



JPIC-ED OFFICE
MISSIONARIES OF AFRICA
UGANDA SECTOR



HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE CONTEXT OF FORCED DISPLACEMENTS: LESSONS FROM EAST AFRICA (EA)



“Human trafficking is a grave and pervasive global issue that continues to afflict vulnerable populations worldwide. Within Africa’s heartland, this menace remains a sinister reality, jeopardizing the fundamental rights and dignity of countless individuals.”

(International Affairs, 2023)

Presented April 2024

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Arrows show transit roots

Objectives

General Overview

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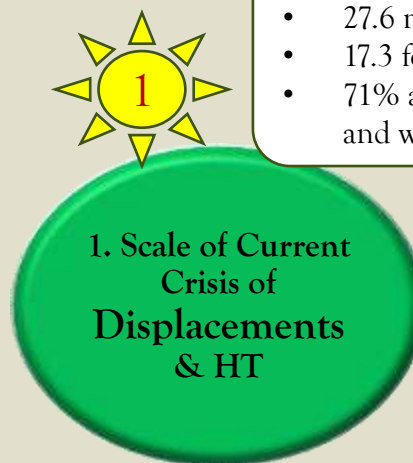
Conclusion

Objectives



- ❑ Present a general overview of human trafficking and forced displacements
- ❑ To have a context based of human trafficking and forced displacements in East Africa
- ❑ Analyse the regional and national responses to human trafficking in East Africa
- ❑ To share a practitioner's perspective on the phenomenon of human trafficking in the region
- ❑ The role of JPIC in the region on countering human trafficking
- ❑ Design a roadmap through group discussions

General Overview



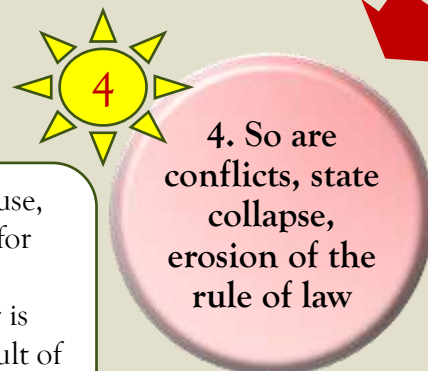
- 49.6 Million victims of HT
- 27.6 million for labour exploitation
- 17.3 for forced marriage
- 71% are women and girl while 29 are men and women



- The motive of traffickers—regardless of the type of human trafficking they are engaged in—is clear: money!



- There are over 36 million African migrants worldwide, including refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), environmental and labour migrants—and 80% of these cross-border movements are taking place within the continent. Five of the ten countries with the highest refugee population relative to national population are in sub-Saharan Africa.

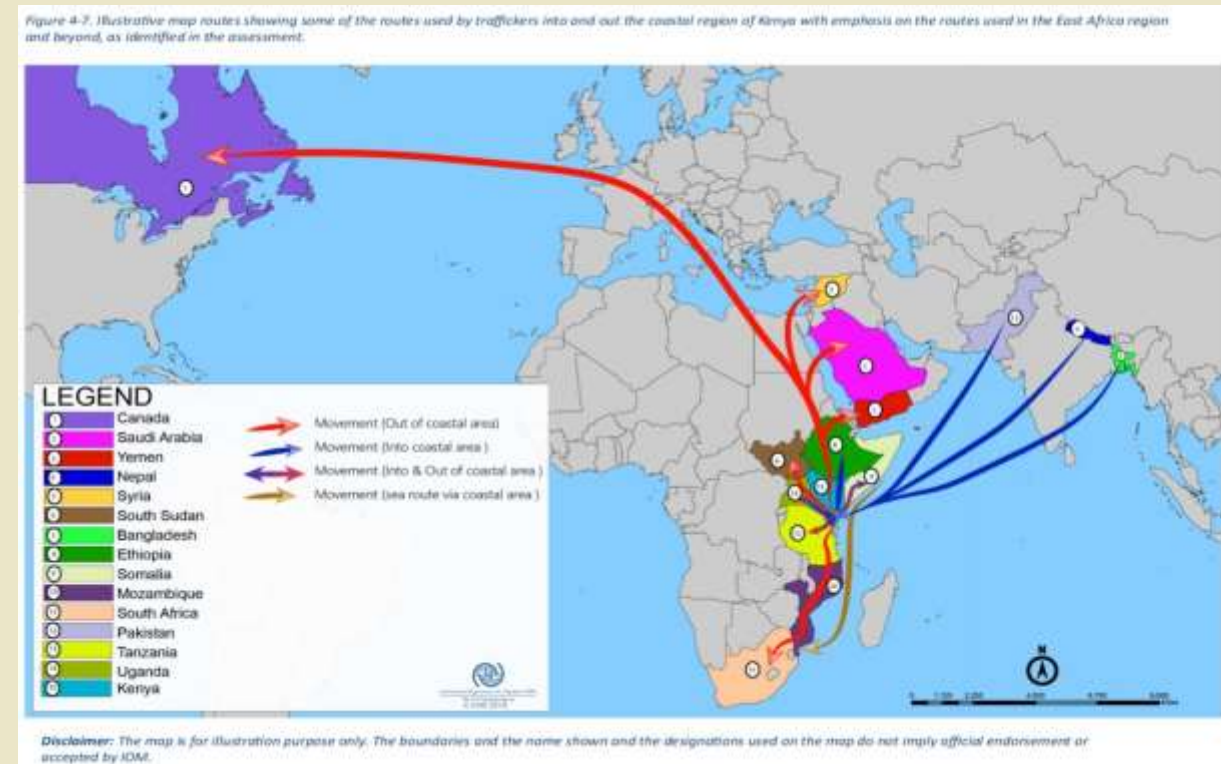


- In conflict situations, the rule of law is prone to abuse, state collapse and polarity occur. Thus, paving way for perpetrators of human trafficking.
- As forced migration due to war/climate change, so is the vulnerability of people increases, hence, the result of human smuggling and human trafficking.



- Increased vulnerability paves way and gives advantage to perpetrators of human trafficking.

East Africa Context on Human Trafficking and Forced Displacements



- Human trafficking is a global phenomenon, affecting every region in the world including East Africa. Victims are mostly children, youth and women.
- With the growing trend of conflicts in the region and climate change, forced displacements have increased and so is vulnerability to HT.
- Local and transnational criminals within and outside East Africa, have taken advantage of the porous situation of the region through human smuggling & Trafficking
- Victims are often trafficked for sexual exploitation and domestic work but also for agriculture, herding, hawking and street begging.
- porous borders facilitate cross border movements especially economically motivated irregular migration

Cont...

Cross border assessment of Trends in East Africa:

- ❑ Cases of trafficking appear as voluntary movement in pursuit of better life.
- ❑ However, victims in some cases are deceived by businessmen, women (Madams), retired prostitutes, relatives, peers, religious acquaintances and agents with promise of money, jobs, education and personal training onlu to end up in exploitative situations.
- ❑ Children are mainly recruited by family members or close family friends and travel across the border on foot, by bus or are transported by long distance truck drivers.

Documented Evidence

- ❑ Ugandan, Tanzanian and Rwandan victims of trafficking working in Nairobi and other parts of the country as domestic labourers and in other service sectors
- ❑ Child beggars trafficked from Tanzania and some parts of Uganda, into cities such as Kampala, Nairobi, Naivasha, Nakuru, Oloitoktok and Busia Border points for their masters.
- ❑ Evidence of “labour externalisation” - Ugandans and Kenyans flocking to the Middle East
- ❑ Prevalence of legal recruiting companies – particulary in Uganda: with more than 300 companies in Uganda alone.

Regional and National Response



□ EAC Anti-Trafficking in Persons Bill of 2016

1. Counter trafficking in persons act - Kenya
2. Prevent trafficking in person act 2009 - Uganda
- 3 Anti-Trafficking in Person Act 2008 - Tanzania

NB: The three countries give a glimpse of what is happening in Eastern Africa. The response in collaboration with other organisations has been significant. However, there is a lack of collaboration on the regional agenda to protect victims and prosecute transnational criminals.

Provide for a legal framework for the prevention of trafficking in persons.

Prosecution of perpetrators.

Provision of protection mechanisms and services for victims of trafficking in persons.

Development of partnerships for co-operation to counter trafficking in persons in the Community.

