



PREVENTION AND AWARENESS RAISING

RECOMMENDATIONS, RESOURCES AND EXAMPLES



This Action is funded by the European Union



This programme is supported by the Secretariat of the ACP Group of States



This programme is implemented by the International Organization for Migration

Trafficking in human beings (THB) and smuggling of migrants (SoM), two distinct, but often interrelated phenomena, are occurring on a global scale. Searching for a way out of economic inequalities, environmental crises, armed conflict, political instability and persecution, and in view of tightening border controls and restricted options for legal migration, migrants are driven to resort to smugglers. At the same time, a globalized economy, fostering demand for diverse types of exploitation, makes them also vulnerable to traffickers. Both THB and SoM constitute of billion dollar businesses that come at a high human cost. African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States are increasingly stepping up to address THB and SoM. However, they face challenges in developing the necessary holistic, long-term approaches. The ACP-EU Migration Action analyzed these challenges and provides recommendations to tackle the difficulties that ACP countries face in relation to THB and SoM.

7 TOPICS

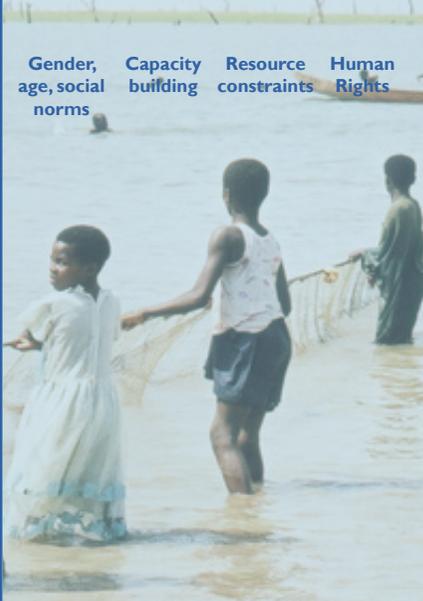
Elements of THB and SoM response



4 X-CUTTING ISSUES

Issues cutting through every topic related to THB and SoM response

Gender, age, social norms, Capacity building, Resource constraints, Human Rights



PREVENTING THB, SOM, AND THEIR ROOT CAUSES: WHICH TOPICS TO ADDRESS?

THB/SoM AWARENESS

WHICH TOPICS?

- What is THB?
What is SoM?
How do they occur in your country?
- How to recognize victims of THB and/or smuggled migrants?
- How to avoid becoming a victim of THB?
What precautions to take?
- Whom to contact if you are/see a victim of THB or a migrant in need of assistance?
- What factors (related to gender, age, socio-cultural norms) can lead to the occurrence of THB and SoM in your community?

SAFE MIGRATION AND REALISTIC MIGRATION ALTERNATIVES

WHICH TOPICS?

- What are the dangers of irregular migration?
- Which safe, legal migration channels are accessible instead?
- Which development, education, work opportunities are available at home?
- Where can vulnerable migrants access assistance services?
- Where can migrants access safe return and adequate reintegration options?

ADDRESSING DEMAND FOR THB AND SoM

WHICH TOPICS?

- Are there enough legal pathways for (labour) migration?
- What is the private sector (employers, recruiters, ...) doing to combat exploitation and THB?
How are they regulated?
- Are the products and services the community consumes or uses exploitation-free?

PRIVATE SECTOR AND COUNTER-THB : Some recommendations

Countries should adopt **labour migration agreements**, including provision for minimum work standards, model contracts, modes of repatriation, etc., in accordance with existing international standards.

Strengthen **labour inspections**, labour rights protections and expand the scope of competence of labour inspectorates.

Introduce **codes of ethics** for companies linked to THB or labour abuses.

Enact legislation requiring **corporate responsibility**.

Countries of origin and transit should establish **regulations for travel and recruitment agencies**, and monitor compliance.

Foster private sector initiatives to ensure **supply chains free of exploitation**.

Campaigns targeting consumers and private sector industries should be employed to **reduce the demand for cheap labour and goods**.

Good practice:



IRIS is a social compliance scheme that is designed to promote ethical international recruitment. The principle explicitly prohibits the use of trafficking in persons, forced labour, and child labour.

TACKLING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS AND SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS IN ACP COUNTRIES

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STAKEHOLDERS

Operating in isolation, national campaigns on THB and/or SoM are not effective. A wide range of stakeholders should be involved in the design and the implementation of prevention and awareness campaigns:

GOVERNMENT

The Trafficking and Smuggling Protocols foresees States to engage in awareness-raising, as well as prevention efforts that tackle the **root causes** of both phenomena. Efforts should be directed both towards State actors and the general public. Increased awareness is often dependent on the existence of reliable **data**.

COMMUNITIES, COMMUNITY LEADERS

Continuous engagement with communities is essential. **Traditional community leaders**, such as village chiefs, require awareness-raising on THB and SoM, as they are often in close contact with aspiring migrants. **Religion, extended families and village life** are important as moral bulwark against trafficking and for improving awareness.

CIVIL SOCIETY

In many places, civil society might be best placed to carry out effective **awareness and prevention at the community level**. This should happen in close collaboration and with the support of the Government.

MEDIA

Media can be an effective partner but often require training on how to handle and publish **sensitive information** related to victims of trafficking or other human rights abuses.

DIASPORA

The diaspora can be involved in **co-designing** campaigns to raise awareness on legal migration pathways and the risks of irregular migration, as well as to **spread these messages** through their social networks.

CASE STUDY: SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

You... can help combating human trafficking in SVG. If you - or someone you know - have received a dubious job offer, an offer of paid studies or marriage proposal in SVG or abroad, consider the following advices:

- VERIFY AND LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION**
Carefully verify the information. Look for more information about the company or person who made the offer. If it involves travelling abroad, know your right as a migrant in that country and necessary travel documents.
- TRUST YOUR INTUITION**
If it feels suspicious, reach out for support to the authorities or someone you trust.
- DO NOT SIGN**
Do not sign any document you do not understand: especially if it is in a foreign language.
- NO MIDDLE-MEN**
Do not use middle-men to arrange for permits, travel documents or any kind of other document.
- TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE**
When it sounds too good to be true; it probably is.
- AVOID DEBTS**
Traffickers sometimes use debt bondage to control you. Don't get fooled when they say you can pay later.
- TRAVEL LEGALLY**
Do not travel with false ID, passport visa or work permit. You will be in a vulnerable situation. Traffickers make use of this.
- CODE WORD**
Establish a code word with your family or person of trust to alert if any problem.
- CONTACT INFORMATION**
Always travel with the contact details to the SVG embassy or consulate, or other relevant authority.
- CHILDREN**
Remember that children can only travel with permission from parents or legal caretakers.

WANNA KNOW MORE? WANNA REPORT SOMETHING?

Contact the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Unit (ATIPU):
Email: svgantitraflickingunit@gmail.com
Telephone: 1-794-456 1750/ 457 1211
Facebook page: [anti-trafficking.in.persons.unit.rsvjgpf](https://www.facebook.com/anti-trafficking.in.persons.unit.rsvjgpf)

In Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, sensitization campaigns were revised in the framework of the TA request, in order to target specific audiences.

First, an **analysis of the information needs** of the general public in SVG was made, including receiving inputs from women and men from different age-groups: adults, adolescents and young adults.

Age-sensitive awareness-raising material informing about measures to reduce the risk of becoming a THB victim and about THB indicators were then developed made available to SVG citizens, such as the bookmarks displayed on the left.



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ACP-EU MIGRATION ACTION

WORK ON THB AND SoM

AFRICA

Angola • Benin • Congo (the Democratic Republic of) • Ghana • Guinea • Nigeria • Senegal I • Senegal II • Sierra Leone • Swaziland •

CARIBBEAN

The Dominican Republic • Haiti • Saint Lucia • Saint Vincent and the Grenadines • Trinidad and Tobago •

PACIFIC

Papua New Guinea • Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC) • Samoa • Solomon Islands • Vanuatu • Yap State (The Federated States of Micronesia) •

