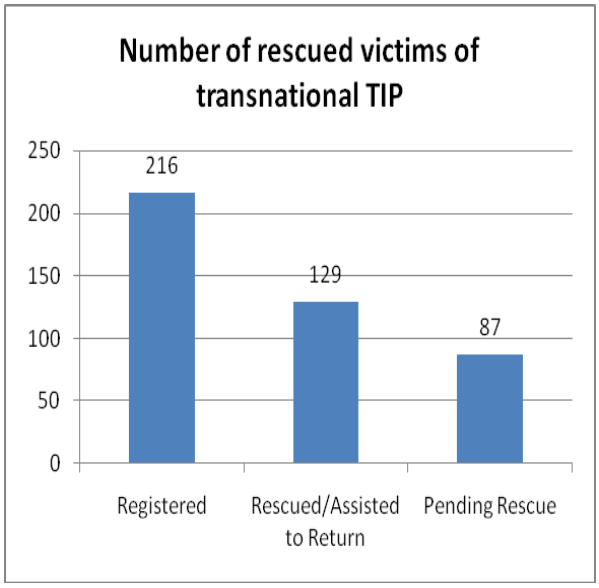
An ad hoc Referral Mechanism has been adopted to facilitate the collaboration of the above mentioned stakeholders.

Among the services offered to the victims of trafficking are:- rescues, provision of return air tickets for the transnational victims of trafficking, temporary shelter and care, emergency medical care, psycho social counseling, skills development and re-integration packages.

It is not possible to get the actual number of transnational victims who were assisted to come back from abroad because some of them do not report to authorities when they come back. However, it is estimated that at least more than half of the reported victims had come back by the end of the year under review. Many of the registered victims are believed to be still languishing in the foreign destination countries of exploitation. Some of them are likely to be forced to cope up with the exploitative conditions of work while a few more shall be assisted to come back through the continued combined effort of stakeholders.

4.3.1 Estimated Numbers of Victims who were Rescued by the end of 2016





- All the registered victims of internal trafficking were rescued apart from those who were kidnapped and murdered for witchcraft and ritual purposes.
- On the other hand, 129 out of the registered transnational victims had been rescued and assisted to come back to Uganda by the end of 2016.

- However, eight (8) children who were rescued from the hiding places of ADF in DRC had not yet been brought back to Uganda due to difficulties in tracing their relatives before the re-integration process may begin.
- On the other hand, three (3) children who were subjected to illicit / fraudulent adoption to the USA were brought back to Uganda within the year and by the end of the year legal arrangements were being made to formalize the cancellation of the adoption orders as Police investigations continue.

There has been a persistent challenge with supporting transnational victims rescued in the Middle East Countries because of the demands of their national laws that requires compensation to the "sponsors" before the victims are allowed to come back. In the absence of a National Victim Assistance Fund, the victim's relatives have had to look for large sums of money to compensate the very people responsible for abuse of the victims.

4.3.2 Activities Related to Provision of Assistance to Victims in Pictures



National > NEWS

Govt to support migrant workers

BY EPHRAIM KASOZI
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KAMPALA. The government is set to recruit labour attachés in the Middle East countries in the move to rescue migrant workers who are exploited, a senior official has said.

Mr Milton Turyasiima, the acting commissioner in charge of employment services in the Ministry of Labour, said the government will also set up settlement shelters in the Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to provide psychosocial support to victims of exploitation before they are repatriated to the country.

"Under the new arrangement, we are targeting people who are irregularly recruited to work abroad. They should be able to get rehabilitation support before they are brought back home. But also the attachés would help to follow up

He also challenged workers to always study the contracts to understand the terms and conditions under which they are recruited to avoid disagreements.

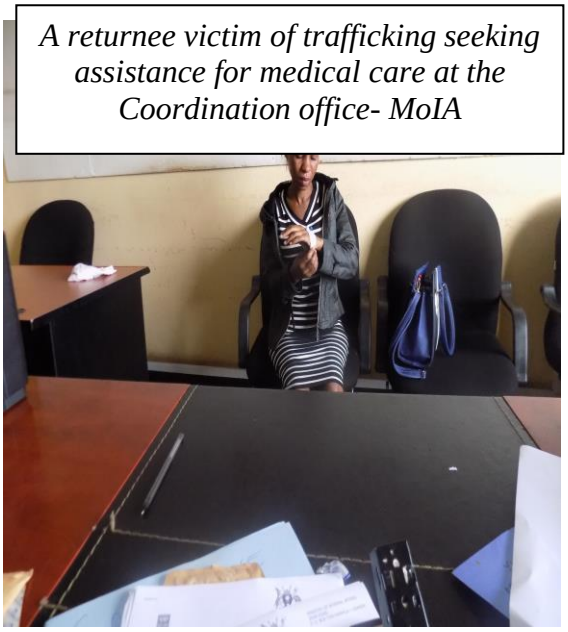
Mr Turyasiima was presenting at a panel of experts on prevention and protection of women and young girls from exploitative labour in Kampala.

Labour rights organisation Platform for Labour Action (PLA) hosted the discussion.

In 2013, the country registered the highest number of suspected victims of trafficking in persons with 800 victims.

The National Annual Report 2013 on Trafficking in Persons indicates that children and women are the most trafficked in Uganda with 97.7 per cent being children and women victims of internal trafficking.

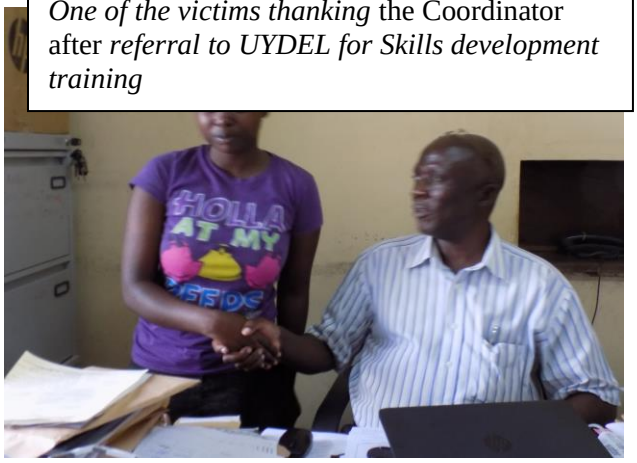
A promise made by official of the MoGLSD during a press brief



A returnee victim of trafficking seeking assistance for medical care at the Coordination office- MoIA



The Coordinator with some survivors & officials of Willows International at the new Shelter in Kampala



One of the victims thanking the Coordinator after *referral to UYDEL for Skills development training*

5.0 HIGHLIGHTS OF SOME OF THE CROSS-CUTTING ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE COORDINATION OFFICE

In addition to the activities already mentioned, the following cross-cutting activities were carried out by Coordination Office for prevention of trafficking in persons:-

I. Organization of 4 Quarterly Counter Human Trafficking Task Force Committee Consultation meetings to analyze the existing crime situation and make recommendations on the best way forward. The major concern of the year was how to contain acts of illegal recruitments which have been one of the acts promoting transnational trafficking.

II. Organization of one day capacity building Workshop for 35 stakeholder action officers in Kampala Metropolitan, Entebbe Airport, Malaba, Busia and Elegu border posts to agree on the best strategy to minimize acts of illegal recruitment and smuggling of Ugandans through the various exit points to some destination countries of exploitation. There has been enhanced action against illegal recruiters since then. Many of them have been arrested, exposed as a caution to the public and some of them have been prosecuted.

III. Engagements with interested stakeholders through consultation meetings and workshops to discuss ways of supporting national effort to counter trafficking in person.

IV. Participation in several national and international counter human trafficking conferences including:-

   a. Discussion of the East African Community Counter Trafficking in Persons Bill, 2016 in Kampala, 7th September 2016
   b. Expert Meeting of Heads of Anti narcotics and Anti human trafficking Units organized by the East African Community Secretariat in Kampala, 24th -26th November 2016
   c. Several meetings and Workshops by the Ministry of Gender Labour & Social Development (MOGLSD) and UNICEF to develop national policies on protection of children, including the Integrated Early Childhood Development Policy, protection of Children against early sex and Child marriage and development of Regulations for the amended Children's Act

V. With financial support from UNDP participated in a benchmark visit to Nairobi, Kenya to learn the best practices on protection of assistance to victims of trafficking to use the lessons learnt in the on-going process of developing the Regulations for the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act. Further sponsorship has been pledged by UNDP to facilitate hiring of a consultant to lead the final development of the Regulations.

VI. With financial support from UNDP coordinated the review of the Guidelines and Regulations for externalization of Labour, organized by the MoGLSD, to address loopholes that promote acts of human trafficking through the business of labour export.

VII. With the financial support from FIDA, organized two consultation meetings for a Working Group to review and edit the draft Regulations for the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act 2009.

5.1 Cross cutting Activities in Pictures

Counter Human Trafficking Task Force Committee Holding Consultation Meetings





A Ugandan delegation with Kenyan Officials of Office of the DPP during a benchmark visit on Protection of Victims of trafficking, in Nairobi



CID Officers from KMP, Entebbe Airport, Malaba, Busia & Elegu during a Consultation Workshop on handling Illegal Recruitment



Some Advocasy Messages by the Coordinator and Speaker of Parliament



Police want the law on labour export tightened

By Nicholas Wesaija and Sandra Aampire

The Police have called for laws to punish organisations and individuals who export human labour without papers.

Speaking at a news conference yesterday, Moses Binoga, the commissioner of Police in charge of the anti-human trafficking task force at the Ministry of Internal Affairs, said criminalising unauthorised export of labour would go a long way to clamp down on the rampant activities of human trafficking.

"If we cannot fast-track a law on illegal export of labour, then at least the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act should be amended to provide for interdicting any person or company that takes our people to outside countries to work without authority," Binoga said.

Uganda is a source of persons trafficked into forced labour and exploitation. The National Prevention of Trafficking in Persons office has put the figures of victims at 837 cases in 2013 and 293 in 2014.

Binoga said: "We discourage the export of casual labour, but if the temptation is high, we are sure that through a registered company, we can fly 50 legally and protect the victims. So, we should have a law that labels unauthorised export a risky deal."

He added that there should be interventions between neighbouring countries to stop trafficking within the region because many children have been recruited as miners. They go to the Democratic Republic of Congo and end up in terrorist groups.

According to Binoga, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development has so far licensed only 65 companies to export labour.

"We have a list of the authorised labour export dealers. So, people can always double check. We receive over 50 reports every month on rescued victims or those intercepted at the border crossings," Binoga said.

BETWEEN THE LINES:

Moses Binoga, the commissioner of Police in charge of the anti-human trafficking task force, said they can't put an embargo on labour export, but the labour ministry is engaging authorities in Arab countries and South Africa to see how best to keep domestic workers from Uganda safe.

When Binoga was tasked with responding to claims of security laxity at border crossings, he said: "People are coached by their exporters on tell lies at the borders. The victims are so desperate that they cannot even reason for one minute as to



Train Police in fight against human trafficking, Kadaga advises

By Vision Reporter

Women parliamentarians across Africa have called for increased vigilance by all governments to curb the trafficking of women and children on the continent.

The legislators, under the Committee of Women Parliamentarians of the African Parliamentary Union (APU) in a resolution, stated that human trafficking affects more than two million people annually, mostly women and children which trade, now, generates more than $6m higher than what is estimated in illicit drug trade.

The committee, which met on Monday at the Morocco National Assembly in Rabat, called for criminalisation of human trafficking, adding that the affected people needed to be regarded as victims.

"Immigration, labour, health and child protection laws must be reviewed and amended to cover all aspects of trafficking," the committee said in a resolution.

The Speaker of Parliament, Rebecca

"We should ensure that the Police officers we send out there have been

"Let us ensure that there is a national task force and it has got resources to follow up these situations," she added.

The Speaker called for stringent laws to monitor the Internet, which has become another channel of human trafficking where many girls have been lured into sham marriages by traffickers.

She added that: "Many of our girls are married on the Internet. Someone marries you, but when you travel out of the country to meet your partner, you are into prostitution. We need to monitor the content on the Internet."

In their resolution, the committee added that there is a need for successful prosecutions and sanctions that can serve as deterrence to future traffickers.

They also called for a launch of campaigns to raise awareness of victims to encourage them to come forward with the hope of intensifying legal actions.

The Committee of African Women Parliamentarians is part of the 39th

6.0 HIGHLIGHTS OF OTHER MONITORED ACTIVITIES BY STAKEHOLDERS

S/no	Nature of Activities	Action Stakeholder
1.	Institution of a Commission of Inquiry into illicit export of Ugandan housemaid workers to the Middle East and aggressive initiatives to streamline the labour export business in Uganda; assist transnational victims come back from the Middle East and prevent trafficking of Ugandans by illegal recruiters through sharing information and engagement of concerned key stakeholders on the best way forward	MoGLSD
2.	Operation Usalama 111 against trafficking in persons and other transnational organized crimes in the Eastern Africa sub region.	INTERPOL
3.	Inclusion of prevention of child trafficking in the Ministry's document on "Prevention of Violence against Children" for distribution in schools	Ministry of Education & Sports (MoES)
4.	Awareness campaign against child trafficking among the refugee community in Uganda	Office of the Prime Minister (Refugee Department)
5.	TIP Awareness talk to 17 Buganda Kingdom youth leaders at Calendar Hotel, Makindye and another group of 66 youths and higher school students at Nangabo Sub county headquarters	Youth Initiative Against Human trafficking
6.	Training of 20 Police Officers in Rubaga Division and 24 others in Kawempe Division on handling of Victims of trafficking; Taking care and psychosocial counseling to rescued victims of child trafficking and provision of skills development training to rescued victims	Uganda Youth Development Link (UYDEL)
7.	Establishment of a new Anti trafficking Aftercare Home for Transnational sexually abused Victims of Trafficking and offer of other support services to some internal victims of sexual exploitation	Willow International
8.	Prevention of TIP Awareness Walk in Kampala	Uganda Girl Guides
9.	Training of Implementing Partners of a Consortium of Counter Human trafficking Activities by 4 Civil Society Organizations at Ridar Hotel in basic concepts of countering trafficking in persons; Hosting of a Regional Meeting in Kampala on the need to develop Regional strategies against TIP; Organization of a meeting with officials of the East African Community on developing Regional Mechanism to combat child trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children, in Arusha, Tanzania & Carrying out joint TV talk Shows	Federation of Ugandan Women Lawyers (FIDA-U)
10.	Publication of a new report on TIP and initiation of the Process to develop a Training Manual on handling of Trafficking in persons for stakeholders including Community Volunteers, in Kampala	Platform for Labour Action (PLA)
11.	Child Trafficking prevention training for workers of 5 NGOs (*Set Her Free, Willows International, Kyampisi Childcare Ministries, Retrack Uganda & AfriChild*) in Kampala, Provision of care and counseling of rescued child victims of sexual abuse and sensitization meeting with Boda bodas, market vendors, children and community leaders in some parts of Wakiso and Kampala	RAHAB (U)
12.	Sensitization of community leaders and members of the stakeholders on the need to stop child trafficking from Karamoja Sub Region held in Moroto Town and care for some trafficked street children	Dwelling Places

7.0 GENERAL OBSERVATIONS & COMMENTS ON THE TREND OF THE CRIME FOR 2016

I. Transnational trafficking through illegal recruitment was the major concern of the year. Through consultations and self examination, the key concerned stakeholders on issues of labour export came up with concrete plans of action by the end of the year which include the following:-

   a. The MoGLSD directly getting involved in detailed negotiations with the concerned foreign countries on agreeable ways of implementing the recently signed bilateral labour agreements to minimize acts of abuse and exploitation of Ugandans.
   b. Commitment by the MoGLSD to enhance supervision of the Licenced Recruitment companies in Uganda and enhancement in the enforcement of the Guidelines and Regulations for externalization of Labour, in collaboration with other enforcement and security agencies plus the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
   c. Consensus to enhance the sharing of information to remind Ugandans on the existing trends of the crime and guide them on available safe ways of migrating to foreign countries for jobs.

II. Most of the registered victims of transnational trafficking passed through Kenya under the guise of visiting relatives and friends in some parts of Kenya. Some of them were smuggled into Kenya either through illegal border points (panya routes) or with forged Immigration stamps. The practice whereby Kenyan authorities have prosecuted some of the smuggled victims of trafficking with illegal entry into Kenya has not stopped the illegal recruitment agents from confusing more desperate Ugandans. Therefore:-

   a. There is need to strengthen the operational relationship between Uganda and Kenya, as a matter of urgency, to work out modalities of proper identification of victims of trafficking and follow up of the recruitment agents in Kenya and Uganda for prosecution.
   b. The concerned members of the community at Busia and Malaba, including taxi drivers, boda bodas, restaurant & hotel operators and the community leaders, need to be sensitized about the bad consequences of trafficking in persons and how they can help to prevent the same.

III. During the year under review, efforts were put in to stop the trafficking of Karamojong children through vigilance by the Police and some Civil Society Organization operating in the sub region. The vigilance paid off with the rescue of many children and prosecution of over 10 suspects. The blockage action taken contributed to a reduction in the number of new Karamojong street children in Kampala. The planned comprehensive operation aimed at removing the Karamojong children from the streets of Kampala should therefore be hastened.

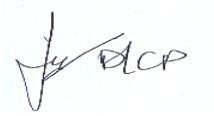
IV. The challenge of providing return Air tickets for the reported victims abroad and support services for all the registered victims is still a challenge. The capacity of the facilities by the Civil Society Organizations is not enough. Some of them cater for specific ages and sexes, and for limited periods. There is need for the Government to design a Government led victim assistance mechanism to cater for all categories of victims.

V. Despite the improvement in handling the registered Cases related to trafficking in persons by the Police and the ODPP, there is need for further training in the application of the law and other related laws that can be used to frustrate the promoters of the crime.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE WAY FORWARD

1) The efforts by the MoGLSD to streamline labour export business in the country should be upheld as one of the preventive measures against trafficking in Ugandans.
2) The system of sharing vital information on safe migration should be upheld so that the relevant stakeholders can use the information to guide the public accordingly.
3) Awareness rising on the persistent existence of the evil of trafficking in persons and how to avoid it should be upheld by all the stakeholders.
4) The operational collaboration between stakeholders should be upheld to promote successful prosecutions, effective public sensitization, and timely rescue and support of victims.
5) Efforts to develop a regional strategy to identify, rescue and assist victims of trafficking; and support Police Investigations should be upheld.
6) Further capacity building of the Police and other stakeholders should be enhanced to promote further improvement in the various aspects of management and countering of the crime.
7) The development of the Regulations for the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act 2009 should be concluded as soon as possible to promote easy implementation of the law.
8) Government should continue with implementation of the various Income empowering programs for the youths and the disadvantaged to reduce the levels of vulnerability for the Ugandan youths who are forced to venture into looking for jobs abroad as the only possible means of survival.

Report Prepared by:



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